

The Quilted Kittens

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Quilt Preparation

Before you submit your quilt top and backing to The Quilted Kittens for quilting, please follow these instructions for preparing your quilt. This will assist us in providing the highest quilting quality possible for you and your quilt.

DOs

- Press your quilt front (top) and back so that all seams are flat and the piece lays flat and square.
- Make the backing 6 inches longer and 6 inches wider than the quilt front.
- Stay-stitch the outside edge of both the quilt front and the backing (separately). Stay-stitching is a straight line of stitching $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edge of the quilt.
- Use a safety pin to mark the top of the quilt front and the top of the backing if you have a preference.

DON'Ts

- Use or request "fat batt". These extra thick battings work well in comforters, but do not work well for this quilting process. The Quilted Kittens do not use "fat batt". We recommend cotton, 80/20, or a fine poly batting. We have quality 80/20 and cotton batting available.
- Expect long-arm quilting to "quilt out" extra fullness. While quilting always "shrinks" the quilt some; it cannot make up for individual variances in workmanship that may result in extra fullness in your quilt.

When in doubt, please call The Quilted Kittens with any questions. We want to work with you to provide the best quality quilting.

Tips for a Terrific Looking Quilt

Fantastic Fabric

- High quality fabric lasts longer and results in a sturdier quilt.

Careful Cutting

- Use sharp cutters, accurate rulers and, remember, "measure twice, cut once".

Precise Piecing

- Accurate and consistent seam allowance is important. A bit under or over $\frac{1}{4}$ " is not as important as consistency. Your blocks will go together best if your seam allowances are consistent.

Perfect Pressing

- Sew, press; sew, press. Press as you go. Your quilt top will be flatter and more even when you press as you go. Do not save all your ironing for the end.

Beautiful Borders

- Pieced or plain – it does not matter. Measure your quilt through the center and not along the edges for a proper length border.

Happy Endings

- After you have cut, pieced, pressed and added borders, finish the quilt top with a scan $\frac{1}{4}$ " stay stitch all the way around. This line of stitching prevents stretching along the outside edge of your beautiful quilt top.

Repeat all the above steps for a fabulous quilt back! You will be glad you did.