



# LEARN & CREATE

with Baby Lock

## Kiss Your Stash Goodbye Bind It Right on Your Long Arm

Join Denise to learn a fast and easy way to finish your quilt bindings right on the long arm.

### Supplies:

- Long arm
- Binding strips cut 2  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch wide
- Ruler Base
- Straight edge long arm ruler

First you will need to prepare your binding

1. Cut the binding strips 2  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide
  - Although binding is normally cut 2  $\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide when it is attached with the sewing machine, the wider binding strips work better at the long arm
  - Make the binding a little longer than what you need
2. Sew the cut strips end to end at the sewing machine
3. To create a decorative binding, (and to provide some extra length when she ran short of fabric) short strips of a contrast fabric were inserted
  - The binding strips were sewn with a straight  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch seam instead of the more usual 45° seams
  - Press the seams open to eliminate bulk
4. Fold the binding wrong sides together along the length



The binding will be sewn to the edges of the quilt at the frame

1. Quilt the first section of the quilt
2. Before you advance the quilt, you will start the process of attaching the binding



3. Fold the length of binding to find the center and use a safety pin to mark the center
4. Find the center of the top edge of the quilt
  - The center of the binding that was marked with a safety pin will be matched to the center top of the quilt
5. Place the ruler base on the machine
  - The ruler base is a clear acrylic table that fits around the free arm of the long arm machine
  - The ruler base creates a stable platform for the ruler when you are quilting with long arm rulers
6. You will also need a straight edge long arm ruler
  - These special rulers are  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick so the hopper foot cannot sew over the top of the ruler
  - The one Denise uses has a  $45^\circ$  angle on one end that will be used to create the miter in the binding at the corner of the quilt



#### To sew the binding:

1. Lay the binding at the top of the quilt with the raw edges at the edge of the quilt
2. Match the center of the binding to the center of the quilt
3. Begin sewing at the center and sew first to the left
4. There are several ways to keep the seam straight and you can use whichever method works best for you
  - If you have Pro-Stitcher, you could use your horizontal channel lock
  - Or you can roll the quilt so you can push the machine as close as possible to the take up rail and keep the machine pushed against the rail as you sew to the left
  - Sewing with the outside edge of the standard foot on your machine even with the edge of the fabric will give you a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam, so if you are confident in your ability to guide the foot along the edge of the fabric, that is an option



- Or you could use the straight edge ruler to sew straight
5. Lay a couple inches on binding down with one hand and move the machine with the other hand
  6. Continue across the top of the quilt in this manner
  7. Stop at the corner and put the needle down
  8. Place the 45° angle of the ruler at the corner and sew off the corner using the angled edge of the ruler
  9. Stop with the needle aligned with the seam line for attaching the binding to the side of the quilt
  10. Fold the binding to form the miter and line up the raw edge of the binding to be sewn down the left side of the quilt
  11. If you have Pro-Stitcher, turn on your vertical channel lock to ensure the seam is straight
  12. Sew as far down the left side of the quilt as possible
  13. Disengage the channel lock and pull up the bobbin thread
  14. Return to the center top of the quilt and sew the binding to the right



Advance the quilt with the needle down

1. Stop at the end of the machines reach when you sew the binding on the right side
2. Place the needle down
3. Advance the quilt with the needle down by rolling the machine along with the quilt
4. Roll the quilt until the machine has moved as far toward the take up rail as it can
  - Now you know that you have advanced the quilt as far as possible
5. Quilt the next section of the quilt
6. Attach the binding to the right and left edges of the quilt
7. Advance the quilt

Continue until you have completed quilting the bottom edge of the quilt:

1. Finish sewing the sides of the binding and use the angle on the ruler to create mitered corners at the bottom edge of the quilt
2. Take the quilt off the frame
3. Square up the quilt
4. Fold the binding to the back of the quilt and finish it on your sewing machine

Happy Quilting,  
Denise Applegate-Schober

