

## How to Calculate Yardage for Binding

The final important step for any quilt is the binding. Many people have a hard time figuring out the yardage needed for binding a quilt so I'm going to take you through my method.

Follow along with my instructions for binding a quilt with the measurements of 84" x 96". After that, I'll give you a spot that you can fill out for your own quilt size.

1. Measure around the entire perimeter of the quilt:

$$\text{Width} + \text{Width} + \text{Length} + \text{Length} = ?$$

$$84 + 84 + 96 + 96 = 360$$

2. Usually the amount of usable fabric across the width of fabric (from selvedge to selvedge) is 42" after the selvedge is removed. Divide 360" by 42" to get the number of strips required to go around the quilt.  $360 \div 42 = 8.57$  (which is rounded up to 9) so 9 strips will be needed for this quilt, but I usually add one more strip for "insurance" so the final number is 10 strips. I rarely need that extra strip but I'd be pretty ticked if I didn't have enough, and this also takes into account more fabric being needed when diagonal seams are used to sew them together.

3. How wide would you like the binding to be? My preference is 2 1/2", but many people like 2" or 2 1/4". Now we're figuring out how much fabric is required for the 10 strips:  $10 \times 2 \frac{1}{2} = 25$ " which is .70 m or 3/4 yd

### Your turn:

1.  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}} + \underline{\hspace{2cm}} + \underline{\hspace{2cm}} + \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$   
width + width + length + length = Perimeter

2.  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  P divided by 42" =  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  (# of strips needed + 1?)

3.  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  # of strips x  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  width of strip =  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  yardage needed