

# Serging/Quilting Special Serger Bindings April 17th, 2024

### Supplies Used in Video

- Baby Lock Triumph Serger used in vlog
- Baby Lock Serger Overlock Table for Triumph or Ovation (BLA-OLT)
- Fabric Guide for Triumph or Ovation (BLES8-FG)
- Sewing Machine for basting & sewing "Piped" Binding
- Mini Piping Foot for sewing machine (BLSO-LP)
- Wonder Clips
- Spray Bottle for Water
- Wash Away or Chalk Ruler to mark corners of quilt
- Large Cutting Ruler and Sturdy Moisture Proof Surface for Blocking Quilt
- Fabric for Binding cut in 2 1/2" strips (amount varies by size of quilt)
- For Fused Binding 3 cones serger thread to match binding and fusible thread
- For Bias Flatlock Binding- spool 12 wt. decorative thread in a size 90 EL705 needle (such as Decora) and matching cone of serger thread
- For Wave Rolled Edge "Piped" Binding 30-40 wt. embroidery threads in contrasting colors and serger thread to match one of the colors

#### Fused Binding

Traditional binding sewn with a serger is quicker and more compact when attached with a four-thread overlock stitch to the edge of the quilt. The serger trims the edge and saves a step when binding the quilt. Use a fusible thread in the lower looper to temporarily hold the binding perfectly in place for final stitching with a machine or by hand. After quilting, block the quilt to flatten it. If you are unsure about the wash ability of any of the fabrics in a



finished quilt, test by moistening a paper towel and gently rub the fabric or lay a square of moist towel over the fabric in question. Check the paper towel for any dye transfer. Lay the quilt or a section of the quilt on a sturdy, moisture-proof flat surface. Moisten a section of the quilt the size of the large acrylic ruler or several smaller rulers. Lay the ruler on top of the quilt and weigh it down with weights or any other heavy objects. Allow to dry for several hours. Move to another section and repeat the process. After blocking the quilt, check for square corners and even sides. Repeat blocking for seriously wonky corners. Using a wash away or chalk marker, mark the corners and any edges square and straight.

Cut enough binding strips for circumference of quilt plus extra for joining ends and turning corners. Join ends of binding together with diagonal seams on the sewing machine. Place the two ends of the

binding strips perpendicular to each other with right sides together. Stitch diagonally from side to side. Trim seams to about 1/4". Open seams and press. Fold strips in half with wrong sides together and raw edges even.

Thread serger for a four thread overlock with serger thread that matches binding in both needles and upper looper. Thread serger with fusible thread in lower looper Start in the middle of one side of the quilt. Start stitching about 5-6" from end of the binding strip. Trim a small section on the edge of the quilt to begin stitching. Align raw edges of binding and the edge of the quilt top or the marked line on the edge of the quilt. Stitch almost to the corner and veer away from the edge at the very end and off the edge of the quilt batting and backing.

Fold binding straight out forming a 45-degree fold. Raw edge of binding and quilt will form a straight line as shown in red. Any stitching along the previous seam line will release. Fold binding back down keeping this second fold even with the edge of quilt and aligning raw edges as shown with red arrows. Turn quilt. Start stitching again and continue around

quilt until 10-12" from beginning of stitching and stop to allow for joining binding ends.







Join binding by overlapping the binding strips the same distance that they are wide. Lay beginning strip along the edge and cut a small piece from the end. Lay second piece of binding on top of the first. Take the small piece and lay on top of overlapping strips with one end even with the edge of the first binding. Use this strip to determine the overlap of the two strips and trim the terminal end of the finishing binding strip. After trimming, join the ends together with a diagonal seam on the sewing machine. Hold binding end to end and turn one with a quarter turn. Bindings will be perpendicular to each other. Pin or clip and

sew the diagonal seam from side to side. If you are unsure, place a pin where the seam will be and open up the strips. Trim, open and press seam. Finish sewing joined section to the quilt. Fold the binding to the back and press the binding around the edge. The fusible thread will hold the binding in place while machine stitching or hand sewing the binding in position.



#### Bias Flatlock Binding

Use the serger to create a fabric for binding that gives the appearance of diagonal stripes. Using a flat lock seam on the serger creates extra interest with thread work. This binding would also work with traditional seams, but wouldn't be as fancy. Cut fabric into strips to create a fabric for binding. The number of strips depends on the quantity of binding needed. Setting for sewing the strips as shown in the video are:

- Selector A
- Width 6.5
- Length 4
- Seam Guide attached to the left with 0 at the 01 needle and guide at just over the ¼" mark

Set up the serger for a two-thread flatlock seam. Either side of the flatlock can be used on the right side of the binding. Place the decorative thread in through the needle when choosing the "ladder" side and in the lower looper when choosing the stitching side. Use the



quick reference guide to thread the serger. Note that the thread is taken from the upper looper threading path just after the first tubular guides up and to the needle. Engage the subsidiary looper on the upper looper arm as shown in the guide. For a consistent seam, use the Overlock Table and the Seam guide and using the settings in the box.

Sew the strips together using the flatlock seam. Open the seam and press the strip set flat.

Using a ruler with a 45 degree guideline, cut the diagonal strips from the fabric. Join the strip ends using the flat lock seam just as with the sewing machine as described in the previous section. Use the strips as you would any other binding fabric. Consider making this binding larger than a traditional binding to show off the fancy seams.

## "Piped" Rolled Edge Binding

Create a "piped" edge on your binding using the rolled hem on the serger. The additional pop of color on the edge of the quilt is sometimes just the right bit of extra to make a quilt design come together. Using traditional piping in a binding can add bulk and multiple steps to the binding process. The rolled edge is simpler and the exclusive wave stitch available on the Baby Lock serger adds lots of interest to the edge of the quilt. There is one additional

step to this process, but the effort certainly pays off. The binding is basted to the quilt and then removed before permanently attaching the binding to the quilt.



Adding the rolled hem edge to the binding if it has been sewn to

www.moores-sew.com

the quilt is challenging because of the bulk of the quilt and the manipulating the narrow binding away from the quilt. Prepare the binding strips as for the fused binding described above. Instead of sewing the binding to the quilt, first baste the binding to the quilt using the sewing machine. Some sewing machines have a basting stitch or use the longest stitch length available. Join the last binding ends just as you would when sewing the binding down permanently. Save a section of the binding fabric to test the rolled hem stitch. It's a good idea to mark the binding where it meets the corners of the quilt and label the long and short sides if applicable. After marking the corners, remove the binding from the quilt. The binding will be one long loop. Press the binding in half with the right sides together creating a crease along the center to prepare it for adding the rolled hem. Trim the quilt along the raw edge of the binding. We will be sewing the binding to the back of the quilt and turning the binding to the front.

Set the serger up for a Wave or standard rolled hem. Use embroidery thread in the loopers and serger or embroidery thread in the needle to match the upper looper thread. Because of the size of the rolled hem, thinner threads look best. Test the stitch on the sample of the binding removed when joining the sections together by stitching the rolled hem along the fold. If possible, set up the serger with the seam guide and lock the blade into the non-cutting



position. Stitch the rolled hem along the center crease of the binding starting at one of the corners. Slightly overlap the stitching as you come around to the beginning of stitching.

Place the binding with **the right side of the binding facing the back of the quilt** and placing the start/stop of the rolled hem at one of the marked corners. Secure with Wonder Clips only until the next corner. Evenly place the binding along this first edge only. Sometimes a rolled hem needs to be pulled into a flat position. If the edge has gathered up with the stitching run your fingers along the rolled hem or rub the edge along the edge of a table. By starting the rolled



hem at one of the corners, the join will be hidden in the folded corner of the quilt. Sew the binding to the quilt using a sewing machine or the four-thread serger stitch. About ¼" from the next corner, pivot the stitching to the right and towards the outer corner of the quilt. Remove the quilt from the serger and pin or clip the next binding section on. Sew the next section and continue until all the binding has been sewn to the back of the quilt. Pay attention that the corners match the corners previously marked on the binding during the



basting. Turn the binding to the front of the quilt and stitch the binding down with a sewing machine just to the right of the rolled hem. Use the mini piping foot to hold the rolled hem in place as you sew.