



Inspiring Creativity and Confidence, One Quilt at a Time

Quilt Math: Calculating Quilt Binding (Continuous Cut Bias Binding)

Use this chart to calculate the total length for your binding and the fabric amount to start with.

- **Bias Cut Strips:** Assumes that strips are cut at a 45-degree angle from the selvedge edge of the fabric.
- **This method assumes** that you are making a **continuous bias strip**; it's one continuous strip that doesn't need piecing (it's a little like magic!). I've used 40" as the usable width of the fabric. A diagram for this Continuous Bias Binding Method is on the next page.
- **Trim the selvedge edges** before marking, making the tube, stitching, and cutting the continuous bias binding.
- **I highly recommend** using a light misting of Best Press (or equivalent) to make the fabric a little easier to handle when you are working with it.

Calculating Continuous Cut Bias Binding Yardage (Assuming 2.5" Binding Width and 40" Usable Fabric Width)				Choose Either the Yardage or the Square Size Option	
Quilt Size (Inches)	$L + W = __ \times 2 = \text{Total Length} + 20'' \text{ for joining} = \text{Final Length}$	Final Length $\times$ Strip Width $=$ Square Inches	Square Inches $/ 40''$	Yardage (rounded up)	Square Size (rounded up)
30 x 40	$30 + 40 = 70 \times 2 = 140 + 20 = 160''$	$160 \times 2.5 = 400$	$400 / 40 = 10''$	11" WOF	21"
36 x 52	$36 + 52 = 88 \times 2 = 176 + 20 = 196''$	$196 \times 2.5 = 490$	$490 / 40 = 12.25''$	13" WOF	23"
48 x 60	$48 + 60 = 108 \times 2 = 216 + 20 = 236''$	$236 \times 2.5 = 590$	$590 / 40 = 14.75''$	15" WOF	25"
50 x 65	$50 + 65 = 115 \times 2 = 230 + 20 = 250''$	$250 \times 2.5 = 625$	$625 / 40 = 15.625''$	16" WOF	26"
60 x 80	$60 + 80 = 140 \times 2 = 280 + 20 = 300''$	$300 \times 2.5 = 750$	$750 / 40 = 18.75''$	19" WOF	28"
69 x 96	$69 + 96 = 165 \times 2 = 330 + 20 = 350''$	$350 \times 2.5 = 875$	$875 / 40 = 21.875''$	22" WOF	30"
76 x 105	$76 + 105 = 181 \times 2 = 362 + 20 = 382''$	$382 \times 2.5 = 955$	$955 / 40 = 23.875''$	24" WOF	31"
86 x 105	$86 + 105 = 191 \times 2 = 382 + 20 = 402''$	$402 \times 2.5 = 1,005$	$1,005 / 40 = 25.125''$	26" WOF	32"
90 x 110	$90 + 110 = 200 \times 2 = 400 + 20 = 420$	$420 \times 2.5 = 1,050$	$1,050 / 40 = 26.25''$	27" WOF	33"
100 x 115	$100 + 115 = 215 \times 2 = 430 + 20 = 450''$	$450 \times 2.5 = 1,125$	$1,125 / 40 = 28.125''$	29" WOF	34"
110 x 108	$110 + 108 = 218 \times 2 = 436 + 20 = 456''$	$456 \times 2.5 = 1,140$	$1,140 / 40 = 28.5''$	29" WOF	35"

Total Length vs Final Length:

To each **Total Length**, I add 20" for joining the ends together. The sum of Length + Width = ____ x 2 + 20 becomes the Final Length of binding you will need for your quilt.

Yardage Option:

Uneven measurements are rounded up to the next full inch. I also rounded up to the next full inch when the measurements were too close to the full inch (for example: 14.875" becomes 16" instead of 15"). Below is the formula for calculating Yardage. Substitute whatever binding width you prefer (highlighted in red below) and calculate the yardage.

$$L + W = _ \times 2 = _ + 20 = _ \text{ Total Length} \times \text{Bias Width} = _ / 40 = \text{WOF Yardage in Inches}$$

For example: quilt size of 48" x 60" with **2.25"** Binding:

$$48" + 60" = 108" \times 2 = 216" + 20" = 236" \times \text{2.25"} = 531" / 40" = 13.28" \text{ (or } 3/8 \text{ yard of WOF fabric)}$$

Square Option:

If you prefer to start with a square of fabric (rather than yardage), the math is calculated a little differently. Below is the formula for calculating a square. Substitute whatever binding width you prefer (highlighted in red below) and calculate the yardage.

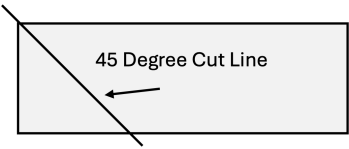
$$\text{Final Binding Length} \times \text{Bias Width} = _ / \text{Square Root} = _ \text{ (Round up to the next 1")}$$

For example: Quilt Size of 48" x 60" with 2.5" Binding:

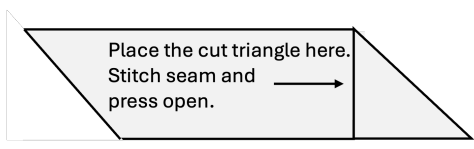
$$236 \times \text{2.5} = 590 / 24.29 \text{ (rounded to 25). You Would Need a 25" square.}$$

Preparing the "Tube" for Continuous Bias Binding

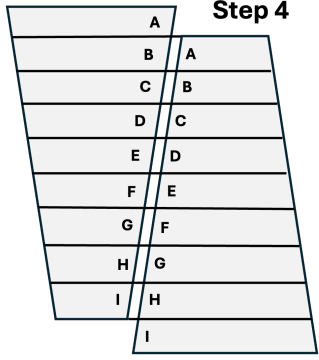
Step 1



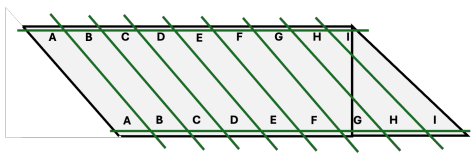
Step 2



Step 4



Step 3



1. Mark 45-degree lines the width of your bias strips.
2. Mark the 1/4-inch seam allowance top and bottom.
3. Write the letter on each end of the strips.

1. Match seams (offsetting by one row).
2. Use a small pin to accurately match the row and seam allowance points.
3. Stitch the seam and press the seam open.
4. Place a long ruler inside the tube to prevent accidentally cutting the other side of the tube.
5. Starting at [A] cut on the line until you reach [I]. Your continuous cut bias binding is complete.