

Quilt Challenges

General Guidelines for Issuing Challenges for the Quilt Show:

1. If possible, soon after one quilt show has ended and all the wrap-up work is completed, find people to form a committee to help come up with ideas for several quilt challenges for the following years quilt show. We generally have about 5 challenges. Generally we have a quilt challenge that matches the theme of the quilt show. We also usually have a block challenge that also matches or complements the theme of the show. We also have a garment challenge that also has something to do with the quilt show theme. Sometimes we have pincushion, tote, purse, and doll challenges. Many years ago, we had a miniature challenge; that might be an interesting challenge to bring back occasionally. In recent years, we have had modern quilt challenges. We have had challenges based on certain classic quilt color combinations, but the consensus for the 2015 show was that were tired of and bored with those challenges, so did not do one for the 2015 show.
2. If possible wait for the quilt show theme to be announced for the next quilt show, and choose one of the challenges to fit that them. Hopefully the quilt show theme will be decided no later than June for the following February quilt show, and at least some of the quilt challenges can be announced at the June general meeting. If the quilt show theme is not announced by June, some of the quilt challenges should be decided upon and announced at the June meeting anyway. The challenge that matches the quilt show theme, the block challenge and the garment challenge can be announced at a later date, but hopefully no later than the August general meeting.
3. The challenge committee, or the person in charge of each different challenge, can decide if fabric will be provided for each challenge, and how much each fabric packet should cost participants. (The cost of the fabric packets should be offset by the amount of money taken in by the sale of the packets.) Usually some fabric is provided for one of the quilt challenges and for the block challenge. Sometimes a common fabric is provided for the garment challenge.
4. If fabric packets are provided, usually 40 packets of fabric are prepared. (We frequently sell nearly all the packets, and have about 2/3 of the participants enter their completed projects in the quilt show. We usually get a much higher level of

completed entries entered in the quilt show than neighboring guilds get in their challenges.

5. The challenge committee, or the person in charge of each different challenge, can decide if there will be size parameters for each of the challenge quilts. One of the quilt challenges (the one for which fabric is provided) usually has a size limitation.....30" X 30" up to 40" X 40", or any size and shape with a perimeter of 120" up to 160", with a requirement that each quilt be three layers, be quilted, be bound, and have a 4" sleeve for hanging.

6. The challenge committee, or the person in charge of each different challenge, can also decide if a certain block or design element or technique needs to be included in each particular challenge quilt or block or garment.

7. Once the challenges are chosen, they need to be announced at a general meeting, published in the guild newsletter and posted on the website. Then at each general meeting and in subsequent newsletters, reminders need to be made, encouraging people to be thinking about what they want to do for their challenges and to be working on them.

8. When the forms for the quilt show are prepared, a category for each challenge needs to be included on the forms. Participants should be reminded to submit their entries for the various challenges.

9. If necessary, help the person preparing the individual labels for the quilt show prepare the labels for the various challenge entries. Also, if necessary, prepare labels for each general challenge category....to be posted at the beginning of each group of challenge quilts as they are displayed at the show. Also prepare a poster for each challenge, describing the rules for that challenge, including swatches of the fabrics for each challenge if any.

10. Prepare Challenge Viewer's Choice ballots and a Challenge Viewer's Choice Ballot box. Set up a small table at the quilt show at the beginning of one of the rows of challenge quilts, and place the Viewer's Choice ballots and the ballot box on the table.

11. Prepare a Viewer's Choice prize ribbon for each challenge category, using the fabrics for that challenge, if any. Also on the back of each ribbon place a label on

which you can later write the name of the winner of each category, the specific category, and the name of the winner's quilt.

12. After the quilt show, count the Challenge Viewer's Choice ballots and find the winner in each category. Complete the label on the back of each ribbon with the winner's name and the name of the winning quilt in that category. Prepare a list of the winners and send to the newsletter editor to be published in the April newsletter, after the ribbons are presented at the March meeting.

13. Announce the Challenge Viewer's Choice winners at the March general meeting, and present the winners with their ribbons.

14. Save your receipts for any materials purchased for the challenges (fabrics, paper for printing the challenge rules or printing expenses, materials for making the Viewer's Choice ribbons, etc.) Prepare an expense sheet for any expenses incurred for the challenges to the quilt show treasurer no later than the March general meeting, turning in your receipts. (Keep a copy of your receipts for future reference if needed.)

15. Record any suggestions or changes you wish to make to these general guidelines and put them in the binder. Also print the rules for each challenge for that year, and put those in the binder also.

16. Have fun! Be creative! Be positive in encouraging guild members to participate in the various challenges.