

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

1. **Make sure your quilt is clean and 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. Please refer to your e-mail for which quilts do not need a sleeve. We believe we have laid out the show with racks so that all large bed quilts will hang without touching the floor.
3. **Attach a label to the back of your quilt:** safety pin or sew a fabric label to the back of your quilt. Garments can be labeled on the inside. If you don't already have a label attached, the label may be as simple as writing the information on a piece of muslin with a permanent marker. The label should contain the following information -
 - POPQ member's name
 - Address
 - Phone number
 - Name of the quilt.
4. **Place your quilt in a cloth bag or pillow case, with a second label** containing your name/address/phone, quilt name pinned or sewn to the bag/pillow case so we can match it up again after the show. Again this may be as simple as writing on a piece of muslin.
 - **Fold your quilt so that the label is toward the bag opening and easy to see without having to remove it from the pillowcase. This will help at check-in.**
5. **Drop your quilt off at Richland Grade School on Friday, March 12 between 5 and 7 pm.**
 - Depending on the time you arrive, there may be a short wait to check-in. If everyone follows the instructions above, check-in will move much more efficiently and quickly.
6. **Pick up your quilt at Richland Grade School on Sunday, March 14 between 5 and 6 pm.** If you cannot pick up the quilt, your registration form should have indicated a designate to pick it up for you. If something has changed, please let a check-in coordinator know at the time of check-in. Your designate may be asked to provide identification at the time of pick-up.

No members will be allowed to enter the gym to pick-up quilts after the show. The take down committee will have designated volunteers to bring your quilts from the gym to the checkout table when you come to pick up your quilts. Once you have signed out your quilts, you will be given a receipt that may be checked as you exit to ensure you have picked up the right quilts.

Thank you so much for sharing your quilt at this year's show!

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:

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.
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 using the seam as the top fold of the tube.
5. Pin the sleeve to the back side of the quilt placing the seam fold 1 inch (or more) below the top edge of the quilt. Using a whip stitch or blind hem stitch, 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 seam 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 whip stitch or hem stitch sew this tube fold and the two tube hems which touch the quilt in place.

If the quilt is neither too large nor too heavy, you may also safety pin a sleeve in place on the back. Be sure to pin both the top and bottom of the sleeve tube with plenty of safety pins to support the weight of the quilt.