

General Quilting Instructions

Fabric Washing

- We do not wash our fabric. Unwashed fabric is easier to work with, as it is firmer. Also, we seldom wash our finished quilts as they are created primarily to decorate walls. If you do decide to wash a finished quilt then add a dye magnet to the water. This should prevent the colors from running. Dye magnets are available at most grocery stores.

Fabric Cutting

- Cut all strips from selvage to selvage.
- If using fat eighths or fat quarters, cut double the number of strips.

Sewing Instructions

- Always use an exact ¼" seam allowance.
- Fill 3 bobbins before starting to sew to save time.
- Backstitching is not necessary, as the ends will be overlapped by another set of stitches.

Machine Appliqué Instructions

- Templates have been reversed for using fusible web.
- Trace templates on to the paper side of fusible web.
- Cut out leaving a ½" margin beyond the traced lines.
- Fuse pieces on to wrong side of the appropriate fabric following the fusing product manufacturer's instructions.
- Cut out appliqué pieces on the traced lines.
- Position appliqué pieces on the quilt top and fuse.
- Blanket stitch, satin stitch, zigzag or straight stitch the appliqué pieces to the background through the quilt top and batting.
- A flat firm batting such as Warm and Natural or Arctic Cotton works best for blanket stitching through the quilt top and batting.

Borders

- Depending on the size of the quilt, join strips to make them the correct length.
- Measure vertically through the middle of the quilt and cut 2 of the border strips that length. Pin and sew to each side of the quilt.
- Measure horizontally through the middle of the quilt including the borders. Cut the remaining 2 border strips that length. Pin and sew to each side of the quilt.

Layering the Quilt

- Use a scratch resistant table. It helps if you can access all sides of the table.
- Press the fabric you have selected for the back of your quilt. Place wrong side up on the table. (Most of the time we stitch the appliqué pieces only through the quilt top and batting and add the backing later).
- Place the batting on top of the back fabric and smooth out wrinkles.
- Put quilt top on next and smooth out wrinkles.
- Flip the quilt over and smooth out any wrinkles on the back.
- Pin about every 3 inches using safety pins or straight pins. Put extra pins in the borders. You should not be able to put your fist down without touching a pin. Option: instead of pins use a spray basting product such as 505.

Machine Quilting

- Use a walking foot if you have one.
- We use a matching thread to blanket stitch around the appliqué pieces.
- Quilt both sides of the inner border first to stabilize the quilt.
- After the quilting is complete, cut off the extra backing and batting.

Making a Sleeve for Hanging the Quilt

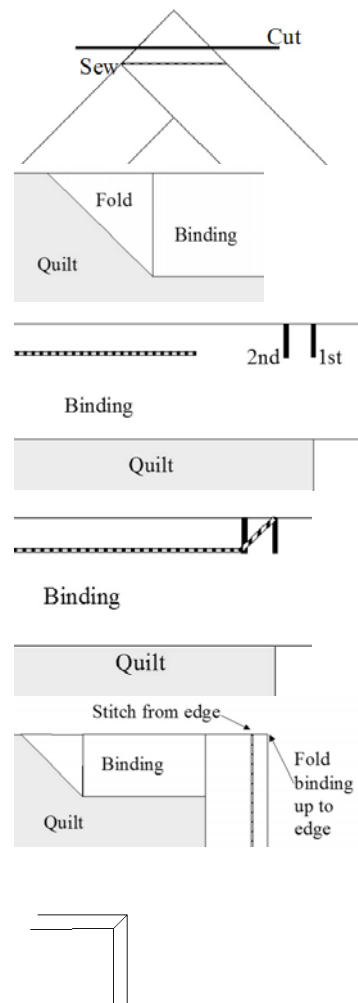
- Measure the horizontal length of the quilt.
- Cut the sleeve 4" by the horizontal length.
- Fold ends in 1". Press. Blanket stitch or zigzag the raw edges of the folded ends.
- Press in half lengthwise, with wrong sides together.

General Quilting Instructions

- Pin the sleeve to the back of the quilt, centering it across the top of the back.
- Sew sleeve to the quilt using a scant ¼" seam allowance.
- Hand sew the bottom of the sleeve to the quilt.

Binding

- Draw a line at a 45 degree angle on one end of the binding. Place binding strips right sides together at a 90 degree angle. Sew on the line. Trim the seam to ¼.
- Continue sewing remaining binding strips together in the same way.
- Press all seam allowances open.
- Lay the binding edges even with the quilt.
- Fold the beginning end over with wrong sides together (45 degree angle).
- Sew the binding around the quilt.
- Miter the binding at each corner.
- To miter the corner, stop about 2" from the corner.
- Draw 2 lines, the first line at the edge of the quilt.
- The second line ¼" from the first line.
- Continue stitching. Stop at the second line.
- Lower the needle into the fabric and then turn the quilt 45 degrees.
- Stitch off the binding towards the corner.
- Remove the quilt from the sewing machine.
- Fold the binding strip over itself to form a 45-degree fold. If the fold is done correctly, the edge of the unattached binding will align with the edge of the quilt top. Begin stitching again at the corner.
- Complete the next three corners in the same way.
- When you reach the start of the binding, stitch about 1" beyond the folded corner. Then cut off the extra binding.
- Fold the raw edge of the binding under ¼" on the quilt back. At the corners, fold the fabric to create miter corners. Secure with pins. Hand sew along the folded edge to the back of the quilt.



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Help With these Instructions

For tips and techniques, see more information at www.castillejacotton.com ([Quilting Tips](#)).

For more instructions on a specific pattern, search for the pattern name in our online store www.castillejacotton.com/xcart. Only some patterns will have more instructions.

If you have any difficulty with the instructions please *Contact Us* at www.castillejacotton.com/xcart.