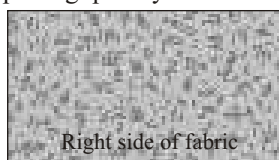


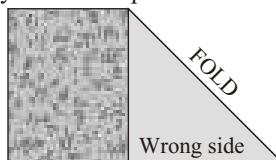
# BASIC BIAS BINDING INSTRUCTIONS

Bias binding consists of strips of fabric (cut on the bias) which are used for encasing the outer, unfinished edges of a quilt. Trim all three layers of your quilt flush with the quilt top before binding the edges.

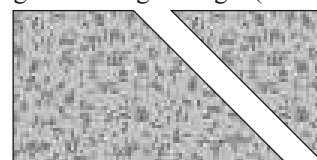
1- Cut a small nick in the end of each side of your fabric piece. Tear down the complete length of the side, pulling quickly so the tear does not go into the body of the fabric. This will expose the true grain on all sides.



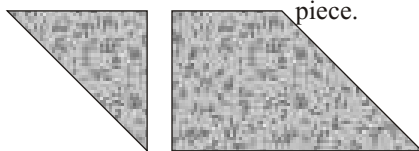
2- Fold one corner down until it meets the bottom edge of your fabric piece.



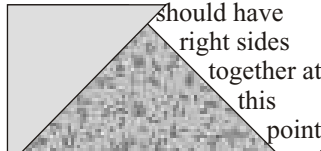
3- Cut down the fold. Return the corner to its original position. The bias, which is the edges running at a 45 degree angle (where the fold was), will now be exposed.



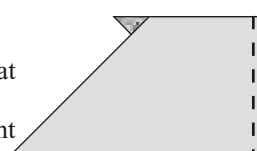
4- Move the small piece of fabric to the opposite side of the larger piece.



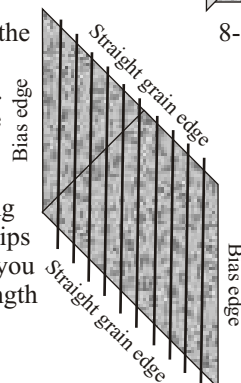
5- Fold the small piece back over the larger piece. The fabric should have right sides together at this point.



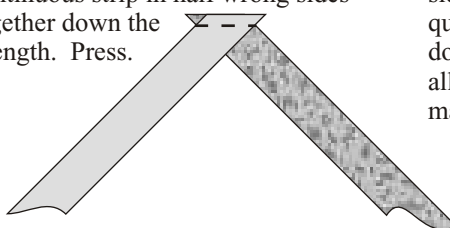
6- Flip the fabric pieces over, holding the vertical edges together. Sew a 1-4" seam down the vertical edge. The bottom edge should have a 1/4" flap at the bottom. Press the seam open and cut the flap off.



7- Turn the fabric so the bias edges are running vertically. If needed, fold the corners down so the strips can be cut without moving the fabric. Cut strips 1-7/8" wide until you have a suitable length for the quilt.



8- Sew the strips end to end as shown for a continuous length. Press the seams open and clip off any flaps. Fold the continuous strip in half wrong sides together down the length. Press.



9- Open the strip and fold one edge down 1-4". Press. Place right side of binding to the front side, outer edge of the quilt. Sew a 1/4" seam down approx. 3" through all layers. Remove from machine.



10- Fold the other edge of the binding flush with the outer edge of the quilt. Begin sewing approx. 3" from the folded end of the bias strip.



11- At the corners, stop your stitches 1/4" from both edges of the quilt. Keep your needle in down position. Lift the presser foot up and pivot the quilt carefully. Tuck approx. 1/4" of extra binding from the bias strip up against the machine needle. Lower the foot and sew down the next side.



12- Once you have sewn binding all the way around the quilt, join the ends of the binding. Slip the unfinished end inside of the folded end of bias to started with. If necessary, trim excess length off to eliminate unnecessary bulk. Sew down the remaining area of binding and trim threads.



13- Bring the folded edge of the binding to the back of your quilt. Using small blind stitches, sew the binding to the back of the quilt, covering the seam line. At the corners, tuck the excess bias evenly as you go and, if necessary, clip just the quilt layers (not binding) for a smooth turn.



## CALCULATING BIAS

### Length of bias that can be cut from a piece of fabric

Width of fabric x length of fabric = area  
Area ÷ width of strips = length of bias (yield)

### Size of fabric needed for length desired

Length of bias strip x width of strip = Area  
Square Root of the Area = size of square of fabric

**BINDING WIDTHS** Connecting Threads patterns usually call for 1/4" wide finished binding. Follow the chart below if you want a wider binding on your quilt. Just be aware, additional yardage is necessary if the pattern is written for 1/4" finished binding.

#### WIDTH TO CUT STRIPS

1-7/8"  
2-1/2"  
3-1/4"

#### BINDING SEAM WIDTH (= APPROX. FINISHED BINDING WIDTH)

1/4" (standard binding width in Connecting Threads patterns unless otherwise stated)  
3/8"  
1/2"