All-By-Machine Quilt Binding

by Caroline Fairbanks-Critchfield www.sewcanshe.com

Sewing on quilt binding can be done all by machine! Use these precise directions to have perfectly sewn binding every time.

Binding width on front of quilt: 1/4"

Fabric and notions:

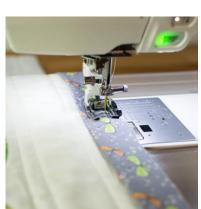
- 2 1/2" strips of fabric, as much as needed for your quilt
- · sewing machine
- · walking foot for your sewing machine
- stitch in the ditch foot for your sewing machine (optional but recommended)

Sewing:

1/4" seam allowance allowed.

- 1. Sew the 2 1/2" strips together at an angle to reduce bulk in the seams. Trim the seam allowances to 1/4". Press the seams open.
- 2. Press the binding in half lengthwise, wrong sides together.

3. Using a walking foot, sew the binding to the quilt. Align the raw edges of the binding with the raw edges of the quilt. Leave about 8" of binding free at the start for joining later.











- 4. To make a mitered corner:
 - Sew until you are 1/4" from the edge at the corner. Remove the quilt and cut the threads.
 - Fold the binding to the right, making a 45 degree angle with the fold.
 - Then fold the binding to the left, with the fold flush with the edge of the guilt. Clip in place
 - Resume sewing the binding to the guilt starting at the corner.
- 5. To join the binding:
 - Stop sewing about 12" away from where you started. Backstitch.







- Take the quilt to your pressing area. Lay the binding ends flat until they meet and then fold each piece back so that the folds touch. Press the folds.
- Trim both binding pieces 1/4" from the pressed fold line.
- Place the ends right sides together and stitch along the fold line.
- 6. Refold the binding as before and finish stitching it to the quilt.
- 7. Wrap the binding around to the back of the quilt tightly and clip in place, if desired. Fold the edges at the corners one at a time to make a pretty mitered corner.
- 8. Using thread that matches the quilt top, sew close to the edge of the binding all the way around the quilt.

Tip: Attach a stitch-in-the-ditch foot to your sewing machine, if available. To sew with this foot, place the guide in the middle of the foot along the edge of the binding on the top of the guilt.

