

What is a Quilt of Valor?

A Quilt of Valor
is a wartime quilt made to
honor our War Wounded.

It is a tangible way to say:
“Thank you for your service,
sacrifice and valor for our country”.

A Quilt of Valor is not a
charity quilt
nor a
service quilt.

A Quilt of Valor is a
beautifully made,
pieced and quilted
wartime quilt.

In short,
a Quilt of Valor is a
wartime quilt made by wartime quilters.

Please join our efforts to cover all
our War Wounded. We welcome your
participation (in all stages of completion)
and our War Wounded will never forget.

Basic Size Information:

The **minimum** size:

50" x 60"

The **maximum** size:

72" x 87"

The longarmers volunteering to quilt these quilts, also quilt for a living. If the quilt is too large, you may wait quite a while before you receive it back. The longarmers are usually counting on a lap-sized quilt top to quilt. These can be done quickly. Keep the size in mind, when choosing a quilt pattern.

Basic Fabric Information:

Please use quality cotton fabric – preferably from a quilt shop. It should have high thread count, good quality and not previously used.

The most important part of your Quilt of Valor is the fabric you use for the top and backing.

Basic Patterns/Colors/Motifs:

The most popular colors are red, white and blue.
Patriotic themes are loved, along with eagles,
stars, stripes and flags.

However, not all recipients want red, white and blue
or patriotic, as 10% of recipients are women.
Use good judgment when making a quilt
that is not patriotic.

Do NOT use fabrics that are inappropriate...
such as juvenile prints intended for children.

Backing Fabric Basics:

Use quality fabric. This is not the place
to go cheap! Remember your quilt
will be next to skin.

There should be at least 3” of fabric
extending beyond all sides of your quilt top,
so that a longarmer can mount it
properly on their machine.

NO SHEETS! NO MUSLIN!

If you buy flannel, be sure it is of
Good Quality! Cheap flannel will fray and pill.

A Completed Quilt of Valor Package, should include:

1. The quilted and bound quilt. Please NO tied quilts.
2. A label on the back of the quilt (see label instructions).
3. A presentation case for the quilt (described on next page).
4. If possible include journal/diary writings documenting the making of your wartime quilt. Include personal information about your group, or the persons who made the quilt.
5. A self-addressed stamped envelope or card for the chaplain to send back to you after receiving your quilt.

BUT:

The Quilt of Valor group will take quilts in any stage of completion. You can make just the pieced quilt tops. There are volunteers available that will finish the quilt with backing and binding.

WHEN FINISHED:

After your quilt is finished, bring it to the annual state convention in May. There it will be displayed and presented to the Quilts of Valor Foundation.

The Label: What's in a label?

Labels are very important for several reasons. First, it documents when, where and who made the quilt. Secondly, it personalizes the quilt for the recipient.

The label must say:

Quilt of Valor

This is required!

The following are suggestions you can take or leave:

- Date range it took to make the quilt
- Place where made. If longarmer and quilt topper live in different locales, put both places
- Name of quilt
- Name of quilt topper, age, city and state
- Name of machine quilter, age, city and state
- The words "Presented to" followed by a blank space so recipients name can be inserted
- Dedication. This can be one dedication or one from each of the Quilts of Valor maker

The Presentation Case:

The Presentation Case is simply the wrapping for the quilt for when it is awarded.

It is basically a custom made pillow case. It can be made out of any fabric you desire. Some people coordinate it with the quilt, others have used whimsical fabrics.

The easiest way is to fold your finished quilt and take its measurements. Take your fabric, fold it and sew sides together. You can put a border or piping on it, but it is not necessary.

Congratulations! You have just finished a Quilt of Valor and it is now ready for presentation!

Journal Information:

The journal entries connect the threads between the Quilts of Valor quilters and recipients. Document your or your team's progress. Write about any personal experiences that brought you to this project. You will connect yourself with the person receiving the quilt and they will have a warmer "view" of where it came from

What if you can't sew??

You can still help!

We need donations of fabric,
batting,
or money
(to purchase these items).

WE NEED YOU!

For more detailed information on any of these steps,
or about the Quilts of Valor Foundation,
please go to:
qovf.org

Machine Quilting:

Your quilt should be hand or machine quilted. If you do not have a longarmer in your area, send or bring the quilt to Ellen Weber. She will have it longarmed for no charge and will return it to you for binding. For more information contact Ellen at 262-728-3630 or at weberhaus@charter.net