



How to Prepare Your Top for Quilting

1. Your backing fabric and batting must each be at least 5 or 6 inches larger than the length and width of your quilt top.
2. Trim all thread tails. If left untrimmed, they *will* show through your top, especially if the fabric is light in value.
3. **IMPORTANT:** Please square up your quilt top and back. Measure the center of the quilt top vertically. Then measure the outside edges vertically (left and right sides). If there is more than a 1 ½” difference in these measurements, it is **NOT** square and it is possible that your quilt will have tucks or puckers when quilted. Do the same measurement horizontally. The most common reason for measurement differences is stretched bias edges or improper border attachment (borders of unequal lengths).
4. If your quilt top has a pieced border, for best results stay stitch the entire outer perimeter edge ¼” from the edge. This will strengthen those edges and help prevent stretching.
5. Carefully press all the seams of your quilt top making sure they lay in the direction you intend that they should (e.g., toward a dark fabric instead of light one).
6. Indicate the top edge of the quilt with a safety pin.
7. The quilt top must be free of all embellishments; buttons, bows, beads, and any decorative loose threads must wait for the quilting before you add them to your creation.
8. Trim all selvage edges from your backing fabric before you piece it together. Press the seams to one side, or open if the backing is flannel or brushed cotton.
9. If your backing has a top edge (which is likely if you’ve done some innovative piecing), indicate that top edge with a safety pin.
10. Please advise the brand of the batting you are sending. (See page one of the order form.) This will help make sure the spacing between quilting lines is appropriate for that batting.
11. **DO NOT** baste the layers. Just fold the top, batting, and backing separately and make sure they are pin-free. Place them inside a plastic bag (to protect them in shipping).
12. Please print out the Order Form, complete it, sign it and include it in your box along with your daytime and evening phone numbers, and your e-mail address.
13. Include your deposit check of at least 50% of the estimated quilting fee.
14. Mail in a sturdy box to:

Moose Island Quilting
445 Gin Cove Road
Perry, ME 04667