



Introduction

Cording adds a professional and finishing touch to home decor, garment seams and necklines. Cording is available pre-made and ready to use, but the color choices are limited. Let's create cording and apply it to the edge of a pillow.

Supplies

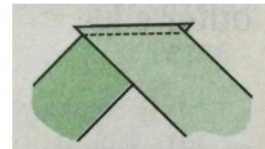
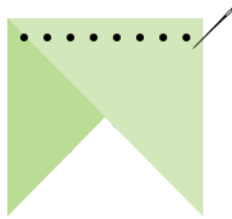
- Pillow Front and Back
- Fabric for Covering Cord – amount depends on project. See chart below.
- Cording
- All Purpose Thread
- Zipper or Cording Foot

Instructions

Create the Cording

Cover cording with a bias strip of fabric because the stretchy bias turns the corner more smoothly. The bias grain is the diagonal direction of fabric. Cut bias strips from a square of fabric. See chart below for approximate sizes to cut squares to yield bias strips. The cording fits into the bias strip like a "hot dog" with the raw edges of the strip even. The width of the bias strip should wrap around the cording and leave a seam allowance approximate for your project. For a 1/4" diameter cord, cut a strip of bias 1 1/4" wide. Experiment with a fabric scrap to find the width of bias strip that works for your cording.

Perimeter of Quilt plus 10-20" Depending on Scallop Depth	For 1 1/4" Bias Strips Cut Square	For 2 1/2" Bias Strips Cut Square
50" to 90"	13"	19"
91" to 130"	15"	22"
131" to 170"	17"	25"
171" to 210"	18"	27"
211" to 250"	20"	29"
251" to 290"	21"	31"



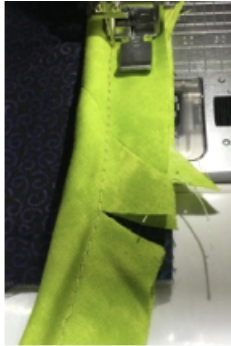
Cut bias strips from square using the chart above for approximate size. Cut square in half diagonally and then sew right sides together along the grain line using illustration above left. Press seams open and cut strips along the diagonal edge using illustration above middle. Join ends of the bias strips together with diagonal seams. Place the two ends of the binding strips perpendicular to each other with right sides together. Stitch diagonally from side to side illustration above right. Trim seams to about 1/4". Open seams and press.

Attach the zipper foot on the machine and adjust the needle position to about 1/8" away from the cording when the cording is riding along the edge of the foot. Increase stitch length to basting about 4-5 mm. To help keep the cording snugged up against the edge of the foot use a seam guide. Seam guides that attach with a magnet, non-marring adhesive and special screw are available if one did not come with your machine. The photo below right shows two seam guides to keep the cording under control.

Baste the Cording to the Pillow Front

Baste the cording to the pillow front (or one side of a seam) using the same stitch settings. Start the cording in an inconspicuous location such as the bottom edge of the pillow. Leave a few inches of cording un-basted for ease in joining. (Three different methods of joining the cording are included below.) Stitch the cording along the edge and stop with the needle down a couple of inches from the corner.

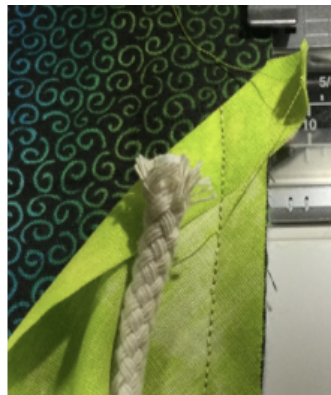
Make several cuts into the seam allowance up to but not into the basting stitch photo below left. Continue stitching until just a few stitches from where the cording needs to turn and stop with the needle down. Lift the presser foot, adjust the cording diagonal and take 2-3 stitches. Stop with the needle down photo below middle. Adjust the cording along the next side and continue to the next corner photo below right. Stop a couple of inches from the beginning. Use one of the methods below to join the cording.



Overlap the ends: Lay both sides of cording along edge. Pull fabric away from cording and trim cord ends so they do not overlap. Pull fabric back and overlap as in the photo left. Finish basting next to the cording.



Start with a diagonal: Pull fabric away from cording and remove the basting at the beginning and ending ends of the cording. Turn under the raw edge of the beginning edge of the bias strip and press. Trim end of cording and baste down bottom seam allowance only as shown in photo right. Lay



cording along edge and trim cord ends so they do not overlap as shown in photo far right. Trim and tuck end of bias strip around cording. Fold bias strip over and baste.

Create a Cover for Ends: Trim beginning end of covered cording and then the other end so they do not overlap (*photo below, left*). Cut about a 1 1/2" piece of bias to create a cover for the ends. Turn ends under about 1/4" and press. Lay the

bias centered under the trimmed ends and baste alloy seam allowance (*photo below, middle*). Pull cover over trimmed ends and baste down (*photo below, right*).

