

Preparing Your Quilt for an MLQG Exhibit

Now that your masterpiece is finished we need you to do just a few more things:

A. Sleeve for hanging (essentially a tube sewn on the top back of the quilt)

To be eligible to be hung rather than draped or folded, your quilt must have a sleeve sewn down on all four sides.

For quilts more than 30 inches wide

1. Measure the width of your quilt, subtract 2", and cut a piece of fabric that length by 8 ½" (finished size of sleeve is 4").
2. Turn under each short end ¼" (you can just do this by eye—doesn't have to be exact) and sew that end down.
3. Fold fabric in half lengthwise WRONG sides together and sew with a ¼" seam.
4. Press so that sleeve is flat and seam is about in the middle of the back side.
5. To attach sleeve: Find the middle of the sleeve by folding in half and pin top middle of sleeve (with seam in back) to middle of the quilt backing right below the binding. Start sewing from middle to one end. Sew down end (being sure to leave sleeve opening open) and continue around, sewing bottom of sleeve to back of quilt. Top, sides, and bottom of sleeve must be sewn down. You may use a basic whip stitch; just be sure to catch only the backing of the quilt without going through to quilt top. Sleeve should begin and end about an inch from either edge of the quilt.



For more detailed directions with an emphasis on a sleeve to accommodate a large rod go to: www.americanquilter.com/documents/shows_contests/sleeve_instructions.pdf

For quilts less than 30" wide

Follow the above instructions but cut the piece of fabric 3 ½" wide (finished size is 1 ½"), cut it in half, fold over and sew ¼" on all four ends, and then sew both sections to the back of the quilt. The outer ends of the sleeve parts should be about an inch from the outer edge of the quilt. This allows the quilt to be hung from just one point in the center.



If your quilt is not a square or rectangle and you need advice about hanging, contact Madalene at murphy@epix.net.

B. Label

A label with your name and the name of the quilt **must** be attached securely to the back of the quilt, preferably on the bottom left corner as you face the back. You may, of course, add more information to the label, but those two items are required. The best approach is to write the information in permanent marker (or print it out from a computer) on a small piece of fabric and sew it to the quilt.

C. Inspection

Take a look at your quilt one last time before you bring it in and remove any stray threads. You might want to run a lint roller over the quilt to remove pet hair, your hair, tiny threads, general dust. Those lights in the Gmeiner pick up all sorts of tiny things.