



## **MARATHON QUILT GUILD** **CHARITY QUILT GUIDELINES**

Since its inception in 1996, the Marathon Quilt Guild has made quilts to distribute throughout the local community to bring comfort to those in need, or to raise funds for worthy programs. As part of this ongoing effort, the following guidelines have been created for members who are participating.

### **Guidelines for Supplies & Materials:**

- Use only good quality, good condition 100% cotton fabrics and batting (or low-loft batting that is certified at hypo-allergenic) to reduce possible allergy issues.
- All fabrics should be washed, dried, and ironed to remove any excess dye or chemicals; remove allergens; and prevent uneven shrinkage in the finished quilt, particularly if donated fabrics are being mixed in with the maker's stash fabrics.
- Be sure all fabrics, threads, and batting have no odors (perfume, smoke, fabric softeners, etc.).
- Use lightweight cotton batting (or low-loft batting that is certified at hypo-allergenic) to facilitate ease of handling and comfort to recipients.

### **Guidelines for Construction:**

- Optimal size is 40 inches x 60 inches or larger.  
Piecing should be neatly done; blocks squared up; top and borders squared up; top, backing and binding pressed prior to assembly.
- Light weight cotton batting (or low-loft batting that is certified at hypo-allergenic) should be used, to facilitate ease of handling and comfort to the recipients.
- Piecing batting sections together is acceptable only if done very securely, to ensure that the batting does not separate in the washer/dryer after donation. For example, cutting batting edges straight, butting them up against each other, and sewing them with a zig-zag stitch works well.
- Pieced backings should be sewn with 2 close rows of stitching to guard against any weak areas.
- All quilts should be finished with a double-thickness binding which is solid, strong, and fully filled with batting. Recommended size is 2 1/4", pressed in half, wrong sides together.
- Quilt should carry label on the back that reads "Made Especially for You by Marathon Quilters, Hopkinton, MA with the date.
- Remove all stray or hanging threads and lint.
- There should NEVER be any pet hair or smoke residue.
- If members have questions or issues, they should contact the Charity Quilt Chairperson.