**Please use only 100% cotton fabric.**

No needle-turn appliqué, monofilament or nylon thread. Also, no fringe edging or dangling ornamentation. These could get tangled in medical equipment or fingernails.

Quilts should be lap size. The recommended size range is 48”-68” wide by 52”-78” tall.

How to prepare your quilt top and backing for quilting if you’re handing it off to be quilted:

TOP:

* Should be well pressed.
* Mark the Top Edge of your quilt by pinning a note to it. (What you want to be the top as opposed to the bottom.)
* Clip any trailing threads from the back as these may shadow through to the front of the quilt.
* Check for open seams and repair as necessary.

BORDERS:

* To eliminate wavy borders and to ensure no pleats or tucks in the border of the finished quilt, measure both sides and the center of the quilt top and take the average of the three measurements to get the length for the borders.

BACKING:

* Should measure a minimum of 8" longer and wider than your quilt top. This is to allow for the back to be properly attached to the longarm. (Ex: if your top measures 60 x 70 then your back should measure 68 x 78.)
* Should be well pressed with edges straight and square (90 degree corners).
* The top and bottom of the backing definitely need to be straight and square for loading onto the longarm machine.
* If you piece your back, the preferred direction (providing that you have sufficient fabric) for the seam is horizontal (side to side/parallel to the top and bottom). Horizontal seams provide for better tension when loading the backing between the front and back rollers on the longarm machine.
* Mark the top edge of your backing by pinning a note to it. This will help to make sure that the top of the quilt is matched with the top of the back.
* If you have a seam in the backing, remove the selvage edge from the seam. Because the selvage is more tightly woven than the rest of the fabric, it will react differently to the quilting and washing.

LABELS:

* Be sure to add a label before handing off the quilt for quilting (or quilting the quilt if you are quilting it yourself)
* Trim the label 1/8” outside outer line of label. DO NOT FOLD the sides of the label. This makes a very thick seam around the edge of the label which may cause needle breakage on the longarm machine.
* Trim the label 1/8” outside outer line of label using Steam a Seam-type product, and working on one side at a time, cut a length of fusible product and pin to back of label, overlapping at corners Measure 12” in from either side of back, and 12” up from bottom on that same corner; place a pin at this point Place bottom left corner of label at the pin and fuse with iron
* Use narrow zigzag or satin stitch and stitch around the label