

What costs can I expect when having my quilt longarm quilted?

By Kelly Gallagher-Abbott
Jukebox Quilts

After over twenty years of machine quilting for customers, we have a good idea of what the time and expenses are to quilt a quilt. This purpose of this document is to help you understand why we charge what we do.

Here is how we break down our charges for quilting services. You can find this information on our website on our [intake form here](#). There is also a very good explanation about [how to prepare your quilt for longarm quilting here](#).

We will provide an ESTIMATE when you drop off your quilt. It's exactly that. If you ask for changes after the estimate, the costs will change. On the following page are our basic charges, with an explanation of exactly what type of quilting you can expect for that charge:

Type of Quilting	Density	Price per square inch	Description
Edge to edge (e2e)	Loose	\$.025/square inch	This is loose quilting that covers the entire quilt with one design, generally with open areas up to 4" square or larger if you choose a different scale.
	Moderate	\$.03-.0375/sq. in.	This is moderate quilting with open areas up to 3" square.
	Dense	\$.0375-.045/sq. in.	This is dense edge to edge, with open areas up to 2" square.
Custom border with border to border fill	Loose	\$.035/sq. in.	This is quilting with an e2e in the main part of the quilt, and a different pattern in a border. The above density rules apply, prices may be adjusted for additional borders.
	Moderate	\$.035-.0375/sq. in.	See above
	Dense	\$.0375-.04/sq. in.	See above

Semi custom		\$.035-.045/sq. in	Each block, sash or border quilted with a specific pattern, or other complicated placement requiring a quilter to be at the machine a majority of the time.
Custom		\$.055 and up/ square inch	Like semi-custom, but with adjustments to most patterns, frequent starts and stops, creating boundaries, simple trims (cutting background quilting out around appliqués), etc.
Heirloom		\$.075 and up/ square inch	Like above but may include hand guided background fills, complicated trims, ruler work, stitching in the ditch, working with delicate or unusual fabrics. Requires the quilter be at the machine at all times.

These estimates don't include the following variables (this list may not include all possible charges):

- Pattern cost - depends on patterns, or the need for pattern sets. Usually \$15 per pattern. Sets can be much more.
- Pattern design time - generally \$25 per hour.
- Minki, flannel or polar fleece backing requires us to pin the quilt to the leaders, the charge for this is \$25 per hour.
- Custom placement of backing vs top - \$25 per hour.
- Thread (we prefer to use ours to minimize breaks or other issues with our high speed machines).
- Thread type or color changes.
- Burying thread tails.
- Batting (you can provide or purchase here).
- Backing fabric (you can provide or purchase here).
- Binding services - price depends on preparation, if applied by machine then machine stitched to other side or hand stitched. Other variables include facings, curves, scallops or other unusual shapes.
- Making or applying a hanging sleeve.
- Repairing, pressing, adjusting borders, adding leaders to backing, etc. are all billed at \$25 per hour plus the cost of materials. We will call you and explain the issue, allowing you the opportunity to pick the quilt up to make adjustments or authorize us to do it. (Prevent these issues by [reading this document](#)).

- If we need to baste down flanges or appliqué, dimensional piecing, or work around buttons or other non quiltable items, there may be an additional charge.
- Taxes - here in CO, labor is not taxed, but there will be taxes on thread, backing and batting.

We strive to provide you with the highest quality workmanship and to work with you to select the best quilting to complement your quilt top. We appreciate you trusting us with your masterpiece, and promise to charge you the most reasonable charge possible and to use the best equipment on the market. Thank you for understanding our desire to pay our employees a fair wage and our ability to have a viable business. We feel very fortunate to be able to work in a business doing what we love, and thank you for your patronage.