

“Batting Batting” or “Quadrant Quilting” ---- or “How to quilt a large quilt on a small sewing machine”

Quilts are best sewn from the center out on domestic machines. That way you can steadily spread out parts that aren't perfectly flat.

You do not need to have the entire quilt sandwich prepared. You can quilt in “Quadrants”.

Step 4) Add batting (and or backing) here next; then quilt	Step 2) Add batting (and or backing) here next ; then quilt	Step 5) Add batting (and or backing) here next; then quilt
	Step 1) Center – have batting & backing here; Quilt, with the remainder of the top (and backing) pinned out of the way	
	Step 3) Add batting (and or backing) here next; then quilt	

HOW you add the batting (and/or backing) is what makes this doable.

It helps if you have a fairly long table to work on periodically

When quilting the center, and then later parts, make sure you have left at least one-two inches of batting (and backing) extending beyond the center (or next area to join). This gives you access space for splicing on the next piece of batting (or sewing on the next piece of backing).

Joining/splicing the batting

There are several ways:

1. Using batting tape, and ironing one piece of batting to the other; it helps if you pin the batting down to the ironing board to anchor it as you go, as otherwise the weight of the batting and backing will pull it out from under the bating tape.
2. Sewing long narrow strips of “junk”* fabric to each side of the join/slice (about 1-1/2 inches is good). Pin a lot, because batting stretches as you sew it. Another trick is to cut both sides in a curvy motion to help keep the pieces

aligned, then sew those together. Using registration marks can also be helpful. Make sure your bobbin thread does not contrast with your backing, and likewise your top thread.

3. Sewing the added batting down to the backing; make sure your bobbin thread matches your backing, and your top thread does not contrast with your top.

* "Junk" fabric -- I normally use pieces of 100% cotton from sheets that were on sale or gotten from a thrift store. But you could use anything you like that doesn't show through, and is very thin.

Quilting over the joins/ splices

Because the joins/splices are more fragile, it helps to quilt a lot back and forth (in a pleasing manner) over the spliced batting, to help anchor over the life of the quilt.

Sheet sizing versus yardage		sq inches in a yard (approx)		1296	
	Fitted Bottom (assumed side-drop of 8")	SQ YARD	Flat Top	SQ YARD	Yardage SET FITTED + FLAT + *1 PILLOW-CASE
TWIN	39 x 75	3.7	66 x 96	4.3	8.6
FULL	54 x 75	4.7	81 x 96	4.6	9.9
QUEEN	60 x 80	5.4	90 x 102	5.7	11.7
KING	76 x 80	6.6	108 x 102	7.9	15.1
STANDARD PILLOW-CASE	20 x 26	0.6			

*King sets may have two pillowcases

Yardage Cost Examples						
	if sheet set cost is "\$\$"	then price per yard is:	if sheet set cost is "\$\$"	then price per yard is:	if sheet set cost is "\$\$"	then price per yard is:
TWIN	\$9.00	\$1.05	\$11.00	\$1.28	\$15.00	\$1.75
FULL	\$11.00	\$1.11	\$13.00	\$1.31	\$17.00	\$1.72
QUEEN	\$13.00	\$1.11	\$15.00	\$1.28	\$20.00	\$1.70
KING	\$15.00	\$0.99	\$17.00	\$1.13	\$25.00	\$1.65

	if sheet set cost is "\$\$"	then price per yard is:	if sheet set cost is "\$\$"	then price per yard is:
TWIN	\$18.00	\$2.10	\$22.00	\$2.56
FULL	\$22.00	\$2.22	\$25.00	\$2.52
QUEEN	\$25.00	\$2.13	\$30.00	\$2.55
KING	\$35.00	\$2.32	\$50.00	\$3.31