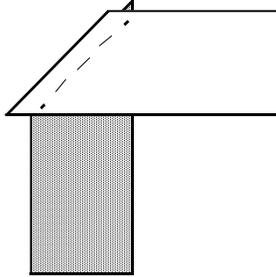


Applying Binding to a Quilt

By Kathy Echter

Start with cutting your strips. Many pattern directions suggest binding strips should be cut 2 1/2" wide. I usually cut my 2 1/2" to 2 3/4" wide depending on the thickness of my quilt sandwich.

Once you have cut all the strips, join the strips together by placing two strips of binding together, right sides facing and at right angles to each other, with corners overlapping so that the raw edges will line up with each other after joining. Stitch, then press open the seam and trim away the points that extend over the edges.

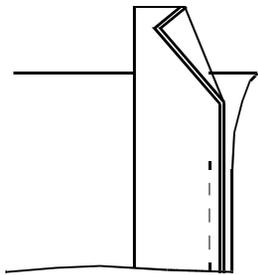


Fold the strip of bias binding in half lengthwise, with wrong sides together.

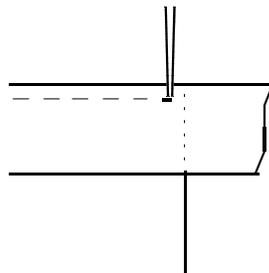
Press lightly.

Starting on the side of the quilt, stitch the binding with a 1/4" seam allowance to the **RIGHT SIDE** of the quilt. Being sure to keep raw edges even.

Note: You may want to start sewing 8 to 10 inches from the end of the binding, this will allow you enough binding to seam together when you completely go around the quilt.

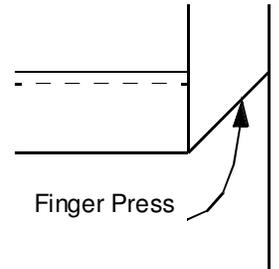


At the corner, stop the stitching 1/4" from the edge with the needle in the fabric. Raise the presser foot and turn the quilt to the next side. Put the foot back down.



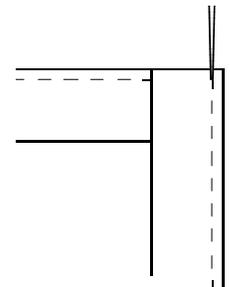
Stitch backwards 1/4" to the edge of the binding, raise the presser foot, and pull the quilt forward slightly.

Fold the binding straight up on the diagonal. Finger press in the diagonal fold.



Continue stitching and mitering the other corners of the quilt.

Fold the binding strip straight down with the diagonal fold underneath. Line up the top of the fold with the raw edge of the binding underneath.



Begin stitching from the corner.

Stop stitching 4" from where the ends overlap. Line up the two ends of the binding. Trim the excess with a 1/2" overlap. Open out the folded ends and pin right sides together. Sew a 1/4" seam. Continue to stitch the binding in place.

Fold the binding towards the back of the quilt. Pin in place so that the folded edge on the binding covers the stitching line. Tuck in the excess fabric at each miter on the diagonal. Now you can slip stitch in place or stitch in the ditch by machine from the **RIGHT SIDE** of the quilt.

