

# **Double Fold Straight Grain Binding**



*... where dreamers become quilters...*

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Double Fold Binding©2013 Seams Like a Dream Quilt Designs

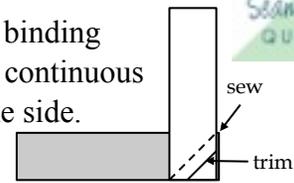
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## Double Fold Straight Grain Binding

### STEP 1

Cut binding strips according to the pattern. Trim off selvages. Sew binding strips RST (right sides together) with diagonal piecing to make one continuous piece of straight grain binding. Trim seams to  $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Press seams to one side.



### STEP 2

Fold binding in half with wrong sides together and press. Trim the starting edge of the binding.

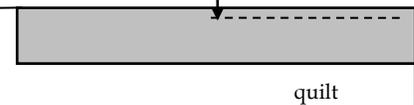


### STEP 3

Sew binding to front of quilt top starting in the middle of one side with raw edges even and using  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam.

Leave a 8-10" tail of binding free at the beginning of the seam.

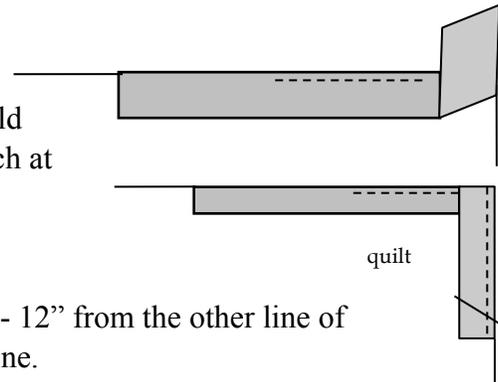
Start sewing line 8-10" in from edge



To miter corners, stop sewing  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from corner, backstitch. Remove quilt from under sewing machine.

Fold binding up to make a diagonal fold.

Keeping fold in place, fold binding straight down; second fold should be even with edges of quilt. Sew next side. I backstitch at the beginning of the seam. Repeat at each corner.



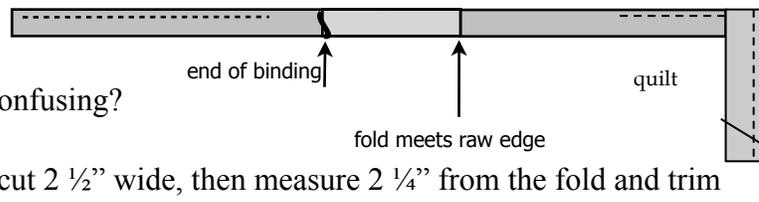
### STEP 4

When you get close to the beginning, stop stitching about 10- 12" from the other line of stitching. Backstitch; remove quilt from under sewing machine.

### STEP 5

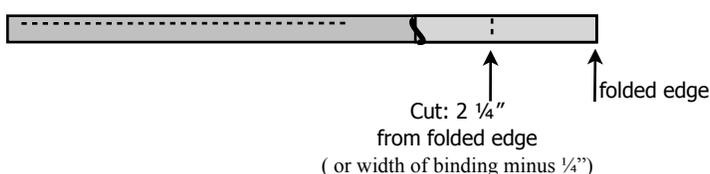
Fold the ending piece of binding back on top of itself so it's fold meets the raw edge of the beginning binding .

Measure across the ending piece of binding from the fold the amount of the full width of the binding, minus  $\frac{1}{4}$ ".



Are you saying: "What??" Was that confusing?

So, for example: if your binding was cut  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " wide, then measure  $2\frac{1}{4}$ " from the fold and trim the binding. I usually cut my bindings  $2\frac{1}{4}$ " wide, so I measure 2" and trim off the rest.



**BE VERY CAREFUL-**

**do NOT cut the binding while it is still laying on top of itself- you do not want to cut thru all layers of binding!!!!**

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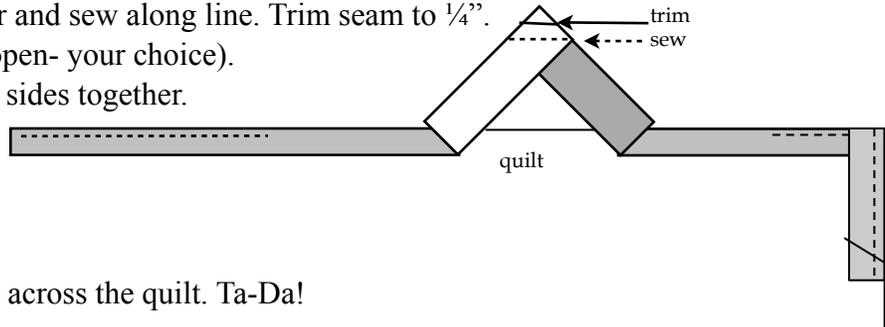
### STEP 6

Open up both ends of binding and lay ends RST at 90° angles to each other.

Draw a line corner to corner and sew along line. Trim seam to 1/4".

Press seam to one side (or open- your choice).

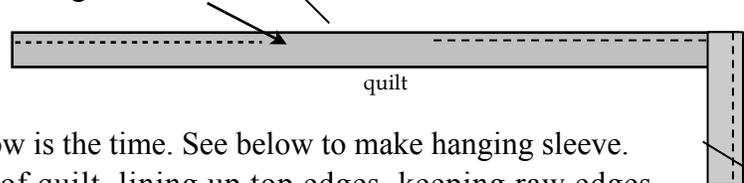
Fold binding in half, wrong sides together.



### STEP 7

Binding should fit perfectly across the quilt. Ta-Da!

Finish stitching the seam- backstitch at each end of seam to secure.



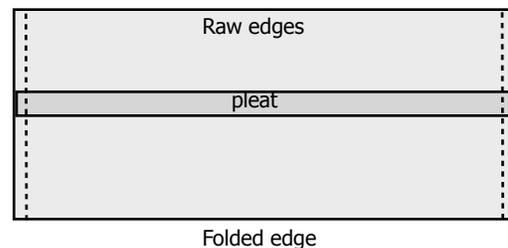
### STEP 8- Optional hanging sleeve

If you plan to add a hanging sleeve, now is the time. See below to make hanging sleeve.

Then, center sleeve along the back of quilt, lining up top edges, keeping raw edges even. Sew sleeve to quilt along seam line. Once binding is stitched down, hand stitch lower edge of sleeve in place.

*Optional hanging sleeve:* Extra backing fabric (or any fabric of your choice!) can be used to make a 4" hanging sleeve. Cut a piece of fabric 8 1/2" x width of quilt. Finish 8 1/2" edges by folding in half x 2 and stitching down. Fold in half lengthwise, wrong sides together.

I usually offset the fold so there is slightly more fabric on the outside of the sleeve than the inside. It helps the quilt hang flatter when using a dowel to hang the quilt. Some people will baste a small pleat on the outside section to make it easier and then release the basting once finished.



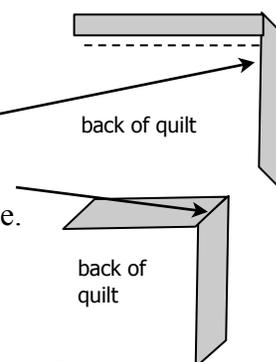
### STEP 9

Fold binding to back and hand stitch in place.

Be sure to cover binding seam.

Miter corners by stitching up to corner, then fold corner down on 45° angle to form miter. Stitch edges of miter, then continue down next side. Repeat at each corner.

Done. Enjoy.



Last tip: When it is time to fold the binding to the back, I find I have a much better binding if I press.

First I press the binding flat, away from the seam on the front side of the quilt.

Then I press the binding in from the back side. I pay extra attention to the corners.

This may seem excessive, but when I do it, it lays so much better!

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