

## FROM PHOTO TO QUILT

When tracing your photo for enlargement, make sure to clearly label the top of your traced piece with the word “TOP.” This will help prevent accidentally flipping the tracing in the wrong direction. If someone else is handling the enlargement, remind them to ensure that “TOP” is correctly oriented during the process. Additionally, it’s a good idea to add an extra  $\frac{1}{4}$ ” to  $\frac{1}{2}$ ” ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ” is recommended) of space around all sides—top, bottom, and both edges—of your tracing. This extra margin will provide enough room to square up your quilt top once you’ve finished have finished it.

If you're enlarging a tracing with your printer, it's a good idea to note the enlargement percentage on your copy in case you ever need to reproduce it again.

You can also use an inexpensive projector to enlarge your traced design. When your design is the desired size, you can transfer it onto your fabric using a light box or a window. I usually use a mechanical pencil to trace the design to the fabric – it gives me a finer line.

Supplies:

Photo

Fine point sharpies

Clear Plastic or tracing paper

Light box or a window

Pencil

Fabric - light colored

Facebook sites that provide photos for artist to use – go to groups, type in search “free photos for artist” and many different sites will come up. Each site will probably have different rules and regulations.

Businesses that offer photo enlargements: Prices may vary from those listed, but this provides a general starting point.

- **Ink Ability Printing** 717 W. Main St. Suite 120, Battle Ground 360-723-0151 Can enlarge up to nearly 40” wide. Typically requires about a week to complete, with costs around \$12.00 or slightly more.
- **Postal Connections** 7720 NE Hwy 99 Ste 7, Vancouver 360-546-2310. They often complete enlargements while you wait or have them ready the same day. Approximate cost for 24” x 48” is \$8.00–\$10.00.
- **UPS Store** 7202 NE Hwy 99 Ste 106, Vancouver 360-448-7090 Estimated price for 36” x 48” enlargements is around \$10.00.
- **Staples** and **Office Depot** also provide enlargement services.

Judith Phelps – March 2025