



*The Magic
in the Middle*

Batting FAQ #1

Q: What is the warmest batting?

A: Knowing the characteristics of fibers may help you come to your own conclusion. Polyester does not allow air to pass through which traps body heat inside, making for a warm quilt. 100% Wool is a natural fiber and does allow air to pass through which tends to keep us warm in the winter and cool in the summer. A quilt made with 80/20 blend has 80% cotton and 20% polyester which offers good warmth retention and is substantial in weight without being stiff and heavy. If you live in an extremely cold climate, the answer may be to use more than one quilt as needed.

Q: What is the coolest batting?

A: Many prefer thin 100% cotton for a 'summer weight' quilt. Legacy™ offers soy and bamboo blended with cotton in a very thin, smooth, light weight batting. Soy and bamboo blends are very soft and comfortable. Wool qualifies also a good option, as it breathes and is lightweight by nature making for the perfect summer quilt.

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Batting FAQ #2

Q: What batting is best for hand quilters?

A: Knowing the characteristic of batting may help you come to your own conclusion.

100% Wool batting is hands down the ultimate experience in hand quilting. The natural fiber is super washed prior to being processed. Resin is used to bond together these airy & breathable fibers to prevent bearding. Needle punching can cause a fiber to become dense and create a bearding problem in this type of fiber.

100% Polyester batting is very soft & lofty. It cost far less than 100% wool. Polyester has been a favorite to quilt makers for a very long time due to its loft giving good definition to the stitching. A tumble in a warm dryer to return polyester to its original state however could promote bearding.

Soy Blend batting is 50% soy fiber and 50% cotton and is very thin and soft. Soy blend allows a hand needle to pass through with ease and is so soft that your finished quilt is sure to be equally as wonderful to touch. However, any batting that has scrim binder will cause some resistance to the needle whereas wool and polyester are both airy and easy to needle.

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Batting FAQ #3

Q: What batting is best for machine quilters?

A: Legacy™ By Pellon Natural Blend 80/20% Cotton/Poly with scrim binder promises to be a favorite with all machine quilters whether using a home sewing machine or a long arm machine. It is substantial in every way with good body and drape. The scrim binder holds together the soft fibers with a gentle strength preventing distortion. Legacy™ By Pellon Natural Blend 80/20% Cotton/Poly no scrim is durable, soft and easy to handle by machine and provides good definition. 100% Wool provides a soft and drapable quilt. Polyester is slick and can slip and slide under the machine foot which can create puckers on the back side and is not recommended for home sewing machine quilting.

Q: What is scrim binder?

A: Scrim binder is a thin sheet of polypropylene which is very much like a dryer sheet that is needle punched onto one or more sides of batting as it is processed. Not all scrim binders used today are alike. Legacy™ By Pellon batting uses only a very lightweight scrim. This adds strength and durability that is sought by machine workers yet allows softness and ease of stitch that everyone appreciates. Our scrim does not create heavy, dense and stiff results.

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Batting FAQ #4

Q: What is needle punching?

A: Cotton quilt batting in today's marketplace is the most commonly known needle punched product. This process bonds together fibers of any type by 'carding' or repeatedly punching the fibers with barbed needles. The more a fiber is needled, the denser & stronger it becomes. No chemicals are needed when using this method of bonding fibers. Legacy By Pellon cotton battings are offered in White and Natural, needle punched as well as needled onto scrim binder. [See FAQS #3.]

Q: What is thermal bonding?

A: Thermal bonding is a process where fibers are tossed in a large container and mixed with a very small percentage of 'low-melt' polyester. Once this is tumbled together, it is laid out onto a conveyor belt and passed through an oven. The poly fibers melt, surrounding the wool or polyester fibers. This is then passed through heated rollers that seal and compress the fibers to the desired height. The majority of 'low-melt' polyester is dissipated in the process leaving a minute amount remaining. Thermal bonding provides a very soft and airy result.

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