

## SURFING THE WEB FOR ALL THINGS QUILTY

It was only a matter of time before the time-honored tradition of quilting met up with new-age technology of the Internet. You can casually browse the web to find all kinds of quilting related information, but you might get more than you bargained for. A recent Google™ search left us oogling, as the keyword “Quilting” returned nearly half a million links! So where do you begin if you’re ready to plunge into the Internet to enhance your quilting knowledge? Let us give you some tips.

First, get your feet wet by checking out some of the major quilting sites which offer a host of information like newsletters, interviews with well-known quilters, free patterns, reviews of products, etc. Here are some that we like:

- [Quiltersvillage.com](http://Quiltersvillage.com) (includes the quilt exhibits at the Primedia Gallery)
- [Thequiltercommunity.com](http://Thequiltercommunity.com) (articles about insuring your quilt, etc.)
- [Quilting.about.com](http://Quilting.about.com) (quilt-related clip art and graphics)
- [Planetpatchwork.com](http://Planetpatchwork.com) (reviews of major national quilting shows, dates, links)
- [Quiltchannel.com](http://Quiltchannel.com) (jumpstation to lots of quilting goodies on the web)
- [Quilt.com](http://Quilt.com) (place to post problems and corrections for quilting books and patterns)
- [Quiltropolis.com](http://Quiltropolis.com) (patterns, chat groups, links to stores, etc.)

Perhaps you’re up for a more focused website? Here’s a listing of education based sites:

- [Softexpressions.com](http://Softexpressions.com)—computer quilting made easy! Sharla Hicks’ goal is to educate the quilting community about how the computer fits into the quilting scene. She also gives a list of shareware (free downloads) and demos.
- [Quiltuniversity.com](http://Quiltuniversity.com)—classes for learning at your own pace.
- [Sewandquilt.com](http://Sewandquilt.com)—filled with interesting interviews with various designers.
- [Quiltersreview.com](http://Quiltersreview.com)—Sharon Darling reviews books, tools, sewing machines, and more, and also offered tips from many quilting experts.
- [Quilthistory.com](http://Quilthistory.com)—a forum for people who are interested in antique quilts and related textile conservation.
- [Theappliquesociety.org](http://Theappliquesociety.org)—if you love appliqué this is just the site for you. Great information and resources!
- [Imqa.org](http://Imqa.org)—the International Machine Quilters Association is the site to visit if you want to learn more about machine quilting.

Finally, there are a number of other sites that we like, for various reasons:

- [Quiltchat.com](http://Quiltchat.com)—chat with other quilters around the world.
- [Lostquilt.com](http://Lostquilt.com)—if you ever loose a quilt or have one stolen post a photo of it at this site, to aid in your quilt’s recovery.
- [Projectlinus.org](http://Projectlinus.org)—get involved in this amazing group that relies on volunteers to make security blankets for kids who are seriously ill or have undergone trauma.
- [Quiltguilds.com](http://Quiltguilds.com)—new to an area or plan on moving in the future? Check out this site for a comprehensive guide of guilds all over the world.
- [Fabshopnet.com/fabsearch.asp](http://Fabshopnet.com/fabsearch.asp)—looking for just a little more of one fabric to finish your project? Post your request here and just wait for the answer!
- [Fabshophop.com](http://Fabshophop.com)—take a virtual shophop through thousands of quilt stores worldwide.

And lastly, I think we’d be remiss not to mention our website, [greatamericanquilt.com](http://greatamericanquilt.com), which has recently had a “makeover”! Many of your local quilt stores probably have websites as well, where you can gain information on classes, products, events, and more. We hope you have some time to sit down with a nice cold glass of iced tea or lemonade and surf the web for all things quilting. Happy surfing and happy quilting!

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8970 E. Hampden Ave. • Denver, CO 80231  
303.740-6206 • 1.800.474.2665 • [www.possibilitiesquilt.com](http://www.possibilitiesquilt.com)