

ON THE BOOKSHELF by Warren Whaley

THE COMPLETE BOOK OF MACHINE QUILTING
by Robbie & Tony Fanning. Pubi by Chilton
Book Co. Radnor, PA. 334 pgs. \$15.95

When I first saw *THE COMPLETE BOOK OF MACHINE QUILTING*, I was reminded of a college textbook and was a bit apprehensive about reviewing it. I soon realized that the Fannings have used the word quilting in the broadest sense. It is truly a complete book of machine quilting.

Professional authors Robbie & Tony Fanning have done an incredible amount of research and testing for this book. They have assembled virtually all of the available scattered information pertaining to machine piecing and quilting into one complete textbook. They take you carefully through techniques and

instructions from beginning to end, and the wealth of information is really super.

Full credit is given to other quilt and patchwork artists for their contributions and special information or techniques. The table of contents is explicit so it is easy to solve your particular problem or find a special technique you need.

For the why's, what's, how's, when's, do's and don't's of machine quilt making *THE COMPLETE BOOK OF MACHINE QUILTING* is a real buy and a must for all quilter's libraries!

Warren Whaley is owner of Whaley's Fabrics In Ukiah, CA and is well-known throughout the Bay Area for his demonstrations and classes on Machine Piecing and Applique.

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Inert plastics, such as poethylene or Mylar are suitable but care must be taken to leave holes for ventilation since it is possible to lock in moisture and induce mildew. Air conditioning, with varying degrees of effectiveness according to type, helps control temperature, humidity, dust and air pollution.

If you wish to display documents or manuscripts, have them framed in acid-free backing and matt board. When kept out of direct sunlight and flourescent light, they will be in a good environment.

Home repair of your valuable papers is dangerous and not recommended, just as you would not mend the shattered silks of a 19th century quilt. Some of the worst damage to paper occurs with the use of the popular "repair" materials: rubber bands, cellophane tape, masking tape, rubber cement and press on labels. These items are all impermanent, highly acidic and staining.

Remove all metal clips, staples, pins, rubber bands, and tape. Replace them with non-corrosive clips (stainless steel or plastic) or if absolutely necessary, with a library mending tape that has a water soluble adhesive (Filmoplast T tape.)

Photocopying on long-lasting acid free paper is a good idea for newspaper clippings and letters. Original photographs, too, should be copied in black and white and stored separately and made available as a "User Copy" to save the wear and tear of the original.

In conclusion, try to be as conscientious a collector of your historical records as you are with your textiles. Remember, you cannot be too careful in handling your archives.

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