

QUILTING STANDARDS

OVERALL APPEARANCE, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

Regardless of the type of quilt, the workmanship and construction techniques should be suitable to the function of the quilt. Whether using traditional or innovative construction techniques, they should be well executed.

The Quilt should:

- have visual impact.
- have unity.
- be well executed with special attention paid to overall construction.
- have materials that are suitable to its design and function.
- have appropriate embellishments.
- lay/hang flat or as appropriate for design.
- be neat, clean and odour-free.

QUILTS USING TRADITIONAL TECHNIQUES:

Definition: *Quilt (technically traditional) made with two layers of fabric with a fill/batting.*

Seams:

- Construction should be smooth and well stitched.
- Seams should be cleanly pressed with no thread showing.

Piecing:

- Points should be sharp.
- Intersections should meet evenly and be flat.
- Curves should be smooth.

Appliqué:

- Edges should be finished smoothly with consistent stitches, hidden if intended.

Filler/Batting:

- Should be evenly distributed.

Border and Sashing Strips:

- Should be straight and even if appropriate to quilt design.

Quilting and other traditional means of joining:

- Stitching should be uniform and evenly spaced; no knots or thread build-ups.
- Design marking lines should not be visible.
- Stitches on the back should be neat and even.
- Thread tension should be evenly balanced.
- Spacing of the quilting should be appropriate.

Binding:

- Should be neatly and securely stitched.
- Should be appropriate to the design of the quilt top.
- Curved corners should flow smoothly without puckers.
- Square corners should be 90 degrees.

QUILTS USING INNOVATIVE TECHNIQUES:

Definition: *Quilt (technically innovative) made with at least three layers of materials.*

As quilting continues to expand with non-traditional applications, techniques and materials, it is important that innovative quilts and fibre art in general meet with the standards already established with traditional quilts.

- A quilt must hang flat when intended as a wall quilt.
- An innovative quilt consists of three layers and has quilting visible on front and back.
- Any loose threads and/or embellishments must be an integral part of the overall design.
- Any innovative quilt presented on a rigid frame must have quilting visible on both sides.

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