



**CANADIAN QUILTERS' ASSOCIATION**  
**ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DE LA COURTEPOINTE**

## *Quilting Standards*

### **OVERALL APPEARANCE AND DESIGN**

- Quilt should have visual impact.
- Total design should show unity in all its components.
- Materials used should be suitable to the design and function of the quilt.
- Quilt should lay/hang flat (on the bed or against the wall) if intended.
- Quilt should be neat and clean.

### **QUILTS USING TRADITIONAL TECHNIQUES<sup>1</sup>**

#### **Seams**

- Construction should be smooth and well stitched.
- Seams should be cleanly pressed with no thread showing.

#### **Piecing**

- Points should be sharp.
- Intersections should meet evenly and be flat.
- Curves should be smooth.

#### **Appliqué**

- Edges should be finished smoothly with consistent stitches, hidden if intended.
- Where stitches are meant to be inconspicuous, the thread should blend with the appliquéd piece.
- Where stitches are meant to be visible, such as running or decorative, the thread may be coordinated or contrasting.
- Shadows showing through appliquéd pieces should be visible only where appropriate.

#### **Filler**

- Should be evenly distributed.
- Should be suitable to the technique used.

## **Border and Sashing Strips**

- Should be straight and even if intended.
- If pieced, seams should be inconspicuous and balanced.

## **Quilting and other traditional means of joining**

- Stitching should be uniform and evenly spaced; no knots or thread build-ups.
- Design marking lines should not be visible.
- Stitches on the back of the quilt should be as neat and even as those on the top.
- Thread tension should be even.
- Spacing of the quilting should be appropriate to the type of batting chosen.

## **Binding**

- Should be neatly and securely stitched, front and back.
- Should be uniformly filled.
- Should be appropriate to the design of the quilt top.
- If bias binding used, it should be true bias.
- Curved corners should flow smoothly without puckers.
- Square corners should be 90 degrees.

## **QUILTS USING INNOVATIVE TECHNIQUES <sup>2</sup>**

The CQA/ACC wishes to encourage today's quiltmakers to use their creativity and ingenuity. In an effort to avoid stifling artistic expression, we have chosen to give as few limitations as possible. The workmanship and construction techniques should be suitable to the function of the quilt. If using traditional construction techniques, they should be well executed.

1. Quilt (technically traditional) made with two layers of fabric with a filler
2. Quilt (technically innovative) made with at least three layers of materials

Pour obtenir une version française des standards de courtoise, visitez notre site web à [www.canadianquilter.com](http://www.canadianquilter.com) ou, pour recevoir une copie, écrivez-nous à:

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