

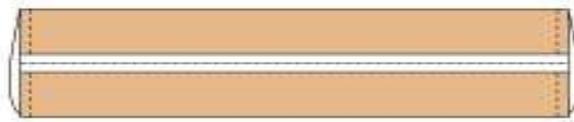
QUILT SLEEVES

HOW TO SEW A HANGING SLEEVE ON THE BACK OF YOUR QUILT

Sewing a sleeve on the back of your quilt makes it easy to hang the quilt for display at home or in a quilt show. The quilt sleeve can be permanent or temporary and it can be sewn on after or at the same time you apply binding.



Fold sides and sew.



Sew lengthwise, wrong sides together.
Press seam open.



After sewing to quilt, sleeve will pooch out to allow space for rod.

METHOD 1

SEW A HANGING SLEEVE AFTER THE QUILT IS BOUND

1. Cut or piece together fabric to make a strip 9" tall and the same width* as the quilt.
2. Fold under short edges 1/4", wrong sides together. Fold under again. Press. Sew a straight or zigzag seam to hem the folds.
3. Now fold the strip lengthwise, right sides together, aligning its raw edges. Sew together with a 1/2" seam allowance. Press the seam allowance open.
4. Turn tube inside out so right side is showing and the long seam is on the inside.
5. Press tube flat with long seam down middle of tube. Press another fold 1" from edge near the long seam. This will become the lower edge of the tube.
6. Place the open seam against the quilt's back. Center and pin the top edge of the tube to the back of the quilt, about 1/2" below the binding. Place tube so the 1" additional fold is on the lower edge next to the quilt, not the edge next to the binding.
7. Use a whipstitch to sew the top edge of the tube to the quilt backing. Stitch into the batting occasionally to help strengthen the seam.
8. Smooth the sleeve downward along the quilt back, and then pin the sleeve bottom along the 1" fold along its length.
9. Whipstitch the lower edge of the sleeve to the quilt. Remove pins. The sleeve will pooch out a bit to allow space for a hanging rod.
10. Whipstitch the back sides of the sleeve to the quilt. Leave the front sides unsewn to allow for rod insertion.

METHOD 2

SEW A SLEEVE BEFORE BINDING THE QUILT

You can sew a hanging sleeve to the top of the quilt at the same time you sew on the binding.

1. Sandwich the quilt top, batting and backing. Quilt. Trim batting and backing to match the quilt top along the edge where the sleeve will be sewn.
2. Cut or piece together fabric to make a strip 9" tall and the same width* as the quilt.
3. Fold under short edges 1/4", wrong sides together. Fold under again. Press. Sew a straight or zigzag seam to hem the folds.
4. Fold the strip lengthwise, wrong sides together, aligning raw edges. Press tube flat. Press another fold 1" from the lower edge near the long seam.
5. Center the folded strip along the top edge of the quilt, against the backing, aligning its matched raw edges with the edge of the quilt.
6. Sew the sleeve to the quilt with an approximate 1/8" seam allowance.
7. Place tube so the 1" additional fold is on the lower edge next to the quilt, not the edge next to the binding.
8. Smooth the sleeve downward along the quilt back, then pin the sleeve bottom along the 1" fold along its length.
9. Whipstitch the lower edge of the sleeve to the quilt. Remove pins. The sleeve will pooch out a bit to allow space for a hanging rod.
10. Whipstitch the back sides of the sleeve to the quilt. Leave the front sides unsewn to allow for rod insertion.
11. Bind the quilt.

Quilt Sleeve Options & Suggestions

- ❖ You can use any fabric for the quilt sleeve, from plain muslin to something that enhances the reverse side of your quilt.
- ❖ Quilt shows usually require a 4" minimum sleeve. Read show rules before assembling the sleeve for your quilt. **QGOA requires a 4" sleeve.**
- ❖ Use wide backing fabric to make a long sleeve without piecing strips of fabric.
- ❖ Use the same fabric you back the quilt with to make the sleeve blend with the backing.
- ❖ *If your quilt is very large you will need to find out the quilt show pole length and make your sleeve no longer than the pole. Otherwise your quilt will be gathered and pucker.
- ❖ If your quilt is very long you may want to position the sleeve so the quilt will be the correct height but not touch the floor. It will require the quilt to be folded over the hanging bar at the top edge. Consider your quilt design; would it be better to hang flat with extra over the top or a small pile of extra quilt on the floor?
- ❖ Quilt show poles are usually 6' or 8' feet long and 6' high.
- ❖ Miniature quilts do not require a sleeve for the quilt show. They are pinned directly onto the hanging fabric. *If your quilt is delicate or you do not want it pinned you may want to make a few 'tabs' for pinning the upper edge.* Use the same instructions but make 1-2" wide tabs on each upper corner and possible middle. Indicate on your entry form to use the tabs for pinning when hanging your quilt. Suggestion: Use matching fabric or a strong ribbon.

From: Libby Mc using the following as a reference Contact me if you have any questions:
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Janet Wickell: http://quilting.about.com/od/decoratingwithquilts/ss/quilt_sleeve_2.htm