

QUILTS OF VALOR PROJECT

Why?

We learned of this organization from one of our customers. It seems that every day at the quilt shop there is a conversation about someone's family or friend serving in the War. American history tells us many stories of women making quilts for soldiers at war. Veterans tell us about the excitement of receiving a quilt during their time in the military. Families of soldiers in the Iraq/Afghanistan War tell us that their kids are asking for their quilts from home.

Our Plan

Basketcases launched our "Quilts of Valor Project" on Memorial Day 2007 hoping to get 10 quilts by Veteran's Day. What a surprise it was to have 27 quilts before November! As of Veteran's Day 2009 we have delivered more than 75 quilts to the laps of American soldiers. We currently send our quilts to Hines Veterans Hospital in Chicago. The quilts are distributed through chaplains currently serving our people in the military.



You all- the regular people of our community- veterans, quilters, business people, and families of soldiers made this happen.

The Rules-Quilt Toppers

If you purchase your fabric and backing from us, we will donate the quilting charge as our part of the project. We work with local community and veterans' groups to get the batting donated. You do the binding and bring it back to us and we will send them on their way to bring comfort and warm wishes to our soldiers.



Dave Samulowitz (Donna's dad) does some of our machine quilting. He is a veteran of the Air Force.

What to make?

You may make a quilt top and bring it to us. The minimum size is 50" x 60" and the maximum is 63" x 87". You can just make a block (12.5" pieced) or more and add to our collection and we will put the tops together. We have kits and pattern suggestions available for you if you need ideas. **It is expected that you will use fabric and pattern appropriate for a combat veteran.** The foundation suggests patriotic colors, nothing too cutesy, all cotton fabrics, and backings of flannel or minkee are great especially for burn victims and visually impaired soldiers. Consider that there will be recipients of all races, creeds, color, and culture. And don't forget that some of those soldiers are women!

Finishing your quilt-

Label

We suggest adding a label to your quilt. It can simply be a signature and a date. Some people add a dedication as well. The purpose is to add the "human" to the human touch of the quilt.

Presentation Case

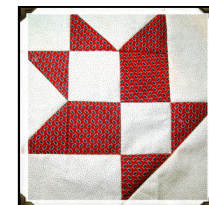
Quilts of Valor are presented by chaplains to wounded combat veterans. The easiest way to make a presentation case is to fold your finished quilt and take its measurements. The find some fabric you like, fold it and sew the sides together. It's like making a pillowcase for your quilt. You can put a border or piping if you like, but it is simple to do. We have some at the shop if you need ideas.

Mailing

We will mail or hand-deliver your finished quilt to it's destination.

Introducing...

The Basket of Hope



The Basket of Hope Block was made by Carolyn to launch the QOV Project. Block Kits with instructions are available for \$5.