

Joining Binding Ends

Continuous binding with no bulk is easy to do. Learn how and you'll never have lumpy binding again!

1. Stitch the Binding to the Quilt



Prepare binding strips as for double-fold (French-fold) binding, but do not fold under an end.

Beginning in the center of the bottom edge, place the binding strip against the right side of the quilt top. Align the binding strip's raw edges with the quilt top's raw edge, leaving a 10" tail.

Starting 10" from the end, sew the binding to the quilt using a 1/4" seam allowance. Stop sewing when you are within 10" to 20" from where you began stitching. Backstitch at both the beginning and the end.

Measure quilt top's edge. Cut a 6"- to 10"-wide strip of prewashed fabric 2" longer than the quilt's top edge. Fold under 1-1/2" on both ends of fabric strip. Sew 1/4" from raw edges.

2. Align the Raw Edges



Remove the quilt from under the presser foot and place it on a flat surface. Lay the first binding tail in place on the quilt top, aligning the raw edges. Repeat with the second binding tail. Crease the second binding tail where it meets the first tail's straight cut end.

3. Measure the Distance



From the crease, measure the distance of the binding strip's cut width. For example, if the binding strips were cut 2-1/2" wide, the measurement would be 2-1/2". Cut the second tail straight across at that mark.

4. Join the Diagonal Seams



Open the tails. With right sides together, place one on top of the other at a right angle. Join the strips with a diagonal seam. Before stitching, check to be sure the strips are not twisted. Trim the seam allowance to 1/4" and finger-press open.

5. Finish the Binding



Fold the binding strip in half lengthwise, as it was done previously. It should lie perfectly flat. Continue sewing the binding strip to the starting point. Backstitch to secure. Turn the binding over the edge of the quilt and hand-stitch in place.