

What machine is right for you?

Longarm Quilting Machine Buyer's Guide



SETUP & TRAINING

Hands-on training and setup guidance should be included by trained retailers or sales representatives. A local retailer provides in-person training and quick answers to questions as they arise.



SUPPORT & EDUCATION

In addition to local authorized retailer support, ensure that the company has dedicated longarm technical and educational support for issues and questions that may arise.



PRECISION
STITCHING

STITCH QUALITY

Machine must provide high quality precision stitches in manual and stitch-regulated modes, regardless of speed. Look for at least two types of regulation: precision (machine stitches only when moved) and cruise (needle cycles when machine is turned on).



QUILTING EXPERIENCE & EASE OF USE

Look for a machine that is feature-rich, yet simple to use. Are the accessories integrated (specially designed for use with the machine)?



LIGHTING

Lighting is important and can be found in a variety of places on the machine. It is helpful to have LED and UV lighting options available.



THROAT SPACE DOES NOT EQUAL QUILTING SPACE

Quilting space is the part of the quilt accessible by the needle. Machine and frame design affect how much of the throat space is actual quilting space. Larger quilting space means fewer passes and greater visibility.



INTEGRATED FUNCTIONS & ACCESSORIES

Accessories and handlebar buttons should be fully integrated, providing a seamless quilting experience.



QUALITY & WARRANTY

Reputable companies will provide and stand behind their trusted warranty of quality craftsmanship and provide you convenient customer support services.



COMPUTERIZED QUILTING

Computerized quilting provide better control and more quilting options. Look for an integrated system, designed by the same company who builds the machines.

 **Handi Quilter**[®]

Designed by a Quilter, for Quilters.[®]

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PRICE			
SETUP AND TRAINING			
Initial Training and Set-Up Guidance/Assistance	Local Retailers	Local Retailers	Local Retailers
Trained/Certified Local HQ Retail Locations	350+ locations	350+ locations	350+ locations
SUPPORT AND EDUCATION			
Dedicated Customer Service/Support	✓	✓	✓
Dedicated Technical Support	✓	✓	✓
Dedicated Educators On Staff for Support	✓	✓	✓
Online Support and Training and Social Networks	✓	✓	✓
Interactive Website (Education, Tips, Videos, Gallery, Products)	✓	✓	✓
STITCH QUALITY			
Stitches-Per-Inch Range	4 to 18	4 to 22	4 to 24
Stitching Speed	up to 1,800	up to 2,200	to 2,400
Stitch-Regulator Modes	Available	Precision & Cruise	Precision & Cruise
Manual Mode with Presets (variable speed control)	✓	✓	✓
Auto-Needle Positioning (needle up/down)	✓	✓	✓
Basting Stitch		6 Options	5 Options
Needle Up/Down	✓	✓	✓
QUILTING EXPERIENCE/EASE OF USE			
Simple Calibrated Tension Adjustments	Available	Easy-Set Tension	Easy-Set Tension
Smooth at High and Low Speeds	✓	✓	✓
Color Touch Screen	✓	✓	✓
Quilting Alarms	✓	✓	✓
Quilting Timers	✓	✓	✓
Stitch Counters	✓	✓	✓
Low Bobbin Estimator		✓	✓
Low Bobbin Alarm		✓	✓
Thread Break Sensor			✓
Front Power Switch		✓	✓
LIGHTING			
Handlebar Lights		LEDs	Adjustable LEDs
Needle Area Light	✓	✓	✓
Ultraviolet Lights ("Black" Lights)		✓	✓
Lights Simple to Replace		✓	✓
QUILTING SPACE AND FRAME FOOTPRINT			
Throat Space	16 inches	18 inches	24 inches
Quilting Space	14 inches	15 inches	21 inches
Frame System	HQ Little Foot or HQ Studio Frame	HQ Studio Frame or HQ Little Foot	HQ Gallery Frame
Frame Length	4 ft	10 ft or 12 ft	12 ft
Frame Footprint	4 ft x 5 ft	4.5 ft x 10ft/12ft	5.5 ft x 12 ft
Smooth Aluminum/Plastic Track System with V-Track Wheels	✓	✓	✓
Heavy-Duty Marked Leaders	N/A	✓	✓
Adjustability in Height	✓	✓	✓
INTEGRATED FUNCTIONS AND ADD-ON ACCESSORIES			
Rear Handlebars	Available	✓	✓
Microhandles		Available	Available
Pantograph Laser	Available	✓	✓
Accessory Kit (Bobbins, Needles, Thread, Leaders, Oil, Brush, Etc.)	✓	✓	✓
Training and Quilting Educational Videos	✓	✓	✓
QUILTING FEET			
Ruler Foot	✓	✓	✓
Open Toe	✓	✓	✓
Couching Feet	Available	Available	Available
Echo Feet	Available	Available	Available
Glide Foot	Available	Available	Available
CAPABLE OF COMPUTERIZED QUILTING			
	✓	✓	✓
QUALITY CRAFTSMANSHIP AND WARRANTY			
Trusted Manufacturer's Warranty	✓	✓	✓
Workmanship	10 Years	10 Years	10 Years
Mechanical	5 Years	5 Years	5 Years
Electrical	5 Years	5 Years	5 Years
Manufactured/Assembled	USA	USA	USA
Rigid Quality Checks During Manufacturing	7 major tests (5 hrs)	7 major tests (5 hrs)	7 major tests (5 hrs)
In-Depth Quilting Test by a Quilter Prior to Shipping	✓	✓	✓
Basic Machine Maintenance	Self-lubricating bearings	Self-lubricating bearings	Self-lubricating bearings