



FOOLPROOF FRENCH BINDING

A simple easy way for perfect corners and a smooth binding every time!

Binding (3/8" wide finished French Binding)

From 44" wide fabric cut strips each 2" wide. These will be sewn together to form one length.

Sew binding together with mitered seams to form one long continuous length. Fold binding wrong sides together and press.

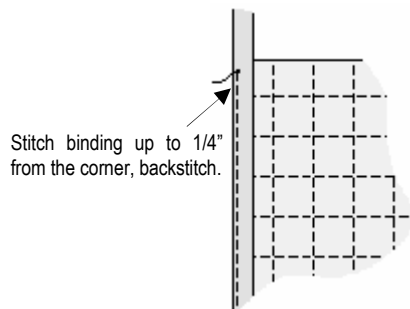
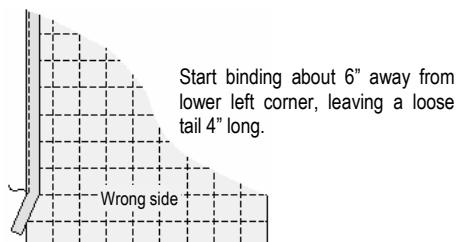
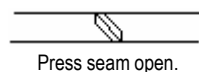
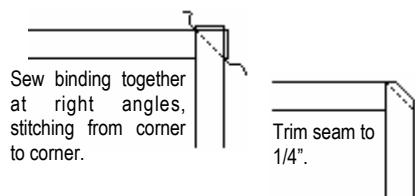
You'll be sewing the binding to edges of the quilt by stitching to the wrong side first and then flip to the right side and topstitch in place.

Pin binding to **wrong** side of quilt having raw edges even.

Begin sewing binding in a 1/4" seam about 6" away from lower left corner, leaving a loose tail of binding approximately 4" long. You will join this section later.

NOTE: Sewing a 1/4" seam will result in a 3/8" finished binding because of 'turn of the cloth' and thickness of any filler (batting, fleece, etc). If your piece is very thin (no batting), you may want to stitch in a 3/8" seam.

Stitch binding up to 1/4" from the corner, backstitch. Remove from under presser foot.



Binding continued...

Pivot binding at a 45° angle from the just stitched binding then fold the binding back down to continue along next edge.

The folded back edge of the binding should be even with the raw edge of the quilt. Begin sewing from the folded edge of the binding.

Continue in this manner until you have just turned the last corner and stitched approximately 2" along the edge. Stop and backstitch.

To join the two ends together, lay the leading loose tail of the binding down along the raw edge of the quilt. Make a small clip (1/8") about half way between the unstitched area, through both the binding and quilt. Lift this loose tail out of the way and repeat for the ending bit of binding **using the clip mark in the quilt as your guide** to mark the end binding.

Lift up both ends of binding, open out fold and pin *right sides together*, matching clips. Stitch where clipped in a straight seam, trim and press open. Re-fold binding and finish sewing to quilt.

Press binding outward.

Fold binding around edge and **topstitch** to quilt, having binding just over stitching line. Ease miters at corners (you may find trimming the corner seam allowance just a bit to be beneficial in making a crisp corner). Mitered corners can be simply pressed or hand-tacked if necessary.

Enjoy! 

