

How to cut and make a bias binding.

Bias bindings are stronger and do not wear through as easily as bindings cut WOF. A bias binding has a small amount of stretch which will allow it to be sewn on a curve for curved corners or scalloped edges.

Calculate amount of fabric needed for the binding:

1. Measure the distance around your quilt.
If your quilt is 60 inches wide and 72 inches long, add $60+60+72+72=264$ total inches.
2. Divide the total inches by width of fabric which often is 42 inches.
 $264/42=6.29$. Round this number up to a whole number, then add 1. 6.29 rounded up is $7+1 = 8$. This tells you how many strips you will need. In our example you will need 8 strips.
3. Multiply the number of strips times the width you want your strips. In our example we want strips 2.5 inches wide, so $8 \text{ times } 2.5 = 20$ inches. This is how much fabric is required to make your binding.
4. Formula: Distance around your quilt, divided by width of fabric rounded up plus 1, times width of strips equals amount of fabric needed.

Cut your binding:

1. Cut off required amount of your binding fabric. Remove the selvages.
2. Fold so that the shorter selvedge side is lying on the cut edge. This makes a 45-degree angle. Use your ruler to cut a strip on the fold that measures half of the width your needed strips (because it is on the fold). In our example it would be 1.25 inches. When unfolded it will be 2.5 inches.
3. Cut the remaining strips parallel to the first cut, but it should be the full needed width of the binding.

Finish making your binding:

1. Sew your strips right sides together end to end.
2. Press seam allowances in one direction. Fold in half, length wise and press.
3. Your bias binding is ready to be sewn to your quilt.