

Quilt Preparation Tips for a Rewarding Mid Arm Experience:

Requirements:

- **Your back and batting must be larger than your top by a minimum of 3”** in all directions. If you plan to do a “wrapped binding” you will need 5-6” on all sides.
- **Baste your quilt top with your batting to the backer.** You will not want to quilt over your basting if you are using pins or baste gun fasteners, so bring a way to remove them and a receptacle to transport them home if they are reusable.
- **Iron all of your seams on your top and back.** Your quilt will lay flatter and you'll see fewer lumps and ridges.
- **Use quality long arm thread.** We offer thread for sale that is recommended for use on our mid arm machine. There are many threads available on the market which may perform well; however, if you are bringing in your own thread, we will not be held responsible for excessive breakage, tension issues, or other related problems that can cause frustration.

Recommendations:

- **Remove all loose threads.** Dark colored threads left on the back of a quilt top can frequently be seen, especially if they're caught behind lighter fabrics.
- **Fix baggy borders.** Quilt tops with baggy borders frequently end up with tucks and pleats after quilting is completed. If you should notice that your borders wave during your basting process, take steps to rectify your borders before completing the basting process.
- **Open your batting and lay it flat for a few days prior to quilting,** this will help creases from packaging to relax.
- **Use quality materials.** Sheets, batiks, upholstery fabric, and polyester behave differently. We highly recommend quality fabrics and battings only. Please don't bring comforters or blankets as a substitute for quality batting. We reserve the right to refuse any materials that might cause damage to our machine.
- **Bring your preferred free motion tools.** If you have gloves or a quilt halo or other such “helpers” that you are accustomed to using to do free motion work, feel free to bring these along for your quilting ease. You will not need any Teflon bed covers (such as the Supreme Slider) on this machine as the table for this machine already has a smooth overlay.
- **Feel free to design your quilting ahead of time.** There are many products on the market that can be used to transfer or create quilting guidelines on your quilt top before coming in to use the machine. If you think these would be helpful for you - feel free to do this before coming in to use the machine.