

Festival of Quilts 2026

Exhibition Handbook

All documents relating to the Exhibition can be downloaded from the SA Quilters website: www.saquilters.org.au

Key Dates

Festival of Quilts	Friday 10th – Sunday 12th July 2026
Entries open	Friday, 6 March 2026
Early Bird Draws at SA Quilters meetings	Thursdays, 2 April and 7 May 2026
Entries Close	Friday, 29 May 2026
Quilt delivery at the Showgrounds	Tuesday, 7 July 2026 between 10 am and 12 pm
Quilts being posted to be received by:	Friday, 26 June 2026
Quilt collection	Sunday, 12 July 2026, between 5.30 pm and 6.00 pm

If you cannot deliver or collect your quilt, please arrange for someone else to do it.

What's New in 2026

- A comprehensive **Index** for this Handbook to help you find all you need to know!
- **Quilt category change:** Each year there is a new **Challenge** or theme category: 2026 is “Enchanted Forest”. Size limit increased to **150cm**.
- **Quilt Card Information update:** (This personal statement is printed onto the card displayed with each quilt.) The **quilt title** is now limited to 30 characters – including spaces. (Please see Page 4 for the full details).
- **Junior entries update:** Junior entries must have a single hanging sleeve in 2026. The entrant’s mentor will be able to add the sleeve for the junior.
- **Entry fees reminder:** Members of an affiliated group, which is not a financial member of SA Quilters, are required to pay a fee of \$20 per entry. (See page 6 for details of all entry fees)

Enquiries to:

Annie Shuttleworth	Entries & Handbook Manager	0415 200 052
Di Bessell	Entries Assistant	0416 250 510
Ann Ewer	Convenor	0414 364 100

If you have any questions about the information in this handbook, or the online information, please contact us at the above numbers or email:

entriesfoq.saquilters@gmail.com

or

foqconvenor.saquilters@gmail.com

Index

	<i>Condition of Entry Number</i>	<i>Page Number</i>
Acknowledgement of Entry	6	6
Age of Quilt Permitted	20	7
Amateur or Professional	12-14	7
Appraisal		10
Awards / Judging	25 - 28	8
Best of Show/Best of State definitions	25	8
Categories		3
Collaborative quilts	19	7
Copyright (<i>full details page 9</i>)	9	6
Delivery and collection of quilts		5
Design Source		9
Display Only quilt fee	4	6
Entry Fee and Payment	4	6
Entry Form – information needed		4
Entry Form - guide /template		13
Group entries	19	7
Hanging Sleeve – how to prepare	22	8
How to Enter	2	6
Indigenous designs	11	6
Insurance	8	6
Juniors	26	8
Labelling Your Quilt – tips	23	8
Letter of Acknowledgment	6	6
Name/title of Quilt (new size limit)		4
Number of entries allowed	3	6
Paying for Your Entry	4	4
Photography of quilts	29	8
Pieced and Appliqué		3
Posting quilts		5
Preparing/packing your quilt	22-24	8
Professional or Amateur	12-14	7
Quilt bags and labels		12
Sale of quilts		10
Size of quilts – must be in centimetres	5	6
Social media	30	8
Two person quilts	19	7
Value of the Quilt (including its Appraisal)	8	6
What is an eligible quilt	15-21	7
Who can enter (including unknown/deceased quilt maker)	1	6

Table of 2026 Categories

Please read the following definitions carefully.

A = Amateur. P = Professional (*Please see definitions on page 7*)

CATEGORY	STATUS		REQUIRED FEATURES OF THE ENTRY
Pieced – One person	A	P	For predominantly pieced quilts including traditional blocks, geometric, improvisational, foundation and English paper piecing, hand and/or machine pieced and quilted. <i>No side to exceed 290cm</i>
Appliqué – 1, 2 or more people	A	P	Predominantly hand, machine or digital appliquéd quilts (turned or raw edge, each appliqué piece specifically attached/edged with stitching) with no minimum requirement for the extent of coverage of the quilt top by appliqué. <i>No side to exceed 290cm</i> Professionally quilted to be entered under Professional , even if appliquéd by an Amateur.
Pieced and Appliqué – One person	A	P	Quilts using a combination of piecing and appliqué with a significant proportion of both techniques contributing to the overall design. Note: Appliqué blocks simply stitched together (with or without basic sashing) are not “pieced” for the purposes of this category. <i>No side to exceed 290cm</i>
Modern – One person	A	P	Must feature one or more of the following characteristics: bold colours and prints, high contrast and areas of solid colour, minimalism, improvisational piecing, expansive negative space, reinterpreted traditional design, non-traditional layouts, and asymmetry. <i>No side to exceed 290cm</i>
Modern – Two or more people	OPEN		
Pieced – Two or more people	OPEN		Created by two or more people. For predominantly pieced quilts including traditional blocks, geometric, improvisational, foundation and English paper piecing, hand and/or machine pieced and quilted. <i>No side to exceed 290cm</i>
Pieced and Appliqué – Two or more people	OPEN		Created by two or more people. Quilts using a combination of piecing and appliqué as described for the “Pieced and Appliqué – One person” category. <i>No side to exceed 290cm</i>
Art – Abstract/ Representational	OPEN		An original design with emphasis on colour, line and design used to convey an idea, emotion, or concept. Must be made of fabric, have 3 layers, and incorporate quilting. May incorporate any printing, construction and/or embellishment technique, excluding the use of materials that may transfer to other entries. Can be a collaborative work. Please refer to Condition of Entry #19. <i>No side to exceed 290cm</i>
Art – Pictorial/Realistic	OPEN		A design portraying a recognisable person, place, or thing, including collage. May be an original or adapted work. Must be made of fabric, have 3 layers and incorporate quilting. Can be a collaborative work. Please refer to Condition of Entry #19. <i>No side to exceed 290cm</i>
Other Techniques	OPEN		Quilts with predominant features not fitting any other category, including Art-Abstract and Art-Pictorial. For example, embroidered, whole cloth-style, trapunto, fabric manipulation. Can be a work created by two or more people. <i>No side to exceed 290cm</i>
Junior	OPEN - Up to 18 yrs		Any creation e.g., quilt, bed or table runner, cushion, placemat, journal cover, Christmas stocking, etc., created by a Junior up to 18 years. Any technique. Must have 3 layers and contain quilting but may be embellished or enhanced with other materials. Please also refer to Conditions of Entry # 1 and # 4 for entry conditions. <i>No side to exceed 150cm</i>
Challenge 2026 theme is: Enchanted Forest	OPEN		Quilts addressing the theme: “Enchanted Forest”. Any technique. Must have 3 layers and contain quilting but can be embellished or enhanced with other materials. <i>No side to exceed 150cm</i>

Categories may be separated into "Small" and "Large" quilt sub-categories, subject to the number of entries. If entry numbers warrant sub-categories, quilt size segregations will be determined by the Festival of Quilts Committee after entries close.

The Festival of Quilts Committee reserves the right to make modifications to any category prior to judging.

Online Entry Form Guidelines

- All entries must be submitted using the **online process**, via The SAQ website. If this is a challenging task for you, please feel free to contact Ann Ewer on 0414 364 100 or Annie Shuttleworth 0415 200 052 for assistance.
- The on-line entry form is to be completed in accordance with the **Conditions of Entry, Status Definitions and Categories** information detailed in this Handbook.
- A **separate entry form** is required for each quilt entered, unless it is a pair or triptych. A maximum number of **5 entries** per member, which includes Display Only entries.

Paying for your entry

- The entry fee is **\$15 per entry (non-refundable) for SA Quilters members** or **\$20 per entry (non-refundable) for members of an affiliated group**. This must be paid prior to completing your online entry and the receipt number noted. Payments may be made by direct deposit or at monthly SA Quilters meetings. There is no entry fee for Junior entrants.

Direct Deposit Details

BSB: 105-051

Account no.: 207 144 540

Account name: Quilters' Guild of SA Inc.

Reference: FOQ/Membership No/Surname (as many letters as can be entered)

eg (FOQ2795 Smith) allows us to track payments

Please take note of the receipt number assigned by your financial institution.

Information you will need to complete your online entry form

- Your **contact details**, including email address
 - Your **membership** number **or** the membership number of your affiliated group (begins with a letter)
 - For Junior entrants, the name and membership number of their **mentor** (a financial member of SA Quilters)
 - For entries created by **two or more people**, details of the other entrant(s): name, membership number, status (i.e. amateur or professional)
 - The **category** of your entry: please refer to the Table of Categories above, and the **Flow Chart** (on SAQ website) to make the most appropriate selection
 - Specific details of the entry: the **title** of the entry. This is **limited to 30 characters** including spaces and preferably no special characters (for example * ! &).
 - The **measurements** of the quilt in centimetres
 - The **insurance value** of your entry (*see Condition of Entry No. 8 on Page 6*)
 - **Payment details:** reference number, receipt number from your financial institution, date of transaction
 - **Quilt Card information:** The following information will be printed on a quilt card and pinned onto/next to your quilt:
 - ensure the quilt name/title is only 30 characters (including spaces)
 - be concise in your description, as there is a limit of 600 characters including spaces (an automatic cut off will apply) and preferably **no special characters** (for example * ! &).
 - provide details of your design or source – the pattern, designer, workshop, pre made kit, Block of the Month, or online class and any modifications that you have made
 - describe the techniques and materials used
 - for Junior entrants, an entry guide and quilt card proforma will be emailed to their mentor
- It is essential that all entrants **PROOF READ** their statement to check for any errors.

- A **photo** (JPG image) of up to 5MB of your entry to be uploaded during the online entry process.
- If you conduct a **professional quilting enterprise** in Australia, provide your ABN number (for prize money purposes).
- *NOTE:* all monetary prizes will be paid by electronic transfer to the winner's nominated account. No cheques will be issued.

After you have submitted your online entry form:

- An automatic letter of acknowledgment (email) will be sent to you within a few hours after submitting. If you do not receive this email, **please check your junk mail folder** before contacting entriesfoq.saquilters@gmail.com
- The quilt **delivery** location and post-show **quilt collection** details and map are included in your letter of acknowledgement (email). A form to complete for the collection of your quilt is included in this letter.
- A full record of all the details you entered in the online form is sent to you in a **separate email, so check this carefully for accuracy.**
- If you need to modify information submitted on your entry form, please email any change requests to: entriesfoq.saquilters@gmail.com. **Please do not re-enter the quilt as a new entry.**

CLOSING DATE FOR ONLINE ENTRIES: **FRIDAY, 29 May 2026**
No late entries will be accepted.

QUILT DELIVERY DATE: **TUESDAY, 7 July 2026 between 10am and 12pm**
To the Atrium Meeting Room, Royal Adelaide Showgrounds

OR
by post to: Ann Ewer
9/11-12 North Esplanade,
Gleneig North, SA 5045

to be received no later than **FRIDAY, 26 June 2026**

(If posting your quilt, please advise Ann on 0414 364 100 or at foqconvenor.saquilters@gmail.com)

QUILT COLLECTION DATE: **SUNDAY, 12 July 2026 between 5.30 and 6.00pm**
Royal Adelaide Showgrounds in the Duncan Gallery, adjacent to the
Jubilee Pavilion (off Rose Terrace)

PLEASE NOTE!

A \$20 non-collection fee will be applied to quilts not collected from the Showgrounds.

**ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR DELIVERY OR COLLECTION CANNOT BE MADE
WITH FOQ COMMITTEE MEMBERS.**

Conditions Of Entry

Entry Details and Fees

1. All entrants, excluding juniors, or unknown/deceased quilt top makers (see Condition No 21), must be **financial members** of SA Quilters (SAQ) or of an affiliated group. Junior entrants do not need to be financial members but must be sponsored by a financial member.
2. **Entry can only be made online** using the Festival of Quilts entry form accessible through the SAQ website. A guide/template for preparing your entry is also included at the end of this Handbook (Appendix A, page 13) The entry process requires uploading of a digital photograph (jpg format) of up to 5MB of the actual entry. A photograph of an accurate drawing is permissible.
3. Any entrant may submit a **maximum of 5 entries**, including quilts for judging or display only. Acceptance does not automatically guarantee display. All entries must be clean and odour-free.
4. **Entry fees apply** whether the entry is **for judging or for display only**. A non-refundable entry fee of \$15.00 (incl GST) is payable for each entry for SA Quilters members. A non-refundable entry fee of \$20.00 (incl GST) is payable for each entry for non-SA Quilters members who are members of an affiliated group.

Please ensure you pay the correct fee according to your membership status. (*Refer to Online Entry Form Guidelines in this Handbook on page 4.*) The payment receipt number will be required during the online entry process. Junior entrants are entitled to free entry; however, they must be sponsored by a current SA Quilters member.

5. The **size of entries** must be stated in centimetres and be **measured accurately**. The length of any side of a quilt (or set of quilts) must **not exceed 290cm**. A set of quilts (eg a pair or triptych) is one entry.

What to Expect after Entry Lodged

6. Entrants will receive by email a **Letter of Acknowledgement** shortly after submission of their entry, which includes the quilt drop-off instructions and a proforma for quilt pick-up. Entrants also receive a separate email which contains a summary of the information submitted in their on-line entry. These emails contain important information, so please read both of them carefully.
7. **Country, interstate and overseas** entrants will be expected to pay the forward and return postage/freight. SA Quilters will not be responsible for any damage or loss in transit.

Quilt Value/Insurance, Copyright

8. Whilst in the possession of SA Quilters, entries will be covered by the terms of the **SA Quilters' insurance**, to a value up to \$10,000. Insurance beyond this amount is the responsibility of the owner. For quilts which have not been formally valued (appraised), a rough **estimation of the value** can be calculated at five times the costs incurred in the construction of the entry. Refer to page 10 for full details re appraisals.
9. Should any **copyright** material be used, it is the **responsibility of the entrant to obtain permission** from, and pay any fees to, the copyright holder. SA Quilters does not take any responsibility for any consequences should the entrant not have gained permission to exhibit. For more detail, see page 9.
10. Every care will be taken with the entries, but no responsibility can be assumed by SA Quilters or its officials. **Special handling cannot be accommodated.**
11. SA Quilters respects the rights of Indigenous Australians to own and control their heritage. Therefore, entrants should refrain from incorporating design elements derived from indigenous heritage into their quilts without the informed consent of the indigenous owners. *Note: **Commercially printed** fabrics featuring Indigenous motifs are acceptable.*

Amateur or Professional

12. Quilter's Status definitions:

Amateur: For all financial members and affiliate groups of SA Quilters who do not meet the criteria for a Professional (see below). This category is not available to anyone who has previously identified as a Professional.

Professional: Defined as someone who satisfies **one or more** of the following three conditions:

- has won Best of Show or two or more Blue Ribbons/Excellence in Hand or Machine Quilting Special Awards in a major judged competition, excluding Viewers' Choice, or
- has been financially rewarded from teaching or publishing in any medium in the field of quilting. Exemption applies to tutors who only teach two or less workshops per year and do not derive any other income from quilt related activities, or
- sells, designs or participates in any aspect of quilt making for ongoing financial gain.

13. Any entrant entering a winning quilt as an Amateur and who is found to have previously won two Blue Ribbons or a Best of Show will forfeit their award and prize, including after the Exhibition.

14. Entrants who have won Blue Ribbons as a Junior revert to Amateur status once they turn 19 years of age.

What Quilts are Eligible

15. **A quilt is defined** as three layers of fabric held together with stitching. A quilt must not be in a rigid frame or be under glass. Quilting must be visible on the back of the quilt (i.e. no false backs), except for entries in the Art – Abstract/Representational or Art – Pictorial/Realistic categories. No fabrics or embellishments that may transfer to other quilts are to be used, eg glitter etc.

16. The quilt, including piecing, quilting and binding must be the work of the nominated quilt maker(s).

17. Quilts that have been on display (not judged) at previous Festival of Quilts SA exhibitions are ineligible for entry, except for those which were part of a special exhibit.

18. Quilts accepted for judging **cannot have previously won** any prize in any Australian State's or Territory's judged major exhibition (excluding Royal Adelaide Show). Previous prize-winning quilts may be entered for **display only**.

19. **A collaborative quilt** is one in which two or more quilters have been equally involved in the making of the quilt and **no payments** for work have been made.

A Two Person quilt is where the entrant has paid someone to undertake the quilting.

A Group quilt is one made by a group of members, or an affiliated SA Quilters group.

Note: All entrants/quilters must be **financial members** of SA Quilters **or** of an affiliated group.

- Where a quilt has been made by two persons, details for both must be entered in the online form.
- If more than two people have collaborated on an entry, this can also be indicated on the entry form.

Details for two participants must be entered. The Festival of Quilts Committee will contact the primary entrant to ascertain the names and membership numbers of all remaining participants, after the entry form has been submitted.

20. There is no age limit of quilts entered in the exhibition.

21. The quilt may be entered where the top is made (or partially made) by someone who is unknown or deceased, but is completed and/or quilted by an eligible entrant.

Preparing your Quilt for Exhibition (use Ctrl+Click to open this [helpful video](#))

22. **All quilts** (including juniors) must have a **single hanging sleeve** on the back to a finished depth of 8cm. *Further details can be found in this Handbook on page 11.* Entries which do not have an appropriate sleeve will be disqualified from judging and will not be hung in the exhibition.
23. **A quilt label** stating the name of the entrant and title of the quilt must be securely sewn to the back of the quilt in the lower left-hand corner (as viewed from the back). **In addition**, another label stating **only the entry number** (from the emailed Letter of Acknowledgement) **must be safety pinned over the name** label to cover any identifying information, ready for judging. *(Full details can be found on page 12).*
24. Each quilt must be in **its own fabric bag** (no plastic bags or pillowcases) with **the quilter's name, entry number and phone number** clearly marked on the bag. *(For more details see page 12 of this handbook.)*
- Roller quilts, quilts in tubing, or **quilts that require special handling**, will not be accepted.

Note: All quilts will be **folded** as part of the process of handling quilts – from judging through to hanging and final pack up at the Exhibition.

Awards/Judging

25. South Australian Best of Show/Best of State Definitions and Conditions

Best of Show will be awarded to any quilt regardless of the maker's address. Best of Show and Runner Up prizes will be a Bernina sewing machine, UNLESS it is an interstate winner who will be presented with a cash prize.

If the Best of Show winner does not reside in SA, a Best of State prize will also be awarded. The prize will be a Bernina sewing machine.

Best of Show **cannot** be awarded to:

- Two or more persons quilts
- Kits/Block of the Month quilts.

Best of Show/Best of State winner(s) are encouraged to spend time with their quilt during the show. Free entry to the Festival of Quilts will be provided for this purpose.

26. **Junior entries** will be judged using the following criteria: use of colour, visual appeal, construction skills, finishing techniques and level of independent construction by the junior. Age-appropriate skills will be considered. **Note:** Junior entries must have a single hanging sleeve.
27. The following **special awards** are offered for quilts entered in *any* category:
- | | |
|---|--|
| * Retaining the Tradition | * Excellence in Embroidery/Embellishment |
| * Amateur Encouragement | * Excellence in Hand Quilting |
| * Excellence in Machine Quilting – Stationary | * Excellence in Machine Quilting – Frame Mounted |
| * First Time Entrant (for single person entries only) | |
28. The **judges' decisions** are final, and no correspondence will be entered into.

Other Information

29. SA Quilters reserves the right to **photograph all items** for its archives, for publication and for other appropriate purposes. Visitors to the exhibition are also permitted to photograph entries for personal use and to post images online or in social media, provided the quiltmaker/s and designer/s (if applicable) are acknowledged. A USB containing photos of all 2026 entries and special exhibits will be available for purchase.
30. **Social media:** In an effort to make the judging process as fair as possible it will be appreciated that no quilt entered for judging, or portion thereof, be displayed on social media prior to judging.

Copyright

Copyright and Design Attribution – please read CAREFULLY

Australian Copyright Law protects the intellectual property and creative skills of quilt designers and all creative content producers. In all cases where your quilt involves someone else's creative work, you *must* always provide full and proper attribution of the source, and in some cases, obtain explicit permission to display your work.

If you have used a **purchased pattern** from any source (including kits and BoM), a pattern from a publication, or from a workshop, you have purchased the right to use the pattern for personal use, including the right to display your quilt in an exhibition. You **do not** need to seek copyright permission to enter the exhibition, however, your right to display generally is dependent on full acknowledgement of the design source being made. Failure to do so would constitute a breach of copyright.

If you have **copied or altered** an original design/photo you have seen (eg at a show, on the internet/social media) without a pattern, even where none exists, you are in breach of copyright. To display such a quilt in the Festival of Quilts you will **need express permission** from the owner of the quilt/photo/intellectual property in advance. This applies even if you have changed elements of the original such as technique, layout, colour or size, or drafted the pattern yourself.

SA Quilters and Festival of Quilts takes no responsibility for copyright breaches by exhibitors, or the consequences thereof should legal action be launched against an exhibitor for copyright infringement. Remember, your quilt may be spotted anywhere in the world on social media, even well into the future.

Design Source

In the online entry process, you will be asked to select a description which best describes the extent of your creative input in the design of your quilt. The following is a guide to making the most appropriate choice.

Original design: This applies if the design is entirely your own, including a design you have adapted from a photograph or artwork which is also **your own** original work. If this is the case, you can claim copyright as the design is yours alone, not an adaptation of someone else's. It is advisable to keep evidence of your design process and inspiration source to justify your claim of originality.

A traditional design: Choose this for quilts based on traditional blocks which are generally regarded as being in the public domain for which you have made your own decisions in fabric selection, layout, setting and borders. You may have drafted the pattern yourself, however, if you have used a book or other source to assist in cutting the blocks, mention that in your Quilt Card Statement. Copyright permission is not required, but the information may be of interest to other quilters reading the exhibition quilt card. Please note, "publicly available" is not the same thing as "in the public domain".

Designer: The design sources for these quilts are many and varied, and include the following:

- a purchased pattern, or one from a book, magazine, website, or computer software, which you have followed with minimal variation, and for the most part following the fabric choices or colour recommendations of the pattern
- a historical quilt, to which you have made no, or only minimal, variation
- items made in a class or workshop, including online, in which the pattern was provided and was an essential part of the class, as opposed to a technique which you apply to your own design
- a kit, a Block of the Month program for which fabrics are provided, or fabric packs made up to be used with a specific pattern or design

Interpretation: This applies for quilts based on any of the sources listed above for which you have made your own choices with respect to design elements, perhaps with significant variations to the pattern. It also applies to an adaptation of someone else's work in another medium, for example a work of art, a photograph, a

mosaic or leadlight panel, a different quilt making technique. If you have developed a design which incorporates a substantial part (important, distinctive, or recognisable) of someone else's work, select this option as your design source and obtain copyright permission**.

In any other case, where some other person or organisation holds the copyright over the design, whether it constitutes the whole or only part of the design of your quilt, **it is your responsibility to ensure that you are not in breach of any copyright. Entrants will not be asked to show proof of copyright observance on the online entry form, however you will be asked to declare, as part of the entry process, that you have complied with copyright requirements. Failure to comply with Australian Copyright law may render your entry ineligible for judging or display and/or expose you to risk of litigation.

Strategies for seeking and documenting permission to use copyright material include:

- Look for a copyright notice on the material in the first instance.
- Conduct an Internet search to find the copyright owner.
- Approach the gallery or museum that holds the item.
- Approach the publisher for permission.
- Make a direct approach to the copyright owner.
- Get the permission in writing where possible.
- If the permission is verbal, document the conversation in writing.

Document any permission request in writing for your own records.

For up-to-date information relating to copyright, please access <http://www.copyright.org.au>.

Quilt Appraisals

As part of the entry process, the value of a quilt is required information for insurance purposes during the exhibition. Please note that we can only cover up to \$10,000 per item. Any amount above this should be covered by a personal insurance policy.

The Festival of Quilts Committee recommends that quilts are appraised before entering the exhibition. An appraisal certificate authenticates the value of a quilt for insurance purposes. If a quilt wins a major prize or is selected to travel interstate, it must be appraised.

The Appraisal Panel meets on the Friday immediately after monthly SA Quilters meetings in February, April, June, August, October, and December. Make sure to book quilts well in advance of appraisal day as application forms must be submitted two weeks prior to the day.

An appraisal fee of \$20.00 applies for SAQ members, or \$30.00 for affiliated members/groups. For application forms and general enquiries, please contact:

Heather Ford

Appraisal Panel Co-ordinator

Phone: 0438 272 408

Appraisals: appraisals.saquilters@gmail.com

Quilts Offered for Sale

If you wish to offer your quilt for sale, a label to that effect will be included on the quilt card. A list of those quilts for sale will be located at the SA Quilters' table, where prospective purchasers can request contact details for the quiltmaker.

Thereafter, the parties must come to their own mutually acceptable arrangements regarding any sale. SA Quilters and the Festival of Quilts will have no further role in any subsequent dealings between a quilt owner and any prospective purchasers.

You are strongly advised to have your quilt appraised before the show. (*For further information, see Quilt Appraisals detailed above.*)

Hanging Sleeve

A single hanging sleeve of at least **3¼" (8cm) finished** is required for ALL entries into Festival of Quilts. This is necessary to accommodate the diameter of the hanging rods, (including that used for photography) without using any force.

Please note: Only one sleeve is permitted per quilt. Split hanging sleeves **must not** be used.

Suggested methods for attaching a hanging sleeve:

A: Sew on a sleeve while binding the quilt

A hanging sleeve can be sewn to the top of the quilt at the same time as the binding is attached.

- Make a strip of sleeve fabric 7-8" (18-20cms) wide and the same width as the quilt.
- Fold under short edges ¼" (6mm), wrong sides together. Press and sew a straight or zigzag seam to hem the ends.
- Fold the strip lengthwise, wrong sides together, aligning the raw edges.
- Centre the folded strip along the top edge of the quilt, against the backing, aligning the matched raw edges with the edge of the quilt. Pin in place.
- Add binding and stitch in place through all layers.
- Smooth the sleeve downward along the quilt back, then make a ½" (12mm) fold along its length to create a pleat. Leaving the pleat intact, pin the lower edge of the sleeve to the quilt.
- Hand stitch the lower edge of the sleeve to the quilt stitching through to the batting occasionally.
- Hand stitch the back of the side edges of the sleeve tube to the quilt so that hanging poles can be cleanly inserted.

B: Sew on a sleeve after binding the quilt

- Make a strip of sleeve fabric 7-8" (18-20cms) wide and the same width as the quilt.
- Fold under short edges ¼" (6mm), wrong sides together. Press and sew a straight or zigzag seam to hem the ends.
- Fold the strip lengthwise, wrong sides together, aligning the raw edges. Sew together with a ½" (12mm) seam allowance. Press the seam allowance open.
- Place the open seam against the quilt's back. Centre and pin the top edge of the tube to the back of the quilt, about ½" (12mm) below the binding.
- Use a hand stitch to sew the top edge of the tube to the quilt backing at the stitched edge of the binding. Stitch into the batting occasionally to help strengthen the seam.
- Smooth the sleeve downward along the quilt back, then make a ½" (12mm) upwards fold along its length to create a pleat (about up to the top edge of the binding). Leaving the pleat intact, pin the lower edge of the sleeve to the quilt.
- Hand stitch the lower edge of the sleeve to the quilt. Stitch the back, side edges of the sleeve to the quilt. Leave the front sides unsewn to allow for rod insertion.

Cloth Bags For Quilts

A separate bag is required for every entry.

Bags designed specifically for SA Quilters are available for purchase by attending a monthly SAQ meeting or by contacting merchandise.saquilters@gmail.com

****Patterns for Large and Extra Large zippered quilt bags** can be found on the SA Quilters website:

<https://www.saquilters.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Large-Quilt-Carry-Bag.pdf>

PILLOWCASES are not to be used. They do not have proper closures and are hard for the handlers to manage. They may also present a health risk.

Fabric and Size: Please find or make a bag that comfortably accommodates the quilt. There should be room around all sides and the bag should totally enclose the quilt (with a zippered fastening).

Fabric for the bag should be sturdy but lightweight – calico, pre-quilted cottons, furnishing fabrics, *preferably in plain colours*, which are more easily identified by quilt handlers, and so the identification numbers show up well.

Closures and Handles: Zip closures are required. Buttons, toggles, drawstrings, or velcro-type are **not suitable**.

All bags should have handles for ease of carrying but keep them simple and **not too long**.

Bag Label: Make sure the bag is labelled with entry number in large print, and **quilter's name**, clearly visible on the front.

Folding Quilts to Fit into the Bag: When quilts are removed from their bags for hanging, some may display unsightly folds and creases. These may disappear after a day's hanging, but this might not be before the judges get to see it. Some quilts, unfortunately, retain their creases for the entire duration of the show. To minimize creasing, fold quilts with the first and second folds horizontally, and then subsequent folds vertically. In this way, the weight of the quilt should assist the most obvious creases to fall out. It may also help to fold the quilt with the **right side outwards**, so that the sharpest crease is on the back.

Delicate Quilts: Whilst every care is taken with the handling of quilts, please be aware that quilts will be folded and stacked on judging day in accordance with correct judging procedure. **Special handling or folding requests cannot be accommodated.**

Quilt Labels

A securely attached **quilt label** is necessary for identification of your quilt during the Exhibition. The label with a minimum of the quilt maker's **name** and the **quilt's title** is placed in the bottom left-hand corner of the quilt back (as seen when looking at the back of the quilt).

You may add further information as you choose. While it's not necessary for FoQ, it is a good idea to add information such as care instructions. Suggestions for permanent quilt labels can be found via the FoQ webpage:

<https://www.saquilters.org.au/appraisal-panel>

Once you have labelled your quilt, the label must be **temporarily covered**, to ensure that during judging, all identifying labels/words/names are covered to ensure anonymity and judges' impartiality. Create a neat, **plain-coloured fabric square/rectangle** to cover the permanent label, with only your **entry number** clearly written in the middle. Please write the number on **before** pinning it to your quilt, to avoid permanent marker accidents! Pin the numbered cover over your label with **safety pins** at each corner.

All names or signatures appearing on the front of the quilt (or visible anywhere else) must also be covered.



2026 Online Entry Guide

Before starting the on-line entry process, it may be helpful to gather and note your details on this form. It can make the online process so much smoother.

Page 1 of the entry process:

- your details – name, address, phone number, email address
- your individual SAQ or Affiliated Group SAQ membership number: _____
- for Junior entrants, name and membership number of their sponsor/mentor:

- your status: Junior, Amateur, or Professional (see the Handbook, page 7) _____
- the category in which you want to enter your quilt (see page 3 and refer to flow chart on website)

- if you made the quilt with another person, or persons, their name, membership number and status

Name	Number	Status

Page 2

- the name/title of your quilt: _____
- the quilt's dimensions: width _____ **cm**, length _____ **cm (Centimetres, not inches)**
- the insurance value of your entry (see page 6, item 8 and page 10 of the Handbook):
\$ _____

You will also be asked how your entry was quilted, and if you would like to offer your quilt for sale (see page 10).

Page 3

Payment details (Handbook, page 3):

- your reference number, following this format: FoQ/Membership No/ Surname (as many letters as can be entered) eg FoQ2795 Smith: _____
- the direct debit receipt number, as shown on your online banking receipt: _____
- the transaction date (dd/mm/yyyy): _____

