

Quilt Sleeve Instructions for SQG Quilt Show

Your quilt sleeve does not have to be pretty. It is not being judged. However, size and placement of your sleeve are very important. The sleeve should be placed 2" from the TOP EDGE of the quilt and should be a continuous 2½" wide sleeve across the back of the quilt. A slit will be made in the sleeve by the Arts Center to facilitate hanging. **Quilts without a proper hanging sleeve meeting these specifications will NOT be accepted.**

1. Cut a fabric strip 6" x the distance BETWEEN the bindings of your quilt + 1".
2. Optional: Make a narrow hem on the short end by folding it over ¼" and again ¼". Stitch. Repeat on opposite short end. If you want to skip this step, cut the length of your sleeve as the distance BETWEEN the bindings of your quilt. Your sleeve will have raw edges.
3. Fold in half lengthwise, wrong sides together and press.
4. Open up the fabric. Using the pressed line in the middle of the fabric, fold both sides into the center. Press firmly. You want a good, crisp pressing line, as this will be your stitching line to attach the sleeve to your quilt back.
5. Stitch the raw edges together with a ¼" seam allowance, wrong sides together.



6. Using a sleeve roll or clapper, press the seam open and flat. It's important to put something inside the sleeve while pressing. You want to keep those creases you pressed earlier, as they will be your hand stitching lines. The sleeve in this photo is right sides together. If you stitch your sleeve wrong sides together, you will not have to turn it.

7. To help keep the sleeve straight, make a chalk line across your quilt 2" down from the top edge. Using those long edge pressed lines, pin the quilt sleeve to the back of the quilt along the pressed folds with the top edge along the chalk line. Place the pressed seam in the middle of the sleeve to the quilt side. Notice the 'give' in the quilt sleeve? Now there is ease for the hanging rod and your quilt top will not be warped when it is hung on a wall.



8. Hand stitch in place at both the top and the bottom edge of the sleeve, making sure to only pick up the backing fabric.