



IN STITCHES, WHAT A HOOT!

www.institcheswhatahoot.com | leminstitches@gmail.com | 314-435-5846

T-Shirt Quilt Helpful Information

Thank you for choosing **In Stitches, What a Hoot!** to create your T-shirt Quilt! Review the following information carefully. We want you to be happy with your quilt and design. Print and complete the **T-Shirt Quilt Order Form** found on our website and include with your T-Shirt shipment/delivery.

About Our Service:

T-shirt quilts are great gifts that preserve the many memories from our lives. The quilts are made from T-shirts/garments tied to the events that created the memories. (Clubs, sports, church, college, baby/childhood clothes, concerts, etc.) Each quilt is custom designed and made to fit our customer's specifications. We can use the front, back and sleeves of T-shirts/garments in your quilt.

Between the T-shirt/garment top and the backing, Quilters Dream 80/20 (cotton/poly) Natural Batting is sandwiched. Quilters Dream batting offers durability, and the loft needed to create lasting cuddle! The borders, sashing, backing and binding are made using coordinating 100% high quality quilting cotton. We apply an iron-on stabilizer to the backs of all T-shirts/garments as this minimizes shifting and puckering during the assembly and quilting processes.

Once assembled, we long-arm quilt an edge-to-edge pattern over the entire quilt. Our "special touch" is the addition of a corner label on the back of the quilt where you can hand-write/journal about the quilt or pen a personal message to the recipient. Quilt pricing is variable depending on your choice of quilt layout and the size of the quilt.

About Our Pricing:

Let's breakdown the "that's way too expensive!" There are many options when it comes to having a T-shirt quilt made. Your grandmother, mother, sister or friend might make you one for free. Compared to free, our completed T-shirt quilts do cost a lot. However, there is a reason you're searching for a quilter to make your T-shirt quilt, so let's take family and friends who will do it for free out of the equation.

A review of T-Shirt quilt companies will reveal a wide range of quilt pricing from \$125 to over \$1,000. In some instances, the companies don't create an actual quilt, they create a blanket. Not all blankets advertised as quilts are the same quality. It's important to understand the process, the quality of materials, and the time spent creating your T-shirt quilt.

Labor is a large component of your quilt. Experienced, talented and knowledgeable quilters have a higher hourly rate than an entry level quilter. When many of the T-shirts/garments you provide for inclusion in your quilt are one of a kind, irreplaceable. You want an experienced quilter to work with these representations of your treasured memories. It takes time to prepare, cut to size, and layout the design of your quilt. We analyze all quilts for color balance and aesthetics. Before finalizing your design, we have another member of our team to provide a second review and once complete, we send you a picture for review. This provides you with a first look at what your quilt will look like before it's assembled and quilted. All quilts should be quilted and that process also takes time.

Materials. All quilts have the same basic material components which are fabric, batting and thread. If a quilting company doesn't mention batting, then these are the companies that advertise "quilts" but really make blankets. Not all cotton fabrics are the same. Quilting cotton is a different weight and quality of cotton fabric than what you can purchase from Walmart or Hobby Lobby. A low quality 100% cotton fabric will not hold up to the wear and washing like a high quality 100% quilting cotton. We use Quilters Dream Batting due to its quality, durability and affordability. We use 80% cotton / 20% polyester batting as it doesn't require as dense of all-over quilting and it won't bunch up or breakdown during use and washing as 100% polyester and 100% cotton are prone to do. Quilters Dream Batting is made in the USA which increases their affordability. The last basic material component is thread. We use Hab+Dash by Fil Tec thread line called Glide. This high-quality polyester quilting thread is and



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industry leader for durability, reliability and variety of color. It can be used for both quilt assembly (piecing) and on the long-arm quilting machine.

This can be confusing as there is a lot of information. In short, if you want your quilt to last for years to come, you want a knowledgeable and experienced quilter who uses only high-quality materials to create your T-shirt quilt. If you have questions, contact us!

What's Included In our Pricing:

Our prices include fabric, fusible stabilizer, batting, thread, layout and design, long-arm machine quilting, and experienced quilters/labor hours. Additional seams may add cost. This includes joining two smaller images to form one larger block, adding fabric that is not from your garments to make a block larger, adding fabric behind V-neck, tank tops, jerseys, etc. We will communicate added charges as they are identified. This allows you the opportunity to choose another garment as a substitution OR move forward with the needed modifications.

T-Shirt/Garment Preparation:

1. **Gather.** T-shirts, Sweatshirts, Jerseys, Sweatpants or other fabric items relevant to your collection can be included.
 - Provide at minimum number of garments listed on the order form for the size and style quilt you wish to have made.
 - Additional items that could be included if there is room or need (alternates), should be included with the collection but bagged/tagged separately.
 - Anything that is not used will be returned with the quilt.
2. **Launder.** Wash and dry all items you are sending to be included in the quilt. Including your alternates.
 - DO NOT use fabric softener in the washer or dryer.
 - DO NOT cut the T-shirts/garments
3. **Label/Sort.** Using painters' tape (not masking or Scotch tape as it leaves a residue) place an "X" on the imprints on the garments that are NOT to be used if there is more than one on the garment. Group shirts into "must use" and "spares." If sending shirts for more than one quilt, clearly label the difference.
4. **Print/Complete.** Our T-Shirt Quilt Order Form can be found on our website. Include special instructions. Use an addition sheet of paper if needed. Examples include: A certain garment being the center of the quilt, certain chest logos combined into one square.
5. **Communicate.** Reach out with questions or concerns with any step of the process or further need for clarity or creative input.

Turnaround Time: We routinely expect a 4-week turnaround time for most quilting services. In the event there is an anticipated delay or extension of the time needed to complete your quilt, we will communicate this to you in advance. (ex-Summer/Winter Holiday Breaks & Rushes)

T-Shirt/Garment Arrival: Your T-shirt/garments will be received in a weatherproof drop box. We will notify you by email within one week of your project's arrival that it has been received and whether we have additional questions. We suggest you pack your garments and order form in watertight packaging (oversized zip-lock works great) before placing them in a box for shipping or placing them in the drop box.

Shipping: We don't have a preferred shipping service provider for quilts/projects being sent to us. If using USPS, Insurance and Extra Services are available to help ensure your delivery arrives as expected. Send us an email when your T-shirts are on their way to us or when you plan to drop them off. We will ship your completed quilt to you using USPS Priority Mail Flat Rate unless you specify otherwise. The address on the invoice you receive via email is the address we will use for shipping. Extra insurance and special requests for returning the quilt should be communicated via email. Invoices will be updated with added expenses prior to payment.

Completion: We will send an invoice and payment instructions to the email listed on your order form. Once the invoice is paid, we will have your quilt in the mail or ready for pickup within 3-5 business days.