

Herring House Quilting

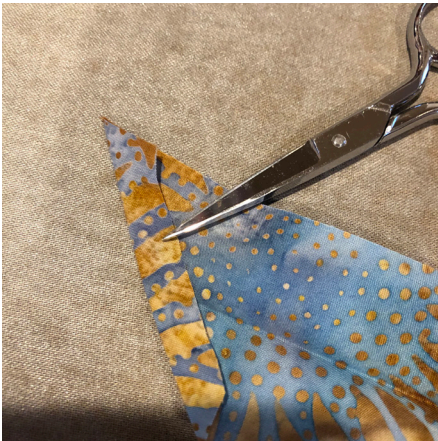
How To Make The Binding

Cut binding strips 2 inches wide by the full width of the yardage (40-44 inches). Cut enough strips to go around the four sides of the quilt plus 1 extra strip. $[(\text{Length} + \text{width}) \times 2] + 1 \text{ additional strip}$

Sew strips together. Lay out one strip right side up and going right to left. Lay second strip right side down at right angle to strip 1. Draw a line from the upper left to bottom right, making sure that it hits the point on the strip 1 on the bottom. Place a pin on either side of the drawn line. Stitch on the line, backstitching at the beginning and end. Trim 1/4 inch past the seam, removing the excess triangle material. Repeat with the remaining strips.



Press seams open. Fold binding in half lengthwise and press the entire length of the binding. On one end, open up the fold and fold the corner in to form a triangle point. Press. Refold the end in half and press again. Open up the fold and trim the folded corner to 1/4 inch away from the fold. Refold the end and press again. This is the starting end of the binding.



I usually start the binding in the center of the top side of my quilt. Place the binding on the right side of the quilt, matching the raw edges of the binding to the raw edges of the quilt. Place several pins to hold in place. Start sewing the binding a few inches past the starting point. (We will need to tuck the final end of the binding into this starting end, so don't sew it down. Stop sewing 1/4 inch before the corner. Place a pin to mark the 1/4 inch. (Some machine feet have markings to help line up the 1/4 inch spot.) This 1/4 inch stop spot is very important to a neat binding. Backstitch, cut threads and remove quilt.





Turn the quilt. Take the binding strip and fold it straight up, then fold it straight down. Pin in place. Sew from the edge of the fabric. Note that I start about 1/2 inch down from the edge, backstitch to the edge, then continue sewing down the side of the quilt. This seems to keep the corner from bunching up under the foot. Repeat these steps past the fourth corner.



Once the fourth corner has been sewn, sew to about 3 inches before the starting end of the binding. Leave the needle in the down position in the fabric. Trim the excess binding past the start point and almost to the place that the stitching starts. Tuck this end of the binding into the start end. Make sure the edges of the quilt and binding are lined up. Pin to hold the end in place. Continue stitching past the start point of the stitching, backstitch, cut threads, and remove the quilt.





Fold the binding to the wrong side and hand stitch the binding to the back side of the quilt. I use a ladder stitch that hides the stitching. My stitching is right below the seam line (where the binding was sewn on) and into the fold of the binding. I use this same stitch to sew down the label and the hanging sleeve. (See separate documents.)

