

2018 Texas Department of Agriculture Quilt Block Competition Rules and Guidelines

Rules

1. Use the ivory colored fabric (labeled Background) for the background. It should measure approximately 11" x 11."
2. The finished size of the block will be 10" x 10;" however, your entry must be submitted as a 10½" x 10½" unfinished block. All winning blocks will be trimmed for finishing, once selected. Please ensure your entire design fits within the 10" x 10" area.
3. You must supply an accurate, full-size pattern of your design for judging and documentation purposes. You may use tracing paper, wax paper or another medium as appropriate to create a pattern.
4. The design of your block should pertain to the theme of the quilt, *Celebrate Agriculture – Sew Your Texas Roots!* through the use of fabrics included in this kit and any you provide. Refer to the information included in the kit for more details on the theme for inspiration. Blocks should clearly reflect this year's theme.
5. Include a brief description (100 words or less) of how your block depicts the theme. Please identify the additional fabric representing your family, history or heritage and explain why you chose to use it in the block.
6. **DO NOT** quilt your block.
7. A limited number of quilt packets will be available.
8. Block submission must be received by **July 2, 2018**. Please mail your completed block with pattern and description to:

Texas Department of Agriculture
Attn: GO TEXAN – 2018 Celebrate Agriculture Quilt
P.O. Box 12847
Austin, TX 78711

Guidelines

1. The fabric in the kit has not been prewashed.
2. In addition to the ivory background fabric, you **MUST** use a minimum of six fabrics provided by TDA in the packet.
3. You *may* add up to three additional cotton fabrics not included in the packet to the design, including one piece of cotton fabric that represents your family, history or heritage; however, the block packet fabrics must remain the focal colors of your design.
4. Your block may be an original design. It may be pieced, appliquéd or a combination. You may use hand or machine construction.
5. **You may NOT embellish your block.** Embellished blocks will be disqualified.

Helpful Hints

1. Making Templates and Pattern Pieces
 - a. Use a sturdy transparent plastic, such as Mylar, or a template plastic from your local quilt shop. This will guarantee a constant shape over repeated use. Cardboard does not retain its shape.
 - b. Freezer paper is another popular template material, especially for the machine piecer and appliqué artist. Draw your design onto the flat side of the freezer paper, cut on the lines and iron the shinier side to your fabric. Add your seam allowance to the fabric, not the paper.
2. Use a pencil (HB or harder) or other removable marking device to mark the fabric for appliquéing or piecing.
3. Use 1/4" seam allowance for all piecing.
4. When appliquéing, use matching threads (100 percent cotton or silk).
5. Press all seams from light to dark fabrics when possible.

If you have questions regarding the theme or rules of the competition, please call (512) 463-8215 or email GOTEXAN@TexasAgriculture.gov.