



Carrefour
European
Quilt Show

5-25 CHALLENGE

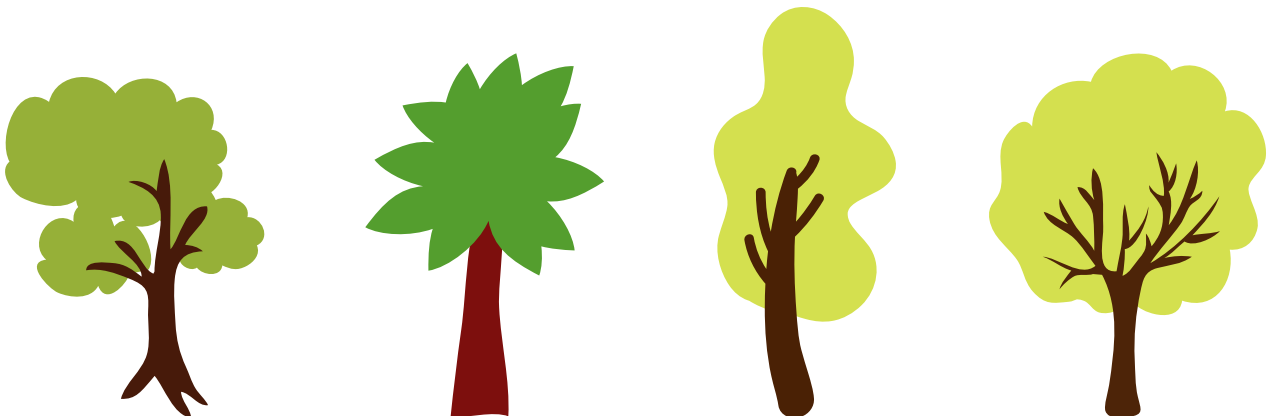
FORESTS

CONTEST RULES

Carrefour – the European Quilt Show invites budding artists and young talents to take part in the “**FORESTS**” challenge, drawing inspiration from the beauty and mystery of these living worlds.

The challenge is to **create a patchwork**: a work made from different pieces of fabric that illustrates the theme of forests. Think of deep, shadowy woods, lush jungle landscapes, or a colorful autumn forest floor to spark your creativity.

Take on the challenge and **join the wonderful community of quilters** from all around the world! If your work is selected, it will be displayed at a major European event that welcomes more than 16,000 visitors each year!





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5-25 CHALLENGE FORESTS


COMMENT PARTICIPER ?

 The registration form can exclusively be filled out on the event's official website:
www.patchwork-europe.eu > [The contests](#) > [5-25 Contest](#)

 **Registration deadline: June 2, 2026 at noon (Paris time)**

 Entry fees: **free registration**

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

 Children, teens and young adults born **between January 1st 2000 and December 31st 2020** are encouraged to join the challenge and will be divided into age groups (5 to 9, 10 to 13, 14 to 18, 19 to 25). Therefore, you must be **between 5 years and 25 years old**.

 **Schools and groups** are welcome to send **group entries**.

 **Entries are in age groups of:**

5 to 9

10 to 13

14 to 18

19 to 25

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

 All entries will be reviewed by a panel of **international judges**.

 **If selected, your work will be hung at the Carrefour - the European Quilt Show** in a special exhibition in France (September 17-20, 2026)

 If selected, **you and 1 responsible adult will receive invitations** (entry tickets) to come discover the show and see your work exhibited.

 A Meetup of all participants will be organized during the 2026 Carrefour.





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ENTRY TIPS

MANDATORY

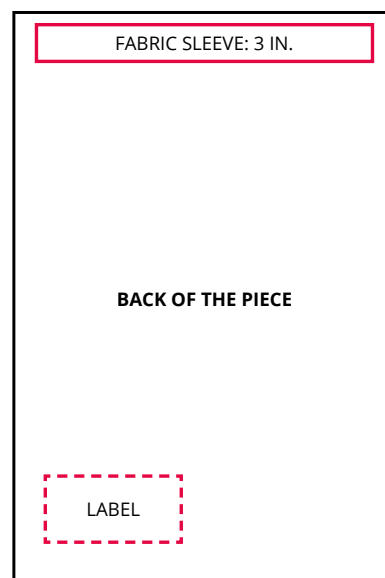


Quilt size :

Height - minimum 25 cm, maximum 200 cm
Length - minimum 25 cm, maximum 90 cm



If your work is selected, **it must have an 8 cm (3 inches) fabric sleeve** sewn onto the back top prior to shipment which will allow it to hang easily
Careful: make sure to place the sleeve right at the top of the quilt, otherwise it may fold when the hanging rod is inserted.



A **label** must be sewn on the back of the piece (left-hand bottom corner) indicating:

- work title
- name, surname of the participant
- age upon completion of the work
- email address and phone number (that of the adult that supervised for the younger artists)



Shapes: all shapes accepted.



The piece must be finished when the entry form is filled. No unfinished work can be submitted.



The piece must be made of 2 to 3 layers of fabric held together with stitch.



Handmade and machine works (domestic and long arm) are accepted.



Minimal adult intervention in final execution (see more details below).

MATERIALS



Buttons, pearls, embroidery and other embellishments are accepted.



Upcycled, repurposed fabric is welcome, but not mandatory, fabric can be purchased.



Fabric can be sewn, appliquéd, collaged, fused, painted or drawn on.



Other materials are welcome (paper, plastic, rubber, wood,...), as long as their weight is minimal, but fabric **MUST** comprise most of the piece.



Use any leather or any animal-issued materials is not accepted.

5-25 CHALLENGE FORESTS

ADULT INTERVENTION

- Minimal adult intervention is important and must be detailed. Please, clearly explain any adult intervention that contributed to the creation of the quilt.



5 to 9

10 to 13

14 to 18

Specify how adults helped with the design, sewing techniques, materials, etc.



19 to 25

Adult guidance is limited to advice only, so participants should describe how they were guided without receiving direct help with the hands-on work.



This information will help the jury better understand the collaborative process behind each entry.

COPYRIGHT



Participants must credit any source of inspiration if their work is based on another quilt, photograph, piece of art, or depicts a character from a TV show, movie, book, or comic. If selected, the maker and their family must ensure that the public display of the quilt is authorized by the designer or publishing company to avoid copyright

infringement. It is the responsibility of the maker and their family to secure the necessary agreements before entering the contest. The organizer cannot be held accountable for any copyright violations.

JURY



An international jury of several textile arts professionals appointed by the organizer will judge the submitted quilts. The jury's decisions are irrevocable and do not have to be justified. The jury also reserves itself the right to exclude any non-conforming creation on the basis of the



photos and/or texts presented. The selected quilts will be announced on July 2026. Participants are encouraged to follow our official channels (newsletter, [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#)) for updates and further information as the date approaches.



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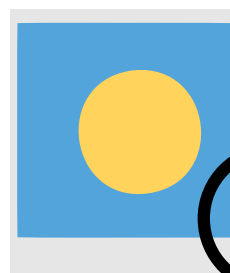
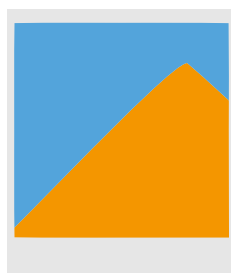
5-25 CHALLENGE FORESTS

STATEMENT AND PICTURES





-  A maker's statement must be written to present the work to the judges, explain the design inspiration and choices that were made. If you are in the youngest age group, talk to an adult about why you made this quilt and ask them to write down your ideas for you.
-  The jury will make its selection on the basis of the photos submitted, so the quality of the photos is a decisive factor. **Each entry form must be accompanied by 3 high-quality photos:**




One of the full piece
including all its edges,
with background visible



**Two of areas that offer a good
detailed view**, sufficient to
appreciate the craftsmanship

-  The work submitted must be photographed against a white or black background, **in high resolution and sent in JPEG 300 dpi format.**
-  **Maximum size per photo: 5 MB** (there is no minimum size, but below 2 MB the quality may not be sufficient for the jury's appreciation)
-  Colors must remain true to reality: no colorimetric or aesthetic retouching will be accepted.
-  **No other format than JPEG will be accepted** (no PNG, TIFF, PDF, etc.)

USE OF THE VISUALS

-  The artistic rights of the work remain the property of the artist. By sending the digital photos, the participant automatically agrees to their free use for promotional purposes, in the press, internet, printed and social media by the organizer.






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5-25 CHALLENGE FORESTS

TRANSPORTATION AND INSURANCE


TRAJET ALLER

-  If selected by the jury, shipping is mandatory.
-  Should your artwork be selected, **it must be sent to the organizer's office before August 15, 2026.**
-  **Transportation costs and any customs duties are the responsibility of the participants.** The organizer cannot be held responsible for any damage caused by defective packaging. The quilts will be sent back in their original boxes if they are in good condition.

RETURN TRIP







-  It will be possible to choose between two options:
 -  To pick up your work at the organizer's office (Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines) starting Monday September 21, 2026
 -  Or we can return your work to you by mail or carrier. In this case, the cost is borne by the participant, and must be paid by bank transfer. The amount will vary according to the country, the rates in force and the volumetric weight of the parcel. The original packaging will be reused for the return shipment, if possible.
-  **Note:** By submitting your quilt you understand that the organizers will not be responsible for filing claims with shipping carriers. Any concerns or disputes related to shipping must be handled directly by the quilt sender (submitter), who will act as the claimant in all communications with the shipping company.

INSURANCE




-  The organizer will insure the works from their arrival at the organizer's office until their return (excluding transportation). By submitting your quilt you acknowledge that the organizers will take all reasonable precautions to protect the quilts during the show; however, the organizers cannot be held responsible for any damage or loss exceeding the limits of the provided insurance.

5-25 CHALLENGE FORESTS




IMPORTANT REMINDERS

-  Any incomplete registration file or received after the registration deadline will be refused.
-  By entering your quilt you acknowledge that any quilt that would have been misrepresented in the entry photos, whose size would've been entered incorrectly or that would visibly be in poor condition -including, but not limited to, torn fabric, stains, strong scents, poor craftsmanship- or unfinished will be rejected.
-  Should your quilt(s) be selected, you commit to adhering to all guidelines outlined in the contest's rules, including but not limited to quilt preparation, shipping procedures, and deadlines.
-  You understand that if your quilt is received after the designated deadline, it may be returned without being displayed.
-  The decisions made by the show organizer, jury, and judges are final and binding.
-  The organizer retains the authority to disqualify any quilt it determines has been misrepresented, and winners will be required to forfeit any awarded ribbons and/or prizes.

CONTEST AGENDA

-  Enter your work **before June 2, 2026 at noon** (Paris time)
-  Selection is made by the jury.
-  **Results will be shared in July, 2026.**

FOR THE WORKS JURIED INTO THE EXHIBITION

-  Deadline to send your work by post/carrier: **August 15, 2026.**
-  **Exhibition premiere: September 17-20, 2026** at the Carrefour - European Quilt Show.
-  The first possible day to collect your quilt at 5 rue Kroeber-Imlin, 68160 Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines is September 21, 2026.