

Baby Bundle Quilt, How to make one.

**Please make your quilt
no smaller than 36" x 36" inches.**

The Baby Bundles Project is a Community Service project of the AAQG. Many members choose to make a quilt for Baby Bundles and turn it in on their birth-month.

The quilts are primarily for infants. However, recipients can also be toddlers and older children (even to age 17). All-cotton fabric is preferred.

At the General Guild Meetings you can stop by the Baby Bundles Project table. There you can pick-up quilt kits for making quilts and labels. You can drop-off completed quilts or make fabric donations. The contact information for the Project Coordinators is listed in the *Quips* Newsletter and also on our website.

Durability and Child Safety: Please read all of this information. These quilts will likely be repeatedly washed at Laundromats. And since infant fingers are very small, we ask that the quilts be well constructed and that the quilting stitches be short enough that a baby can not get a finger wrapped up in thread.

Size and Quilt Top Pattern: Please make your quilt a minimum of 36 by 36 inches. We prefer that the maximum size be 48 by 52 inches. (HINT: If you make your quilt about 40 inches wide you can use one width-of-fabric as the backing - usually 42" wide). You may make your quilt top as simple or as fancy as you wish. You may use your own fabrics and pattern, or quilt-kits from the Baby Bundles Project Coordinators.

Sewing and Batting: Please use 1/4-inch seams, about 12 stitches an inch - 2.5 mm. These quilts will be repeatedly washed at Laundromats. You may finish the edge how ever you wish. If you don't want to bind the quilt directions for enveloping the quilt - turning it inside out - are below.

Polyester batting: please choose a low or medium loft. Some Polyester batting may be quilted as far away as 10 inches, but with the Laundromats, we ask that you tie or quilt no more than 5 inches apart.

Cotton or cotton blends batting: many cotton batting packages say to quilt within 3-4 inches. You may tie a quilt using this batting, but please no farther than 4 inches. You may prefer to machine quilt so it holds together during many

washings. Please machine quilt no more than 4 inches apart. See below.

To envelope a quilt / turning it inside-out before tying or quilting: Lay the batting down on a flat surface. Lay the backing right-side-up on top of the batting, and then the quilt top right-side-down on top of them both. Pin all layers together around the edge of the quilt top. Stitch around the quilt top edge, leaving an 8-inch opening. Trim the edges and clip the corners, then turn right-side out. Stitch the opening closed. Please top-stitch around edges of quilt before tying or quilting. Many people find that the stitching goes very well if they use a walking foot on their machine.

Finishing the quilt: These quilts will be likely be laundered often (once a week?). For tying use perle cotton, embroidery-thread or yarn and please follow the guidelines above for spacing.

For machine quilting after you envelope the quilt you can use safety pins to pin the layers in place. Then you can use your sewing machine walking-foot to quilt the quilt. Start your quilting stitch about 3 inches inside the topstitched edge. Stitch across the quilt then stop about 3 inches from the opposite edge, that way you can avoid a lot of pleating and bunching. You may free motion quilt, too. Please follow the spacing guidelines above.

Please attach a **Baby Bundle label** (from the guild) on bottom right corner of the back of the quilt. Labels are in the quilt-kits or can be obtained from the Baby Bundles table at each Guild meeting. If the label edge is pinked (zigzag cut) it does not need to be turned under. Thank you for making a Baby Bundles quilt.

Two Super-easy layouts:

Checkerboard pattern: For a 40 by 48-inch quilt, cut 30 squares, each 8.5 inches. Or you may strip piece. You can use fewer squares then and add borders.

Yardage: If you're using 1/2 light and 1/2 dark squares for 8.5 inch squares, you'll need a generous 3/4 yard of fabric of each.

For a Panel Quilt (pre-printed quilt center) you will probably need to add borders to meet the size requirements. You might need 1.5 yards for backing.

(Dec. 2010)