

Our eyebrows raise higher with every word. “Wait,” says one of her friends. “You are going to do what?”

“I am going to make a kitchen floor quilt for my son’s apartment,” comes the answer. The mother of the son smiles and giggles with thoughts of the design. She goes on to explain that her son is now living with friends in a bachelor pad. “I want to give them something to brighten the drab walls and countertops,” she explains.

“Humm,” we all say in unison. Five of her friends are seated in the living room following a birthday luncheon for her. Our friend goes on to mention that the kitchen in the apartment the fellows are renting is not what she would have chosen. “So, I decided to add color to the area with a floor quilt.” Our eyes widen as the eyebrows reach each hairline. Each of us, at that time years ago also had high school graduates of our own attending higher education, finding employment, or taking “a breather” by sleeping in, napping, and partying. We all smile the oh-oh smile.

“Won’t it get really dirty?” one dessert eating friend ventures to ask.

“Well, it will be washed often,” she answers. We soon decide to lower the eyebrows and smile with her. “I hope they will love it,” remarks the friend sitting closest to her. “Your son will love you for making it.”

We change the subject while biting into the birthday cheese cake made by our hostess.

Creating quilt designs, finding the perfect colors, and fabric takes energy, and time as happiness seeps into the artwork with each stitch. We think of the person or of the organization who will receive the quilt as well stitch our way from the top row to the bottom row. Usually, the work of art covers a bed, warms a lap. Sometimes walls reap the benefit of warmth behind a decorative quilt. Tapestries were status symbols during the Middle Ages and they each provided insulation for castle walls, as well. Current day quilts offer the same benefits.

A quilt for the kitchen floor, though, shows the depth of a mother’s love. Her son loved it years ago as she presented it to him, even if he did not often spruce it up with a cleaning. The floor quilt was a happy gift just like all our artwork we quilters do as we create for friends and family to say Merry Christmas. Lana Russ