

Quilting Basics:

1. I always prewash fabric in warm water, and dry at a 'normal' setting. I've had too many times when I make something and had it either shrink or run, or both!
2. Always cut and sew accurately! When you have several seams on the width or length of a quilt, a 16th of an inch error can add up fast, and the quilt will end up a little 'wonky'
3. Use a ¼" or quilting foot if you have it. If you don't, some machines have a side-to-side adjustment to move the needle over. If yours is a more basic machine, just use the edge of your regular foot, and BE CONSISTENT! This will decrease the 'errors' stated above!
4. Press frequently! Press all (or most) seams towards the darker fabric; however when assembling rows of squares, there may be some seams that will be towards the lighter fabric.
5. When you have assembled squares, 'square' each one with a square ruler (see below), and the whole quilt will go together more easily, and be more 'square'!
6. Don't get frustrated! Everyone goes through a learning curve! We will be there to help with whatever happens!
7. Your seam ripper is your best friend! I've taken out many seams, not being happy with how they went together!
8. Happy quilting!

Equipment:

1. good working sewing machine, with supply of sharp needles for sewing machine
2. ¼" or quilting foot (if available)
3. walking foot – not required, but it helps for doing the 'quilting' when the quilt is assembled
4. iron and ironing board / mat
5. sewing machine manual and extra presser feet, we'll help you to set the seam allowance

Tools:

1. rotary cutting mat, 18" x 24"
2. rotary cutter with sharp blade
3. 6"x24" quilting ruler, 3"x24" quilting ruler (optional)
4. square ruler – 9.5" or 10.5" is good for 'squaring up' squares
5. seam ripper (see #7 above!)
6. pencil and marking tool
7. 2 pairs of scissors, one for fabric, and one for paper
8. supply of long, sharp pins, pincushion
9. reading glasses (if you use them!)

Supplies: (we will give you specifics on each project)

1. fabric
2. batting
3. matching thread – for assembly
4. contrast thread – you may want the quilting to stand out more
5. extra bobbins

It's good to label all your own items!