



# QUILTS

ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-SEVENTH  
**NEBRASKA STATE FAIR**

August 28 – September 7, 2026

Grand Island, NE



Join the Quilts Department in celebrating “It All Happens Here” at the 2026 Nebraska State Fair.

**Superintendent: Terri Uden**

**Phone: 308-325-3017**

**Email: [terriud@atcjet.net](mailto:terriud@atcjet.net)**

## New in 2026

- Quilts will be classified as Large Quilts (LQ) 300 inches or more around and Small Quilts (SQ) 299 inches or less around. WQ will stay as is.
- 5320 2010 Whole Quilts moved to 5320 2019 Other Type Quilt
- 5320 2093 SQ, Pieced, MQ (deleted any technique)
- 5320 2094 SQ, Mixed Technique, MQ
- 5320 2095 WQ Pieced, any size, MQ
- 5320 3094 Senior Quilts LQ, SQ, SQ Kit, or BOM MQ
- 5390 9428 America 250 Patriotic Quilt
- 5390 9446 Hand Dyed/Hand Painted Quilt Deleted Curvaceous Added

## Important Dates

- Entry Deadline: Tuesday, August 11, at 11:59 pm
- Exhibit Delivery: Wednesday, August 19, 3 pm – 8 pm  
Thursday, August 20, 8 am – 3 pm
- Exhibit Release: Monday, September 7, 6 pm – 8 pm. **Early Release is Prohibited.**  
Tuesday, September 8, 8 am – noon

## Important Information

- No late entries, including additions and substitutions at check-in time.
- Omaha, Seward, & North Platte Drop Off and Pick Up Locations, Dates, Times see Page 15
- All entries being returned by USPS, FedEx, or UPS must include a prepaid return label when entry is mailed or shipped to the fair. Do not send check, cash, or money orders for return postage.

## Class Premiums and Overall Awards

The judge may but is not required to award up to five ribbons (1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>) for the first five places in the competition classes, Division 5320 and 5330 and in the Best in County contest, Division 5391. Only 1<sup>st</sup> place is awarded in the Division 5390 Special Contests.

### The premiums and special awards listed below are paid by the Nebraska State Fair and Grand Island Casino Resort

Place	Ribbon	Divisions 5320 5330	Division 5390	Division 5391
1	Blue	\$25	\$25	\$30
2	Red	\$15		\$25
3	White	\$10		\$20
4	Pink	\$5		\$15
5	Yellow	\$3		\$10

Rosette and \$60	Rosette and \$35	Rosette and \$25
Best of Show	Reserve Best of Show	Best Commercial Quilter
	Best of Division 5320	Reserve Best of Division 5320
	Best of Division 5330	Reserve Best of Division 5330
	Judge's Choice	Best Kit/BOM 5320
		Best Kit/BOM 5330

#### Selection for Overall Show Awards:

- Judge's Choice award is chosen by the judge from all quilts entered. This quilt is one the Judge chooses as their favorite. A rosette and premium are awarded.
- Best Commercial Quilter is chosen by the judge from all quilts that are entered as being commercially quilted in division 5330. **Quilting should be free hand with no digital or programmed quilting.** A rosette and premium are awarded.
- Best Kit/BOM Division 5320 and 5330 are selected from the 1<sup>st</sup> place winners of all Kit/BOM quilt classes in each respective division. This is the terminating award for quilts in Kit/BOM classes.
- The Best of Division 5320 and 5330 are selected from 1<sup>st</sup> place winners of all classes in the respective divisions with the exception of 1<sup>st</sup> place winners of Kit/BOM classes.
- The Best of Show is selected from the two quilts: Best of Division 5320 and 5330. Reserve Best of Show will be selected from one of the two following quilts: (1) Best of Division is not selected as Best of Show (2) Reserve Best of Division selected as Best of Show. The Reserve Best of Division not selected as Best of Show is not eligible for Reserve Best of Show.

Results: Judging results are posted online as soon as possible after the verification of data. This usually takes a few days after the completion of judging since getting the exhibition area ready for opening day of the fair must take precedence over the posting process. Go to [www.statefair.org](http://www.statefair.org), then the menu, click on Agriculture & Competitive Exhibits, select Open Class Competitive Exhibits, and then scroll down to the quilt department section.

## Sweepstakes Sponsored by Grand Island Casino Resort

These are based on a point system. 1<sup>st</sup> place – 5 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> place – 3 points, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place – 1 point. Best of Show – 15 points, Reserve Best of Show – 12 points, Best of Division 10 points, Reserve Best of Division 7 points. Note: If an exhibitor wins for 2 consecutive years, they will be ineligible to win for the following 2 years.

1st place - \$300  
2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$200  
3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$100

The first-place winner will then go in for a people's choice Overall Sweepstakes Winner receiving a plaque and their name engraved on a trophy that will be displayed each year during the fair. The voting will begin the final weekend of the fair after all static events are complete. It will be a google form that you will use an email address to submit a vote.

## Quilt Department Divisions: Classes and Contests

The Quilt Department has four divisions that house different types of classes, contests, and restrictions for entry.

**Divisions 5320 and 5330 – Competition Classes:** Exhibitor maximum of one quilt per class and 3 quilts per total.

- Division 5320 is for quilts sewn and quilted exclusively by one person
- Division 5330 is for quilts sewn and quilted by more than and includes: two-person quilts, group quilts, quilts where the top is made by one or more persons and the quilting is done either for pay (commercially quilted) or not-for-pay (non-commercially quilted).

**Division 5390 – Special Contests:** Exhibitor maximum: three special contests per quilt and multiple quilts in any one special contest. The rules for each special contest vary from contest to contest. All quilts must be entered in a competition class in order to compete in division 5390.

**Division 5391 – Best in County Quilts:** See specific rules regarding this contest in Division 5391. Note that entry in a county fair is not a prerequisite except for the Best in County contest. An entry in this contest must first be designated as the best quilt at their county fair competition and then be entered, received, and judged in one of the Division 5320 or 5330 competition classes prior to competing in the Nebraska State Fair Best in County contest. All quilt entries which qualify to enter the Best in County contest will receive a special distinctive ribbon and signage. The top five entries in the contest will receive an additional special rosette and Nebraska State Fair premium.

### Quilt Department Abbreviations:

**LQ** – Large Quilt: 300 inches or more around

**SQ** – Small Quilt: 299 inches or less around

**WQ** – Wall Quilt

**HQ** – Hand Quilted (must contain no machine quilting)

**MQ** – Machine Quilted (can contain a combination of hand and machine quilting)

**CQ** – Commercially Quilted (quilting is done for pay including hand and machine quilted)

**NCQ** – Non-Commercially Quilted (no money is exchanged for the quilting done by a second person or group)

**BOM** – Block of the Month

**Kit or BOM** – quilts that are made from patterns and fabrics specified and/or sold as a unit for retail sale

**Mixed Techniques** – where a combination of two or more construction methods (not including quilting or trapunto) are major components in the quilt design. An example would be a quilt containing significant amounts of both piecing and applique.

---

## Department Rules

It's the Exhibitor's responsibility to be familiar with the [General Rules & Regulations](#) linked here which apply to all Nebraska State Fair open class departments of Competitive Exhibits and to the specific rules for each department.

### Additional Rules Specific to the Quilts Department are:

- Competition in all Quilt Department divisions is limited to items which meet the following criteria: (1) meets the definition of a quilt: a fabric sandwich made of three layers (a top, a filling, and a back) held together by thread or string that goes through all layers, (2) is a large, small, or wall quilt but not another type of quilted item i.e. table runners, kitchen items, pillows, and quilted wearable garments, and (3) has no sharp embellishments, surface design features or hanging devices that require special handling.
  - Opportunities for entering items which do not meet the above criteria can be found in the [2026 Textile Arts Entry Book](#), Division 5202 Sewing for the Home or Division 5208 Fiber Arts.
- Quilt department entry limits:
  - Competition Class Limits (Division 5320 and 5330): total of three quilts per exhibitor.
  - Special Contest Limits (Division 5390): Quilts must be entered in a "Competition Class" to compete in

special contests. The exhibitor may enter multiple quilts in the same special contest as well as the same quilt in multiple (but not more than three) special contests.

- Youth and senior adults can enter a quilt in either their respective age-restricted competition class or any non-age restricted competition class, but the same quilt cannot be entered in both places. The exhibitors age as of January 1<sup>st</sup> is used for age-restricted classes. Birthdate is required on the entry form only on age-restricted classes.
- All entries must have been completed within the last three years. **Quilt must be completed after September 1, 2023.**
- Competition in Division 5320 (one-person quilts) is limited to Nebraska residents only.
- In division 5330 (multiple-person quilts), Division 5390 (special contests) and Division 5391 (Best in County), the primary maker or makers must be Nebraska resident(s), but the machine quilting may be done by a non-Nebraska resident.
- Any quilt previously entered in Division 5320 or 5330 (one-person quilts or multiple-person quilts) cannot compete again in those divisions.
- The exhibitor selects the division and class for entry. However, the superintendent or judge may move an entry to a different class to comply with the class description.
- Entry in a county fair is not a prerequisite except for the special recognition award – Division 5391 Best in County Quilts.
- A quilt made from a kit or block of the month package where the pattern and fabric components are retailed as a unit must be entered in a class specifically for kits and block of the month quilts. Purchasing a pattern and fabrics separately that is a representation of a kit is considered the same as the purchase of the kit.
- Tied quilts may be entered only in the following classes Special Type Quilts (classes 2000, 2002, 2007, 2019), Youth (classes 2080-2086), and Group Quilts by Non-Quilters (class 3070).
- All quilts must have a fabric label with the name and address of the maker(s) for identification purposes. Attach the label to the lower left corner of the backside of the quilt. Then, in order to prevent the judge from seeing the name, baste a piece of fabric over the label and anywhere else the name appears on the quilt.
- All quilts will be folded upon entry to the Nebraska State Fair.
- Quilts longer than 120 inches may not be hung due to length and weight.
- Hanging sleeves are not required on quilts.
- Include no photographs, newspaper articles, county ribbons, or other information with the exhibit.
- Removal of entries before release time is prohibited.
- **No false backs allowed.** A false back is an extra backing fabric that is added to cover the back of a quilt. It prevents the quilting stitches from being seen during the judging process.
- **Quilts must be free of pet hair and odors.** Quilts will not be accepted if they have pet hair and/or odors.

---

## Entering Exhibits – The deadline is Tuesday, August 11, at 11:59 pm

Exhibitors may purchase \$5 Exhibitor Gate Tickets. A maximum of 5 exhibitor tickets per family is allowed. No refunds will be given on any unused or lost tickets. To purchase these tickets, go to <http://bit.ly/4bVSm5v> and use password CVENT. Exhibitor tickets go off sale Thursday August 27, 2026 at 11:59pm.

Please note that daily gate admission for seniors (age 60+) and kids (6-12) is \$6 for any day of the fair. Find additional ticket deals and details at <https://www.statefair.org/plan-your-visit/pricing/>.

**Online Registration:** Anna Wood, data coordinator for Quilts, may answer questions exhibitors have about data entry at 308-391-1953. The most time and cost-efficient way to enter is online. Exhibitors can enter all their open-class exhibits and order exhibitor tickets (optional) in one session. Online entry begins around July 1. Instructions on how to enter online are found on the website [www.statefair.org](http://www.statefair.org) – Menu – Competitive Exhibits – Scroll down to Quilts – Online Entry

**Mail-In or In-Person Registration:** When using mail-in or in-person registration, the exhibitor must use a separate form for each department entered. Either print the entry form from the following link: [2026 Quilts Entry Form](#) or request a form from the Nebraska State Fair Office, 501 E Fonner Park Rd Ste 200, Grand Island, NE 68801, Phone 308-382-1620.

Entry forms must be mailed, faxed, or delivered to the Nebraska State Fair. The deadline for Quilts is Tuesday, August 11, at midnight. Mail-in entry must be postmarked by August 11.

- Mailing Address: Nebraska State Fair, PO Box 1387, Grand Island, NE 68802-1387
- Fax: 308-384-1555
- In-person delivery: Nebraska State Fair, 501 E Fonner Park Rd Ste 200, Grand Island, NE 68801

## Guidelines for Completing Entry Form

- Enter all items you plan to bring. There is no entry fee. Items not brought will be deleted at the fair.
- No late entries including add-ons and substitutes at delivery check-in.
- Birthdate is required on the entry form only if you are entering an age-restricted class.
- Retain a copy of the entry form. A copy is required when you deliver your exhibits. For online registration, print either the entry receipt activity report or a packing/loading report.
- Entry description format: the entry description is for identification purposes only. Limit the number of letters in the description to not more than 40.
  - For Division 5320 or 5330 provide the following information in this order using an abbreviated format as shown in example:
    - Quilt dimensions to the closest whole inch – omitting inch abbreviation and spaces
    - Major quilt colors – abbreviate
    - An identifying quilt design feature
    - Example: “75x95 blu/gr/cm log cabin” would be suitable for an entry in Division 5320 Class 2025 which is 75”x95” with log cabin blocks made from various blue, green, and cream fabrics.
  - For Division 5390 Special Contest entry provide the following information in this order using abbreviated format as shown in the example:
    - Original competition class, list as oc=xxxx for original class number
    - Quilt dimensions, list to the closest whole inch
    - Predominant colors
    - Identifying feature (i.e., block)
    - Example: “oc=2025;75x95 blu/gr/cm log cabin” would be a suitable description for a quilt that is 75”x95” with log cabin blocks made from multiple blue, green, and cream fabrics.

---

## Delivery of Exhibits – The deadline is Thursday, August 20, 3 pm – Pinnacle Bank Expo Center

- In Person: Bring exhibit(s), along with a copy of the entry form, to the Quilt Hall in the Pinnacle Expo Center on Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, from 3pm – 8pm or Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, from 8am – 3pm.
- Ship by USPS, UPS, or FedEx: Refer to [Shipping Options](#) for detailed instructions on packaging, where to send exhibits, and must include a prepaid return label with your exhibit. Note that items sent by mail (USPS) must use the street address, same as entries sent by a delivery service (UPS or FedEx) must use the street address. These items must be delivered in time to meet the receiving deadline of Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup>. Nebraska State Fair, 501 E Fonner Park Rd, Ste 200, Grand Island NE 688010.

---

## Return of Exhibits – Early release is prohibited.

- In Person: Exhibits can be picked up closing night of the fair, Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, from 6-8 pm or Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, from 8am – noon in the Quilt Hall, or as soon after take down of quilts as possible.
  - You must sign the release list to collect your entries. If you sent your exhibits by mail, shipping service, or drop-off but wish to pick them up in person at the end of fair, you can do so with identification.
- Ship by USPS, UPS, FedEx: Exhibitors who want items returned by USPS, UPS, or FedEx must make this notation on the entry form enclosed with exhibits. Exhibits will not be returned without a prepaid return label. Refer to [Shipping Options](#) for return information.

Exhibits not picked up during the above designated times must be picked up from the Nebraska State Fair office by end of business day Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026. After that exhibits may be donated to charity.

# Divisions 5320 One-Person Quilts

All quilts in Division 5320 must be made and completed exclusively by one person who is a Nebraska resident. Quilts made by more than one person are entered in Division 5330 – Multiple-Person Quilts.

In Division 5320, only quilts in classes 2000, 2007, 2019, 2080, and 2085 have the option to be secured with knots or ties.

Entry description format: the entry description is for identification purposes only. Limit the number of letters in the description to not more than 40.

- For Division 5320 or 5330 provide the following information in this order using abbreviated format as shown in example:
  - Quilt dimensions to the closest whole inch – omitting inch abbreviation and spaces
  - Major quilt colors – abbreviate
  - An identifying quilt design feature

Example: “75x95 blu/gr/cm log cabin” would be suitable for an entry in Division 5320 Class 2025 which is 75”x95” with log cabin blocks made from various blue, green, and cream fabrics.

## Special Types of Quilts

- 2000 Pride of Nebraska, any size: A quilt that reflects Nebraska’s heritage or culture. The quilt may be of either original or traditional design but not made from a kit or BOM. Requirement 3”x5” card near the label indicating in 50 words or less how the design relates to Nebraska.
- 2002 Panel Quilt, any size: A quilt made with a single or multiple preprinted panels. Panel in an integral part of the quilt.
- 2006 Special Occasion, any size: A quilt that clearly depicts a holiday or special occasion. The quilt design may be based on a pattern, kit, or BOM. Requirement: 3”x5” card with 1-3 words indicating special occasion.
- 2007 Logo-Item Quilt, any size, quilted or tied: A quilt featuring items such as t-shirts, golf towels, hats, etc. that contain logos and/or are commemorative of events.
- 2008 Reclaimed Material Quilt, any size: A quilt which contains salvaged material from clothing (excluding logo items) and/or other sources (i.e., dresser scarves, table linens, etc.) previously used for some purpose other than a quilt. Requirement: 3”x5” card near the label indicating in 15 words or less the source of the recycled material.
- 2009 Fragment Quilt, any size: A quilt using a combination of new and salvaged vintage fabrics or unfinished quilt fragments from a previous maker (known or unknown) and completed by the exhibitor. Requirement: 3”x5” card near the label indicating in 15 words or less the source and history of the quilt fragments and salvaged material.
- Quilts made from selvage edges to be entered in this class.**
- 2013 Art-Type Quilt, any size: A wall quilt based on a pattern, kit or class instruction that reflects imagery or ideas.
- 2014 Art Quilt, any size: A quilt that reflects imagery or ideas and is not made from a pattern, kit, or class instructions.
- 2015 Foundation Paper Pieced Quilt, any size: A quilt constructed by the use of paper foundation. Examples: Jenny Beyer, Quiltworks, Violet Craft, and others
- 2019 Other Type Quilt, not listed, any size: Could include but not limited to Stenciled, YoYo, Crazy, Cathedral Window, Biscuit, Whole Cloth, or tied.

## Large Quilts

Quilts 300 inches or more around.

- 2022 LQ, any technique, HQ
- 2024 LQ pieced, up to 10 fabrics, MQ
- 2025 LQ pieced, 11-24 fabrics, MQ
- 2026 LQ pieced, over 24 fabrics, MQ
- 2027 LQ appliqued or mixed techniques, MQ
- 2028 LQ made from a Kit/BOM, (fabrics/patterns specified and/or sold as a package)

## **Small Quilts**

Quilts 299 inches or less around.

- 2041 SQ any technique, HQ
- 2042 SQ pieced, up to 10 fabrics, MQ
- 2043 SQ pieced, 11-24 fabrics, MQ
- 2044 SQ pieced, over 24 fabrics. MQ
- 2045 SQ appliqued or mixed technique, MQ
- 2050 SQ made from a Kit/BOM (refers to fabrics and patterns specified and/or sold as a package)

## **Wall Quilts**

Quilts not intended for a bed.

- 2060 WQ miniature, HQ or MQ: maximum size 24"x24" with overall pattern reflecting reduced scale and miniaturization. Blocks, if used, should be no larger than 4"x4". Miniature whole cloth quilts should be entered in this category.
- 2064 WQ pieced, up to 160" around, MQ
- 2065 WQ pieced, over 160" around, MQ
- 2068 WQ appliqued or mixed techniques, up to 160" around, MQ
- 2069 WQ appliqued or mixed techniques, over 160" around, MQ
- 2070 WQ made from a Kit/BOM (refers to fabrics and patterns specified and/or sold as a package)

## **Junior and Senior Youth**

These classes are specifically for youth. Birth date must be included when entering these classes. Note that youth may enter an item either in their respective age-restricted class or any non-age restricted class, but the same item cannot be entered both places.

**Junior Youth:** Up to 12 years of age by January 1<sup>st</sup>

- 2080 LQ, SQ, or WQ any technique, quilted or tied

**Senior Youth:** 13 to 18 years of age by January 1<sup>st</sup>

- 2085 LQ, SQ, or WQ any technique, quilted or tied

## **Senior Adults**

These classes are for persons who are 65 years of age or older as of January 1<sup>st</sup>. Birth date must be included when entering. Note that senior adults may enter an item either in their respective age-restricted class or any non-age restricted class, but the same item cannot be entered both places.

- 2090 LQ, SQ, or WQ any technique, HQ
- 2091 LQ pieced, MQ
- 2092 LQ appliqued or mixed technique, MQ
- 2093 SQ pieced, MQ
- 2094 SQ appliqued or mixed technique, MQ
- 2095 WQ pieced, any size, MQ
- 2097 WQ applique or mixed technique, any size, MQ
- 2098 LQ, SQ, WQ made from a Kit/BOM (fabrics/patterns specified and/or sold as a package)

# Divisions 5330 Multi-Person Quilts by Two People

These are classes for quilts made by more than one person and include both quilts where there is no payment in exchange for the quilting step (non-commercially quilted) and quilts where the second person is paid to perform the quilting step (commercially quilted). The primary person or persons making the quilt must be Nebraska residents. In division 5330, only quilts in class 3070 (group quilts made by non-quilters) have the option to be secured with knots or ties rather than quilted.

Entry description format: the entry description is for identification purposes only. Limit the number of letters in the description to not more than 40.

- Provide the following information in this order using abbreviated format as shown in example:
  - Quilt dimensions to the closest whole inch – omitting inch abbreviation and spaces
  - Major quilt colors – abbreviate
  - An identifying quilt design feature

Example: “75x95 blu/gr/cm log cabin” would be suitable for an entry in Division 5330 Class 3021 which is 75”x95” with log cabin blocks made from various blue, green, and cream fabrics.

## **Two-Person Youth Quilts – NCQ (non-commercially quilted) or CQ (commercially quilted)**

These classes are specifically for youth. Age is of January 1<sup>st</sup>. Birth date must be included when entering. Youth must make the top. The quilting is done by a second person (either for pay or not). Note that youth may enter an item either in their respective age-restricted class or any non-age restricted class, but the same item cannot be entered both places.

Entry Instructions: Enter the name and address of the youth who made the top as the primary exhibitor and the other person as the second quilt person. The primary exhibitor must be a Nebraska resident. The second person may, but does not have to be a Nebraska resident. See beginning of Division 5330- Multi-Person Quilts for entry description format to use.

Requirement: the binding for Junior Youth and Senior Youth is to be done by the Youth.

- 3005 Junior Youth 2-Person Quilt, any size, top and binding is done by Junior Youth (up to 12 years of age as of January 1<sup>st</sup>.)
- 3006 Senior Youth 2-Person Quilt, any size, top and binding is done by Senior Youth (13-18 years of age as of January 1<sup>st</sup>.)

## **Two-Person Senior Quilts - NCQ (non-commercially quilted) or CQ (commercially quilted)**

These classes are for persons who are 65 years of age or older as of January 1<sup>st</sup>. Birth date must be included when entering. The quilting is done by a second person (either for pay or not). Note that senior adults may enter an item either in their respective age-restricted class or any non-age restricted class, but the same item cannot be entered both places.

- 3091 Senior Quilts LQ any technique, MQ
- 3092 Senior Quilts SQ any technique, MQ
- 3093 Senior Quilts WQ any technique, MQ
- 3094 Senior Quilts LQ, SQ, WQ KIT/BOM, MQ

## **Two-Person Quilts – NCQ (non-commercially quilted)**

These classes are for quilts made by only two people although the work does not have to be divided equally between the two individuals. Nor does one person have to do the top and the other the quilting. If any part, no matter how small, was done by a second person the quilt qualifies as a two-person NCQ as long as there is no exchange of money for work done.

Entry Instructions: Enter the name and address of the person who made the majority of the top as the primary exhibitor and the other person as the second quilt person. The primary exhibitor must be a Nebraska resident. The second person

may but does not have to be a Nebraska resident. See beginning of Division 5330 Multi-Person Quilts for entry description format to use.

Requirement: Identify both makers on a label attached to the back lower left quilt corner.

3010 LQ, SQ, or WQ NCQ

### **Two-Person Quilts – CQ (commercially quilted)**

A quilt where one person constructs the top and a second person (the commercial quilter) quilts the three layers together for pay. Note that when the quilting is done for pay by a group of quilters, the entry must be entered as a multi-person group quilt, commercially quilted (Division 5330, Class 3095 or 3096).

Entry Instructions: Enter the name of the person who made the top as the primary exhibitor and the commercial quilter as the second quilt person. The primary exhibitor must be a Nebraska resident; the commercial quilter does not. See beginning of Division 5330 Multi-Person Quilts for entry description format to use.

Requirement: Identify both the maker of the top and the quilter on a label attached to the back lower left quilt corner.

**Special Types of Quilts, any size, NCQ or CQ** -Top made by one person, quilted by another either for pay or not for pay.

- 3015 Logo-Item Quilt, any size, NCQ or CQ: Featuring a collection of items such as t-shirts, golf towels, hats, etc. that contain logos and/or are commemorative events.
- 3016 Reclaimed Material Quilt, any size, NCQ or CQ: Contains salvaged material from clothing (excluding logo items) and/or other sources (i.e., dresser scarves, table linens, etc.) previously used for some purpose other than a quilt. Requirement: 3"x5" card attached near the label explaining in 15 words or less the source of the recycled material.
- 3017 Fragment Quilt, any size, NCQ or CQ: A quilt using a combination of new and salvaged vintage fabric or unfinished quilt fragments from a previous maker (known or unknown) completed by the exhibitor prior to being commercial or non-commercially quilted. Requirement: 3"x5" card near the label indicating in 15 words or less the source and history of the quilt fragments and salvaged material. **Quilts made from selvage edges to be entered in this class.**
- 3018 Special Occasion, any size, NCQ or CQ: A quilt that clearly depicts a holiday or special occasion. The quilt design may be based on a pattern, Kit, or BOM. Requirement: 3"x5" card with 1-3 words indicating the special occasion.
- 3019 Panel Quilt, any size, NCQ or CQ: A quilt made with a single or multiple preprinted panel(s). Panel is an integral part of the quilt.
- 3020 Foundation Paper Pieced Quilt, any size: A quilt constructed by the use of a paper foundation. Examples: Jenny Beyer, Quiltworks, Violet Craft, and others.

**Large Quilts, CQ** – Top made by one person, quilted by a commercial quilter. 300 inches or more around.

- 3021 LQ pieced, up to 10 fabrics, CQ
- 3022 LQ pieced, 11-24 pieces, CQ
- 3023 LQ pieced, over 24 fabrics, CQ
- 3025 LQ applique or mixed techniques, CQ
- 3028 LQ made from a Kit/BOM, CQ

**Small Quilts, CQ** – 299 inches or less around. Top made by one person, quilted by a commercial quilter.

- 3041 SQ pieced, up to 10 fabrics, CQ
- 3042 SQ pieced, 11-24 fabrics, CQ
- 3043 SQ pieced, over 24 fabrics, CQ
- 3044 SQ applique or mixed techniques, CQ
- 3045 SQ made from a Kit/BOM (fabrics/patterns specified and/or sold as a package), CQ

**Wall Quilts, CQ** – Top made by one person, quilted by a commercial quilter.

- 3051 WQ pieced, up to 200" around, CQ
- 3052 WQ pieced, over 200" around, CQ
- 3053 WQ appliqued or mixed techniques (combination of two or more construction techniques as major design components, i.e., piecing and applique), CQ
- 3054 WQ made from a Kit/BOM (fabrics and patterns specified and/or sold as a package), CQ

## **Divisions 5330 Multi-Person Quilts by Groups**

These are classes for quilts where three or more people are involved in making the quilt. One or more people may make the top. One person or a group of people may do the quilting. It also includes both quilts where there is no payment exchanged for the quilting step (non-commercially quilted) and quilts where one or more people are paid for the quilting step (commercially quilted). **The primary maker or makers must be Nebraska resident(s), but the machine quilting may be done by a non-Nebraska resident.**

Entry Instructions for Group Quilts: Group quilts must be entered using a group name as the exhibitor – not under the name of an individual exhibitor. Start a completely new data entry form. Choose a name for your group if you don't already have an established group name. You also need to have a contact person for the entry (typically the person responsible for submitting the entry). The contact person's address and phone number are used for the address and phone number of the group. Premiums will be paid to the group name.

Complete the online entry (or mail-in entry form) for the Group Exhibit using the following information:

- Initiate a new exhibitor using your group name as the exhibitor's name as follows:
  - First name: Use the word "Group" (this is a required field so can't be left blank)
  - Last name: name you have selected for your group (can be multiple words with spaced between)
- Address: contact person's address
- Phone: contact person's phone number
- E-mail: contact person's email address

The proceed to the entry step:

- Select: Quilt Department, Division 5330 Group Quilts, Class (select from drop-down menu)
- Entry Description: refer to the beginning of division 5330 – Multi-Person Quilts for entry description format
- Quilter's Name: Person or group that did the quilting; include CQ (commercial quilter) or NCQ (non-commercially quilted)
- Contact Person: Person responsible for submitting the entry

### **Group Quilts by Non-Quilters – tied or NCQ (non-commercially quilted)**

This class is for quilts made by school, community, or family groups of three or more people, the majority of whom do not typically make quilts. Entries may be either tied or quilted but there is no exchange of money for work done (most be non-commercially quilted).

Requirement: Either on the label or an attached 3"x5" card next to the label, list the group name, the contact person, and the person or persons doing the quilting.

- 3070 Non-Quilter Quilt any size, tied or NCQ

### **Group Quilts, NCQ (non-commercially quilted)**

These classes are for quilts made by three or more people who typically make quilts and where there is no exchange of money for work done (non-commercially quilted).

Requirement: Either on the label or an attached 3"x5" card next to the label, list the group name, the contact person, and the person or persons doing the quilting.

- 3080 Group Quilts, up to 300" around, NCQ

3081 Group Quilts, over 300" around, NCQ

### **Group Quilts, CQ (commercially quilted)**

This class is for quilts made by a group of three or more people where there is a money exchange for the quilting step (commercially quilted). One or more persons may do the quilting.

Requirement: Either on the label or an attached 3"x5" card next to the label, list the group name, the contact person, and the person or persons doing the quilting.

3095 Group Quilt, any size, CQ

### **Group Quilts, HQ (hand quilted), NCQ (non-commercially quilted), or CQ (commercially quilted)**

This class is for quilts made by a group of 3 or more people, that has been hand quilted, that money may or may not have been exchanged for the quilting.

Requirement: Either on the label or an attached 3"x5" card next to the label, list the group name, the contact person, and the person or persons doing the quilting.

3097 Group Quilt, any size

## **Divisions 5390 Special Quilt Contests**

Division 5390 contains the classes known as Special Quilt Contests.

- The requirements for each special contest vary from contest to contest.
- A quilt must be entered in a "competition class" to compete in special contests.
- The exhibitor may enter multiple (up to three) quilts in the same special contest as well as the same quilt in multiple (up to three) special contests.
- Only 1<sup>st</sup> place is awarded in this division.

Entry description format: The entry description is for identification purposes only. The total entry description must not exceed 40 characters (letters and spaces). This requires use of an abbreviated format. Use the following format and list in the following order:

- Original competition class, list as oc=xxxx for original class number
- Quilt dimensions, list to the closest whole inch
- Predominant colors
- Identifying feature (i.e., block)
- Example: "oc=2025;75x95 blu/gr/cm log cabin" would be a suitable description for a quilt that is 75"X95" with log cabin blocks made from multiple blue, green, and cream fabrics.

9401 **Young Adult Quilter:** Open to Division 5320 and 5330 entries of any size that are made by someone whose age is between 19 and 40 as of January 1<sup>st</sup>. Birth date must be included when entering. Include the original competition class number in the description.

9402 **The Diamond Award:** Open to division 5320 and Senior Adult Classes 2090-2098 (bed, throw, and wall quilts) entries made by a quiltmaker age 75 or older as of January 1<sup>st</sup>. Birth date must be included when entering. Include the original competition class number in the description.

9415 **Machine Quilting: Stationary Machine:** Open to division 5320 entries of any size where the quiltmaker moves the quilt by hand under a sewing machine to do the quilting. The machine itself remains stationary during the quilting process. Not using a digital program. Include the original competition class number in the description.

9416 **Machine Quilting: Track Mounted Machine:** Open to division 5320 entries of any size where the machine is moved by hand over the surface of the quilt to do the quilting and not using a digital program. The machine itself is moving on a track during the process while the fabric remains stationary. Include the original competition class number in the description.

- 9417 **Quilting the Modern:** Open to division 5320 entries of any size that is both a modern quilt with modern-style quilting. The quilting can be done either using a stationary machine or a track-mounted machine. Include the original competition class number in the description.
- 9420 **Hand Quilting – Small Quilt:** Open to division 5320 entries entirely quilted by hand where the distance around the outside of the quilt is 299 inches or less. Must contain no machine quilting. Include the original competition class number in the description.
- 9421 **Hand Quilting – Large Quilt:** Open to division 5320 entries entirely quilted by hand where the distance around the outside of the quilt is 300 inches or more. Must contain no machine quilting. Include the original competition class number in the description.
- 9422 **Hand Appliqued:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 entries of any size that primarily feature hand applique. Include the original competition class number in the description.
- 9423 **Hand Pieced:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 entries of any size with quilt top being pieced by hand. This would include English Paper Piecing. Include the original competition class number in the description.
- 9425 **Machine Embroidery:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 entries of any size where the embroidery is done by machine. Include the original competition class number in the description. Requirement: 3"x5" card attached near the label providing the design source, any editing of design, stabilizers, kind of thread used.
- 9426 **Hand Embroidery:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 entries of any size where the embroidery is done by hand. Include the original competition class number in the description.
- 9428 **America 250 Patriotic Quilt:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 throw or bed size entries that features a patriotic theme and are predominantly red, white, and blue. Include the original competition class number in the description.
- 9430 **Polka Dot Quilt:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 entries of any size or technique. Quilt top should be predominately constructed with polka dot fabric. Include the original class number in the description.
- 9432 **Flying Geese:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 entries of any size that contain at least 12 or more flying geese blocks. Include the original competition class number in the description.
- 9433 **Geometric:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 entries of any size that feature geometric shapes. Include the original competition class number in the description. Block pieces must include more than 4 sides. Examples: pentagon, hexagon, and octagon.
- 9434 **Star up to 300 inches around:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 quilt with a visible star design on the front of the quilt up to 300 inches around. Star or stars are an integral part of the quilt top design. Include the original class number in the description.
- 9435 **Star over 300 inches around:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 quilt with a visible star design on the front of the quilt over 300 inches around. Star or stars are an integral part of the quilt top design. Include the original class number in the description.
- 9436 **Basket Quilt:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 entries of any size or technique that have at least one basket in the quilt design. Include the original class number in the description.
- 9437 **Flora Quilt:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 entries of any size that features some form of plant life of any size constructed by one or more quilting techniques (i.e., pieced, appliqued, embroidered, quilted, or other methods). Include the original competition class number in the description. Plant life must be constructed, not simply printed fabric.
- 9438 **Fauna Quilt:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 entries of any size that features some form of animal life of any size using one or more quilting techniques (i.e., pieced, appliqued, embroidered, quilted, or other methods). Include the original competition class number in the description. Animal life must be constructed, not simply printed fabric.

- 9439 **Architectural Quilt:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 of any size or technique. Quilts featuring cities, skyscrapers, small houses, bridges, and/or towns. Include the original class number in the description.
- 9446 **Curvaceous:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 entries of any size and technique having curves. The majority of blocks must have curved edges. Examples would be pieced, applique both raw edge and turned. Curves are a part of the construction not printed fabric or quilted pattern. Include the original class number in the description.
- 9454 **Modern Quilt:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 entries of any size that are of a modern quilt style. Include the original competition class number in the description. Modern quilts designs are typically asymmetrical and simplistic using high contrast bold colors and prints. They often utilize improvisational piecing, expansive negative space, non-traditional block settings and alternate grid work. They are more commonly functional than decorative quilts but may be either.
- 9455 **Color of the Year:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 of any size or technique. 2026 is green (from yellow-green, green, to blue-green). It can be a tint, shade, or value of those greens. A neutral may be combined to complete the quilt. Neutrals are white, grey, black, beige, or brown. 2027-Red, 2028-Purple, 2029-Orange, 2030-Blue, and 2031-Yellow. Include the original class number in the description.
- 9456 **Husker Pride:** Open to division 5320 and 5330 of any size or technique. May be from a kit. Quilt depicting Husker pride using red, black, and white fabrics or printed Husker logos. Include the original class number in the description.

## Divisions 5391 Best in County Contest

Division 5391 contains only one class “The Best in County Contest”. This is a competition between the entries of quilts that took top honor at the various Nebraska county fairs. Note that this is also the only class in the Quilt Department in which the quilt entered must have competed in a county fair prior to the Nebraska State Fair.

### To qualify for the “Best in County” contest:

1. The entry must be the quilt receiving the top award at the local county fair, plus the quiltmaker must be a resident of the county submitting the entry.
2. The quilt must be entered in one of the Division 5320 or 5330 Competition Classes in the 2026 Nebraska State Fair Quilt Department and must comply with all the Nebraska State Fair Quilt Department rules including completion within the last 3 years. Also, quilted items such as table runners, placemats, quilted garments, 3-D items, and quilted items requiring special handling are in the Textile Arts Department rather than the Quilt Department.

### How the contest works:

The nationally certified quilt judge initially judges all entries in the regular division 5320 and 5330 classes. That includes quilts that also qualify to compete in the Best in County Contest. After judging is completed for divisions 5320 and 5330, the quilts entered in the Best in County Contest are assembled together and the certified judge then selects the top five quilts in this contest.

All quilts entered in the Best in County Contest are hung for exhibition in Quilt Hall with other quilts of similar size. However, all Best in County entries are noted with (1) signage acknowledging them as the top county winner in their respective county fair and (2) with a distinctive Best in County ribbon. Those receiving 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> place in the contest also receive a special rosette in addition to the designated cash award. Premiums are listed on page 3 of this entry book.

### To enter the “Best in County” Contest:

1. Enter quilt in division 5320 or 5330 competition class either online or by mailing entry from by August 5<sup>th</sup>.
2. Enter quilt in division 5391.
3. Complete the division 5391 – [Best in County Verification Form](#), which is found online or by contacting the Nebraska State Fair office (308-382-1620). This requires the signature of your county fair official. A copy of this verification form should be mailed to Terri Uden, Nebraska State Fair Quilts, 48 North Shore Dr8, Johnson Lake

NE 68937 by August 11<sup>th</sup>. If the form will not reach Terri by August 11<sup>th</sup>, email the form to [terriud@atcjet.net](mailto:terriud@atcjet.net) or call Terri with the information at 308-325-3017.

4. Attach a copy of the verification form to the quilt prior to delivering the exhibit to the fair.

If there is a delay in obtaining the verification form from your county official making this impossible, contact Terri Uden, Nebraska State Fair Quilt Superintendent, phone 308-325-3017 or email [terriud@actjet.net](mailto:terriud@actjet.net).

Note that the quilt must be entered in either a division 5320 or 5330 class in the Nebraska State Fair Quilt Department by entry deadline of August 11<sup>th</sup>, and can be entered online, but the Best in County verification form does not need to be in place and on the quilt until the receiving deadline, which is August 20<sup>th</sup>, 3pm.

In the event that your county fair is held during or after the Nebraska State Fair or if the quilt entry was not entered in the Nebraska State Fair Quilt Department prior to the entry deadline of August 11<sup>th</sup>, the county winner will be eligible for recognition in the Best of County Quilt Division 5391 the following year provided the entry still meets the requirement of completion within the last three years. Also, for joint county fairs, each county may have one entry in the Best in County Division 5391.

**Delivery of Exhibit:** Deadline is 3pm Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, to the Quilt Hall in the Pinnacle Bank Expo Center. Note that the receiving date is the same as all other quilt entries. However, the extension staff can pick up the exhibit at the end of the fair.

Exhibit may be delivered by:

- The exhibitor/another person during Quilt receiving times Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 3-8pm and Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 8am-3pm
- Sending by mail or a deliver service with arrival no later than 3pm on Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup>. See [Shipping Options](#).

**Return of Exhibit:** Early release is prohibited. Exhibits may be picked up Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 6-8pm or Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 8am-noon by exhibitor, another person, or extension staff. Also, see [shipping options](#) for other options for return.

Exhibits not picked up during above designated times or with no prepaid label for return shipment must be picked up from the Nebraska State Fair office by end of business day Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026. After that they are donated to charity.

# Drop-Off and Pick-Up Sites

## For Non-Perishable Exhibits

Please package each department's exhibits separately. For example, if you are entering both textile arts and photography, which belong to different departments, package them separately. Ensure a copy of your entry form is taped to the top of each package.

**Important:** We will not accept exhibits that are not properly packaged. We will make an effort to return your exhibits in the same packaging used for drop-off. To make transportation easier and safer, we recommend packaging your exhibits in a box.

## Drop-Off and Pick-Up Locations:

This year, exhibits can be dropped off and picked up at the following locations during the Extension Office's business hours:

### Drop-Off Dates:

- Thursday, August 13th and Friday, August 14th, 2026

### Pick-Up Dates:

- Monday, September 14th and Tuesday, September 15th, 2026
  - Must be picked up no later than September 15th.

### Location Hours:

- **Lincoln/Logan/McPherson County Extension Office:**  
348 West State Farm Rd, North Platte, NE 69101  
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- **Douglas/Sarpy County Extension Office:**  
8015 West Center Rd, Omaha, NE 68124  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
- **Seward County Extension Office:**  
322 S. 14th St, Seward, NE 68434  
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

**Reminder:** Please bring a copy of your entry form(s) when dropping off your exhibits.