

PLEASE SAVE THIS PAGE. THESE ARE INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTACHING QUILT LAYERS TO THE FRAME.

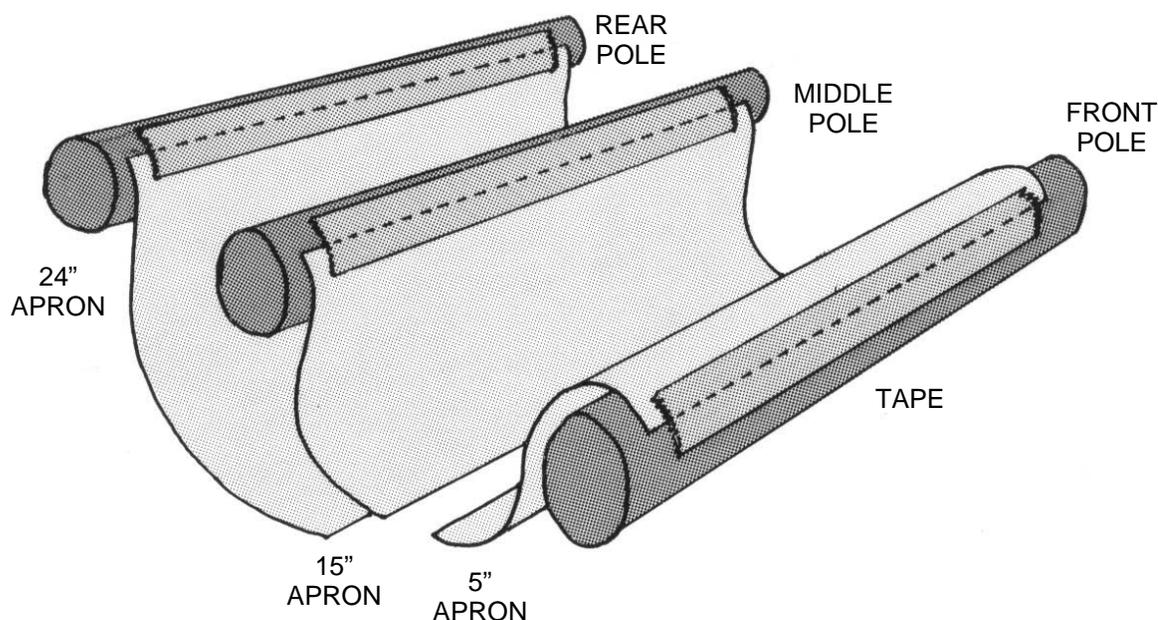
ATTACHING CLOTH APRONS (LEADERS) TO THE POLES

Your quilt will be basted or pinned to fabric aprons that you must attach to the poles. Any sturdy fabric may be used. Heavy fabrics such as canvas will be difficult to pin or baste. Do not use stretchy fabrics or knits. You will need three strips of fabric.

To determine the size:

1. Set up your frame and measure the usable length of your poles. Measure from inside the ratchet wheels on one end to the inside of the frame on the other.
2. Cut your material about 1" less than that length.
3. The width of the fabric for the rear pole should be 24", for the middle 15", and for the front pole 5". These three pieces will fit on 44" wide fabric.
4. Zigzag or serge the long edges of your fabric to avoid raveling.

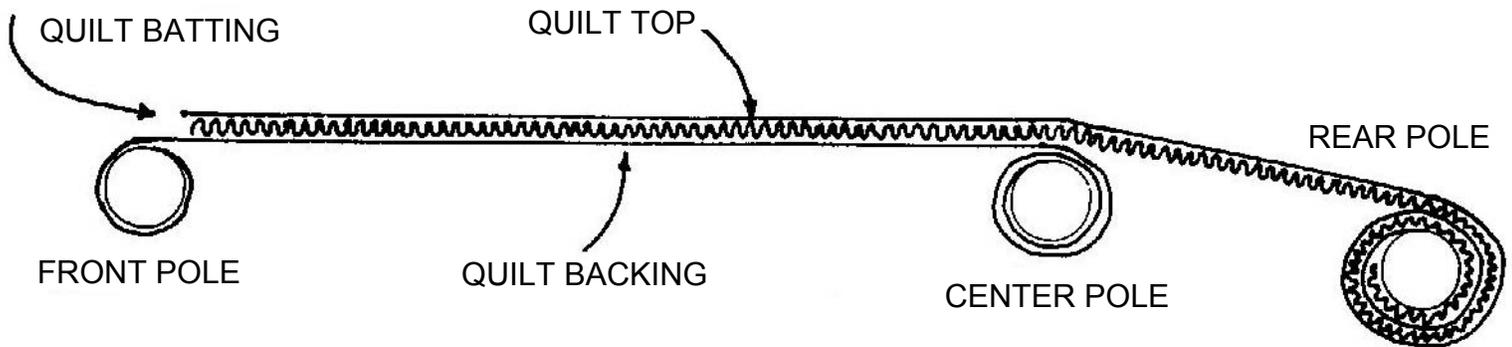
Tape the fabric to the pole with any heavy duty tape such as duct tape or cloth mending tape.



ATTACHING YOUR QUILT TO THE FRAME

The quilt top and batting are attached to the rear pole aprons, the quilt backing is attached to the center pole apron, and all three layers are attached to the front pole apron. You can then apply tension to the top and backing independently. Take your time attaching your quilt to the poles. If it is done correctly, you can get perfect tensioning over the entire quilt, usually without any need for side tensioning. Read the instructions through before beginning.

INSTRUCTION FOR ATTACHING YOUR QUILT TO THE FRAME



1. Adjust your frame so that the tops are level. The backing is attached first. *Be sure to cut your backing at least eight to ten inches (8"-10") longer than the quilt top and somewhat wider to allow for stretching of the quilt top.* Any seams in your backing should run parallel to the poles. Mark the center of each apron and the center of the edge of each layer. Lay the backing over the front pole, wrong side up, and bring the edge to the center pole. Match centers and pin the edge of the backing fabric near the edge of the apron, starting at the center and pinning out to the edges. Do not baste at this time, as the pins are enough to hold it and make adjustments much easier. Roll the backing fabric onto the center pole, being careful to smooth out any creases as you roll. If it is rolling up unevenly, unroll it and reposition the edge to correct it. Pin the loose edge of the backing to the apron on the front pole, again matching centers. Make sure the tension is even all along the length of the pole.

2. Lay the batting on the backing and let it drop over the front pole. Spread the quilt top over the batting with back edge even with the batting. Neatly drape the rest of the top over the front pole. Pin through the quilt top and batting to the rear pole apron.

The quilt design, if possible, should run parallel to the center pole. (This is more important than the front edge being exactly even with edge of the backing and batting.)

3. Slowly roll the batting and top onto the rear pole. Make sure the batting is smooth and free of bunching and folds as it is fed onto the rear pole. It may help to tilt the frame at this time so you can more easily see how the batting is rolling. When the edge of the quilt top is between the front two poles stop rolling, trim away the extra batting, if any.
4. Pin the quilt top and batting close to the edge of backing near the apron on the front pole starting at the center and working out to the sides.
5. Adjust the tension and set your tilt at this time. Begin quilting on the front of the quilt and work towards the rear. The aprons on the rear poles should be long enough to allow the back edge of the quilt to move down into quilting position. Use the ratchets to keep the tension of the top and backing even. Side tensioning, if desired, can be accomplished using our optional side tensioning kit or by looping strips of fabric around the end frame and pinning them through all quilt layers.

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