

# Make a Baby Quilt

With mitered corners

By Karen Dragoo

A lesson for Stitchhouse



# Materials Needed:

- 1 piece fabric 36x54" (1.5yds)
- 1 piece fabric (back) 40x58" (2 yds)
- 1 piece batting 40x58" (1.5yd)
- 1 strip back fabric 3.5 x 72 plus  
4 strips 3.5 x 40" = 192"
- thread
- machine
- irons/ironing boards
- cutting boards
- rotary cutters
- pins
- scissors & snips
- tape measure
- fabric marker or chalk
- notebooks & pens

# Binding Charts

Finished Binding Width	Cut Binding Strips This Wide
1/4"	1-1/2"
1/2"	2-1/2"
3/4"	3-1/2"

Once you are armed with the number of strips you need, use this table to see how much yardage you need to cut that many strips of your chosen width.

Fabric Yardage	Number of Fabric Strips		
	1-1/2" Strips	2-1/2" Strips	3-1/2" Strips
1/8 Yard	3	1	1
1/4 Yard	6	3	2
1/2 Yard	12	7	5
3/4 Yard	18	10	7
1 Yard	24	14	10

- Source: [How to Make Quilt Binding from Fabric Strips - New Quilters](#); [How to Machine Bind a Quilt \(No Hand Sewing!\) - New Quilters](#)

## Cutting dimensions:

- 36x54" front fabric
- 40x58" back fabric
- 40x58" quilt batting
- 3.5 x 200" binding (cut 3.5" strips to sew together) This will give you a 'wide' binding of 5/8" on each side.



# Steps

- Match thread



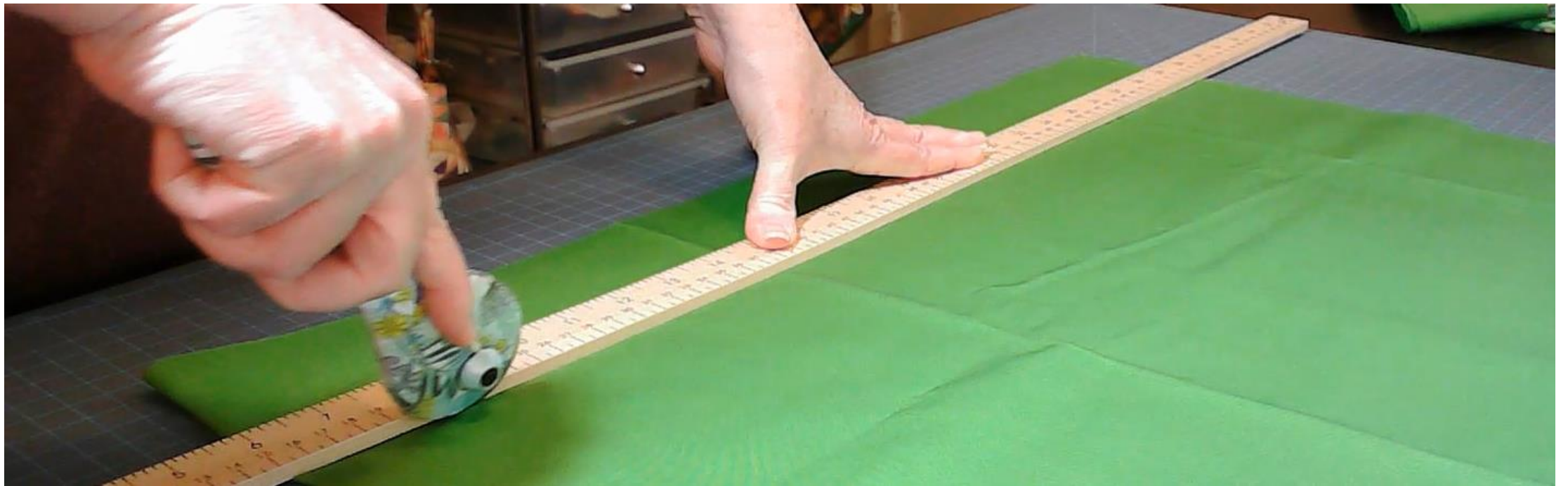


# Steps

- Cut fabric – all pieces – including binding
- Cut batting to size









# Steps

- Apply painter's tape vertically in strips next to the places you want to sew your quilt lines.
- This was more easily done with folding the fabric in half, then quarters, before sandwiching, then taping along the folded edge.





# Steps

- Apply painter's tape horizontally in strips next to the places you want to sew your quilt lines.
- This time, you're folding the fabric in half, then quarters horizontally.
- You could use one big strip, then tear off small pieces where you're going to sew next to the vertical tape.
- Alternately, you can use the pattern on the fabric, or you can measure by the inch after you've sandwiched and sewn the vertical lines.
- I ended up using the fabric pattern to place the tape this time, but it's easier to fold before it's sandwiched.





# Steps

- Make quilt sandwich – on table or wall: back fabric wrong side up, add batting on top, add top fabric right side up on top.





# Steps

- Pin fabric at corners and center of each side.
- Personal note: I'm getting better results with hanging the fabric to make the sandwich because it hangs smoothly.



# Steps

- Using the painter's tape as a guide, sew from the center out to the top then center to the bottom on each sew line.
- Pay attention to which side of the tape you stitch on, and stitch on that side of each strip of tape.
- Give it a hair cut.





# Steps

- Sew from the center out to the right then to the left on each sew line. To find center, fold quilt in half vertically.



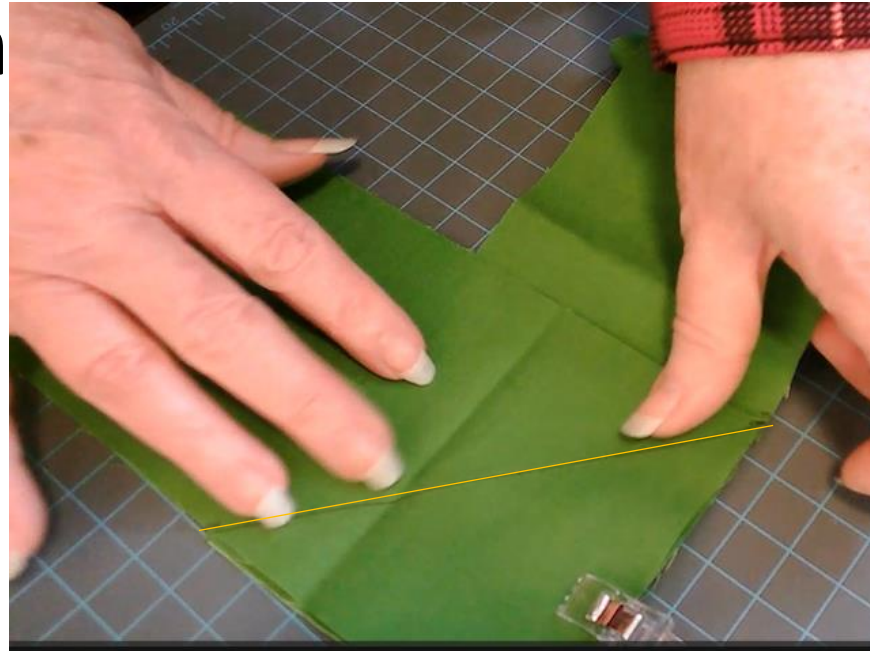
- Steps:
- Make a visual check of front and back of quilt to ensure no puckers or spots of fabric were caught up in the stitching.
  - Iron if needed.
  - Cut the sandwich down so all sides are equal front, middle, and back. This is the point when you can trim top and bottom edges of the front (as minimally as needed) to make them straight.





# Making the Binding

- Sew together the binding strips. Line up 2 pieces at 90-degree angles on the ends. Mark the diagonal stitch line. Sew.
- Repeat, adding each strip of binding to the whole.
- Cut off the excess triangles leaving a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam.



# Making the binding

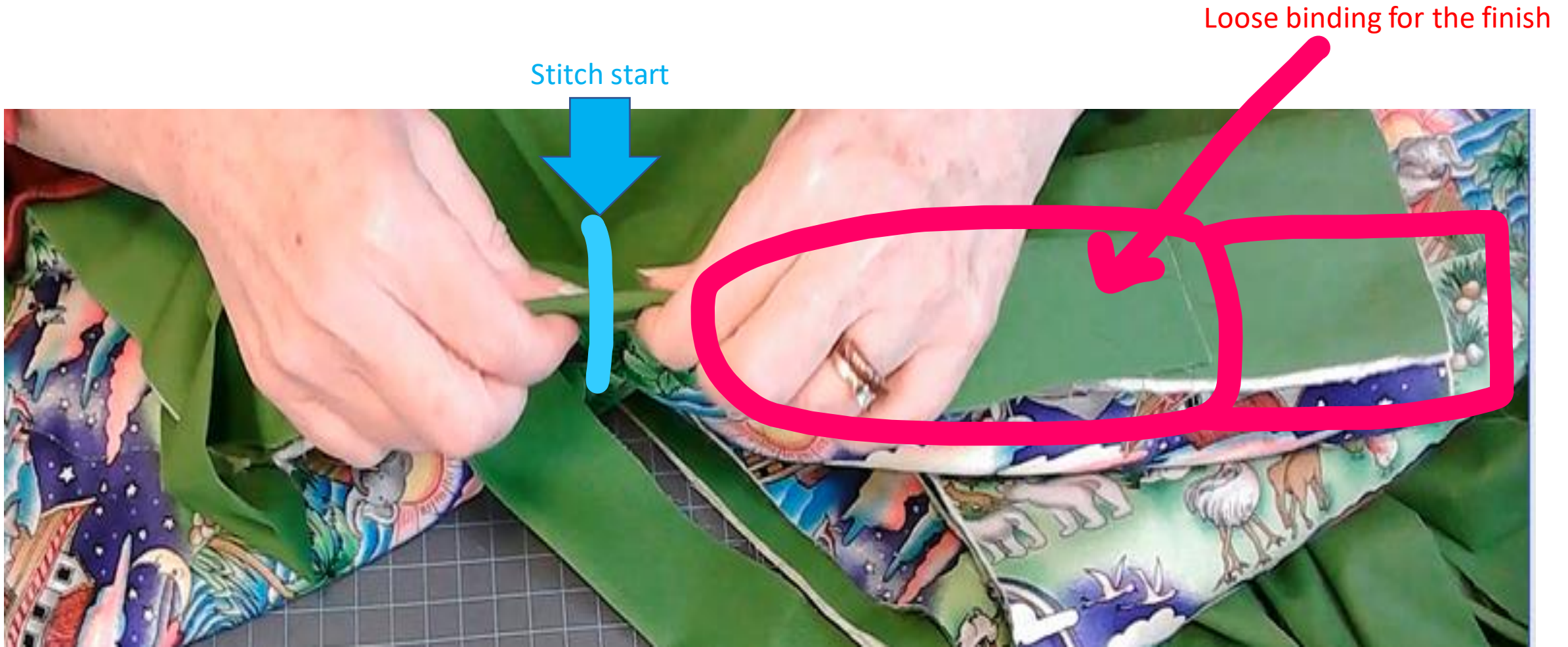
- Fold and iron your binding in half lengthwise.
- Match up raw edges as best as possible, then trim uneven spots to get them aligned.
- Be sure to iron your seams open where you cut off the triangles.





# Sewing the binding to the quilt

- Clip the folded binding to one edge (I prefer the bottom edge) of the quilt with all raw edges together. *Your stitching will start about halfway across that side in order to leave room to finish the binding.*
- Leave 10 inches of binding loose, so put a clip where you want to begin stitching.



# Sewing the binding to the quilt

- You'll only clip/pin to the first corner because you'll want to leave the binding open to make the folds for a mitered binding. (Once that edge is sewn, you'll make your folds, then clip the next side.)
- When you get to the corner, make a mark at  $\frac{1}{4}$ " (I went to  $\frac{1}{2}$ ") from the edge because I sewed  $\frac{1}{2}$ " seams..

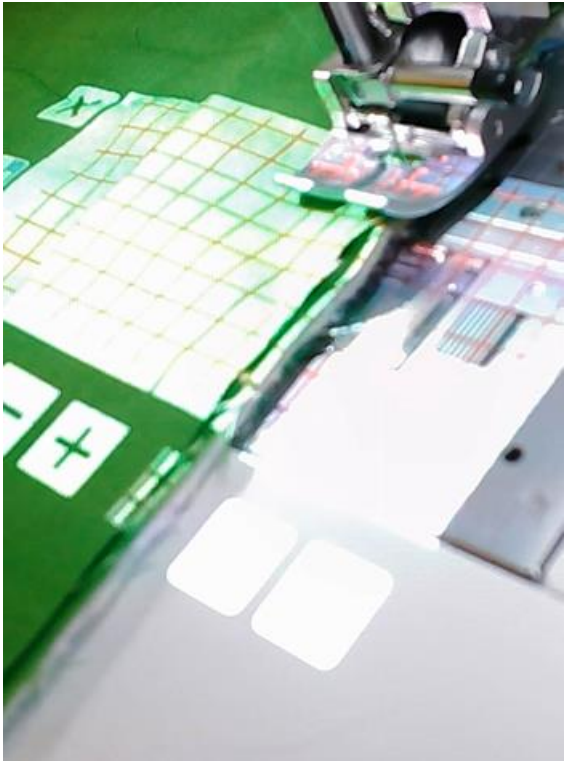


- You only clip, miter, and sew, one side at a time until you get to the last corner.



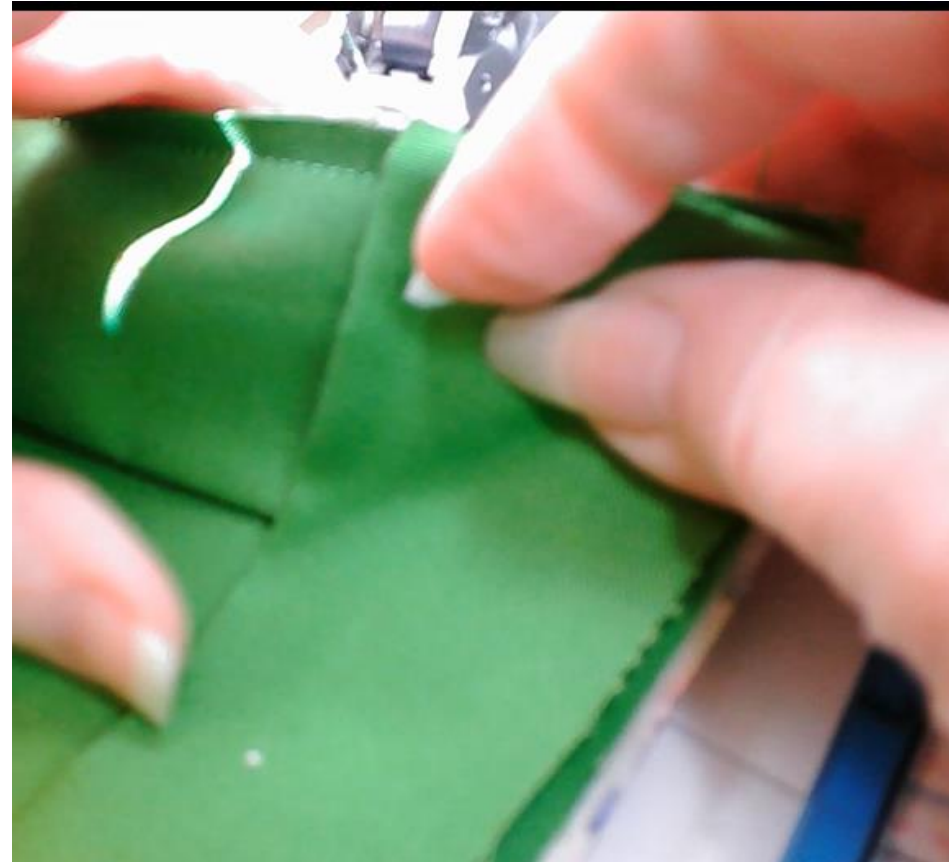
# Sewing the binding to the quilt

- Sew the raw edges of the binding to the raw edges of the back of the quilt. (Remember to leave 10" at the beginning of your binding.)  
Because I wanted a  $\frac{5}{8}$ " wide binding, I sewed a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam.
- When you reach your  $\frac{1}{4}$ " (or  $\frac{1}{2}$ ") mark, stop sewing, turn your quilt 90° and sew backwards off the quilt.



# Sewing the binding to the quilt

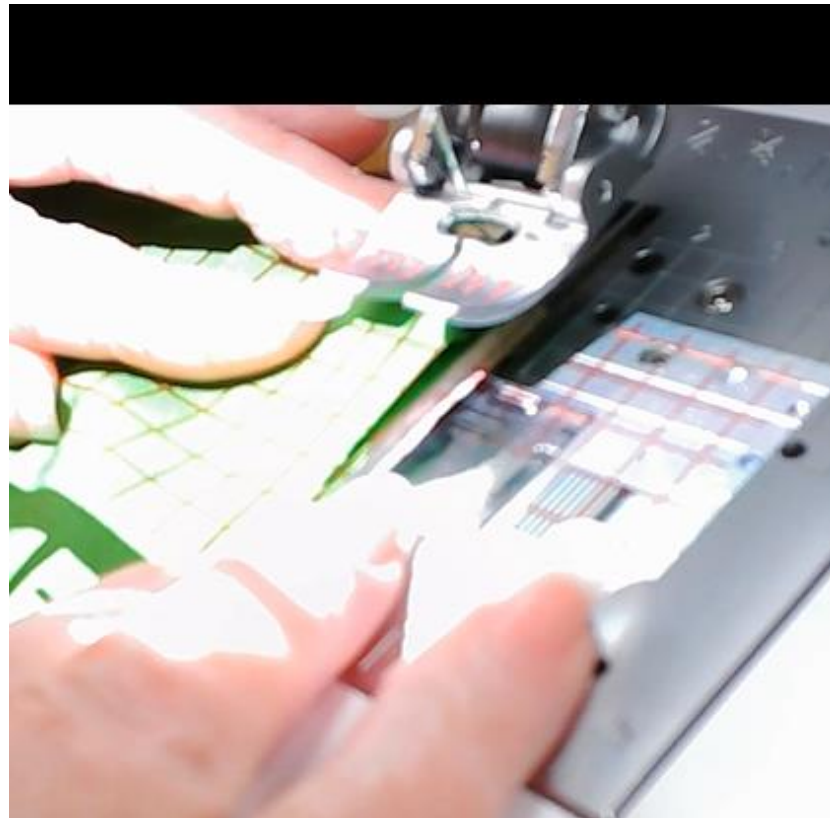
- Fold your binding up to the last sewn spot so that you have a 45° angle.
- Next, fold the rest of the binding down on top of that 45° angle so the folded top and the raw edge are even with the top and right edge of the quilt. You should be able to see the angled fold under the top layer of binding.





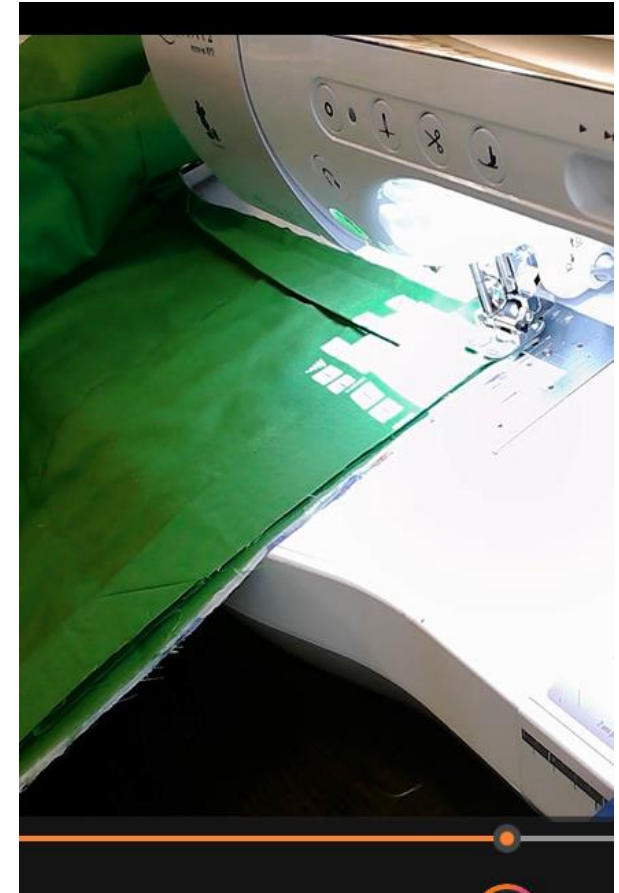
# Sewing the binding to the quilt

- Use a right-angle ruler with a 45° angle mark to verify you have everything aligned correctly.
- Now sew from the top down the side of the quilt.
- (Note: because I was sewing at  $\frac{1}{2}$ ", I made my mark at  $\frac{1}{2}$ ".)



# Sewing the binding to the quilt

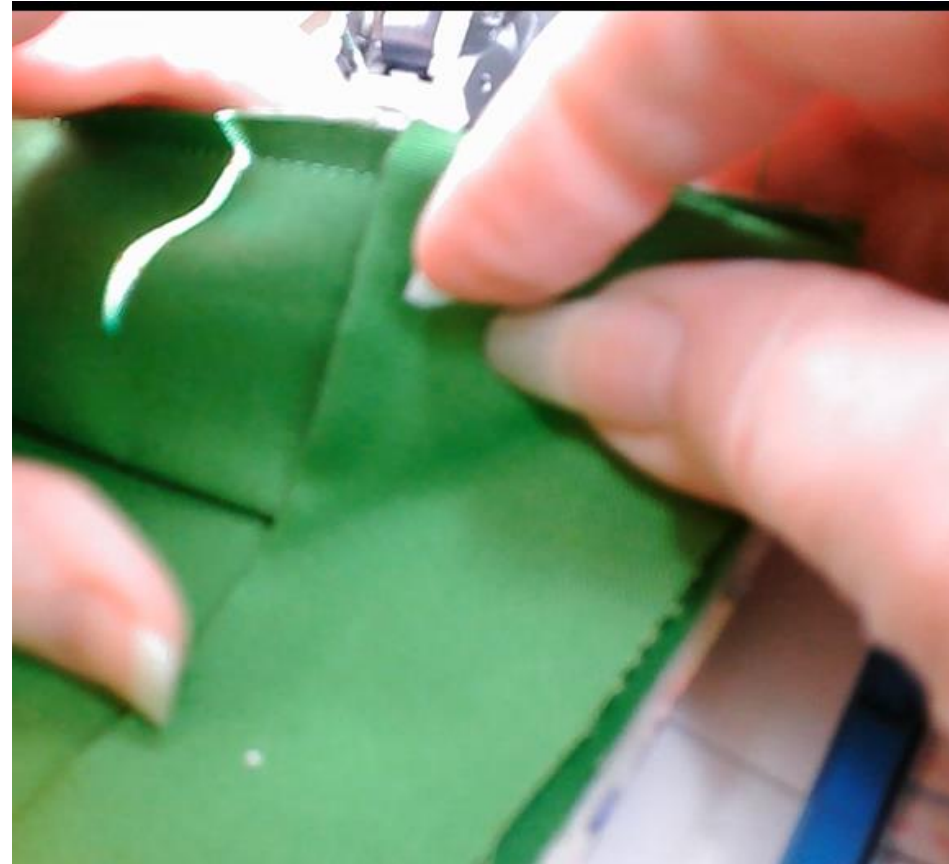
- As I sewed, I frequently adjusted and readjusted my binding to align it with my quilt edge.
- By the time I was sewing the second edge, I stopped using the clips because I was making those constant adjustments.





# Sewing the binding to the quilt : Corner Repeat

- Fold your binding up to the last sewn spot so that you have a 45° angle.
- Next, fold the rest of the binding down on top of that 45° angle so the folded top and the raw edge are even with the top and right edge of the quilt. You should be able to see the angled fold under the top layer of binding.



# Sewing the binding to the quilt: Corner Repeat

- Use a right-angle ruler with a 45° angle mark to verify you have everything aligned correctly.
- Now sew from the top down the side of the quilt.
- (Note: because I was sewing at  $\frac{1}{2}$ ", I made my mark at  $\frac{1}{2}$ ".)



- Continue to sew the final two sides and corners the same way.
- When you have sewn the 4<sup>th</sup> corner, stop to make some more marks.



# Sewing the binding to the quilt

- You are back on the bottom edge (the side you started sewing).
- You are going to measure from your start backwards 12" and make a mark.
- Sew the binding to that mark.



# Sewing the binding to the quilt

- We'll use the binding tool to sew our binding end to the beginning.
- Line the flat edge up with the end of your stitching.
- Place the binding on top.
- Mark across at the line on the tool.





# Sewing the binding to the quilt



- Open the binding up and continue that line across.
- Line your binding tool up on the opened binding and trim along the diagonal and the short edge at the top.
- Because I made a 3.5" wide binding, the tool was too short. I used a ruler to line up the diagonal to both edges of the binding, then cut the short top.

# Sewing the binding to the quilt



- Spin the ruler around to place it on the beginning side.
- Lay the binding over it and mark the straight line.
- Open the binding and draw that line all the way across.



# Sewing the binding to the quilt

- On the beginning side, place the short tip of the ruler against the line you drew. You will cut along the top tip and the diagonal.
- Since my binding is so wide, I used a ruler to finish cutting the diagonal.



# Sewing the binding to the quilt



- Match the diagonals with right sides together. The short, flat part will match up to the side of the binding.
- This takes a bit of manipulation!





# Sewing the binding to the quilt

- Clip this together when you get the sides matched.
- Sew a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam along the diagonal.
- Finger press the seam open.



# Sewing the binding to the quilt





# Sewing the binding to the quilt

- Once the diagonal is sewn, straighten out the binding so it's folded and lined up with raw edges against the raw edge of the quilt. You should have an exact fit.
- Stitch that remaining edge.



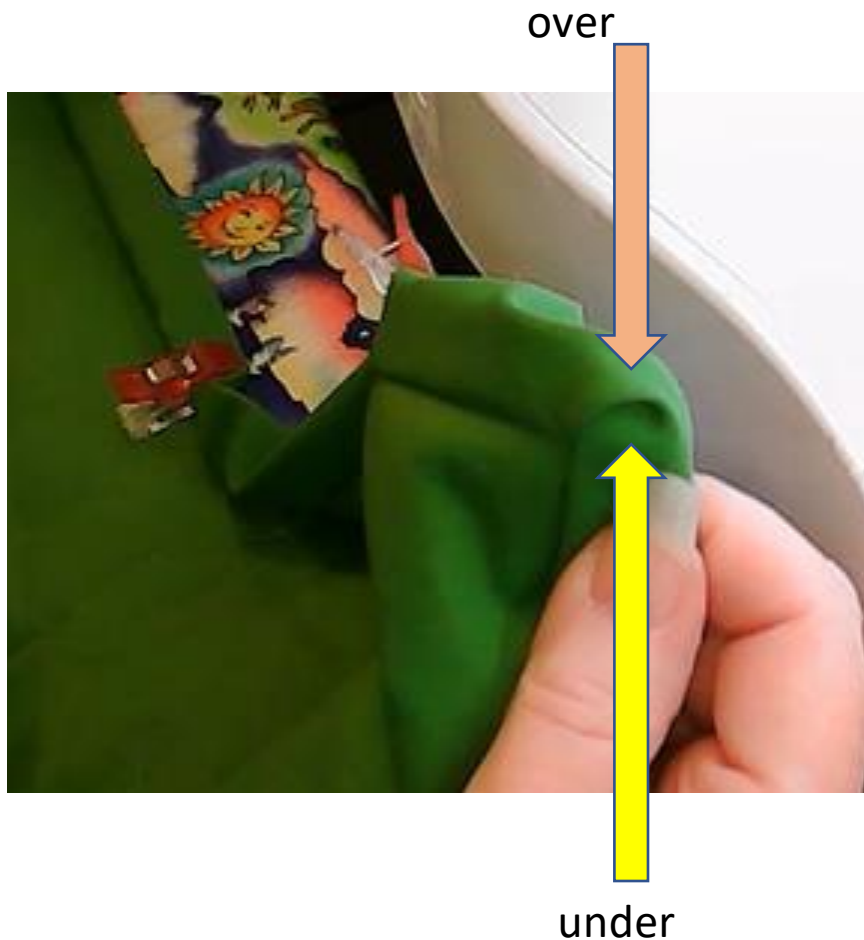
# Sewing the binding to the quilt



- Pick a spot about 2 inches in front of a corner and fold the binding over the top to the front of the quilt. Clip/pin it there.
- Clip/pin the remainder of that side.
- Clip/Pin about 2 inches after your first chosen corner on the other side of the corner.



# Sewing the binding to the quilt: Miter the Corner



- Check the back of the corner to see which side is folded over the other.
- On the front, you want the opposite side folded on top.
- Push the fabric from one side to the edge of the perpendicular side.
- Fold the fabric from the perpendicular side over the 1<sup>st</sup> edge.

# Sewing the binding to the quilt



- Push the fabric from one side to the edge of the perpendicular side.
- Fold the fabric from the perpendicular side over the 1<sup>st</sup> edge.
- Pin/Clip the mitered corner in place.





# Sewing the binding to the quilt

- Continue to pin/clip the 2<sup>nd</sup> side of your quilt.
- When you reach the 2<sup>nd</sup> corner, follow the directions to miter it. (Push one side down to the perpendicular edge, then fold the other side over it.)
- Repeat these steps with sides 3 and 4 until all sides are pinned and all corners are mitered and pinned.

# Sewing the binding to the quilt

- Start stitching at a mitered corner.
- I straight stitch the whole binding first, then I choose a fancier stitch to stitch down the edges.
- You can finish with the straight stitch or do both like I do.





# Sewing the binding to the quilt



- Notice, I use a quilting glove to move the fabric along more easily.

# Sewing the binding to the quilt

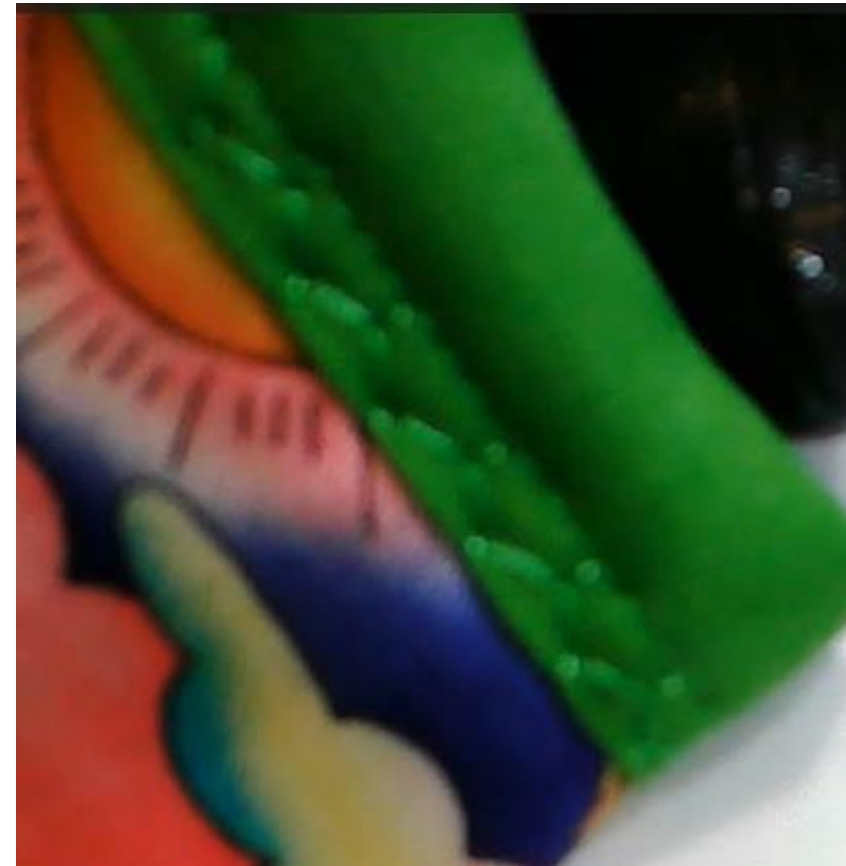
- Straight stitch finished.





# Finishing Touches:

- If you would like to add a fancier stitch to the binding, this is the time to do so.
- Check your quilt for any stray pieces of thread that need trimming and cut them.



- Admire your beautiful work!!!!



If you used a store machine, please  
Remove the needle and presser foot  
And clean the machine.

Thank you.