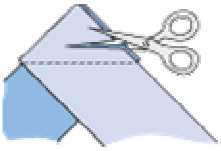


Binding Tips!

3" Double Fold Binding

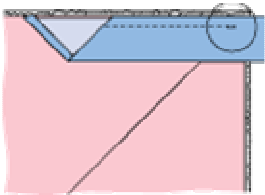


Trim batting and lining even with the top. It is very important that the corners of your quilt be square at 45 degree angles. Cut binding strips 3" wide on lengthwise or crosswise grain of fabric.

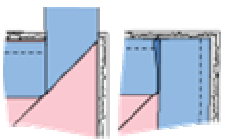
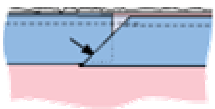
Place the ends of two strips perpendicular to each other to form an 'L', right sides together. Mark and stitch diagonally and trim to 1/4". Join all strips end to end. Press the seam allowances open.

(Trim the little triangle points that stick out.)

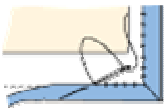
Lay binding strip on your cutting surface, *wrong side facing up*, with the bulk of the binding to the right of you. Cut the beginning of the binding strip at a 45° angle, upper left to lower right. *Turn the bias edge in 1/4" and press. Fold the binding strip in half lengthwise, wrong sides together, and press. Lay the binding strip with the turned bias edge, right sides together with the quilt top, aligning raw edges of the binding and the quilt. Starting somewhere in the middle of a long edge, begin sewing the binding to the quilt with a scant 1/2" seam allowance, *between 3/8" and 1/2"*. Stop a scant 1/2" from the first corner; backstitch. Remove the needle from the quilt and cut the threads.



Fold the binding up, then back down even with edge of the quilt. Begin stitching at the edge of next side, backstitch to secure and continue sewing. Repeat at all corners. When nearing starting point, trim binding at double-thickness fold and tuck the end into folded strip. Continue sewing and backstitch. Blind stitch the folded edge to the tucked strip. . *Another method is to fold the binding in half lengthwise without turning under the 1/4" bias edge. Sew as above except stop and backstitch about 8" before reaching the beginning of the binding. Lay the two ends flat, tucking the binding end under the beginning 45° angle. Mark a line where they meet, add 1/2" to the binding end and trim away the access. Place binding bias edges right-sides-together and sew a 1/4" seam. Finger press seam open, refold binding, lay it flat on quilt and finish sewing scant 1/2" seam.



NOTE I apply my binding with the walking foot on my machine. I also use a seam guide that I've made from several layers of electrical tape that I've aligned "just covering" the 1/2" mark on the throat plate and placed to the forefront of my machine. This gives me an extra "fence" to help keep my seam allowance even as I am wrestling with putting binding on a big unwieldy quilt. Because my seam is a scant 1/2" wide, I have a very nice full binding when I turn the binding to the back of the quilt to stitch down.



Turn the binding to back of the quilt and blindstitch to the backing, covering the previous line of stitches. Miter the corners as shown. Use one strand of thread. I work my stitches from left to right on the quilt back inside the fold of the binding, and along the stitching line on the quilt back. When the thread is tightened the stitches should be virtually invisible.

FINISHED WIDTH OF BINDING	INSTRUCTIONS
3/8" Double Fold	Cut 2 1/2" strips, press in half lengthwise to be 1 1/4" wide, align binding and quilt edge, sew 3/8" seam allowance.
1/2" Double Fold	Cut 2 1/2" strips, press in half lengthwise to be 1 1/4" wide, align binding 1/4" away from quilt edge, sew a scant 1/2" seam allowance.
1/2" Single Fold	Cut 2" strips, press in half lengthwise, open and fold an edge to the center fold, align unfolded edge with quilt edge, sew a scant 1/2" seam allowance.

Cottage Garden Quilts - Ashton, IL

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