

Newsletter #75, Month of October, 2009

The Quilters II Newsletter is published weekly during the season, and monthly during the off season.

The purpose of the newsletter is to provide information, in advance of the Monday meeting, to reduce the amount of announcements and discussion at the meeting. Submissions for publication in the newsletter can be made through the Newsletter Submission form located in the Members Only section of the website.

During the summer, the deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. on the 15th day of the month. The newsletter will then be placed on the website as soon as possible thereafter.

From the Summer Coordinator

Greetings to you all. We will probably see most of you before the next newsletter is printed and I will be back at the bottom of the table. The weather has finally turned so it's safe for you to come back ... we're all breathing a sigh of relief with the cooler temperatures.

On to the news. Jan Brink is in the midst of her chemo and seems to be hanging in there. I'm sure she would love to hear from you. Arlene Barclay is back on her feet and looks great. Laura Catura has graciously agreed to be our photographer this year. Sharon will give her as much info as possible and I know all of you will help her out when needed. We sent a carload of our quilters to the Quilt for a Cause auction. They reported that it did not go as well as it did three years ago and our pots quilt only made \$650. The total take was approximately \$108,000 which isn't bad in these economic times.

Jan Tuttle and Bev Polito have knocked themselves out, with a little help from Lynn Jenkins, and produced about 12 Halloween quilts ... we'll have the final number next week. We are delivering them to the children at UMC in time for them to enjoy before the holiday, so most of you won't get to see them ... and you have missed a treat. We will also deliver 57 holiday (Christmas) place mats to Mobile Meals, mostly to make room in the closet. Last week Lynn J. helped Pat Davis quilt a child's quilt using a dinosaur pantograph. It's a skill that needs a lot of practice. On that note, I have included a tip I received on line that those who read it at the meeting thought was helpful, so I got permission to include it in the newsletter. The other two tips I received through unsolicited mail and consider them in the public domain. They are both quite useful.

TIP: Your new machine has arrived and you can't wait to start quilting! You expect to be able to quilt feathers like Kimmy Brunner, all-overs like Darlene Epp, trapunto like Karen McTavish, all by, say, the end of the day? Not likely. Most good quilters share that you need about 300 hours of practice to

master machine quilting, whether sit-down or standup. As with anything, start with the basics. Stipple, or meander, to your heart's content. It's the basis for most OD free-motion quilting designs. Spend a lot of time getting comfortable with your machine, threads, batting and anything else related to machine quilting. Now move up to echo quilting. Echo your previous stitches. Draw a picture on your practice fabric and echo it. Echo anything and everything. Now you are ready to start free-wheeling. Play with the machine; write your name and other words, draw pictures with the needle and thread, make those cute little hearts we used to dot our eyes with when we were 13. Soon you will feel ready to tackle feathers and designs.

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Triangle-Squares

Use this technique to minimize waste and ensure accuracy when you're cutting a large number of identical squares.

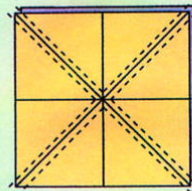


Diagram 1

Place a layered pair of squares (right sides together) on a piece of 220-grit sandpaper. On the wrong side of the fabric, use a pencil to mark horizontal, vertical, and diagonal lines (Diagram 1). Sew layered square together with four seams, stitching $\frac{1}{4}$ " on each side of drawn diagonal lines. Cut on drawn lines to make eight triangle-square units (Diagram 2).

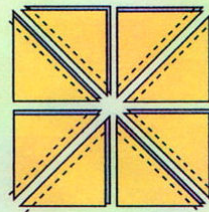


Diagram 2



Math Made Easy:

(Use two same-size squares to make multiple triangle-squares.)

To determine what size squares you need to cut, multiply the desired finished size of the triangle-square by two, then add $1\frac{3}{4}$ ". For example, for a finished triangle-square that is $2\frac{1}{2}$ " square, use $6\frac{3}{4}$ " squares.

$$2 \times 2\frac{1}{2}" \text{ (finished size)} = 5" \quad 5" + 1\frac{3}{4}" = 6\frac{3}{4}"$$

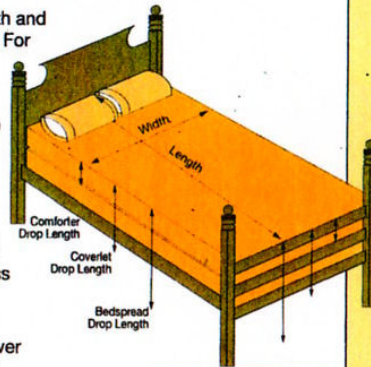
Pocket Reference Guide

Measuring a bed to determine quilt size

Follow these instructions to measure a bed and determine the finished size of your quilt. When measuring, have the blankets, sheets, and pillows on the bed that will be used with the quilt. "Drop" is the part of the quilt that extends over the edge of the mattress. "Tuck" is the part of the quilt that folds under the pillows should you want your quilt to cover them. It can be shallow (10") or deep (20"). Note: The amount of quilting done and the type of batting used can result in a 3 to 5% loss in the overall size of the quilt; plan accordingly.

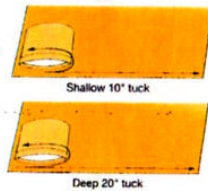
Width

Measure the mattress width and add twice the drop length. For a comforter-size finished project, measure from the top of the mattress to slightly past its lower edge to figure the drop length. For a coverlet, measure from the top of the mattress to slightly past the bottom of the bed rail. For a bedspread, measure from the top of the mattress to just above the floor.



Length

If you want the quilt to cover your pillows, measure the mattress length, then add one drop length plus 10" to 20" for the pillow tuck. The exact amount to add will depend on the size and fullness of your pillows and the depth of your tuck. If you do not want your quilt to go over your pillows, measure the mattress length and add one drop length.



Quick Reference Chart

Standard Bed and Batting Sizes

Bed Size	Mattress Size	Batting Size*
	W×L	W×L
Crib	23×46"	45×60"
Twin	39×75"	72×90"
Double (or Full)	54×75"	81×96"
Queen	60×80"	90×108"
King	76×80"	120×120"
California King	72×84"	

*Note: Batting sizes refer to commercially available, precut batts.

Sample Quilt Sizes

Drops on Three Sides	Twin Mattress	Double Mattress	Queen Mattress	King Mattress
	39×75" W×L	54×75" W×L	60×80" W×L	76×80" W×L
With 10" drop	59×85"	74×85"	80×90"	96×90"
And 10" tuck	59×95"	74×95"	80×100"	96×100"
With 12" drop	63×87"	78×87"	84×92"	100×92"
And 10" tuck	63×97"	78×97"	84×102"	100×102"
With 14" drop	67×89"	82×89"	88×94"	104×94"
And 10" tuck	67×99"	82×99"	88×104"	104×104"
With 16" drop	71×91"	86×91"	92×96"	108×96"
And 10" tuck	71×101"	86×101"	92×106"	108×106"
With 18" drop	75×93"	90×93"	96×98"	112×98"
And 10" tuck	75×103"	90×103"	96×108"	112×108"
With 20" drop	79×95"	94×95"	100×100"	116×100"
And 10" tuck	79×105"	94×105"	100×110"	116×110"