

# AT-RISK BABIES AND CHILDREN QUILTS

## GUIDELINES for making crib quilts

- Fabric** Use cotton, flannel, or 50/50 cotton. Some children are allergic to synthetic fabrics, like polyester or nylon. No knits, please.
- Design** Juvenile prints or panels, patchwork, appliqué, or any creative pattern. **No paint, buttons, beads, loose or tied ribbons - Children tend to chew on them.**
- Filling** Bonded polyester batting (light or medium weight), or bonded cotton. Flannel makes a nice, durable, lightweight batting.
- Size** Approximately 36" X 36" (newborns) up to 40" X 44" (toddlers to 6 years.)
- Finishing** Quilt by hand or machine, or tie with crochet cotton or embroidery floss, making **double square knot every 4 square inches. Please do not use yarn - it comes untied. Knots should be 1/2" or shorter in length. Important: Topstitch around the outside of the quilt about 1/2 to 1 inch from the outside edge.**
- Labeling** Using a permanent fabric pen on the back of the quilt or on a separate cloth label please print:  
ABC QUILT  
Love and Comfort to you, (signing your first name only)  
New York 2009 (You may add your hometown before New York)

To protect patient confidentiality, please do not use the any other written words on the quilt front or back.

When you are finished, ask yourself, "Is this quilt ready to be used by an infant or toddler?"

- Is it safe?** Check carefully, looking for any stray pins or long threads or ties.
- Is it secure?** Check to be sure you have quilted or tied it every 4 square inches and that the edge is topstitched.
- Is it signed?** ABC QUILT, Love and Comfort to you, your first name only, state, and year?

Would you like to volunteer your time, talents, or money to ABC Quilts? Contact Alanna Downey Fontanella. Phone: 607-272-8530, ext. 23; E-mail: ad41@cornell.edu.

For more information, on ABC Quilts visit: [www.americanmothers.org](http://www.americanmothers.org); AMI National Office, Carlyle Crescent Center, 1940 Duke Street, Suite 200, Alexandria, VA 22314; 877-242-4264 Or 703-486-5760; Email: [info@americanmothers.org](mailto:info@americanmothers.org)

## At-Risk Babies and Children Quilts



ABC Quilts was founded in 1988 to give love and comfort to at-risk babies in the form of a handmade quilt, and to use this process to promote awareness, community service and prevention education. They defined "at-risk" as those babies born HIV-positive, affected by their mother's drug or alcohol abuse while pregnant, or abandoned. The international network of volunteers has delivered over a half million quilts since ABC Quilts was founded. From 1992 when Ellen Ahlgren, founder of ABC Quilts, was named 1992 New Hampshire Mother of the Year, AMI has participated in this service project.

Following the disbanding of the National ABC Quilts program by its Board of Directors in 2006, American Mothers, Inc. National Board of Directors voted to continue ABC Quilts as a National Project and was granted the right to use the name and continue the service program initiated by ABC Quilts. ABC now stands for **At-Risk Babies and Children Quilts**.

Quilts are made and donated by people of all ages, from beginning quilters to professional quilters. The completed quilts are distributed to hospitals and agencies that deal with At-Risk babies and children. The quilts are given with "Love and Comfort" from AMI members and friends.

If you are interested in finding out more about the ABC Quilt program, contact the National Office.

AMI National Office, Carlyle Crescent Center, 1940 Duke Street, Suite 200, Alexandria, VA 22314

Toll Free: 877-242-4264; Local Number: 703-486-5760; FAX: 703-486-5761, Email:

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