

Making a Hanging Sleeve

1. Tear a piece of fabric 9" wide and as long as your quilt is wide.
2. On the two short ends, press under 1/4".
3. Press under another 1/4" so the raw edge is completely concealed.
4. Stitch just less than 1/4" from the edge close to the fold.
5. With wrong sides together, fold the sleeve in half the long way. You will end up with a piece that is about 4-1/2" wide and about 1" shorter than your quilt is wide.
6. Stitch a 1/4" seam along the long side.
7. Rotate the seam so it is about an inch from one edge of the tube. Press the tube, and press open the seam allowance. I usually do this at the same time. The seam will be close to the bottom edge of your sleeve.
8. About an inch from the top edge, create a new fold the entire length of your sleeve. You will stitch along this fold later.
9. Press that new fold with your iron, being careful not to iron over the previous crease. When finished, roll the sleeve back to its original creases.
10. The back of the sleeve is the one with the seam allowance and the extra crease. The seam will be towards the bottom and that extra crease will be towards the top. The front of the sleeve will have no seams or creases.
11. Position the quilt sleeve on the back of your quilt so the side with the seam allowance is facing the quilt and is closer to the bottom of your quilt. Center the sleeve from side to side. Since it is shorter than your quilt is wide, it will end about 1/2" from either side of your quilt. Then, move the sleeve to 1/4" from the top edge of the quilt, right next to your 1/4" binding.
12. If you want, you can pin the sleeve in place, or temporarily glue it in place with Lapel Stick. Apply the glue stick a few inches at a time and press down firmly.
13. Hand stitch the sleeve in place, starting on the right at the extra crease. Continue stitching down the right side, along the bottom, and up the left side, stopping at the extra crease.
14. Keep stitches even and about six to eight stitches per inch. Also, make sure none of your stitches go all the way through to the front of the quilt. When bringing the needle through the sleeve, pick up just a few threads at the very edge, in the crease.
15. Once the two sides and the bottom are stitched, smooth down the rest of the sleeve. This time, instead of stitching along the top edge of the sleeve, roll that back and stitch along that extra crease that you made. Use a bit more glue stick to hold it in place. Stitch as before, catching just a few threads along the crease.
16. Once you've completely stitching, fold the top edge of the sleeve back in place and press everything flat.
17. You end up with a nicely finished quilt sleeve with no raw edges exposed and with extra fullness toward the back to accommodate the hanging apparatus.

