

A Quilter Letter of Instruction - Stars With the List of Questions

How detailed you want to be is completely up to you. Just know that if you don't provide any kind of guidance for your loved ones - it will make the process more difficult for them to carry out. You may feel that - "When I'm gone, they can do whatever they want with it" - that's perfect if that's what you want. On the other hand, you may feel strongly about where some items go and what you want to be done with the rest of your quilty treasures - also perfect. There are no right or wrong answers to these questions - only your preferences.

Getting Started

I think it's important to break the process down into bite-sized chunks. Let's take a look at those questions.

- Do you want to designate one (or more) person to carry out your instructions?
- Do you have specific items you would like someone specific to have?
- Do you prefer that your items be sold or donated or a combination of the two?
- Machines and Tools: Do you have specific machines or tools that you want to leave to a
 particular person? List them by item and person(s) name(s).
- Finished Projects and Quilts: Do you have quilts or other finished projects that you want someone to have? List them by item and person(s) name(s).
- Unfinished Projects: Do you have a preference for what should happen with your unfinished projects? Make note of what you would like to happen to your unfinished projects (gift, donate, etc.).
- Fabric Collection: Do you want any part of your collection to be given to someone in particularlist them and describe what you want them to have. Make note of where you want the remaining fabric collection to go.

- Patterns and Books: Do you want any of these items to go to specific people? If so, make a list of those items and to whom you want them to go.
- Thread and other Notions: Do you have a large collection of threads and notions?
- Craft Items: Describe what those items are, where they are located, and what you would like your family to do with them.
- Everything else: Provide specific instructions for rehoming any remaining items. This could
 include donating them, selling them, or giving them away to another quilter or crafter.
- Donations: Do you want anything to be donated to a specific organization? If so, what do you
 want to donate and what organization would be receiving the donation?
- Online Quilt Groups: If you belong to any online quilting communities, list them and how you
 want those groups to be notified.
- Quilt Guilds or small quilt groups: List them and how you want those groups to be notified.
- One final question to consider Do you have strong feelings about anything that you <u>don't</u> want to have happen with your quilting and crafting collection? If you do - be sure to spell it out in your letter.

Now that you know the answers to your questions - it's time to create your Letter of Instruction. The link below will take you to a sample letter that you can use as a guide to create your own letter.

A Quilter Letter of Instruction - Sample Letter

A Quilter's Final Instructions

Dear Beloved Family,

As I cherish my time spent in the world of quilting, I want to ensure that my quilting treasures and projects are handled with care and respect after I am no longer here. These pieces hold special memories and a piece of my heart, and I hope that my creative legacy can bring you comfort and joy in the days and years ahead.

To assist you in managing my quilting legacy, I've prepared this letter with some guidance:

Inventory and Organization: Please take note of the tools, notions, patterns, and fabrics that are most essential to my quilting. My sewing space and storage areas are organized to facilitate creativity, so I hope that as you go through my things - you will keep things as organized as possible.

Disposition of Projects: Some quilts are intended as gifts for specific individuals; I have listed their names and the quilts accordingly. If there are unfinished projects, consider whether to complete them or pass them along to fellow quilters who share my passion. If you are unsure please contact [Name of quilting friend and contact info] for guidance.

Sewing Machines: I have the following sewing machines - [List]. These machines should be [Describe what you want to have happen with each machine].

Fabric, notions, thread: I would like for these people [Name(s] to go through my fabric collection and select any items that they would enjoy using. All remaining fabrics, notions, and thread should be donated to [Name of Organization]

Documentation: You might find notes, sketches, or instructions for ongoing or future projects. Please keep these notes with the materials for the project they go with. Notes for any future project I haven't explored can be [describe here].

Local Quilting Community: I am part of any quilting groups [Name of group - and how to contact] and/or guilds [Name of Guild and how to contact them], please notify them of my passing and express my gratitude for their companionship.

Legacy Projects: Should you feel inspired, completing any unfinished projects in my honor would warm my heart. Consider showcasing my work at quilting events or contests, allowing my passion to live on.

Digital Presence: If I have an online quilting presence, kindly manage those accounts in a way that aligns with my values and wishes.

Donations and Disposal: Any quilting supplies, books, or tools can find new homes among those who share my enthusiasm. If there's anything unsuitable for donation, dispose of it responsibly.

Personal Messages: I may have messages or letters for my quilting friends and family, expressing my gratitude and love. [Describe where these messages can be found]. Please ensure these are delivered.

Preservation of Memory: As time goes on, consider ways to celebrate and honor my quilting legacy. It might be through exhibitions, donations, or even teaching others the art that has been such an important part of my life. Even more importantly - please share your stories about my quilting legacy with future generations of our family.

Thank you for being a part of my life and embracing my passion for quilting. Your support has meant the world to me. May my quilts continue to bring warmth and happiness to your lives.

With love and gratitude,

[Your Name]