**Congratulations on completing your beautiful quilt top!**

**Now, let’s finish it up! 😊**

**Preparing Your Quilt Top**

* Please trim all loose threads to avoid them showing through any light areas on your quilt
* Please ensure your quilt top is pressed and seams are flat: pressed to the side, not pressed open.
* Ensure your quilt top lies flat, without waviness as much as possible. Machine quilting can flatten some of these issues, however, improper piecing may result in some puckers or waviness. I will do my best to alleviate these in the quilting process, but I can’t guarantee I will be able to eliminate all issues.
* Quilts must be clean and free of offensive odors. I reserve the right to refuse quilt tops that may negatively impact my equipment or another client’s work.
* Please indicate the top of your quilt with a pin/tag
* Please do not scallop your edges or curve your corners prior to the quilting process. Please advise of your intent for scalloped edges during the consultation so we can plan the quilting design accordingly.

**Preparing Your Backing**

* Please use a backing that is 100% cotton.  I can provide backing fabric for an additional cost.
* When choosing a backing fabric, something with a busy pattern or print is useful in hiding stops and starts when custom quilting.
* I reserve the right to refuse a backing that is not 100% cotton, or one that will cause challenges with the quilting process. An additional fee may be required to utilize an alternate type of backing
* If using a pieced backing, ensure you piece the backing fabrics with a minimum of a ½” seam allowance and press the seams open. Unless the fabric is directional, I recommend piecing your backing horizontally instead of vertically.
* Please remove all selvages. Additional charges may apply to trim backing fabrics.
* The backing must be a minimum of eight inches larger in length and width than the quilt top to ensure accurate loading onto the longarm.
* Please press the backing fabric and ensure it is squared up.

**Batting**

* You can provide your batting or choose from the options I have available.
* If you provide your own batting, please ensure your batting is the same size as your backing fabric at a minimum. Wider or longer is fine.
* Please utilize a high-quality batting – I reserve the right to refuse a low-quality batting as it can cause tension issues, impact the performance of the machine, and cause quality issues with the finished product. If you have questions about which batting to purchase, please let me know.
* I can provide a quality polyester, cotton, or cotton/poly blend.
* Do not baste your quilt – all three layers must be separate to load on the machine.

**Finishing**

* Your quilt will be returned to you with basting around the edges and trimmed as requested. Trimming for rounded or scalloped borders will be an additional charge.
* If you are requesting binding to be made and attached, please provide enough material for the preparation of the binding (i.e. ~ .75 yd of fabric for an average queen size quilt). If requesting bias binding, more fabric is required and will be discussed during the consultation.

**Shipping Your Quilt Top / Backing**

* Please package your quilt top, and any other necessary fabrics (for backing or binding) in a plastic bag or wrapped securely in a weather resistant packaging. This way if the box gets wet, the fabrics will be protected.
* Please wait until our consultation is complete and we have agreed upon a quilting plan and timeline prior to shipping.
* Return shipping costs will be based on packaging for priority mail, unless requested otherwise, to include insurance for total cost of the quilt.

**Thank you so much for trusting me with your treasure!**

**Sincerely, Sheila**

