

QUILTING: A MARYLAND HERITAGE



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Girl Scout's Quilt Primer is a recommended resource for fulfilling some of the activities suggested.

Quilting: A Maryland Heritage – Patch Activities

Daisies complete = 3 activities

Brownies complete = 4 activities

Juniors complete = 6 activities

Cadettes & Seniors = 8 activities

Section 1

Quilting

1. What do the words Quilt and Quilting mean to you?
2. What types of quilts are there? Be able to identify many types of bed quilts such as *Appliqué, Patchwork, Broidery Perse, Stuffed Work, Calimanco/Linsey-wollsey and more*. Research more in books and on the internet for more quilts. Make a scrapbook, a picture poster or a power point presentation to illustrate. Or tell your troop leader about them.
3. What Types of Patchwork Blocks are there? Be able to recognize the basic and the most used patchwork blocks in Maryland Quilts such as “Four Chains”, “Wedding Ring”, “Grandmother’s Flower Garden” and “Valuable Star”. Make a scrapbook, picture poster, or a power point presentation or tell your leader about it.
4. Consider Color: Look at a color wheel and think of color arrangements that can be used in quilts. Consider color schemes such as complimentary colors, adjacent colors, monochromatic colors, the use of a unifying color effect of a print or stripe of several colors. Choose one of the patchwork block patterns and, using colored paper, work the design in several color schemes to see the different effects you can achieve.
5. Visit a Quilt or Quilt Supply Shop: Quilt Specialty Shops are a wonderful source of information about quilts, quilters and quilt supplies. **Touch the fabrics!!!!** Stand back and get the full color effect of a print that appeals to you. Look at the difference between the selvedge and the cut or torn edges. Compare the widths of various fabrics. Read the labels for fiber content, cleaning instructions and the price. Compare chinz, calico and muslin or broadcloth. **ASK QUESTIONS!!!!!!!!** Don’t leave until you have looked at all of the equipment for quilters. Be very certain to look at the size and the types of needles used for actual quilting. Make a price list of essential items and another list for future needs. Refer to your supply list and make a price list of immediately essential items and another list for future needs. Using your pattern find fabric that you could use in your block.
6. Make a Quilt “Roll-Up”: Because you need a few different things for quilting than you do for sewing, generally, it’s nice to have the essential items in a handy “roll-up” or sewing basket before you begin a project. Read the list of essential equipment in the *Attached Quilt Primer for Girl Scouts*. If you want to make the “roll-up” the directions are in the *Quilt Primer for Girl Scouts*. The “roll-up” uses simple strip quilting techniques and can be made from scraps. Be sure to include all necessary equipment in your “roll-up” or sewing basket.
8. Visit a quilt show: Be sure you have a program in hand before you begin to look at the quilts. Note the categories into which the quilts are divided. Pay special attention to those made by beginners, those that are old, and those that you immediately like. Look at the quilts close up and stand back to get a different view. Pay close attention to quilting

motifs, quality of needlework and use of color. Are you able to recognize some blocks or styles by name?

9. Make a block of your choice: Make the block into a small project – a tote bag, wall hanging, pillow or a small picture. This should either be a patchwork or appliqué block, although English piecing is okay. Be sure to quilt it before making it into the final project.

10. Hand quilting: Learn how to hand quilt and hand piece. You can look at a local quilt shop and see if they have classes for you to learn how to hand quilt and/or piece.

Section 2 Maryland

11. Visit a Museum Quilt Collection: Go to a museum to see a display of quilts. The Smithsonian, D.A.R Museum, Baltimore Museum of Art, Maryland Historical Society and historical houses or local museums are good.

12. Visit the library: Most libraries have a number of books on the various aspects of quilting. You want to look under Textiles (fabrics) and Art Needlework as well as Crafts.

13. Professional Quilters: Talk to women who receive income from some aspect of quilting. They might own shops, some actually sell their quilts and some teach quilting. Google some famous Maryland quilters.

14. Baltimore Album block: Find out about the Baltimore Album style of quilt. Research it online and in books. Then either make a Baltimore Album block or make a display of the history of the Baltimore Album style. Tell what it looks like, what years they were made and where it might have been used.

15. Barbra Fritchie Block: This is another block made in Maryland. Tell when it was made (if you can), what it looks like and look Mrs. Fritchie up on line.

16. MD quilters: Learn about 3 *different* Maryland quilters. You may Google them or look them up in books. Then Explain to your troop leader or a younger group of girls.

Section 3 Heritage

17. Share your quilting stories: Make a narrative of that you have heard or pretend you are a quilter of some past time. Present the story in the form of a monologue or play, puppet show, diorama or an illustrated TV show in a box. Share this with a group of small children or Senior Citizens group.

18. Have a quilt hunt: Search your house for as many quilted items as you can find Bring them all together and see how each one is different and special in it's own way. Also find out how old each one is and if your Mom or Dad knows, who quilted it. Don't forget that clothing could be quilted.

19. Story quilts: Learn about African-American quilts and story quilts and learn how they were used.

20. What's in a name?: Names are useful in identifying a quilt and fascinating to learn about. Learn the names of five traditional quilt designs as well as how they probably got their names. If a block commonly has more than one name, know that too. Make a poster showing pictures, drawings, or colored paper collages with appropriate name or names.

Section 4

Girl Scouts

21. Keep a Girl Scout's Quilt Notebook: A good beginning would be to make a copy of "The Girl Scout's Quilt Primer" that you may borrow from your leader or the Girl Scout Council Center. Put it into a loose-leaf notebook with proper labeling. Add to it your own notes and records of your quilt activities. Collect the Girl Scout patterns and any others you see in magazines. Collect pictures of quilts and label them with their design names. Add any articles or copies of articles about history and care of quilts. Make and keep a collection of basic quilt templates.

22. Troop Money-Earning Quilt: Make a quilt or wall hanging as a group project and auction it to raise funds for a troop activity. You can also do a group quilt to use as a troop banner.

23. Troop Quilts: Make a quilt out of a simple quilt pattern with your Girl Scout Troop and give it to a homeless shelter or a hospital.