



LONG ARM QUILTING PROCESS

Prepare your quilt.

Follow the *Instructions to Prepare for Long Arm Quilting*.

Make an appointment to drop off your quilt.

Contact us by phone at 902-719-3030 or 902-518-2543 or via email at jill@quiltopiacanada.ca to arrange a convenient time to arrange to drop off your quilt. Please do not come to the studio without an appointment.

Quiltopia Canada is located at 19 Pentz Road, Pleasantville NS (just outside Bridgewater before the Lahave Bakery). The studio is located in the back of our home and has it separate entrance. The house and studio are smoke free. We do have a small dog, but she is not permitted in the studio.

We may eventually add a pick-up/drop off service for outlying areas around the south shore of Nova Scotia and into the Halifax area.

Quilt Intake:

When you drop off your quilt, I will confirm the details such as the:

- quilt story (who the quilt is for, how it is planned to be used)
- measurements of top, backing and batting
- quilting pattern you would like to use – refer to Quilting Design Pattern Catalog
- thread choice(s) – I primarily use Wonderfil thread.
- batting selection – You have the choice to bring your own batting or select one that from our inventory at wholesale cost. Several options available 80/20 (white, black, natural) and bamboo/cotton
- preferred completion date
- Other services needed (binding, squaring/piecing backing etc)

I can offer advice, however the ultimate decision on the quilting pattern and thread colour are the responsibility of the customer. I do not supply backing fabric.

I can advise you of the fixed price for your quilt, so you know the cost up front. Pricing is all inclusive pricing with batting, thread, and quilting design, with no taxes applied. No deposit required for Standard Edge to Edge Quilting Services. 50% deposit may be requested for any Custom Quilting.

Pick-up and payment:

I will reach out by email or telephone to let you know your quilt is ready and set up an appointment to pick it up at the studio. Payment is due prior to your quilt being released. We accept cash or e-transfer to jill@quiltopiacanada.ca

If you are happy with our work and the service provided, please tell others. If you are not happy with the results, please tell us and we will do everything we can to make it right. Please refer to our policies at <https://quiltopiacanada.ca/policies> .



INSTRUCTIONS TO PREPARE FOR LONG ARM QUILTING

To assure a quality finished product, please follow these guidelines:

- Keep quilt top, backing and batting (if supplied) separate – I will make the quilt sandwich.
- No need to provide batting as it is part of the price of long arm quilting. Four options available.
- If you would like to supply your own batting, ensure it measures 6” longer and wider than the quilt top. Regardless of batting type, I recommend buying off a roll rather than packaged batting as the bagging process results in uneven loft and intermittent tension issues. If you have bagged batting, let it fluff up in a warm dryer for 10-15 minutes (no need to wet it).

Ensure the Quilt Top is:

- PRESSED and lays flat to prevent puckering when quilted.
- SQUARED - Measure your quilt to check the length of each side and the center are equal. A discrepancy of more than an inch or so among these three measurements can result in pleats or puckers in the body or borders of the quilt.
- CLEAR of excess or long threads as they may show through, especially if the fabric is light coloured. Loose threads can cause uneven stitching, snagging, damage our machine or even damage your quilt.
- FREE OF foundation paper, pins, buttons, snaps, sequins as they could damage your quilt or the machine.
- LABELLED if the top is directional (use pencil on a piece of paper).

Ensure the Backing is:

- OF SIMILAR COLOUR to the quilt top so that it won't show thru if the top is a lighter colour.
- SQUARED - ripping the fabric will help to ensure the fabric is on grain. Check that the top and bottom edges are parallel with each other and the corners create a 90-degree angle.
- MEASURED – it must be at least 8-10 inches longer and 6-8 inches wider than the quilt top to enable the backing to be connected to the machine leaders.
- OF EQUAL QUALITY to the quilt top (cotton with cotton, minky, fireside or cuddle that have low stretch, anti-pill fleece). Why spend all time and \$ on the top only to have the backing fall apart, shrink, bleed or pill.
- PREWASHED if the fabric is flannel, heavily starched, digitally printed or a dark/intense color to prevent bleeding.
- PRESSED to prevent wrinkles from being quilted into the stitching.
- Notes when PIECING backing: cut off selvages in the areas that will be inside the quilted area to prevent skipped stitches and needle breakage. Ok to leave selvages on sides that will be trimmed after quilting. If you need to piece, please try to make the seams horizontal rather than vertical as there is little give when the quilt is loaded and it can cause tucks or puckers.



TIPS & TRICKS TO IMPROVE YOUR SQUARING UP SKILLS

When cutting:

- Use a quilting ruler rather than following the lines on a cutting mat.
- Hold your rotary cutter so the blade is straight up and down and flush against the ruler.

When piecing:

- Use consistent seam allowances at a scant 1/4.”
- Match thread to your fabric and when in doubt, select a neutral colour.
- Remove excess thread as you are piecing.
- Press seams as you go and try to be consistent as that slight fold of a seam can make a difference in the overall squareness of your quilt. Also consider how you will nest your seams between rows of blocks.
- Press seams toward the fabric that is darker whenever possible otherwise you may see the darker fabric thru the lighter colour. If this is not possible, you may need to trim the darker fabric back slightly to ensure it does not show thru.
- Square up each block before assembling the quilt. DO NOT skip this step or your quilt will not be square.
- Ensure all seams are sewn together securely.

When adding borders:

- It is very important to measure the quilt top in three places – the top, middle, bottom or left, right and middle.
- If the three measurements are more than ½” off for a small quilt or 1” off for a larger quilt, STOP and go back to square the quilt more before adding your borders. You may need to check your seam allowances and make them smaller or larger depending on if you need to let out or take in the seams.
- If the measurements are close, then you can square up using this technique with borders.
- Take the average of the three measurements and cut your two border strips to exactly this size.
Example: $(63\frac{1}{2} + 63\frac{3}{4} + 63\frac{1}{2}) / 3 = \text{approx. } 63\frac{5}{8}$ ”
- Match the middle of the side of the quilt to the middle of the border strip and add a pin.
- Match up the ends of the border strip and add pins.
- Gradually ease in the fabric by finding the approximate middle between the pins and adding another a pin.
- Keep adding pins using this technique of finding the middle between currently placed pins and adding another pin until pins are placed about every inch or so along the length of the border.
- Recommend sewing the seam with the border strip on the bottom then you can see the seams on the quilt top and ensure they lie flat when sewing the borders on.



PRICE LIST

Standard Edge-to-Edge Quilting

\$ / in ²	Batting Options
0.0225	Client Supplied
0.0275	Batting Included – list below

* Prices include thread and tax. Dimensions rounded up to nearest inch.

Batting Options for Quilting or Purchase:

Pellon	\$ / m
E- 80/20 - Natural - 120"	18.00
J - 80/20 – Bleached – 96"	17.00
D - 80/20 – Dark – 90"	17.00
B - 50/50 Bamboo – White – 96"	22.00

* Prices include Taxes

Additional Services:

\$\$\$	Additional Services
\$ 25 / hour	Squaring Backing
\$ 25 / hour	Piecing Backing
+ \$ 10.00	Quilting panto not in library
+ \$ 0.002/in ²	Dense quilting (extra thread)
+ \$ 0.30 / ft	Binding – make, attach, hand stitch finish

* Prices include tax.