

Custom Fit Binding

Measure across the center of the quilt to determine the width.

Measure down the center of the quilt to determine the length.

Measure the cut width of the binding strip.

Follow this formula to determine how much binding will be needed to fit around the quilt:

$(\text{Length} \times 2) + (\text{Width} \times 2) + \text{Width of binding} = \text{Length needed}$

Example for a 18" x 24" mini quilt:

$$36'' + 48'' + 2\frac{1}{2}'' = 86\frac{1}{2}''$$

After cutting the length of binding you'll need, join the ends to create a 45° seam as described in *Binding Basics*.

Fold this binding loop in half, and mark the two ends with straight pins.

Beginning at each straight pin, measure along the strip until it matches the width of the quilt, and mark with another pin.

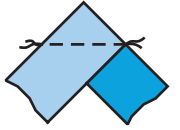
Pin the binding onto the quilt, using the pins as markers for placement at the corners. Create folded pleats at the corners as described in *Binding Basics*.

The extra time it takes to measure as you create your binding will guarantee that your binding will fit smoothly along all edges of the quilt, and you'll also be assured that your quilt will be perfectly squared.

Binding Basics

Cut strips that measure 2 1/2" x the width of the fabric.

Sew the strips together by overlapping the ends at right angles to create 45° seams.



Trim off excess seam allowance along this miter, and press the seams open.

Fold the strip in half lengthwise, wrong sides together, and press.

Place the raw edges of the binding strip along the edge on the right side of the quilt.

Sew the binding to the quilt using a 3/8" seam allowance.

Follow these diagrams to make perfectly mitered corners:

1. Stop stitching 3/8" from the corner.
2. Fold the binding to create a diagonal fold.
3. Fold the binding again, folding it even with the cut edge of the quilt.

Resume stitching from the edge. Repeat this process at each corner.

To finish off, stop stitching 6" before you reach your starting point.

Trim both ends of the binding, leaving a 2 1/2" overlap.

Unfold the binding and overlap the cut ends, sew from corner to corner.

Check the seam before trimming to make sure that the ends were overlapped correctly and that the binding fits the quilt.

Trim off the excess seam allowance and press the seam open.

Continue sewing across the previously unstitched area.

Fold the binding over the edge of the quilt and stitch along the crease, securing it to the backing.

