Printing Quilt Labels (January/February 2024 Q.U.I.L.T.S. Program)

Why Print?

- Requires less of **my** time (primary reason).

  Doesn't require all the set up of embroidery

  Still takes time (mostly for drying) and planning ahead

- Flexibility
  o Preprinted labels are OK but have limited space

Materials Needed

- Word Processor such as Microsoft Word
- Inkjet printer (cannot use laser printer)
- Room temperature water in shallow tray large enough to lay the label out flat
- **Print-ready** fabric (not just any fabric)
  o EQ Printables, June Taylor, JoAnn's, Avery, PhotoFabric, & Others
    ▪ EQ Printables from Electric Quilt
    ▪ #1 in comparison study published several years ago in Newsletter Magazine

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Cotton Basic (200tc) Inkjet Fabric
from $23.95

Cotton Lawn (240tc) Inkjet Fabric
from $26.95

Cotton Satin (283tc) Inkjet Fabric
from $26.95

Cotton Basic (200tc) Inkjet Fabric Roll
$38.95

Add to Cart   Details

Inkjet Fabric Sample Pack
$25.95

Quilter's Newsprint
$11.95

- What I've always used
- 8-1/2"x11"
- 6 sheets per pack
- Warm white color (not snow white)
- 3 qualities of EQ Printables
  - ***Premium Cotton Satin Inkjet Fabric Sheets** (283 thread count). "Special satin-weave finish produces brilliant printed images of unmatchable clarity and sharpness." High thread count gives the best, smoothest print.
    *This is the one I use for labels.
  - **Sewable Inkjet Fabric Sheets** (240 thread count). "...the softest, best-quality printable quilt-weight fabric perfect for your finest quilts....great for photo quilts..."
  - **Cotton Basic Inkjet Fabric Sheets** (200 thread count). 1) available in more sizes, 2) "Cotton Basic is the most versatile EQ Printables fabric sheet, perfect for quilt labels, pillows, memory quilts, fabric

scrapbooks, and more! The warm white fabric makes photo-complexions glow."

Process

- Prepare your label (Word Processor)
  - Once it is set up, reuse it again and again
  - First, hit the return key a few times
  - Then, insert (after the first paragraph symbol) a table with as many columns & rows as you want. I stat with 1 row & 3 columns
    - Allows for 2 photos with label info in the center
    - Can delete 1 column if I only want to include 1 photo
    - If I want to include a long, horizontal photo at the top,
      - Delete 2 columns and
      - Insert a row
  - Things to know how to do in Word
    - Add a table
    - Turn on the paragraph symbol
    - Turn off lines (make table lines disappear)
    - Alter space between labels. Leave at least 1" between labels
    - Alter text size & style
- Print onto the fabric sheet using an inkjet printer.
- I run a test print on plain paper, first.
  - I can see how the label will look and
  - It helps me to put the EQ Printable Fabric in the printer to print correctly
- Allow ink to dry 15 minutes. Peel off plastic backing
- Soak in room-temperature water for 10 minutes to remove excess printer ink. Rinse until water runs clear.
- Blot between towels and lay flat to dry. I have used a hair dryer to speed up dry time.
- Cut/trim
- Sew a SIMPLE/SINGLE narrow binding on 2-4 sides.
  - Hard to sew through 283 thread count, treated fabric
  - Simple binding can add color design and will be easier to stitch to the back of your quilt
  - IF you will sew 2 sides into the quilt binding, you only need to bind the **other** 2 sides of the label.

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- Cut 1" binding
- Machine stitch on front of label with 1/4" allowance
- Press away from label
- Fold over to the back side of label - no need to stitch it to the back
- Whip through the fold of the binding

TIPS

- What I include on a label
  - Name, including maiden name (the genealogist/historian in me)
  - Location
  - Quilter's name, if someone other than me
  - Pattern name
  - Designer name
  - Story, if I think it important enough
    - Started in a class (who taught, who sponsored the class, etc.)
    - Historical notes, when appropriate
- I print up to 4 labels per sheet, not all at the same time
- Run a test print on plain paper before printing on printable fabric. I mark an X in the lower left corner of the test paper. Then I know how I need to place the printable fabric in the paper tray for printing.

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Mommy & Me
Made especially for ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮
by ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮
December, 2021
Pattern designed by Colette Belt,
published by Quilters' Paradise, Inc.

Turtle Trot
Made especially for ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮
by ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮
October, 2023
Turtle Trot pattern designed by Annie's Craft Store