

Preparing your Quilt for a quilt show:

GENERAL APPEARANCE

- **Total Visual Impact**
- **Free of major technical issues**
- **Lies/hangs flat**
- **Clean, neat, no marks or hanging threads**

COLOR AND DESIGN

- **Creativity, originality, and/or innovative**
- **Balance, unity of design**
- **Scale of design suitable to quilt's size**
- **Secondary designs complement overall design**
- **fabrics, pattern selections work together/complement design**
- **Colors, values, contrasts work together**
- **Embellishments used effectively**
- **Quilting design complements overall design**

PIECING

- **Corners and points meet exactly**
- **Points are sharp**
- **Curves are smooth**
- **Pieces lie flat, no distortions**
- **Free from cutting and sewing markings**
- **Uniformity of identical pieces and blocks**
- **Sashing and/or border pieces in proportion, straight and even; corners are true**
- **Free from shadowing – no dark fabrics show under light fabrics**
- **Grain line handled consistently**
- **Stitches strong, close and tight**
- **Thread color does not show in seams or on surface unless decorative stitches**
- **Seam allowances appropriate, consistent and pressed**

APPLIQUE

- **Points are sharp**
- **Curves are smooth**
- **Circles are true**
- **Applied pieces lie flat; no distortions**
- **Free from markings on applied pieces and background**
- **Identical pieces uniform in size and placement**
- **Free from shadowing**
- **Grain line handled consistently**
- **Pieces securely attached with strong, close, tight and invisible stitches**

QUILTING

- **No visible markings**
- **Amount and scale of quilting appropriate to design**
- **Amount of quilting sufficient and evenly distributed to secure all layers**
- **Quilting thread appropriate to design**
- **Straight lines straight, curves smooth**
- **Stitches even and consistent, front and back**
- **Size of stitches appropriate to fabric, batting and overall design**
- **No visible knots or traveling stitches**
- **No puckers or pleats caused by quilting**
- **No tension issues with machine quilting**

FINISHING

- **Borders and binding lie flat – no ripples, waves, puckers**
- **Edges straight**
- **Opposite sides equal in length**
- **Corners precise and consistent**
- **Binding straight, uniform and full out to it's edge**
- **Binding securely attached with strong, close, tight and invisible stitches**
- **Binding corners consistent; miters sewn closed**

BACK

- **Quality of backing fabric appropriate**
- **Back art relates to overall effect**
- **Back free from distortion**
- **Backing fabric compatible with and complements top**
- **Backing fabric does not show through top**
- **Backing well pieced, seams consistent and pressed**