

# JOINING BINDING TAILS

## CUTTING THE TAILS

- 1) Lay the starting end of the binding on the quilt and smooth the quilt and the binding. The tail should end at least half-way (can be 1 -2 inches longer) in the open space. If not, then trim the end square so it's the correct length.
- 2) The other tail is the "ending" tail and can be quite long. Take the long ending tail and cut off a piece about 3.5 inches and open it up and either finger press or press with iron to get it lay flat. This is your measuring strip.
- 3) Take the measuring strip (width of binding) and lay it on top of the binding tail that's mid-way in the opening (Step 1). Match the raw edge of the measuring strip with the raw edge of the tail making sure the measure strip is on top of the tail.
- 4) Keeping the left tail snug, lay it over the measuring strip. Smooth and pull the long and quilt flat and snug. Line up the raw edge of the long tail with the far end of the measuring strip. Make a tic mark at the top and bottom of the long tail where it lines up with the raw edge of the measuring strip.
- 5) Either eye-ball it or use a ruler to shorten the measurement by 1/8 inch. You are making the long tail 1/8 inch shorter than your tic mark. Mark this new cut line ensuring it's a square cut and cut off the excess tail.

## MAKING THE JOIN

- 1) Set machine stitch length to 2.0; open toe foot (regular foot works too).
- 2) Pinch in about a 2 inch fold and secure with a wonder clip or binder clip. This prevents the quilt from tugging as you are making the join.
- 3) Open and lay the left tail right side up; wrong side down.

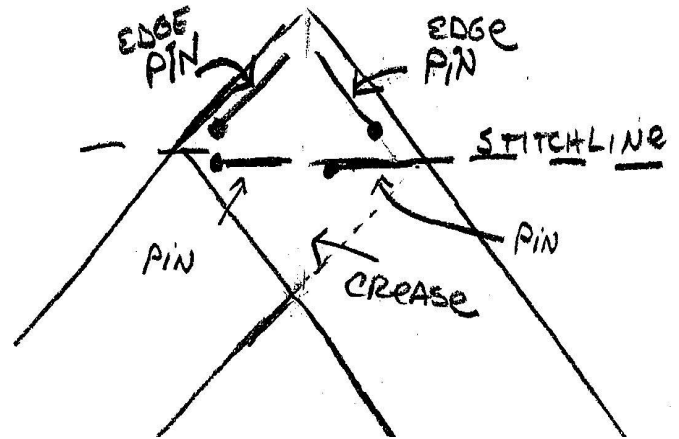
- 4) Open the right tail, right side up, and rotate it away from you right side down (wrong side up) on top of the other strip at a 90 degree angle.
- NOTE: If you start with the right tail flat and rotate the left tail, the rotation will be toward you. Pick one method and always do the same way.**

- 5) Line up and match raw edges and pin along each edge. **Placement is important. It should look like an arrow pointing up “ $\Lambda$ ”.**

- 6) Place two short pins along the bottom of the  $\Lambda$ , one on each side of the binding center (avoid the crease). These pins are your sewing line and just need to be approximate to **test before you sew**.

- **Pins should form a triangle; looks like an “A”**

- 7) Remove the pins along the edge and test to make sure you didn't create a double twist. If the test is OK, replace the edge pins making sure the raw edges are aligned and the tails form a 90 degree angle.



- 8) If desired, mark your sewing line (bottom of the triangle.) Stitch point to point being exact as possible. Secure your start then with needle down, peak under the end to find the point / tip of the bottom strip and line it up with your marked sewing line. Sew to the end point and secure the stitching.
- 9) Check your join. If you're not happy with it, this is the time to make corrections.
- 10) Trim the seam allowance to 1/2 to 5/8 inch, open and finger press.
- 11) Finish attaching the binding (walking foot recommended).