

Memory Quilts

by Rachelle Kreisman



Most blankets just keep people warm when they go to sleep. A *memory quilt* is a blanket that does a lot more than keep people warm.

Any quilt is made with pieces of fabric. The person who creates a memory quilt uses those pieces of fabric to honor a person, a family, a team, or even a country.

People make memory quilts by bringing together lots of small fabric squares. For example, a mother creating this kind of quilt might use pieces of her son's old baby outfit to remind her of the early days of his life. She could also

include drawings or photographs of her son that have been printed on fabric.

When fabric squares are ready, a quilter sews them together. This can be done by hand or with a sewing machine. The squares become one big piece of fabric. That is the quilt's top layer.

Two other fabric layers are needed. The middle layer is the blanket filling. The backing is the bottom layer. After the layers are sewn together, the quilt is finished.

Memory quilts are a beautiful way to remember something or someone special.