REVERSIBLE BINDING

Here's the solution to the *"I-can't-find-the-perfect-binding-fabric-to-match-the-front-and-back-of-my-quilt"* problem! Reversible Binding lets you complement your quilt top with one fabric and the quilt backing with another. Easier to make than you think!

Here's how!

1. Determine the amount of binding strips you would normally cut for your quilt top. Then, from the fabric for the front of the binding, cut the strips 1" wide. From the back binding fabric, cut the same number of strips 1 ½" wide.

2. Stitch the front binding strips together to create one long strip. Do the same with the back binding strips. You will now have two lengths of binding strips—one strip 1" wide (front) and one strip 1 ½" wide (back).

3. Fold the back binding strip (the 1 ½" wide one) in half lengthwise, wrong sides together, and raw edges meeting. Press.

4. Place the back binding strip and front binding strip right sides together with raw edges meeting. Use a scant ¼"seam allowance to sew the two strips together lengthwise. Press the seam open when done.

5. Now you're ready to sew the binding strip to your quilt top. Place the binding strip so that the front binding fabric lies on the quilt top with rights sides together and raw edges meeting. Stitch to the quilt top with a ¼" seam allowance, mitering the corners as you sew. Sew the binding ends together as you normally would do so. When complete, fold the binding to the back side of the quilt. The binding will fold over at the seam allowance. Slipstitch the binding in place on the back of your quilt. Done!

The instructions above are for finishing the binding by hand stitching to the back of the quilt. If you want to complete the binding by machine stitching it in place on the front of the quilt, reverse the directions for cutting and sewing.

HINT: For a fuller binding, don't trim the backing and batting until you've sewn the binding to the front of the quilt. When trimming, leave some extra batting and batting (approximately 3/8") to help "fill" in the binding.