

Is Your Quilt Ready?

Use this checklist to assure that your quilt is ready for professional quilting services.

Important:

- ✂ All 3 quilt layers should be separate - no basting or pins.
- ✂ An additional fee will be charged for each of the following services that must be performed on your quilt

Quilt Top

	Loose threads trimmed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• loose threads on back of top show through light colored fabrics• loose threads on top interfere with machine quilting
	Quilt top is well pressed
	Seams <ul style="list-style-type: none">• direction checked• no twisted seams• dark seams trimmed so that they won't show through to the front• seams pressed correctly for stitch-in-the-ditch
	No wavy borders <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To find length of border, measure through the center of the quilt, not the outer edge• Lay quilt flat and pin border on before sewing
	The flatter the top, the better the quilting job. Not all waves can be quilted out!
	Squared corners. Check corners with a large square-up, especially mitered border corners.
	Back stitch outside seams. Any seam that ends at an outer edge of the top needs to be secured with a back stitch or entire quilt can be topstitched around the edge inside the $\frac{1}{4}$ inch seam allowance.
	All repairs completed. Check for any fraying or unsewn seams.
	Mark "TOP" with safety pins to designate direction of quilt design and printed backing.
	No embellishments please. They interfere with machine quilting and should be taken off.

Backing

	No sheets please. the weave is too tight and not the same quality as your top. With all of the work you put into your top, you deserve a beautiful back.
	Busy prints hide threads and make thread color changes less obvious.
	Colors should match/coordinate with the quilt top and should be similar to top colors in lightness or darkness
	Selvages trimmed. Selvages are often too tight and keep the backing from lying flat.
	1/2" seams pressed open. Generous 1/2" seams <i>after</i> selvages are trimmed. Back stitch at end of seams
	Well pressed
	Ends straightened (squared)-fold fabric to fit on cutting board and trim raw edges even and straight with rotary tools.
	Backing must be at least 6" larger than top for pinning onto machine frame leaders. Measure your quilt top & backing to be sure of sizes.

Batting

	Be sure the batting is the proper type for your quilt. A thin and stable cotton or polyester or wool. Pat carries "Quilter's Dream"
	Washed & dried. Cotton batting-all cotton battings - will shrink when you wash and dry your quilts. Even if the package states "no pre washing necessary," place batting in your washing machine and fill with water. Soak until batting is all wet. Skip the agitation cycle and spin out water. Allow to dry a bit on a rack. Dry the rest of the way in your dryer.
	Air fluff- polyester batting to remove wrinkles and lumps.
	Like the backing, batting must be at least 6" larger than the top. Measure your top and check batting measurements. Allow for shrinkage
	Batting can be purchased from Pat. "Quilter's Dream" cotton, polyester, blend, flame retardant, "Dream Puff" & "Dream wool." If batting is purchased from Pat, she will wash & dry it for you.

Binding

	1 yard of pre-washed, uncut fabric coordinating with your quilt top
	Choose "whole" or "half binding" if you wish for Pat to do for you. See web site for description