

## MAKING BINDING

Measure edges of quilt and add up all four sides. (Ex: 340 inches)

NOTE: YOU WILL NEED MORE THAN 340 INCHES OF BINDING.

—ALWAYS CUT A LITTLE EXTRA (see below)\*

Measure the width of the binding fabric (remove selvages). (Ex: 42 inches)

Decide width of strips. (I like 2-1/2")

Figure out number of strips you will need: divide: 340 by 42. (8.09)

—8.09 tells you that you will need MORE than 8 strips.

—Cut 9 strips, which gives you the extra binding (see above)\* to accommodate diagonal seams, mitered corners, and your final join.

Cross the end of one strip over the end of another strip right sides together at a 90 degree angle. Sew diagonally to join strips, clip excess fabric, press seam open. (See video\*\* for example). Fold finished binding in half RIGHT SIDES OUT the long way, pressing as you go.

## ATTACHING BINDING

Starting along one side, about halfway or three-quarters of the way down, mark a 12" opening at the raw edge of the quilt. Leaving a 10" tail hanging free, attach the binding, raw edge to raw edge, using a walking foot and a 1/4" seam, sew to within 1/4" of first corner. Back-tack one stitch, pull quilt out, clip threads. Miter the corner (separate instructions or see video\*\*). Put the quilt back under the needle, start at edge of miter, back tack one stitch, continue to attach binding all the way around quilt. STOP AT THE MARKED 12" OPENING. Clip tail to 10".

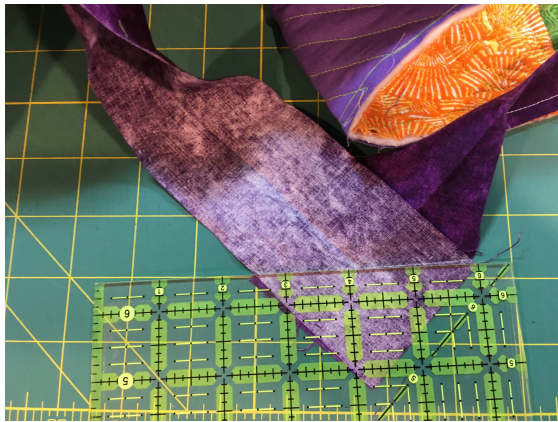
## JOINING BINDING ENDS

At this point, you have two 10" tails and a 12" opening. This side of the quilt should face you on your sewing table. Lining them up along the quilt raw edge, overlap the binding tails and clip the one on top at exactly a 2-1/2" overlap. This overlap equals the width of your binding strip. (If your binding strip is 2-1/4", the overlap would be 2-1/4".)

Bunch up the quilt edge at your 12" opening so that you can lay the strip ends open on your work surface. Cross one end over the other, right sides together, so you get a point facing you.



Using a ruler, draw a line corner to corner from LEFT TO RIGHT, parallel to the quilt. Pin if you want. (I pin ACROSS the drawn line.)



Sew along this line PARALLEL TO THE EDGE OF THE QUILT.

Pull binding to lay flat along quilt edge. Make sure it is not twisted and that it fits correctly BEFORE clipping the excess at the seam and finger pressing it open.

Finish sewing it to the edge of the quilt once you are sure it lies flat against the edge!

Finally, wrap the folded edge to the back of the quilt and sew along the folded edge using a slip or blind stitch to hold binding down, adjusting the corners to look evenly mitered as you go.

This video tutorial, from Jenny Doan at the Missouri Star Quilt Company, is my go-to binding bible.

\*\* <https://youtu.be/0vCWpxBRs20>

Or simply Google: Jenny Doan Binding Tutorial. I refer to it every time I bind a quilt just to refresh my memory!

### MITERING A CORNER:

1. Sew to 1/4" from corner, stop, backtack, clip thread.
2. Fold binding up at 90degrees, with 45degree angle on fold
3. Hold the folded part and fold again, lining up second fold with top edge and raw edge with the next side of the quilt.
4. Continue sewing, starting at edge of second fold.

(From the book, Better Homes and Gardens Complete Guide to Quilting c. 2002)

