

How to Prepare your Quilt for the Pride of the Prairie Quilt Show

How do I enter my quilt?

1. Make sure your quilt is clean and in the best condition: remove any pet hair, extra threads, or lint. Check your quilt for any remaining markings from its creation; follow manufacturer's recommendations for removal.
2. Attach a sleeve to the back of your quilt: except for small wall hangings, wearables, and miscellaneous quilted items, you must pin or sew a sleeve to the back of the quilt. (Directions for making a sleeve that is pinned to the back of the quilt are given below.)
3. Attach a label to the back of your quilt: pin or sew a fabric label or pin a cardstock label to the back of your quilt. If multiple items are being entered to be displayed as 1 entry, then the label must indicate how many items are to be displayed as one and each item **MUST** have the same label. The label should contain the following information **in this order:** Name of quilt, category entered, POPQ member's name and phone number. Garments may be labeled on the inside.
4. Place EACH quilt/entry in a separate cloth bag or pillowcase with a matching label to the one created for the quilt itself. Pin or sew it to the bag/pillowcase. **Fold your quilt so that the label is toward the bag opening and easy to see.**
5. Drop your quilt off on Friday, between 5 and 7 pm.
6. Pick up your quilt on Sunday, between 5 and 6 pm.

Quilt Sleeve Directions:

A quilt sleeve consists of a long tube fastened to the back of the quilt to allow hanging from a display rod. The sleeve protects the quilt from direct contact with the display equipment.

Constructing the sleeve tube (for quilts with no hanging sleeve attached when binding added):

1. Cut or piece together fabric for a width of 9 inches and a length that is equal to the width of the quilt along the top edge. When piecing 2 or more pieces to equal the width of the quilt, sew with a 1/2" seam, press seam open, then stitch seam down.
2. Hem the short ends by folding back 1/4 inch and folding back 1/4 inch again. Stitch the hem in place by machine or hand.
3. Fold the tube in half with right sides together along the remaining raw edge. Sew a 1/2 inch seam, clip thread ends, and turn right side out.
4. Press the tube flat with the seam open and centered on the tube.
5. Pin the sleeve to the backside of the quilt placing the top fold 1 inch (or more) below the top edge of the quilt. Using a whipstitch or blind hemstitch, sew this edge in place. Stitches should be no farther than 1/4 inch apart. Some stitches should go through to the front of the quilt for stability and support, in locations where the stitches can be hidden or at least every 6 inches.
6. Now that the top edge is secure, make a new fold in the tube that is one inch down from the top fold of the tube. Align this fold with the top edge of the quilt and finger press a new bottom fold so that the tube once again lies flat.
7. Pin the new bottom fold in place, making sure the tube lies flat on the quilt. Using a whipstitch or hemstitch sew this tube fold in place.

