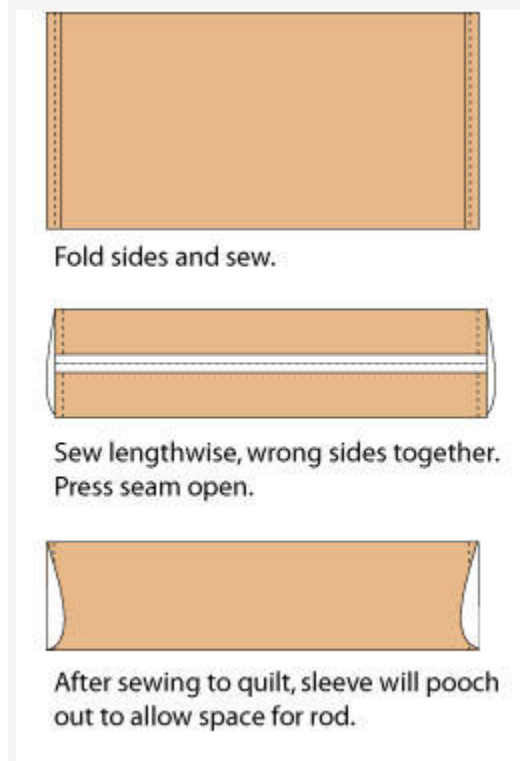


Quilt Sleeves - How to Sew a Hanging Sleeve on the Back of Your Quilt

Method 1, Sew a Hanging Sleeve After the Quilt is Bound



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](#).

Sew on a Sleeve After Binding the Quilt

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, wrong sides together, aligning its raw edges. Sew together with a 1/2" seam allowance. Press the seam allowance open.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. Smooth the sleeve downward along the quilt back, then make a 1/2" fold along its length to create a pleat. Leaving the pleat intact, pin the sleeve bottom to the quilt.
7. 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.
8. Whipstitch the back sides of the sleeve to the quilt. Leave the front sides un-sewn 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 or tie. 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.
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. Bind the quilt. If you plan to use the [tucked method](#) to end double fold binding, start binding on a side without the sleeve to help avoid bulk from extra layers of fabric.
8. Finish the sleeve using Steps 6 through 8 on page 1.

Quilt Sleeve Options

- 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.
- 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.