

DO YOU KNOW HOW A QUILT IS MADE?



Every quilt is unique. While today sewing machines are widely used to make quilts. Instead of Grandma's hands and old-fashioned needle and threads, quilts are homemade and with lots of love! **Crazy Fact: Quilters buy fabric to cut it up and sew it back together!** Quilts are made of three layers, and the following information outlines seven (7) basic steps most quilt artists use to create their wondrous works of art.

1. **Choose a fabric.** Most quilters start the vision for their work of art by finding a unique or appealing piece of fabric. The average quilt uses 5-12 yards of fabric.
2. **Choose a design or pattern.** Next the quilter finds a pattern or design they want to use while other quilter artist creates their own original designs in which to arrange the fabric.
3. **Cut and create the first layer.** Once the quilter decides on a design, she then cuts the fabric into pieces and sews together all the fabric pieces according to the design. Thus, creating the top layer of the quilt.
4. **The second quilt layer.** Next, the quilter chooses a batting and cuts the batting a little larger than the size of the top quilt layer. Batting is used to add depth (fluffiness) or as a layer of insulation to provide warmth.
5. **Create the third and final quilt layer.** The last layer is the backing – the pretty fabric we see when we flip a quilt over on its reverse side. After the quilter chooses a backing, then she cuts the backing to the same size as the batting.
6. **Next is QUILTING – YIPPEE!!!** Quilting is sewing all three layers together and is actually another layer of design. Many quilters baste all three layers and quilt on their domestic machine. Some quilt artists use a specialized sewing machine referred to as Long Arm Quilting to sew the layers together. **Crazy Fact: The average time to create a quilt is 10-60 hours or 2-10 days, depending on the design, size, fabric, and other factors.** However, Long Arm Quilting reduces the amount of quilting time, provides increased artistic options, and creates a more durable, longer lasting quilt to cherish.
7. **Binding – The finishing touch.** The last step is binding. Binding is a long strip of fabric used to neatly cover raw outer fabric edges and hold the quilt top, batting and backing together.



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