

SQG Quilt Show: Labels, Quilt Bags, and Hanging Sleeves

If you have any questions, contact Brenda Downing at 306- 242-9810 or email entries@saskatoonquiltersguild.com.

LABELS

All quilt show entries **must** have a fabric label securely **sewn** on the back in the lower left-hand corner, so that when the quilt is hung, the label is on the lower back, right-hand side.

Quilt show labels must include the entry number, quilter's name and phone number and the name of the quilt. Entry numbers are assigned to each quilt and sent to the entrants. Here is an example of a show label:

ENTRY # 123
Mary Quilter
306-123-4567
Just a Little Log Cabin

Suggestions for Creating Fabric Labels:

1. Iron a suitably sized piece of fabric to a piece of freezer paper which makes writing on fabric easier. Use a felt pen such as a Sharpie marker and print the information in large letters.
2. Use T-shirt transfer sheets or printable fabric sheets and print labels on your computer.

BAGS

Each quilt show entry must have its own fabric bag. All bags must have a secure closure (Velcro, zippers, drawstrings, or buttons) so that quilt will not fall out. **Do not use straight pins or safety pins to close bags.**

To make easily reusable quilt bags, sew a large sealable bag onto the front of your bag with a zigzag stitch. In this bag you can place a clearly legible paper label consisting of your entry number, name, phone number and quilt name. On the reverse side of the paper, attach a picture of your quilt. The label should be easily readable at a distance of four feet. Make sure that the entry number is in large print.

You can use zippered or regular pillowcases as quilt bags. If you make your own bags, choosing one fabric for all bags allows for easy identification and retrieval of your quilts during the post-show quilt pick up.

If you don't want to fold embellished quilted art, roll your quilts around a pool noodle or cardboard tube, and place them in a long narrow tube-like bag, closing it with Velcro or ties. Place this inside a larger labelled quilt bag.

HANGING SLEEVES

All entries, except for those in the Guild Challenge, must have a hanging sleeve that is securely **sewn** to the back of the quilt. Sleeves that are attached using safety pins or straight pins will not be hung! The edge of the sleeve should be 2 inches from the edges of the quilt on each side.

Cutting Fabric for the Sleeve

Measure the width of your quilt. Cut strip(s) of fabric the size needed (refer to the included table) and 3.5 inches shorter than the width of your quilt including the binding. If the width of your quilt is greater than 60 inches, ensure that the sleeve has gaps rather than being a continuous tube so that the hanging hooks may be placed at the gaps as well as the ends of the slats which will be inserted into the sleeve and used to hang your quilt. Slats are provided by the Quilt Show Committee.

Quilt Size	Sleeve Size	Gaps (1 – 2 inches)
Large over 240" perimeter	7.5" wide strips of fabric Finished – 3.5"	Every 25 – 30 inches
Small or Medium up to 240" perimeter	6" wide strips of fabric Finished – 2.5"	One gap in middle of quilt. If the width is less than 60" then no gap is needed.

Removable Sleeve Option

Turn the short ends of the sleeve in about ¼ inch and finish the ends.

Stitch the long raw edges together with a ¼ inch seam. Press the sleeve so that the seam is in the middle. Position the sleeve on the quilt back just below the binding. Hand stitch the top of the hanging sleeve in place; larger running stitches can be used if you wish to remove the sleeve after the quilt show.

Fold the bottom edge of your tube up a scant ¼ inch and hand stitch the bottom edge into place, being careful not to stitch through to the front of the quilt. This allows room for the width of the hanging slat so that it does not put strain on the quilt. Make sure that the top edge of your sleeve does not show above the top of the quilt due to this folding.

Permanent Sleeve Option

Turn the short ends of the sleeve in about ¼ inch and finish the ends.

It is possible to incorporate the sleeve into the quilt binding, making it permanent. Fold the strip in half lengthwise with wrong sides together, making sure the edges are aligned and press the crease firmly. Centre the folded strip along the top edge of the quilt, against the backing, aligning its raw edges. Pin or baste it into place. Position the binding on the front of the quilt and sew through all the layers. You may prefer to sew the binding on first and then add the sleeve and sew it into place using the same stitching line.

Fold the bottom edge of your tube up a scant ¼ inch and hand stitch the bottom edge into place, being careful not to stitch through to the front of the quilt. This allows room for the width of the hanging slat so that it does not put strain on the quilt. Make sure that the top edge of your sleeve does not show above the top of the quilt due to this folding.

Suggestions for Hanging Irregularly Shaped Quilts

1. Baste the quilt to a piece of black fabric that is hemmed at the top to accommodate a slat.
2. Secure the quilt to foam core that has been cut to size; this can be done with Velcro strips. Cut a hole in the foam core in the centre near the top so that a hanging hook can be inserted.

Guild Challenge Quilts

These quilts are pinned directly to the drapes of the pipe and drape system used to display the quilts, rather than being hung with slats. Therefore, these pieces do not need to have hanging sleeves. However, a stabilizing piece should be attached to these quilts so that they will hang straighter.

Stabilizers can be made from wood, metal, cardboard, plastic mesh, or other lightweight material. They must be securely attached to the quilt so that they cannot fall out or come away from the quilt, and they must not extend past the quilt edges. Examples are:

1. Plastic screening, needlepoint canvas, buckram or Timtex, folded and sewn to the top edge.
2. Two layers of cardboard taped together and inserted in a sleeve with the ends sewn closed.
3. A wooden dowel inserted in a sleeve with the ends sewn closed.
4. A flat strip of wood with soda can tabs attached to ends that are then sewn to the quilt.
5. A small café rod with the ends sewn to the quilt.