



HelHO Quilting Service

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Thank you for checking out Helen H Originals Quilting Service.

I have been quilting since the mid 70's. I love hand quilting but these days we just don't seem to have the time, and I have found that machine quilting can give a beautiful finish to a quilt as well as giving us the opportunity to have completed quilts for home and for gifts at an affordable price. There is no compromise to quality, it's just different from hand quilted.

So let me help you out with your unfinished quilt tops.

There are several options for machine quilting.

The most cost and time effective is **edge to edge** quilting where you choose an all over design from the large range I have available. These are great to retain a warm, soft, drapery effect or when you want to blend the quilt top design rather than accentuate it.

Prices vary depending on the complexity and the density of the quilting. I can customise an e2e design to make your quilt a little more individual.

Custom quilting is available for those very special quilts when you want to pick out blocks or borders, specify outline quilting or top of the range personalising.

If you just need help to **baste** your quilt (without getting down on your hands and knees with the safety pins) so you can enjoy hand quilting - I can do this for you.

Preparing your quilt top for Long-arm machine quilting

To get the very best quilting result for your quilt, it is worthwhile taking the time to ensure all threads are removed from the back (and front) of your quilt. Also, ensure your quilt sits flat by taking care putting on borders. See below if you are unsure how to do this, or ask at your local quilt shop or quilt group. Wavy borders (too large) or tight borders (too small) will result in an uneven finished quilt often including gathers or tucks in the border and can be a huge disappointment.

SHORT LIST OF TIPS WHEN PREPARING YOUR QUILT

- ✚ Ensure your Backing fabric and Batting are **at least 4 inches** (up to 6 inches) wider and longer on all sides than your quilt top
- ✚ When creating the backing, please **remove selvages** from seams and edges and press seams open.
- ✚ Do your best to have all edges on top and backing straight. This helps with alignment on the machine and in keeping your quilt square.
- ✚ **DO NOT** pin or baste your quilt, batting and backing sandwich.
- ✚ It is preferable that quilt tops have been well pressed and that you check threads are trimmed off as they can show through (especially dark threads under light fabrics).
- ✚ Indicate which is the top of your quilt and backing if it is directional or you have a preference.
- ✚ Do not mark you quilt top with quilting ideas - put them on paper.

When Adding Border:

Whether for a wall hanging, a bed quilt or a Medallion quilt, learning to add borders that fit correctly is important so they don't draw up the centre, or make swoopy corners.

Measure the length of the quilt through the centre, not at the edge. Edges often stretch. Cut 2 borders to this measurement and apply it to the quilt after first pinning it at the ends, centre and at the $\frac{1}{4}$ marks if it is a long quilt.

Repeat measuring your quilt for the widthwise borders. Cut and apply to the quilt in the same manner.

Enjoy your flat quilt. 😊