



Quilts of Valor® Foundation Quick Reference Guide

The mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor.

MAKING QUILTS OF VALOR®

Size: Recommended size: 60" × 80"
(minimum: 55" × 65"; maximum: 72" × 90")

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Pattern: Use a commercial pattern or your own design. (Avoid full size flag patterns that might resemble a casket flag.)

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Fabrics: Use quality, adult-appropriate, 100% cotton, "quilt weight" fabrics. Avoid juvenile prints. Avoid branch-specific (Army, Navy, etc.) prints unless the recipient is known. A Quilt of Valor does not have to be red, white, and blue, but patriotic colors are most popular with both male and female recipients.

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Workmanship: Do your best. One of our core values is promoting excellence.

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Backing: Use quality, 100% cotton; backings provided to volunteer longarmers must be 4" larger than quilt top on all sides (8" wider in width and 8" longer in length). Wide commercial backings sold at quilt and fabric stores are acceptable. Square up, press, and fold backing neatly before providing to quilter.

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Batting: Use quality, low loft batting such as cotton, cotton blends, polyester, and polyester blends.

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Binding: Double ("French fold") is recommended for durability. Miter corners. Turn by hand or stitch neatly by machine.

Label: The label must state quilt is a Quilt of Valor in order to be awarded as a Quilt of Valor and recorded as such. Make your own label or purchase at quilt shop or online. Use permanent fabric pen when personalizing.

Include name of recipient (first and last name may be included), names of top maker, quilter, and binder (first and last names may be included) city and state of residence if desired, date and location of award. Include washing instructions (cold water, mild detergent, "color catcher," dry low). Religious or political messages may not be included.

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Pre-Laundering: Wash quilt once completed so it is soft and so that any potential fabric dye bleeding issues are resolved. Use cold water, mild detergent, and unscented products. A "color catcher" such as marketed by Tide® will capture fabric dyes in washer.

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Presentation Case: Presentation case (a pillow case made in matching fabrics) is optional. In the early days of Quilts of Valor, many were sent to hospitals, and presentation cases were required.

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Note or letter: A thank you note, card, or letter to the recipient may be included. A journal with information about how the quilt was made, maker's thoughts, etc. may be included.

Additional reference guides may be ordered at ReferenceGuide@QOVF.org.