

Becky Sharp's Quilting.

7 Eversliegh Drive.

Bebington.

Wirral.

Ch63 3DD.

Telephone / fax 0151 201 3643

//www.becky-sharps-quilting.com

Binding a Quilt / Wall Hanging.

This page shows how to use straight edge binding. Amounts of fabric are not included as every quilt

1. Cut as many rows you need for the binding, 2.5" wide along the width of the fabric which is normally 45" if your quilt sides are longer than 45" wide you will need to sew strips of binding together. Cut a 45° angle in both ends of each strip, figure 1.



Figure 1

2. Line the two pieces in a straight line then flip one piece over so it is at right angles to the first one. Have the points 1/4" over each end, figure 2, this gives the guide for the seam allowance and keeps the binding lined up correctly. Sew the pieces together and press, cut the points off. Sew together as many pieces as you need, and press the binding before attaching it to the quilt.

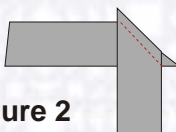


Figure 2

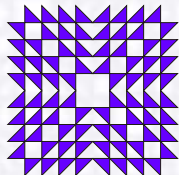
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3. Fold the binding in half with the seams on the inside, line up the raw edges of the binding with the edge of the quilt top, pin the binding, the backing and batting should still be untrimmed. Pin down the two long sides before you start sewing, if you prefer you can baste the binding before sewing although the binding stretches as you sew it and pins are easier to realign. Figure 3.

Use a walking foot start at one end position the needle 1/4" from the edge of the binding and quilt top and start sewing down the binding anchor the thread as you sew make sure you keep the binding straight and flat without the batting and backing getting caught underneath the quilt. Take your time reposition the binding if you need to, as you reach the end anchor the thread.

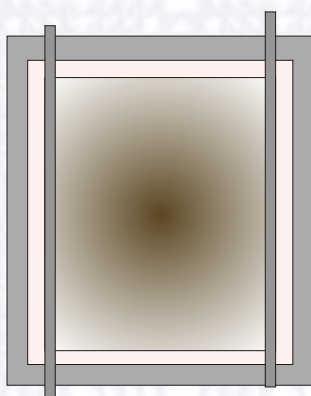


Figure 3

4. Once both sides have been sewn, trim the backing and batting just on the two sides you have attached the binding to, figure 4, be careful not to cut the binding, although some people trim the binding right back I find you get a better finish by just trimming the batting back to the edge of the quilt top.



Figure 4

5. Next fold the binding up and over to the back of the quilt, use the stitch line from sewing the binding to the quilt as a guide to keep the binding straight, figure 5, the red line is the stitch line, pin the binding in place then start at one corner and slip stitch by hand down to the end. Use a matching thread, anchor the thread well into the base of the binding to keep it as invisible as possible.

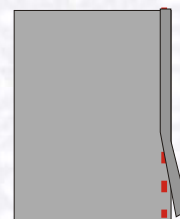
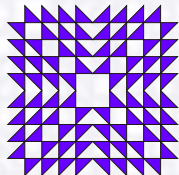


Figure 5



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8. Once the long sides have been hand stitched take the binding for one of the short sides fold in half with the seams on the inside, pin along the short side at each end fold a piece of the binding over to form a hem which will be hand stitch closed over the ends of the binding on the long sides. Figure 6. Machine stitch the binding to the quilt trim the excess backing and batting back to the edge of the quilt top. Fold the binding over to the back of the quilt and pin in place and slip stitch along the binding in the same way as for the long sides, but all so close the corners to give a neat finish. Repeat this with the final short side which will complete the quilt figure 7.

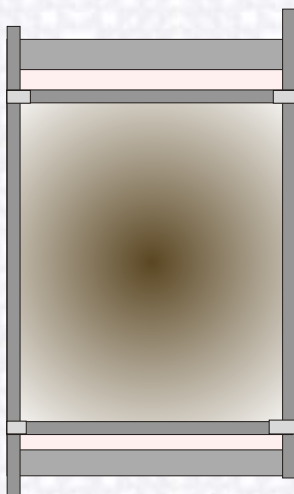


Figure 6

The quilt is now finished and can be labeled, with the name of the quilt, the date it was made, the type of fabric used, who it is for.



Figure 7