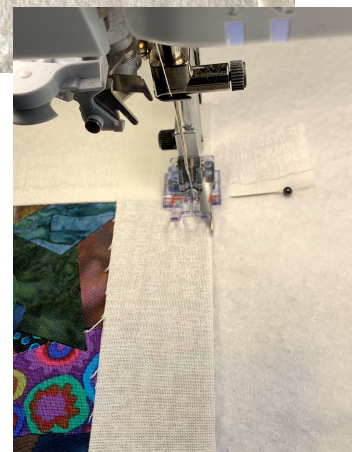


Creating Borders for a Wall Art Piece

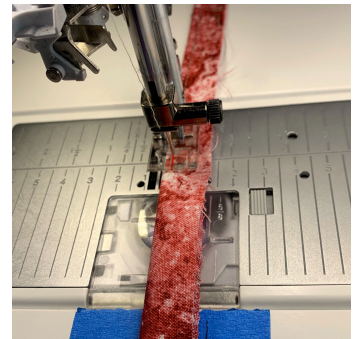
1. Press your panel so it's lying flat. Trim the edges so the panel is square
2. **Batting:** Cut a piece of low loft batting (I use Warm 'n Natural) at least 4" wider and longer than the sewn watercolour panel - lay the panel in the centre of the batting, press so the batting will "stick" to the panel
3. The borders and piping will now be aligned to the outer edges of the watercolour panel (the batting will extend at least 4" beyond each side)
4. **Inner Border:** Cut enough inner border strips $1\frac{1}{4}$ " for two lengths and two widths (3 WOF strips may be enough) for two length and two width pieces) - These strips need to be at least 3" longer than the panel to allow you to press them open and to create corners which may extend a wee bit beyond the panel edge
5. Lay one edge of an inner border strip along one length edge aligning it carefully with the panel edge. Using a **$\frac{1}{4}$ " right-guide quilting foot** stitch the border strip to panel. Repeat with the second length strip, Press both length strips open
6. Now add the top and bottom strips, aligning them along both those edges - start your stitching at the inner edge of the length strips leaving the ends unattached (you're going to turn them under to form a mitre). Press open



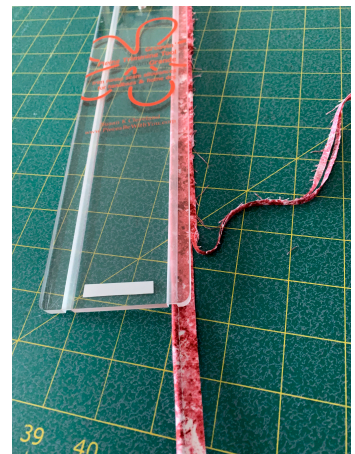
7. With all four inner border strips sewn and pressed open, turn under the outer edges of the top and bottom strips at a 45° angle. **Press.** Pin in place. **Trim**



8. **Piping:** Cut a contrasting fabric for piping - 1 ¼" - cut enough for two lengths and two widths. Using mitre joins, sew the strips into a single long strip (the mitre joins won't be obvious)
9. Using either a **piping foot** or a **zipper foot**, fold the fabric in half inserting piping cord (I use satin finish ¼" rattail in any colour) in the middle as you stitch. I find I get a good piping if I keep a fingernail at the edge of the piping foot (can't stitch your finger since the foot has a plastic front edge)



10. Trim the piping to ¼" using a **Piping Trimming Template**



11. Cut two pieces of the trimmed piping for the length and two pieces for the width - they need to be a bit longer than the inner border

12. Align the outer edge of the piping with the outer edge of the inner border - stitch the two length piping strips

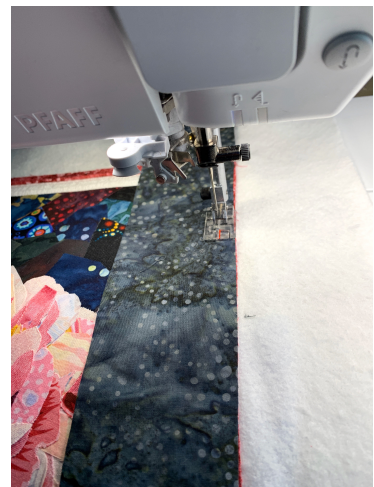


13. Align the two remaining piping strips for the top and bottom edges and sew them starting your stitching at the outer edge of the length strips



14. Trim excess piping - you may have to release some of the stitching at the ends to do this

15. **Outer Border:** Cut 3" strips for the outer border - three WOF may be enough for two lengths and two width strips - both the length and width strips need to be at least 6" longer than the panel length and width to have enough fabric to form the corners



16. Align each **length** strip with the outer piping edge with both ends extending at least 3" beyond the panel - stitch using your **Piping Foot** or **Zipper Foot** - this step is where a Piping Foot is desirable because the piping will slide through the groove in the foot while stitching beside the piping beneath the border strip

17. Stitch the two length strips, **press open**



18. Align the two width border strips, with the ends extending 3" beyond the panel, carefully place piping in the groove of the piping foot, (the border fabric is on top so you have to feel for the piping beneath to be sure it's in the groove), start stitching at the piping leaving the ends unattached - **Press open**



19. **Fold free edges under to create a 45° angle - Press - Trim - Pin**

20. The mitres need to be hand sewn using a blind stitch (be careful not to attach to the batting beneath - when the hand sewing is done, you'll want to clip away the excess fabric lying beneath the mitred corner leaving ~ 1/2" seam



21. Press the finished borders; trim outer edges of all layers using a rotary cutter - make sure the bordered panel is square
22. You're now ready to apply hidden bindings and backing
<https://jmn111.files.wordpress.com/2020/01/hidden-binding-2.pdf>

