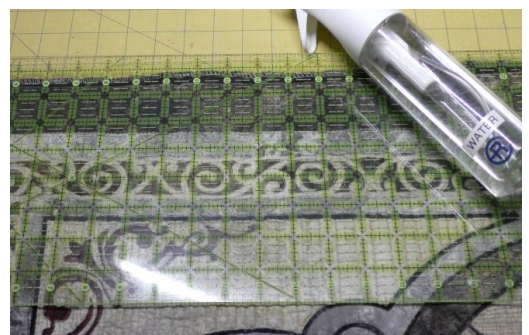

Supplies

- Baby Lock Quilt Binding Foot BLSA-QBF
- Baby Lock Seam Guide BLG-SG
- Baby Lock Piping Foot BLSO-LP
- Piping Trimming Tool
- 1/16" or 1/8" cording
- Straight or Bias Cut Fabric Strips (width depends on method)
- Thread to match fabric

Instructions

Block and Prepare the Quilt

Baste down the raw edges of the quilt if they have not been secured with quilting. Stitch close to the edge with a long basting stitch. Lay the quilt on a flat, water-resistant surface. The entire quilt need not be flat all at once. Moisten the quilt with a fine spray of water and pat it flat. Lay a ruler or any flat water-resistant item on top of the moistened area and add some weight. Allow the quilt to dry overnight. Move to the next area of the quilt and repeat until the entire quilt is flat.

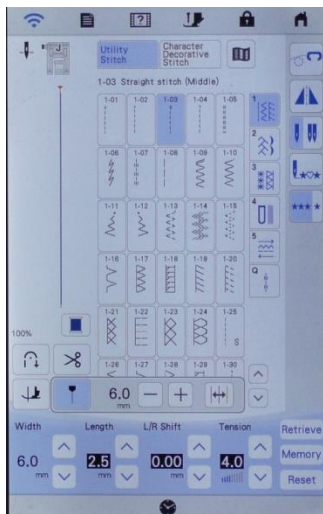


Trim the edges of the quilt using a ruler and rotary blade. Take extra time to make the quilt edges and corners square. Determine how much to trim depending on the binding method. If the quilt has piecing with points that are within ¼” from the raw edge allow extra room along the edge for the binding to not cover the points. Trim the quilt away from the raw edge at least 1/8” to allow room for a standard binding.

Skinny Binding

This double fold French binding is smaller than the standard binding. French fold binding is cut and joined end to end with a diagonal seam. The binding is then folded wrong sides together along the long edge. The two raw edges of the folded binding are aligned with the trimmed edge of the quilt and sewn. The binding can be sewn to the backside of the quilt and folded to the front or sewn to the front side of the quilt and folded to the back. Standard French fold binding uses 2 ½” strips and a 3/8” to scant ½” seam. For a skinny binding, cut the strips 2” wide and sew with a ¼” seam. Keep the seams accurate using the LED Guide light and a seam guide.

Binding with Ric Rac

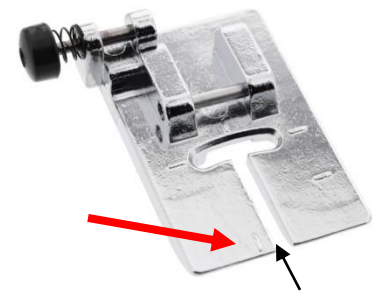


Add ricrac under the binding for a vintage, embellished look. The ricrac is basted to the edge of the binding before the French fold binding is sewn to the back. The folded edge of the binding is brought to the front and over part of the ricrac. Since the trim will not be seen during stitching, set up the machine on the top side of the quilt as shown in the photo before turning the project over. The machine settings used in the video on the Altair are shown in the photo left.



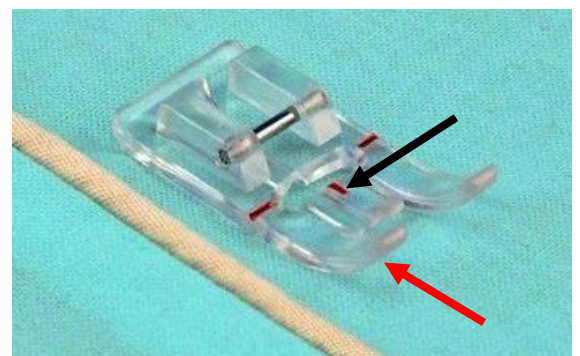
Corded Binding

This is a wider binding that encases a cord within the fold. The corded edge is then stitched creating a binding that looks like a double edge. Cut the strips for this French binding at 3". Sew the binding to the back of the quilt with a 3/8" seam just as with a standard binding. Cut 1/8" cord the length of the four sides. Lay the cord along the raw edge. Do not overlap the cord ends at the corners; rather, place them touching. Fold the binding to the front of the quilt and stitch the folded edge down close to the edge. Use the quilt binding foot and line up the folded edge with the mark on the toe of the quilt (red arrow). Stitch the folded edge of the binding down. Adjust the needle position to line up with the slot on the front of the foot (black arrow). Stitch an additional row of stitches through the binding next to the cord. This technique creates a very stable edge and is perfect for heavy quilts that will be hung on a wall.



Binding with Mini Piping

For a successful application of mini piping between the quilt and the binding, apply the piping and binding in three steps. Use pre-made piping or create your own using the Baby Lock Piping Foot Left. To create your own piping, using 1/16" cord and fabric strips cut 1 1/4" wide. If the piping is applied on a curved edge, cut the fabric strips on the bias grain of the fabric. Join the strips using the diagonal seam method. Fold the strips in half with the wrong sides together and encase the small cord in the fold. The cord should extend beyond the folded fabric at the beginning and the stitching should begin a few inches from the end of the fabric. Install the mini-piping foot and place the fabric under the foot with



the cord in the fold and in the slot on the underside of the foot (red arrow). The foot is designed for use with the needle in the center needle position as indicated by the red mark on the foot (black arrow), but the needle position can be adjusted if necessary. The stitching should be snug against the cord, but not stitching through the cord. Stitch slowly keeping the cord in the slot of the foot and the fold of the fabric. Trim the prepared piping using a piping trim tool.

Baste the piping to the top of the quilt using the piping foot to hold the piping in place. A longer stitch length and needle position towards the middle of the piping is okay for this step. The cord should fall just to the right of the desired seam line of the binding. Check the placement of the piping cord using a sample of the width of the binding. Use the LED guide light and the seam guide to place the piping in the correct position. At the corners, release the fabric to the right of the cord with a clip. Do not cut into the seam line close to the cord. The piping should turn the corner easily with the clip. If the clip is not quite in the corner, an additional clip is okay. Where the piping ends meet, join the fabric with the diagonal seam method, then trim and butt the ends of the cord. Finish basting the piping down.

Lay the binding strip on top of the piping with the raw edge of the binding fabric and the quilt even. Position the cord back into the slot on the underside of the piping foot. Use a single layer of fabric cut on the bias for the binding. The single layer will stay in the channel on the underside of the foot better than a double layer. The width of the strip depends on the desired finished width of the binding, but a 2 ½" wide strip works very well.

Pieced Binding

Pieced binding can highlight an area of the quilt top or keep the design going to the very edge. Piece the binding with straight joins instead of diagonal ones and press the seams open to reduce bulk. Plan where the joins will match. It is easier to join the pieces as you stitch the binding on rather than measuring and pre-piecing the entire binding. Stop a few inches from the place of the join and measure. When turning a corner, measure the outside raw edge of the quilt to calculate the distance (yellow line). Add a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance to the distance.

