



## HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN BINDING

Making your own binding is not only economical, but it's pretty easy. Plus, if you use the leftover fabric from your quilt, it can add an interesting and rich dimension to your finished work. The pieces don't even have to be the same length.

How much do you need? Once you finish your quilting and square off your quilt, measure your sides and add the length of each side of your quilt. For instance, if you made a 60" X 40" quilt, that's 200" in length to go around the perimeter. Next, you add another 10-12" where you'll attach the pieces at the end.

How do we make a binding that's 210"? Diagonally sew strips of fabric together (see the button on our HSQ How To page for instructions).

How wide? First, determine how much of your binding you wish to see on your quilt. If you want to see at a 1" width on each side of your quilt, double the 1" (so you have about that on each side). Don't stop there. You have to determine your seam allowance, which is usually 1/4", double that and add that as well, because your binding strip is folded in half, and you will lose that much when you sew the binding to your quilt (1/4" per side). Trust us, this works if you aren't into all the reasoning for the math!

Continuing with our example, we need to create 210" of binding that's 2-1/2" wide. Cut your strips to 2-1/2" and then diagonally attach them to 210" or so in length.

Fold your strips in half so that they are 1-1/4" wide. Press all the way down.

You just created a roll of your own binding!!!! Check out our Coming Home Pattern to see how we used our leftovers.