

A Knife Edge / Hidden Binding

1. Trim your panel edges so they are straight and the corners are square
2. Cut 3 (depending on the dimensions of your panel you might need 4) 1 ¾" strips of fabric 2-3" longer than the edges of the bordered panel (using your outer border fabric so the binding doesn't show when the panel is hanging)

My bordered panel measured a little more than 23" x 18" . So I cut 2 strips about 25-26" & and 2 strips 20-21" long.

3. Using a ¼" quilting foot with right guide, sew one edge of the binding to the edge of the length sides of your panel using ¼" seam allowance (be sure to leave an inch beyond each end)
4. Press the binding to the outside edge of the panel



5. **This is the most important step!** Using a **narrow edge foot** (if you have one), top stitch a needle-width away from the seam. (In clothing construction this is called "under-stitching." It is used on necklines, facings, under collars and anywhere you want the fabric to fold over smoothly and lay flat)

I align the guide at the left-side edge of the pressed-open stitched seam, move the needle to the right 1.8mm which is close to the seam edge but not on top of it



This is what helps the binding fold over to the back of the quilt and make a nice smooth edge on your panel without the it showing on the front. Skip this step and you will never be able to fully hide the binding

6. Once the binding is top-stitched, press it to the back of the panel with lots of steam
7. Fold the raw edge of each hidden binding strip under 1/4" and press again



8. Now trim off the excess fabric on the length ends so the binding is flush with the top and bottom edges of the panel
9. Sew the remaining two binding strips to the top and bottom of the panel - **making sure the side strips are folded under on the back!**



10. Press, edge-stitch, and press to the back side of the panel - use a wooden clapper to absorb the steam/heat when pressing the corners of the top and bottom bindings



11. Fold the raw edge of these hidden binding strip under 1/4" and press

12. Turn in the edges to hide the raw edges of the binding. You may have to trim off some of the excess fabric to make it all fit and lay smoothly



13. Here's where you add the floating backing - cut the muslin 1" smaller than the size of the panel - slip it under the folded binding - pin the binding to the backing



14. Using a slip stitch, hand sew the binding down to the muslin trying to catch a bit of the batting as you sew to hold the backing firmly in place



15. One last step: adding a sleeve for a 3/8" wooden dowel for hanging the panel

Cut a 3" strip of muslin 5" wider than your panel - fold in the edges so that the sleeve is 1" narrower than the panel, stitch the edges

Fold the panel in half with the raw stitched edges are on the inside, serge (or stitch) the raw edge

Press so that the serging (or raw edges) are turned under

Pin in place about 3/4" from top of panel; hand stitch top edge, then hand stitch the bottom edge



16. Your finishing work is now completed

I slip a 3/8" dowel cut just a bit narrower than the panel into the sleeve

Add a couple of bulldog clips to each end of the dowel (I buy these at Dollarama)

I hang with finishing nails in the wall through the loops of the bulldog clips - be sure to use a level when positioning the nails!

