Cutting Binding Strips

- 1. To determine the length of binding needed, determine the perimeter measurement of the quilt. (P = Length measurement x 2 + Width measurement x 2)
- 2. Add at least 6" to the perimeter measurement to allow for turning corners etc.
- 3. Determine the number of strips that you will need by dividing the width of your fabric (generally 40"- 44") by the figure calculated in Step 2.

For example, with a 10" square quilt P = 40 [2(10+10)+2(10+10)]. Adding 6" yields 46", but a width of fabric will yield only 44" at the most, thus 2 strips will be required with plenty of extra.

4. Cut the required number of strips 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " or 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide, depending on how "fat" a binding is desired.

Sewing Binding Strips

- To join strips with a mitered seam, place two strips right sides together at a 90° angle. Sew a 45° seam across the corner. (See Illustration 1)
- 2. Trim ¼" from the seam and press seam open. Continue sewing all of the strips together in the same fashion.
- 3. Once all of the strips required for the length of binding are sewn, lay one end of the strip wrong side up on the cutting mat and make a 45° cut with the longer side on the bottom of the strip. (See Illustration 2)
- Fold over roughly ¼" to the wrong side along the cut and press. The pressing line will become the sewing line when joining the two ends together later.
- 5. Fold the strip in half, wrong sides together and press. (See Illustration 3)
- 6. Press the entire length of binding in half, wrong sides together.

Attaching Binding

- Pin the binding strip to the quilt in the middle of one side, aligning the raw edge of the binding with the raw edge of the quilt.
- Leaving several inches of the binding end free to allow joining the ends later, sew ¼" from the edge of the quilt. (See Illustration 4)
- 3. Stop sewing ¼" from the corner. Backstitch. Remove the quilt from the machine and snip threads.



Illustration 1

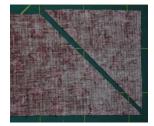






Illustration 3



Illustration 4

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Double Fold Binding with Mitered Ends cont.

Attaching Binding cont.

- Make a mitered fold for the corner by folding the binding strip straight up off the corner and pressing the 45° fold with your fingers. (See Illustration 5)
- Fold the strip straight back down over the mitered fold, again aligning raw edges. Begin sewing again ¼" down from the top of the corner. Backstitch. (See Illustration 6)
- 6. Sew to next corner and repeat until all 4 corners are sewn. Stop sewing several inches before the point where the strips will join.

Joining Binding Strips & Finishing

- 1. Pin both ends of the binding down to the quilt, laying the end of the binding over the folded edge of the beginning of the binding strip.
- Snip the binding end (the binding on top) where it meets the raw edge of the fold at the beginning of the binding strip (See Illustration 7)
- 3. Cut the strip at the snipped point at a 45° angle with the longer side on the top of the strip.
- 4. Pin the two ends together. The edges will overlap giving you a "dog ear" on each end. (See Illustration 8)
- 5. Sew on the fold line created when you pressed the binding at the beginning. (See Illustration 9)
- 6. Press the seam open and clip the dog ears. Refold the binding strip.
- 7. Realign the raw edge of the binding with the raw edge of the quilt and sew the remainder of the binding down.
- 8. Fold the binding to the back of the quilt and sew down by hand using a blind hem stitch or by machine.
- 9. Fold miters at each corner and sew down.



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Illustration 5



Illustration 6



Illustration 7



Illustration 8



Illustration 9