

## **QUILT HANGING SLEEVE REQUIREMENTS for VSQ Quilt Show:**

A 4 inch sleeve must be attached to the back of each quilt.....why?

1. The rods used to hang the quilts are very BIG.
2. By contract with Evening Star Quilters, we cannot pin quilts to the backing drapes.
3. Preferably, the sleeve should be one, continuous tube.....segmented, widely-spaced tubes do not allow the quilt to hang correctly plus they're difficult for the folks hanging the quilts to handle.

Here are two methods to prepare and attach a hanging sleeve:

### **METHOD ONE: SEW ON SLEEVE AFTER BINDING QUILT.**

This method is useful if the sleeve is intended to be temporary or you just didn't put the sleeve on earlier (see Quilt Sleeve Tips at the end for information about a ready-to-use pleated quilt sleeve).

1. Cut or piece together fabric to make a strip measuring 1 inch less than the width of the quilt and 9" tall.
2. EITHER hem the short edges by folding them under  $\frac{1}{4}$ ", wrong sides together; fold again; press and sew a straight seam to secure the hem OR use pinking shears to trim the short edges.
3. Fold the strip lengthwise, wrong sides together, aligning raw edges. Sew together with a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance. Press the seam allowance open.
4. Adjust the tube so that this seam is centered then place the tube, seam-side down against the quilt's back; center and pin the top edge of the tube to the back of the quilt, about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " below the quilt's top-edge binding.
5. Use a whipstitch to sew the top edge of the tube to the quilt backing; sew into the batting occasionally to strengthen the seam but do NOT sew through the front of the quilt.
6. Smooth the tube downward along the quilt back, then make a small ( $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$ " fold along its length to create a small pleat. Keeping the pleat intact, pin the tube bottom to the quilt.
7. Whipstitch the lower edge of the tube to the quilt; and also whipstitch the back side edges of the tube to the quilt back; leave the front side edges unsewn to allow for the hanging rod.
8. Remove all pins. The tube (now a hanging sleeve!) will pouch out a bit to allow space for a hanging rod.

### **METHOD TWO: ADD A HANGING SLEEVE BEFORE BINDING THE QUILT.**

This is the preferred method for permanent sleeves.

1. Once the quilt top has been squared up in preparation for sewing on the binding, cut or piece together fabric to make a strip measuring 1 inch less than the width of the quilt and 9" tall.
2. Hem the short edges by folding them under  $\frac{1}{4}$ ", wrong sides together; fold again; press and sew a straight seam to secure the hem.
3. Fold the strip lengthwise, wrong sides together, aligning raw edges to form a sleeve.
4. Center the sleeve along the top edge of the quilt, against the backing, aligning the sleeve's raw edges with the edge of the quilt.
5. Sew the sleeve to the quilt with an approximate  $\frac{1}{8}$ " seam allowance.
6. Bind the quilt. Be sure to start / end the binding on a side without the sleeve.
7. Smooth the sleeve downward along the quilt back, then make a small ( $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$ " fold along its length to create a small pleat. Keeping the pleat intact, pin the sleeve bottom to the quilt.
8. Whipstitch the lower edge of the sleeve to the quilt; and also whipstitch the back side edges of the sleeve to the quilt back; leave the front side edges unsewn to allow for the hanging rod.
9. Remove all pins. The sleeve will pouch out a bit to allow space for a hanging rod.

## QUILT SLEEVE TIPS:

You can use any fabric for the quilt sleeve – plain muslin or something that will enhance the reverse side of your quilt.

Use the same fabric you use as backing to make the sleeve blend in with the quilt back.

Use wide backing fabric to make a long sleeve without piecing strips of fabric.

Purchase ready-to-use pleated quilt sleeve, Quilters Hangup®. Visit [www.quiltershangup.com](http://www.quiltershangup.com) for information. As of April, 2014, the City Quilter had them on sale – a 3 yard sleeve for \$12.50. Other nearby shops may also carry them.

---

---

### Examples - Hanging Sleeves



**Example of Method One: Sew on Sleeve after Binding Quilt.** Here, the sleeve is cut from a purchased ready-to-use quilt sleeve from Quilters Hangup.



**Example of Method Two: Add a Hanging Sleeve before Binding the Quilt.** Here the sleeve is made from the same fabric as the quilt backing.



Detail showing the corner of the quilt / hanging sleeve.