



Delta Quilters Guild

Quilt Show Hanging Sleeve

July 26, 2021



Quilting. . . .
the thread that binds



Prepare Your Quilt for a Sleeve

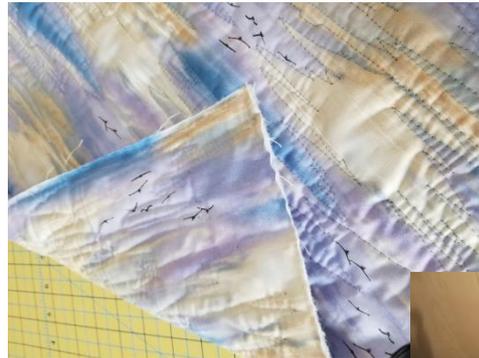
- ❖ One of the goals in putting a sleeve on a quilt is to make it really simple and quick for the team hanging the quilts to get them up so they show straight and pretty. Anything we can do to make that easier for them we will try to do.
- ❖ Decide if the sleeve on your creations is to be permanent, or if it is to be removed after showing.
 - ❖ If permanent, sew it in under the binding this is what you will see in the following pictures
 - ❖ If temporary, hand sew the top edge just below the binding.





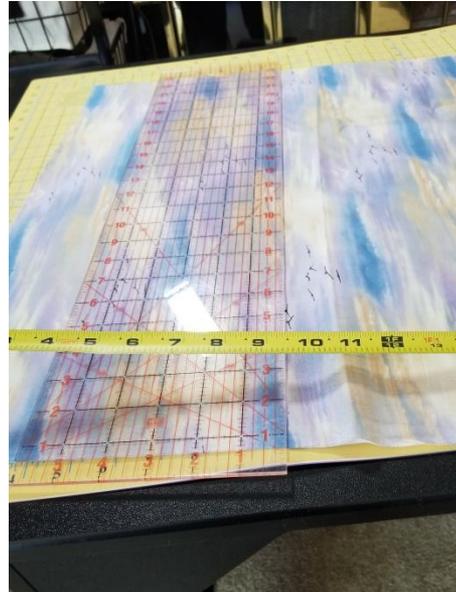
Measure Your Quilt

- ❖ Square up your quilt and trim the top and back to the same size
- ❖ Install your binding as normal, leaving the back of the top edge open
- ❖ Remove any remaining threads and lint
- ❖ Measure the top edge of your quilt
- ❖ The quilt in my picture measures 51"



Prepare Your Fabric

- ❖ Delta Quilters asks for a minimum of a 3 ½ inch deep sleeve. We want to make it as easy as possible for them to hang quilts quickly so lets make sure that there is nothing for those rods to snag on in our sleeves.
- ❖ Take their requested 3 ½ inches, double it to have a front and a back, add width for the seam allowances, and add space for the rod.
- ❖ The math looks like this:
 - ❖ (3 1/2 x 2) front and back
 - ❖ 1 in for seam allowance
 - ❖ 1 in for rod
 - ❖ 1/2 for ease to slide rod
 - ❖ We need a total width of 9 ½ inches.



Prepare Your Fabric (2)

- ❖ My fabric needs to be 51 x 9 ½ inches.
 - ❖ Wait but fabric only comes in 45 wide.
 - ❖ I will need to piece a bit onto my length to get it right.
 - ❖ I do not want that rod to snag up on my cross seam, so I will join short sides with a flat fell seam
 - ❖ If you have never made a flat fell seam, see the last page of this presentation for details.



Finish Side Edges

- ❖ Press $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in on the narrow end of your sleeve (if you have a “Purple Thang” this is a good time to get it out!) Sew it down
- ❖ Press another $\frac{1}{4}$ in in and sew it down
- ❖ Repeat for the other narrow end
- ❖ Make sure there are no threads or raw edges showing
 - ❖ Just in case you caught something that sounded like a math error... Yes we started with the length being exact to the quilt, and then we sewed $\frac{1}{2}$ into seam allowance. This will make your sleeve fit into the binding and not show from the front!



Magic with Your Iron

- ❖ Now you have a strip of fabric with a joint in the middle and two finished ends. Time to Iron.
- ❖ With right sides out, press a crease down the long center. Really give it steam and make sure you can see it
- ❖ Open it out with the right side of the fabric down on the table.
- ❖ Take each of the two raw edges and fold them to meet in the middle. Press and steam these creases.
- ❖ You should now have 3 “guide” creases.



Sew Your Long Seam

- ❖ With wrong sides together, (yes I did say wrong sides) sew a ½ inch seam down the long side.
- ❖ Press open carefully as we do not want to loose the guide creases.



Hey wait, there is a Bubble in my Sleeve

- ❖ Yup! that means you did it right!
- ❖ The seam edge will lay flat against your quilt, and after you sew it in, there will be no raw edges, and nowhere for the rod to catch.
- ❖ **GOOD JOB!**



- ❖ Ok so why do we want a bubble?
- ❖ Without a bubble, the rod will pull the front of the quilt into an ugly distortion. (Ask me how I know?)



Oops!



Yes!



Attach Sleeve to Quilt

- ❖ Turn your sleeve seam side down on to the top edge of your quilt. Pin and center the edge so that the short amount is balanced on the left and right.
- ❖ Sew it. If you are permanently leaving the sleeve on the quilt, machine sew it into the binding edge. Otherwise, hand sew on just below.



Attach Sleeve to Quilt (2)

- ❖ Remember those creases we worked so hard to keep? Here is where they work for you!
 - ❖ Pull up gently on the center crease until the unattached crease lays flat on the quilt.
 - ❖ Sew the bottom crease to the quilt by hand.
 - ❖ Sew down each end of the sleeve so the rod goes into the pocket.
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- ❖ See the checklist and make sure you are ready for the show!





Sew a Flat Fell Seam

The goal of a flat fell seam is to have no raw edges on either side of the seam, nothing for the pole to catch on.

- ❖ I am using two very different fabrics so you can see the difference between the right and left sides of the seam allowance.
 - ❖ Sew a $\frac{1}{2}$ seam (wrong sides together)
 - ❖ Press it to one side
 - ❖ Clip the top seam allowance only down to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (an “add a 1/4” ruler is really helpful here)
 - ❖ Press the underneath allowance up over the clipped seam
 - ❖ Take both and press/pin them to the opposite side you started on
 - ❖ Top stitch the allowances to the project

