

Quilt Binding Made Easy



1. Measure all four sides of your quilt top and add the four numbers together. Divide by 40. This is the number of WOF strips you need to make your binding (if in doubt, round up one). Cut strips, trim off selvedge edges, and sew all strips together end-to-end using a 45 degree seam. You can mark your line or "eyeball" it and fold back the fabric to aim for the point until right before you sew that final few stitches.

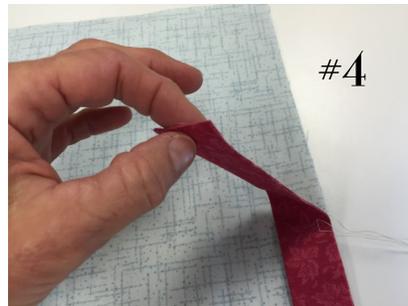


2. Trim off excess triangle pieces 1/4 inch from the seam.



3. Press binding strip closed with wrong sides together. As you reach each diagonal seam, press open. Continue pressing the full length of the binding closed.

4. Arrange binding strip on the quilt TOP with all raw edges together. Leave a 5-6 inch tail unsewn and begin stitching a 1/4 inch seam. Backstitch at the beginning.



5. As you approach a corner stop stitching 1/4 inch from the end. Leave needle in the down position. Pivot so that you can sew off the corner at a 45 degree angle.



6. Sew off toward the corner point at a 45 degree angle. Remove project from machine and clip threads.



7. Make a mitered corner by folding the binding strip first up and then straight down. Begin stitching again, first backstitching to secure corner. Repeat with all four corners. On final side, stop stitching so that you leave about 10 inches unsewn.



8. Take your project to the cutting table and trim off at least three inches of excess binding. This piece is now a measuring device as you'll want to overlap your two binding ends by the exact width of the binding.

9. Lay the right hand side of the binding down first, place measuring piece on top so that the longer side is up/down and the binding width side is side-do-side. Lay the left hand binding piece on top of the measuring piece.





#10

10. Trim off left hand binding piece about 1/8 inch shy of the right hand side of the measuring piece.



#11

11. Pick up the left side of the binding in your left hand with the right side of the fabric facing you. Pick up the right side of the binding in your right hand with the wrong side of the fabric facing you. Position to two pieces of fabric, right sides together, so that you can sew a 45 degree angle. Place pins so that you will sew between them.

12. Return to the sewing machine and make a diagonal seam.



#12



#13

13. Check to be sure that your binding is not twisted (i.e., that you made the diagonal seam in the correct direction).



#14

14. Trim off excess triangle piece 1/4 inch from seam. Press seam open.



#15

15. Finish stitching the binding down. Do a small backstitch at the beginning and end of the seam.



#16

16. On the top side of the quilt gently press the binding outward.



#17

17. Turn binding to the back side of the quilt and secure it with Wonder Clips. You are now ready to hand stitch your binding onto the quilt using a blind stitch. We recommend Gutterman hand quilting thread for this step.



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