

SYDNEY QUILT SHOW

PREPARATION OF YOUR ENTRY TO THE SYDNEY QUILT SHOW

How to properly describe your quilt

We have heard a lot of quilters moan when entering a quilt into an exhibition and filling out an entry form. They say something like, "coming up with a name is the hardest part of making a quilt" and "I don't know what to say about my quilt. I made it because I liked it."

Well, this article is to help you with your entry and, in particular, the following parts that relate to you describing your quilt:

- Design source
- Your quilt description - maximum 40 words
- Comments field

It is important to take time to be accurate and complete when providing this information. Design Source and Quilt description is included on the quilt story tag attached to your quilt in the show and is included in the catalogue (quilt description in online only). They are also available to judges on Judging Day (in an edited form to remove any quilt maker identification) and judges rely on this information in making judging decisions.

Design Source

This needs to be a brief statement of any quilt pattern or design, any photograph or art work that was created by another person that has been used in the making of your quilt, even if it is only a section of your quilt. This will appear on your quilt story as a one line description, examples are:

- Oh Christmas Tree by Wendy Williams
- 2001 Nouveaux Blocs de Patchwork by Chuck Nohara
- Based on photograph by
- The Rajah Quilt c1841, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

You can see more examples at our online gallery of prize winners you will see the Design Source listed below the photos.

Tips for preparing design source:

- Provide name of the quilt pattern and the designer's name having checked the spelling before submitting;
- Design source can be a complete book (eg a sampler quilt book);
- Antique quilts – give the maker's name if known and either the museum that owns it or the book it was published in. Also include details of a pattern that was used as well.

It isn't enough to:

- state that the pattern was in an unnamed magazine – this doesn't properly acknowledge the designer.

- state that it was taken from a photo of a quilt in "[named] magazine". Note that if it is just a photo and no pattern was provided then you will probably need copyright permission from the designer. Please read the Conditions of Entry for these details.

Traditional quilts

Traditional quilts have always been hard to fit into the categories of original or pattern. You may have drafted the quilt and some designs have been around for ages and not attributed to one individual. For quilts that use traditional patterns such as "Rail Fence", "Log Cabin" and "Ohio Star" please tick original if you haven't used a pattern by someone else and put "Traditional Design" in the Comments field.

Quilt description – maximum 40 words

This is your chance to describe something special about your quilt, for example:

- why you made it
- your inspiration to the extent it hasn't been included in Design Source
- who you made it for
- what you learnt from making it
- techniques you used – but please don't use abbreviations (such as EPP or QAYG)
- some interesting facts about the quilt, eg the number of pieces making up the quilt.

The Quilt Description should include any other source of inspiration not included in the Design Source. If your quilt is an original designed by yourself, both the judges and the quilt show visitor want to know what inspired you to make this quilt.

Inspiration may have come from your environment, a poem or an event for example. Possibly, another person's quilt design or artwork may have been your inspiration to create your own original design. For example, South African Quilter, Rosalie Dace runs a workshop based on the artwork of Paul Klee where participants are encouraged to design their own quilt using the "style" of Paul Klee.

Tips for preparing:

- Write your quilt description in a word document before completing the entry form
- Take time to edit it so that it is succinct
- Have some friends or family check to see if it makes sense
- Check all spelling
- Look through the 2017 Sydney Quilt Show online catalogue (on our website) for ideas

Exhibition Subcommittee

Extract from the QuiltNSW newsletter
"The Template" (November 2017)
www.quiltsw.com