

THE CLEVER
LITTLE BOOK

of

QUILTY
KNOW HOW

»» QUILTING

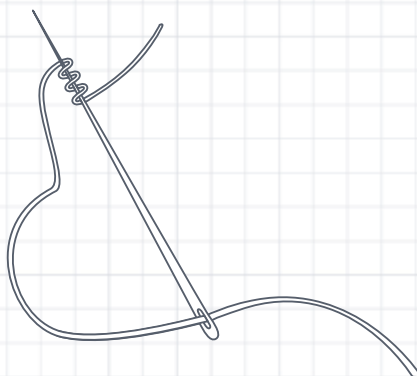
QUILTING

QUILTER'S KNOT

A quilter's knot is strong, small and super quick to make. Perfect for burying between your quilting layers.

- 1** Thread your needle and place the tail of your thread on the index finger of your needle hand. Place the needle on top of the tail and pinch lightly.
- 2** With your other hand, wind the thread around the needle a few times, going toward the tip of the needle.
- 3** Adjust your grip to lightly pinch the coils of thread on the needle, and with your other hand, draw the needle through.
- 4** When the coil reaches the tail of thread, pull tight and you will have a neat little knot.

WHEN HAND QUILTING, START STITCHING BY PUTTING YOUR NEEDLE INTO THE FABRIC, THEN BRING IT OUT AGAIN. GIVE IT A LITTLE TUG AND THE KNOT WILL DISAPPEAR INTO THE QUILT – MAGIC!



CHOOSE YOUR BATTING

QUILTING DENSITY

Check the recommended measurement for how far apart you can make your quilting on each brand of batting. Depending what material it is made of, and how the material is treated it can be anywhere from 2–12in apart. If you are unsure what your design will be, it is safer to go with a larger measurement (like 10–12in), as the given measurement is only the minimum amount for your quilting.

MATERIAL

Consider how your quilt will be used and how often it will need to be laundered, and check the care label for the batting. For example, a baby quilt will be need to be laundered far more often than a wall hanging.

SHRINK

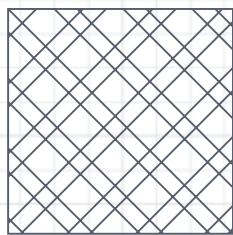
If you are worried about shrink, quilt up a test square with your chosen batting. Measure the finished square, pop in the wash, then measure again when dry. Then you can see what the effect will be on your finished piece. The manufacturer should list a percentage of expected shrink.

CLEVER TIP

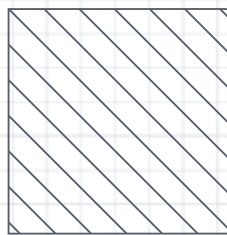
If you have a dark quilt top, you might want to consider a black batting, reducing the chance of any stray fibers showing up on your quilt top.

BASIC QUILTING PATTERNS

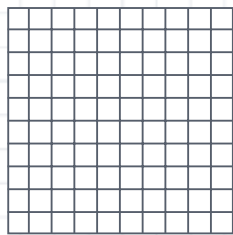
Next time you read the words 'quilt as desired' you'll certainly won't be stuck for ideas!



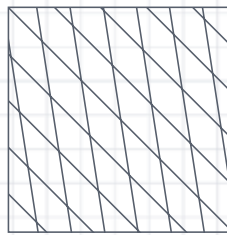
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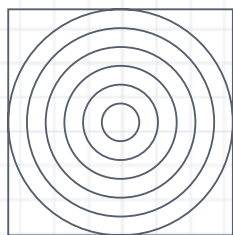
PARALLEL LINES



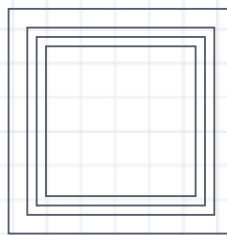
GRID



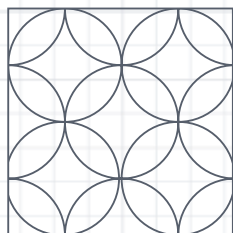
DIAMONDS



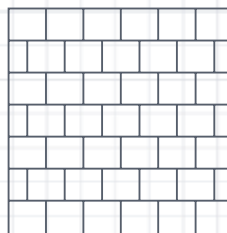
BULLSEYE



OUTLINE



PETALS



PAVING STONES

» QUILTING

QUICK QUILTING FIXES

TYING

1 Thread a sharp needle with a long length of embroidery thread (or yarn). As you will be working the thread fairly quickly, it's ok to use a much longer length than you normally would.

2 Leaving about a 3in tail, push your needle down through your quilt top, batting and backing fabric and come up about $\frac{1}{4}$ in away. This first stitch should be near the centre of your quilt. Make another stitch, with your needle going down and coming up in the exact same spot to make a double stitch, and pull the thread tight.

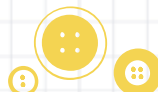
3 Trim your thread, leaving a 3in tail again. Tie the two ends off in a square knot and trim the ends, leaving at least $\frac{1}{4}$ in of thread coming from the knot.

4 Add knots all over your quilt, spacing them according to the type of batting you have.

TUFTING

Instead of simple knots, run your thread through a button, pulling it as tightly against the quilt as you can. This will not only add a decorative finish, but will give a puffy look to your quilt.

If you want buttons to match your quilt, try using self cover buttons and scraps to match your quilt top.



HAND QUILTING MUST-HAVES

Hand quilting gives your projects an extra-special finishing touch, and it's really easy when you know how! Load up on the right kit and off you go...

QUILTING/BETWEEN NEEDLES

The size 10 needle is the most common for quilting. If you're new to hand quilting, you may find it more comfortable to start with a larger size and drop down as you get a feel for the technique. We love Tulip Hiroshima quilting needles, as they last a long time and glide easily through the layers of fabric.

THREAD

Use a thread specifically for hand quilting. These are heavier than machine threads and usually have a special finish to keep the thread from tangling. We love the variety of colours available from Gütermann.

QUILTER'S TAPE

Available in $\frac{1}{4}$ in and $\frac{1}{2}$ in varieties, use this tape to quickly mark straight lines and work your quilting next to it. The tape then peels away, with no chalk or marker lines to remove.

HOOPS

For lap projects, we love plastic clip frames. These allow you to easily adjust the tension, and also come apart for easy storage.

THIMBLE

A thimble is essential to keep your fingers pain free. With such a huge variety available, it's best to try out a few to find the right one for you. We love leather thimbles, allowing control of the needle while still feeling natural.

