

Perfect Binding Corners

Beginners Guide for Perfect Binding & Corners

By

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How to Make Perfect Binding & Corners

My Favorite binding strip size is 3" for quilts. Follow these steps to help you make nice corners.

1. Never trim the excess batting and backing, you need the extra backing and batting to fill the binding.
2. Cut binding strips 3" wide either straight or on the bias. Sew the strips together with diagonal seam. Trim seam allowance to 1/4" and press the seams open to distribute the bulk in the binding.



3. Fold the binding in half wrong sides together iron flat.



4. I always start by placing my binding strip in the center of one bottom of my quilt. Check to make sure that your binding seams will not end at the corner. If they land in the corner area I will open the seam and move it back about 3" to keep the corner less bulky. Place the raw edge of the binding even with the quilt top raw edge.



5. Leave the first 8" of the binding unsewn to make the finishing seam easier. Align the binding strip even with the quilt top. Stitch the binding to the quilt with 1/4" seam allowance. Continue sewing until you are 1/4" from the corner and stop stitching.



6. Now leave the needle in the quilt, lift the pressure foot and turn the quilt 90 degrees to line up with the new sewing edge. Reverse stitch off the binding about 2".



7. Fold the binding strip up and away from the corner forming a 45 degree angle keep binding strip the aligned in a straight line with the quilt edge.



8. Now this is where I do things a little different. Fold the binding strip down and make the folded edge come above the previous 1/4" seam allowance. The folded edge should be just less the 1/4" above the previous seam allowance. By doing this you will have more fabric in the corner and you will be able to make the corner finish with a nice 90 degree angle.

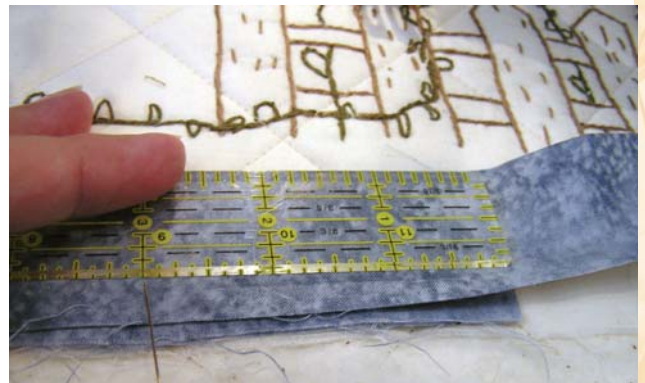


*If you are using a different size strip the 1/4" will vary according to the strip you are using.

9. Continue sewing the binding to the quilt until up are 8" from the beginning end of the binding. Remove the quilt from the sewing machine.



10. Lay the quilt on a flat surface. Lay the beginning binding strip in position on the quilt top smooth out nice and flat. Place end of the binding strip over the beginning strip overlapping the strips. Measure the ending strip overlap 3" and cut the excess binding away.



11. Open the ending strip and fold the ending strip wrong sides together at 45 degree angle. Press with iron to make the 45 degree stitching line. Draw the diagonal line with pencil. This will be your stitching line.



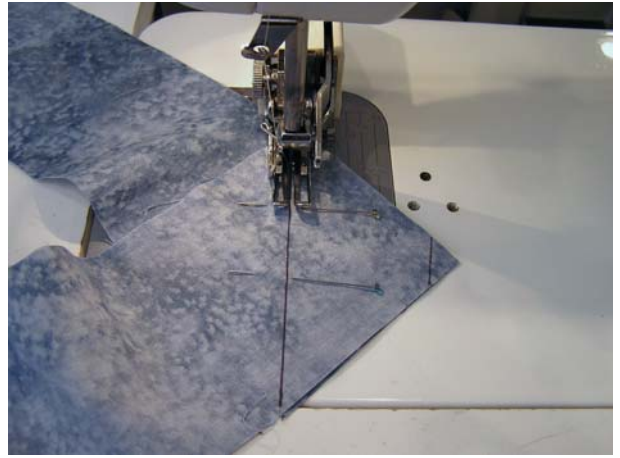
12. Open the beginning strip and lay flat on the quilt top with right side up. Now place the ending strip on top with the angle still folded under to find the correct alignment of the strips.



13. Now carefully turn the ending strip toward you and align the two strips and pin across the diagonal stitching line.

14. Stitch on the stitching line. Fold the binding in half and out flat. and test the fit. If the strip is too tight or too loose unsew the seam and adjust the strip position.

15. After the strip is sewn trim the seam to 1/4" seam allowance. Press seam open to distribute the bulk.



16. Refold the binding wrong sides together and finish sewing the binding.



17. With ruler measure 1/2" from the stitching line and trim away the excess backing and batting. Make sure not to cut into the folded binding at the corners.



18. I use Warm and Natural batting so I can iron on my quilt. If you are using Poly batting only finger press in the following steps. From the front of the quilt press the binding away from the quilt.

19. Turn the quilt over and now fold the binding over the batting and align the folded edge of the binding so that it just covers the stitching. At the corner iron the 45 degree angle.

20. Fold binding at the corner with the 45 degree angle meeting the previous strip to create the corner. Iron flat.

21. Now I like to use Roxanne's Blue Baste to hold my binding in place for hand sewing. No pins to stick you.

22. Hand sew your binding and enjoy the quilt.



Note - You can do the technique I showed for any size binding.

1. At the corners you will need to adjust the amount of the folded overlap in step 8.
2. Cutting the end overlapping strip of the binding in step 10. the measurement is always the width of the cut strip.

Thanks you and I hope these steps will make your quilts come out with nice corners.