



# Win the BATTING BATTLE

Once the top is finished, many quilters wrestle with the same question: **Which batting to use?** Batting choice makes a difference in how a finished quilt project looks, feels and behaves over time. Follow the information below for a general guide, but also experiment with different types to discover what you like best. Batting preference has as much to do with personal taste as quilting itself!

| Batting Type  | Fiber Content               | Quilting Interval | Advantages for using this type batting  |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Soy Blend   | 50% soy<br>50% cotton       | 8" to 10"         | Very soft and drapable.<br>Use in bed quilts and lap quilts where soft quality is preferred.  |
| Bamboo Blend  | 50% bamboo<br>50% cotton    | 8" to 10"         | Antibacterial.<br>Environmentally friendly.<br>Breathable and cool.   |
| Wool<br>(usually resin bonded)                              | 100% wool                   | 4"                | Easy to needle for hand quilters.<br>Shows off dimension in quilting.<br>Recovers best from being compressed or folded.<br>Great insulation value but still breathable.<br>Naturally flame resistant for infant quilts. |
| White Cotton<br>(Bleached)<br><br>Needle punched with scrim | 100% cotton                 | 10"               | Recommended for quilts that have lots of white background fabric.<br>Very strong for machine quilting when needle punched with scrim.<br>Can be heavily laundered.<br>Recommended for beginners.                        |
| Natural Cotton<br>(Unbleached)<br>Needle punched with scrim | 100% cotton                 | 10"               | No bearding – very breathable.<br>Very strong for machine quilting when needle punched.<br>Can be heavily laundered.<br>Recommended for beginners.  |
| Cotton/Poly Blend   | 80% cotton<br>20% polyester | 4"                | Can be pre-washed for more loft.<br>Popular for machine quilting.   |
| Dark Blend  | 70% cotton<br>30% polyester | 4"                | Good for use with dark fabrics where bearding might be an issue.<br>Popular for machine quilting.   |
| Polyester   | 100% polyester              | 4"                | Easy to needle for hand quilters.<br>Soft drape.<br>No shrinking.   |
| Silk  | 90% silk<br>10% polyester   | 4"                | Very lightweight, thin, and supple.<br>Great for clothing.<br>Breathable.   |

|                  |                         |           |  |
|------------------|-------------------------|-----------|--|
| Rayon            | 100% rayon              | 8" to 10" | Fire Retardant.<br>Will not melt in fire.<br>Natural fiber.<br>Heavy shrinkage;<br>Pre-wash recommended. |
| Flax/Linen Blend | 50% linen<br>50% cotton | 8" to 10" | Crisp hand.<br>Strong natural fiber.<br>Recommended for table toppers.                                   |
| Ultra Thin Poly  | 100% polyester          | 8" to 10" | Very lightweight, thin, and supple.<br>Great for clothing.   |

**Bonded, Needle Punched & Scrim explained ~**

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Bonded batting         | In bonded batts a bonding agent, usually an acrylic resin, is sprayed onto the batting surface to bond the fibers together. This stabilizes the batt and prevents bearding. |
| Needle Punched batting | Needle punched batts are punctured with hundreds of needles, which causes the fibers to intertwine and bond together thereby stabilizing the batt.                          |
| Batting with Scrim     | Scrim is a very thin, lightweight binder that the batting fibers are attached to for support. Batting "with scrim" has added durability and strength.                       |

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