

How to Make a Quilt Sleeve

Sleeve Guidelines

- Quilts and wall hangings must have a 4-inch finished sleeve. Miniature quilts should have at least a 2-inch finished sleeve or tabs sewn evenly spaced flat on the back. Quick-finish triangles are NOT acceptable. Wearables and home décor do not require sleeves.
- The top edge of the sleeve must be no more than 90 inches from the bottom edge of the quilt. *If your quilt is longer than 90 inches, either (a) place the sleeve 90 inches up from the bottom and let the top drape over when hung, or (b) place the sleeve at the top, turn the bottom up and baste it (no pins) so that the finished length is 90 inches.*

Sleeve Construction

- To make a 4-inch sleeve, cut a strip of fabric 8.5" wide and the length equal to the width of the quilt.
- Make a narrow hem at each end of the strip. Make a tube by either (a) folding right sides together lengthwise and stitching the open side, then turn right side out or (b) folding wrong sides together lengthwise and stitch the open side inside the binding seam.
- Hand stitch the sleeve to the back of the quilt - top and bottom if using method (a) above or just bottom if method (b). The rod goes through the tube, so be sure NOT to stitch the ends of the tube closed.
- If you wish, you may finish the ends of the sleeve, but it is not required.

Other Considerations

- The rod pocket is all that is supporting your quilt during the duration of a quilt show.
- Rod pockets (sleeves) that have been loosely basted on can pull loose due to the weight of the quilt, and damage to your quilt could result.