

HOW TO PREPARE A QUILT FOR LONGARM QUILTING.

- **Basting** is not necessary so please do not baste your quilt with pins or other method.
- **Batting and backing** should measure at least eight inches longer and eight inches wider than your quilt top to fit your quilt on the frame; also make sure this is *square*. This will allow four inches completely around the quilt top. If it's larger, not a problem. Any unused materials are returned.
- **Borders** that do not lay flat may cause tucks, pleats, wavy borders, or fullness that will not quilt out.
Check your borders carefully!
- **Identify the top** of your quilt top if applicable with a piece of paper marked in pencil and taped or pinned to the fabric.
- **Press** your quilt well. Please press all the fabrics of the quilt top and backing. Press the quilt top so that all the seams lay as flat as possible and press the backing fabric so that there are no deep creases. Deep creases do not quilt out.
- **Remove** all lint from the back.
- When **Seaming** your backing, be sure to remove all selvages. Use a ½ inch seam and press the sides outward on the seam.
- **Square** your quilt top (straight 90-degree edges). Your quilt needs to be square to go on the frame otherwise it will go at an angle on the frame or flare in the middle or flare at the top or bottom.
- **Stay stitch** (1/4") around the edge of your top, especially if it is pieced to the edge or you notice the fabric fraying.
- **Top** must be free of embellishments such as buttons and beads. You may add them after quilting.
- **Trim** all loose threads on your quilt, they can show under light fabric plus cause snags and uneven stitching. Know that dark threads will show through white fabric!
- Have **ideas or suggestions** about the quilting designs you want. "Do whatever you want" is not acceptable.
- **ALSO** - When showing your finished Quilt, **be sure to give credit to the Quilter** whose workmanship contributed to your quilt.

Quilt preparation is very important for getting the best quilting possible!