



CONCORD PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD

QUILT-A-THON DETAILS

What is Quilt-a-thon?

This is our day-long annual event that is devoted to finishing quilts as a group. Guild members donate a quilt top and backing folded, tied together, and labeled with the dimensions of the quilt. This ends up being one of our most substantial working events to create quilts for donation.

As a group, members work together for each step of the process to prepare the quilts for final stitching or tying. The guild provides batting, which is measured and cut to match each donated quilt top and backing pair. The quilt layers are sandwiched together, pinned, and then go through two rounds of sewing to create a pillowcase-style finished edge. (If the donor of the quilt wants the binding handled differently, they can request that the quilt be only paired with batting.) It is quite a production line when you see it!

At the end of the day's work, prepared quilts are either:

- 1) taken home for final quilting/stitching (individuals who take a prepared quilt home may be the original maker or not – but it is based on preference of the contributing guild member), or
- 2) passed to our comfort quilt groups which meet monthly to stitch between meetings (these quilts will be tied by hand).

Once the quilts are finished, the quilts will be donated to provide comfort to unhoused individuals through local shelters, cancer patients, victims of fire and domestic crises, and others who are in need of love and community support.

What type of quilts are these?

This is truly left up to the guild member designing the quilt. It is a nice opportunity to experiment with new patterns and colors that might be outside of one's typical style. It's fun to play and see what materializes - and then we can admire each other's quilts while we work together.

There are certain sizes of quilts that are commonly requested. Please refer to the Comfort Quilt details on the Community Service tab of the website for specific sizing requests. This may change over time, so it is best to check targeted sizes before starting a project.

What do I bring to Quilt-a-thon?

The guild supplies a light lunch and beverages, while guild members are asked to bring a potluck dish to share, such as a dessert, snack, or side dish. Here is what you should bring:

- An assembled quilt top with an appropriate backing, folded and tied together with a strip of fabric or string.
Important: Please pin a piece of paper with your quilt top's length and width to the bundle for the quilters who will be measuring and cutting batting.
- A potluck dish to share
- Your name tag
- Your smile

May I attend even if I haven't donated a quilt?

Yes! Whether or not you have donated a quilt top and backing, we would love you to attend. There are plenty of tasks that need to be finished to get our quilts assembled, and working together in a group is a wonderful experience. Ideally, you'll have a quilt top and backing to donate, but there will be other opportunities, too. Please join the fun and experience the joy of Quilt-a-thon – and at the end of the day, you can admire the huge pile of quilts.

Can other people attend this event?

The more the merrier! Feel welcome to bring a friend, relative, or stranger who wants to help. There is a job for everyone, no matter your experience – we will find something for you to work on that will be appreciated as part of the larger project. We are also open to community volunteers or groups that could contribute to this project. For example, we have hosted girl scout troops who have contributed to measuring, cutting, and trimming towards earning a specific badge.

Please contact our Quilt-a-thon chairs, Marla Richmond and Joy Sussman, if you would like to invite a guest or volunteer as an organization.