

# Quilt Labels

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## Prepare a Label

Prepare a label using one of the following methods.

### Hand Written

Use a PIGMA pen – fade resistant, permanent acid-free. Can write on fabric from quilt or a pre-printed label. There are other fabric pens, e.g., Sharpie has a line “Stained by Sharpie”. Check color fastness

COST: Pigma pens cost approx. \$2 each and are available in variety of colors and tip “size”.

HINT: put a sheet of lined paper behind your fabric to act as a guide.

### Computer Printed

Some basic information:

- **Only** works on ink-jets (not laser)
- Testing recommended for your printer
- Design label in any computer software (word, publisher, etc.)
- Can print photos, logos, etc.

Use any fabric

- Starch fabric or iron onto freezer paper before feeding
- No stray threads or ragged edges when feeding – cut to paper size
- Use bubble jet ink set & rinse to set the printer ink (follow directions)

Use commercial ink-jet fabric. (EQ Printables are \$20 for package of 6 sheets) Avery makes a product as well. Follow directions but basically print and then rinse excess ink. *I print 4 labels per sheet so I get 24 quilt labels from a package.*

There are some software packages to design and/or print labels. Check out Mom’s for a product from C&T entitled “*Quilt Label Collective*”, approx. \$10.00. Free labels on the web (see Resources, below)

### Embroidery Machine

Use your embroidery machine and/or the alphabet on your sewing machine. Several website provide embroidery templates for quilt labels.

### Hand Embroidery

Cross stitch or embroidery a label.

## Attach Label to Quilt

Generally attached to the back, lower right. Some quilt shows may dictate the placement and this is the standard.

Can quilt the label directly onto the back. Optionally sew at least two edges into your binding.

## Resources

Good reference books in library with ideas for fancy labels, shapes, envelopes, etc.

Websites with downloadable quilt labels:

- <http://quiltwithus.connectingthreads.com/page/quilt-labels>
- [http://www.junetailor.com/creativity%20center/CreativityCenter\\_InteractiveTools\\_QuiltLabels.htm](http://www.junetailor.com/creativity%20center/CreativityCenter_InteractiveTools_QuiltLabels.htm)
- <http://www.freequiltpatterns.info/QuiltCategories/FreeQuiltLabels.htm>

Check out Pintrest – some interesting boards on quilt labels with links to tutorials.

## What's on a Quilt Label

The following information was provided by Judy Lyons.

**"Your quilt isn't finished until the label is stitched in place."**

You can have an elaborate label or a simple label. You can photo transfer a picture and your information by entering your data in the computer and printing it on fabric, or simply put your inked information on a piece of muslin. Please remember to heat-set the printed information with a hot iron before attaching to the back left hand side of the quilt. Like any work of art, you should also sign your label. A well-made label will also enhance the value of the quilt. There are many ways to make a label, but be sure to answer the 5 W's who, what, where, when and why and some of the following information:

- Name of the Quilt
- Name of the Maker
- Date the quilt was completed
- Where the quilt was made
- Inspired by
- Quilted by individual or group)
- If being gifted - Name of the recipient
- Occasion for the gift
- Quilters relationship to the recipient
- Ribbons, Awards, or any other pertinent information
- Name of the owner of the quilt if different from the maker
- Contact information for the quilt owner

Judy Lyons is a AQS Certified Quilt Appraiser from Burlington, Ontario. You can contact her at [Judy.Lyons@sympatico.ca](mailto:Judy.Lyons@sympatico.ca)

## From Kathy K. Wylie

What is the purpose of a quilt label? In its most basic form, a label identifies the maker of the quilt. But taken a step further, it can also provide valuable documentation for future generations. When was the quilt made? Where? Why? For whom? What about the quilt itself? Does it have a name? Is it an original design or was it made from a pattern? Did anyone else contribute to the making of this quilt?

A label that says:

***Made with love by Grandma***

doesn't give nearly as much information as one that says:

***For Julie Marie Smith Baker  
born June 30, 2011 in Whitby, Ontario  
7 lbs. 2 oz.  
"Sweet Dreams"  
pattern by Sydney Parkridge, Easy Baby Quilts  
Made with love by Grandma  
Mary Jo Smith  
Ancaster, Ontario***

What a difference! The second label answers all our questions about when, where, why and for whom the quilt was made while clearly identifying the maker and designer of the quilt.

Courtesy: (<http://kathykwylie.com/>)