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Basting your Quilt

Basting is placing your top with the batting and backing, using a method to attach the three layers together so they don’t shift or wrinkle while quilting. There are many ways to accomplish this.

1. **Prepare your quilt top:** press your quilt top very well. It’s recommended to press your seams towards the darker fabric. Trim any frayed threads.

2. **Batting:** Use a quality batting for your project. Cut a piece that is at least 4" larger than your quilt top on each side.

3. **Prepare your backing:** Backing should be at least 5" larger than each side of the quilt top. Piece the back if needed, and be sure to press all seams. If you are using a wide back, be sure to press it too!

4. **Layer the top, batting and backing:**
   - First, fold each of the layers:
     - **Top:** fold in half both vertical then horizontal with the wrong side out
     - **Batting:** fold in half both vertical and horizontal.
     - **Back:** fold in have both vertical and horizontal.
   - Place the back down on a table wrong side up, very smooth.
   - You should be able to see the fold line down the center both across and up and down.
   - Lay the batting on top, matching the fold lines then opening up the batting.
   - This will keep the batting centered on the quilt no matter how big the quilt will be.
   - Smooth it out.
   - Add the quilt top, matching to the fold lines on the batting.
   - Unfold the quilt top and smooth it out with your hands. Smooth each layer as you place it.
   - When all three layers are even and smooth, secure the payers together.
     - You can use 1” safety pins, spray basting, or stitch with a basting stitch.