



FINISHED BINDING **BY MACHINE**

By Linda Visnaw

Finishing quilt bindings is fast, decorative, and sturdy. The sewing machine makes it fast and with all those great decorative stitches and threads it can be sew pretty. The strong part is because of the tight stitch of the machine...but what about those little puckers. How do you keep it flat? Ah, that's where the Steam-a-Seam2® comes in.

You Will Need:	
1	Your sewing machine with multiple needle positions with power
2	Edge Stitching foot (foot with a flange on the right used during piecing to produce a consistent edge)
3	Edge Joining foot (stitch in the ditch foot)
4	Enough 2 1/4" (my preference) binding, folded in half and pressed, to go around your quilt
5	Thread to coordinate with your quilt
6	Pins
7	Scissors
8	FABRIC FOLDING PEN by Clover
9	STEAM-A-SEAM2® by The Warm Company
10	Iron and board

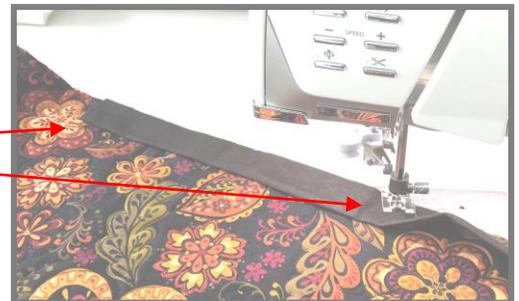
Machine and Binding Set Up

- ✂ Loosen pressure foot pressure to 3.0
- ✂ Set stitch length to 3.0
- ✂ Thread up with coordinating thread
- ✂ Snap on Edge Stitching foot
- ✂ Place needle in middle position

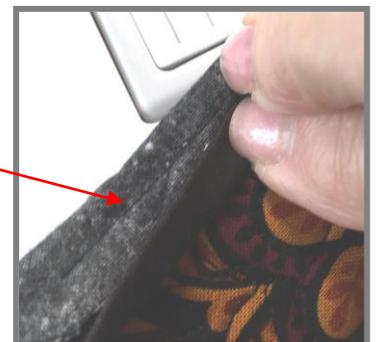
Let's Get Started

Sewing Binding Strip on to Fabric

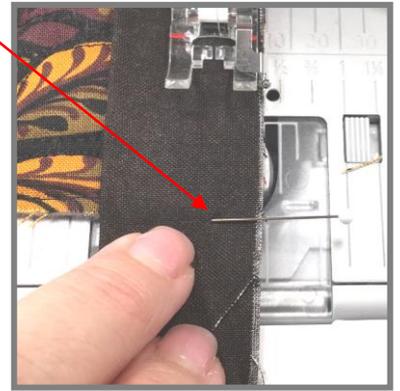
1. Place folded binding on to right side of fabric with raw edges lined up
2. Leave about a 10" tail before starting to stitch



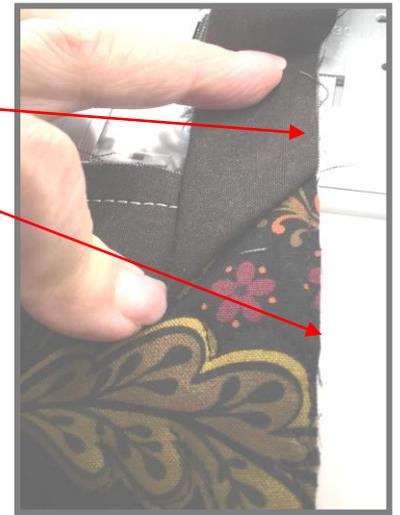
3. Stitch about 6"
4. Check binding to see if it wraps around tightly and meets the stitching on the underside comfortable (that is, tightly wrapped so that the binding is snug and the folded edge lines up with the stitching)
5. Adjust the needle to the right or left if necessary to achieve #4



6. Continue stitching to with-in the seam width of the end (place a pin showing where the end is to help determine the turning point)
7. At the stopping point, turn the fabric on a 45 and stitch to the point



8. With foot up, pull fabric away from edge (not necessary to cut the thread)
9. Beginning at the point, fold binding to the left making a 45-degree angle
10. Hold left corner of binding while folding the rest of the binding vertically making a straight line along the left edge of fabric



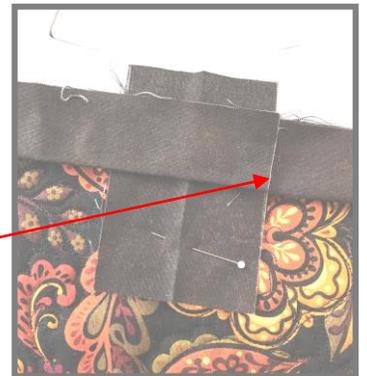
11. Fold the binding down on top of itself so the fold is even with the top edge of the fabric
12. Stitch to next corner
13. Repeat from #5 to #12 for the remaining corners
14. Stop stitching about 18" (if you have that much room) from where you began
15. Turn fabric to the wrong side with the two unstitched tails on top

Now for the Hard Part Made Easy

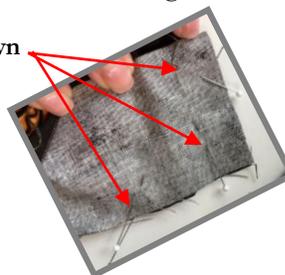
1. Cut a "spacer" from the left over binding about 3" long
2. Lay the right binding tail along the raw edge
3. Lay the opened flat "spacer" piece perpendicular to the right binding piece, centered between the where the right and left began and stopped stitching
4. Trim any of the right tail to the left of the "spacer"
5. Place the left binding tail over the "spacer" piece with raw edges of binding aligned with edge
6. Trim any fabric of the left binding tail to the right of the "spacer"

NOTE: This method provides perfect spacing regardless of the width of the binding with no math

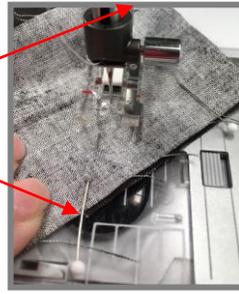
7. Remove the "spacer"



8. Pick up left binding tail in left hand with right side facing you
9. Pick up right binding tail in right hand with right side facing you
10. Place the left tail perpendicular to the right tail with right sides together so that 1/16" of the left tail is visible past the edge and 1/16" of the right tail is visible past the edge
11. Place three pins to hold the pieces together as shown



12. Pull binding straight to confirm it is pinned correctly
13. Sew from upper left crevice to lower right crevice



14. Pull binding straight to confirm it is sewn correctly
15. Trim seam allowance to 1/4"
16. Finger press or use the Fabric Folding Pen to press seam open
17. Complete stitching the binding to the quilt



Preparing the Binding for Machine Finishing

1. From the right side, fold the binding away from the quilt along the entire side using the Fabric Folding Pen in the seam to help flatten it
2. Press seam flat with iron along the entire side
3. Place a strip 1/4" Steam-a-Seam2, tacky side to the fabric edge of the quilt pressing firmly with thumb nail



NOTE: *If Steam-a-Seam does not want to stick, touch the paper tape with the tip of the hot iron about every inch or so...let tape cool completely before gently pulling paper off*

4. Carefully pull paper off
5. Fold the binding over edge matching the fold on the binding with the stitch line
6. Press

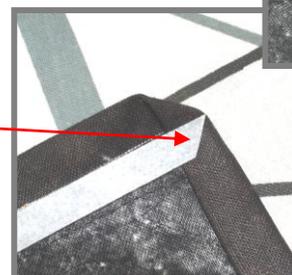


7. Press the corner 45 really well to ensure a sharp mitered corner
8. Use Fabric Folding Pen then index finger nail on inner fold to crease well
9. Fold edge over making a perfect mitered corner...adjust if necessary



10. Cut end of Steam-a-Seam on a 45
11. Repeat #3 to #9
12. Your quilt is now ready for machine stitch finishing

NOTE: *Or...the quilt binding is also easily sewn by hand at this time*

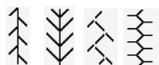


Machine Top Stitching the Quilt

1. Stitching will be from the right side
2. Attach Seam Joining foot (Stitch in the Ditch foot) to ensure the stitch remains in the middle while stitching
3. Choose a decorative stitch to top stitch finish the binding

NOTE: *The best bet is to choose a decorative stitch that moves right and left equally*

Example:



4. Stitch around the quilt

Enjoy!