

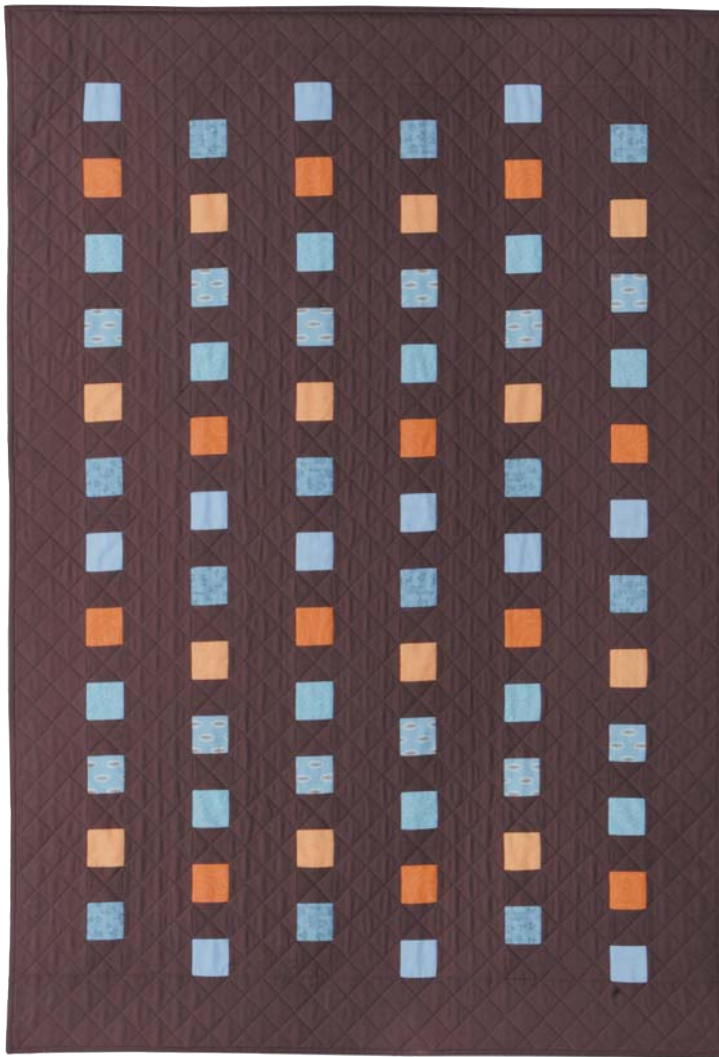
City View

from
Connecting Threads

Quilting Basics

We encourage breaking the rules, but here are a few things you might want to keep in mind:

- We know you're excited to start but read through all the instructions before beginning a project.
- All instructions use a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance
- Always cut off selvages
- Press seams after piecing each strip
- You can pre-wash your fabric if you choose, but make sure it's either all washed or all not. Also, be sure to press before cutting no matter what.
- A fat quarter measures $18" \times 22"$ —it's the same amount of fabric as a $\frac{1}{4}$ yard, just cut in a different orientation so it's "fat" and not long and skinny.



With its small size and easy piecing, this quilt is perfect for a beginner quilter. It may look like a lot of pieces to cut and assemble at first glance, but it's created using fun and simple strip piecing. It also has no corners to line up, so it's okay if your cuts aren't perfect.

Supplies

- Crib size batting $45" \times 60"$
- Milk Chocolate thread (20885) for piecing and Orange Spice thread (20875) for quilting. Or experiment with colors of your choice.

Helpful (but not required)

- Cutting mat, rotary cutter, gridded ruler
- Marking tool, or use white chalk, but test on a scrap to make sure it will wash out
- Large safety pins, basting pins will work too

Yardages (finished size about $39\frac{1}{4}" \times 56\frac{1}{2}"$)

If you don't see a fabric listed on our website (when we sell out, it's gone!) pick out any substitute that strikes your fancy.

| | | |
|-----------|---|----------------------|
| quilt top | 1 | 1250 – 3 yards |
| | 2 | 1533 – 1 fat quarter |
| | 3 | 1671 – 1 fat quarter |
| | 4 | 1248 – 1 fat quarter |
| | 5 | 1484 – 1 fat quarter |
| | 6 | 1545 – 1 fat quarter |
| | 7 | 1667 – 1 fat quarter |

| | | |
|----------------------|---|--|
| quilt back & binding | } | Choose 2 yards of your favorite $45"$ wide fabric for backing or create a scrappy backing with leftover fabric, see pg. 4. For binding, use the leftover from fabric 1 |
|----------------------|---|--|



Step One

Press your fabric and start cutting! If you cut it all at once your quilt assembly will go really quickly. We recommend cutting with a mat, ruler and rotary cutter for best results.

The cuts you need are listed below, and the diagram shows where to position your cuts on the length of fabric for efficient cutting and minimal waste. Start by trimming off the selvages (the edges of the fabric where the name of the company appears) to ensure uniform edges.

Fabric 1: 3 yards

(see cutting diagram at right)

A – 4½" x 42½" – cut two

B – 4½" x 48½" – cut two

C – 4¼" x 48½" – cut five

D – 2½" x 15" – cut twelve

E – Optional for scrappy backing

15½" x 15½" – cut six

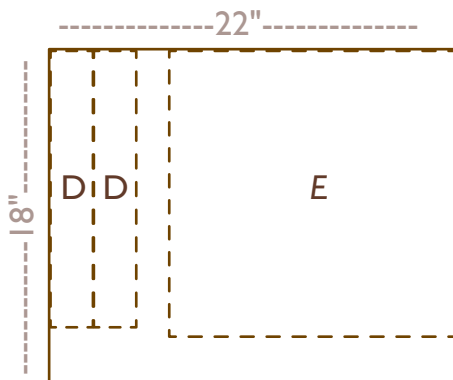
Fabric 2 – 7: fat quarter each

(see cutting diagram below)

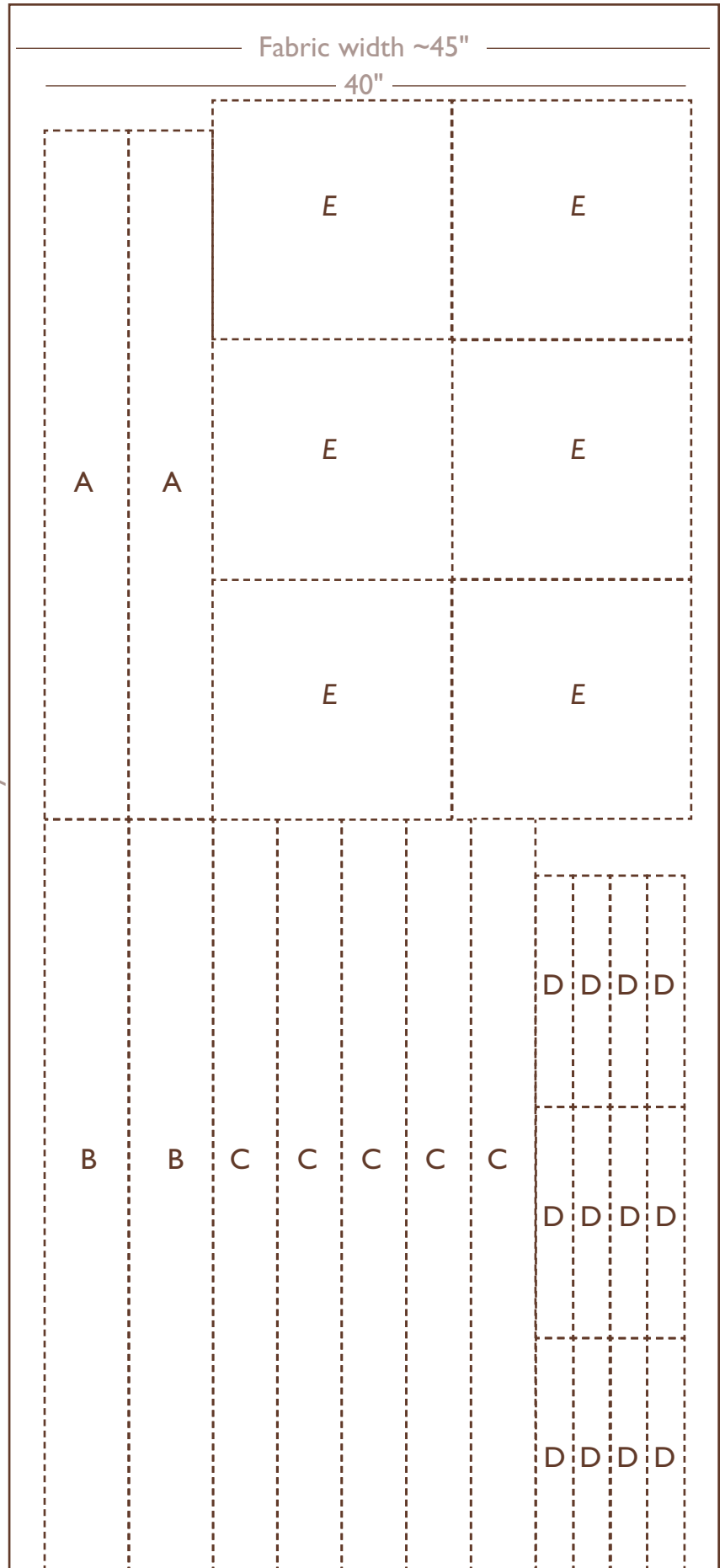
D – 2½" x 15" – cut two of each fabric

E – Optional for scrappy backing

15½" x 15½" – cut one of each fabric

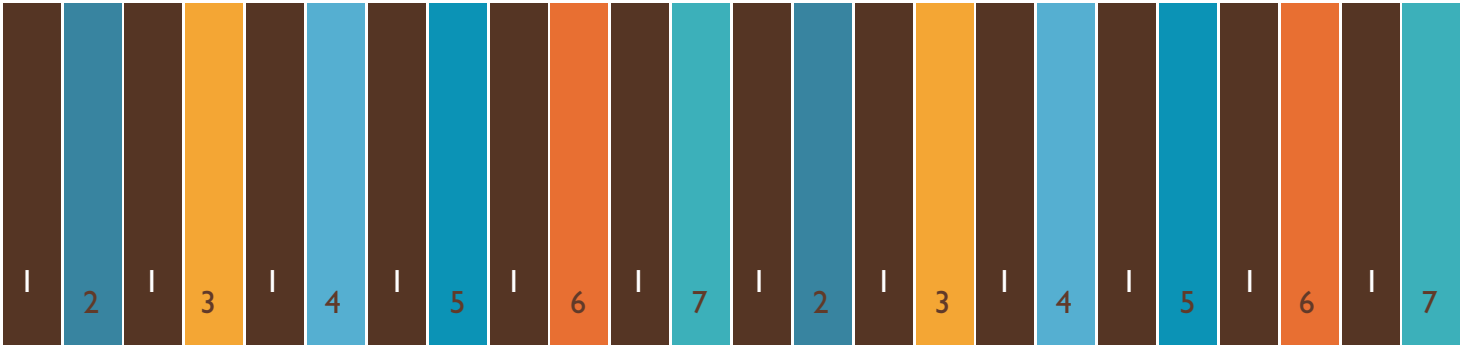


3 yards



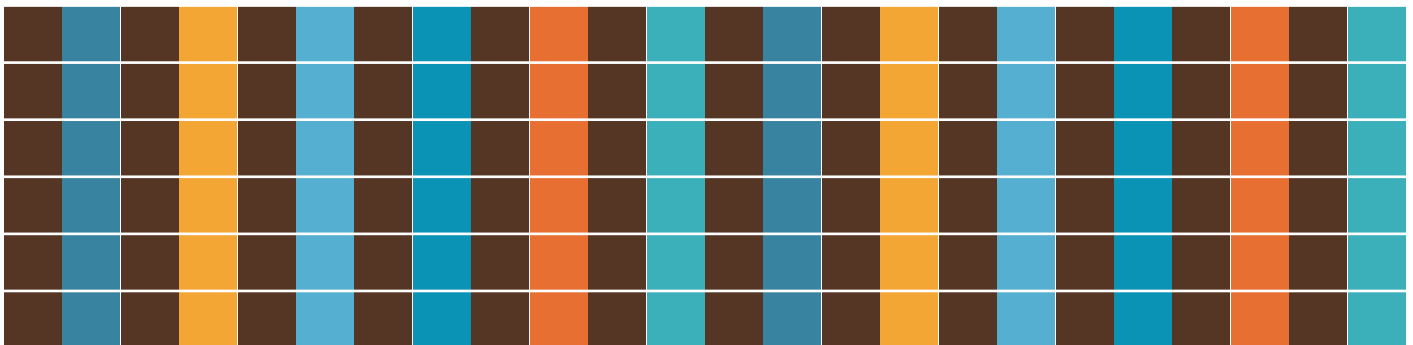
2 Step Two

Sew "D" strips in fabrics 1-7 (2½" x 15") together, alternating between solid and contrasting colors as shown. Press the seams toward solid fabric 1.



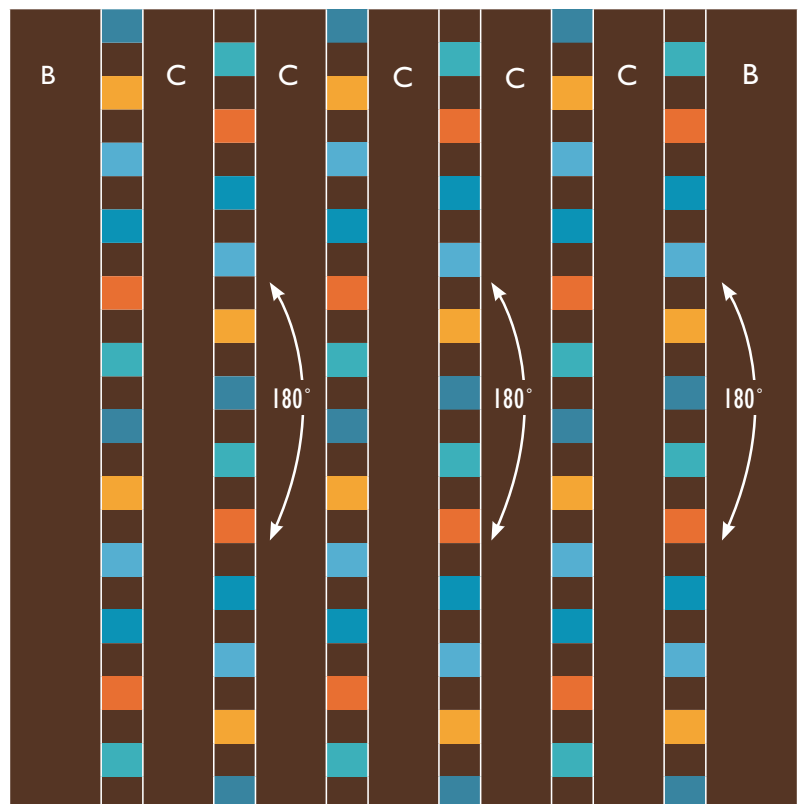
3 Step Three

You should now have one long piece that measures approx. 48½" x 15". Cut this piece cross-wise into 6 equal strips that measure 48.5" x 2½" each.



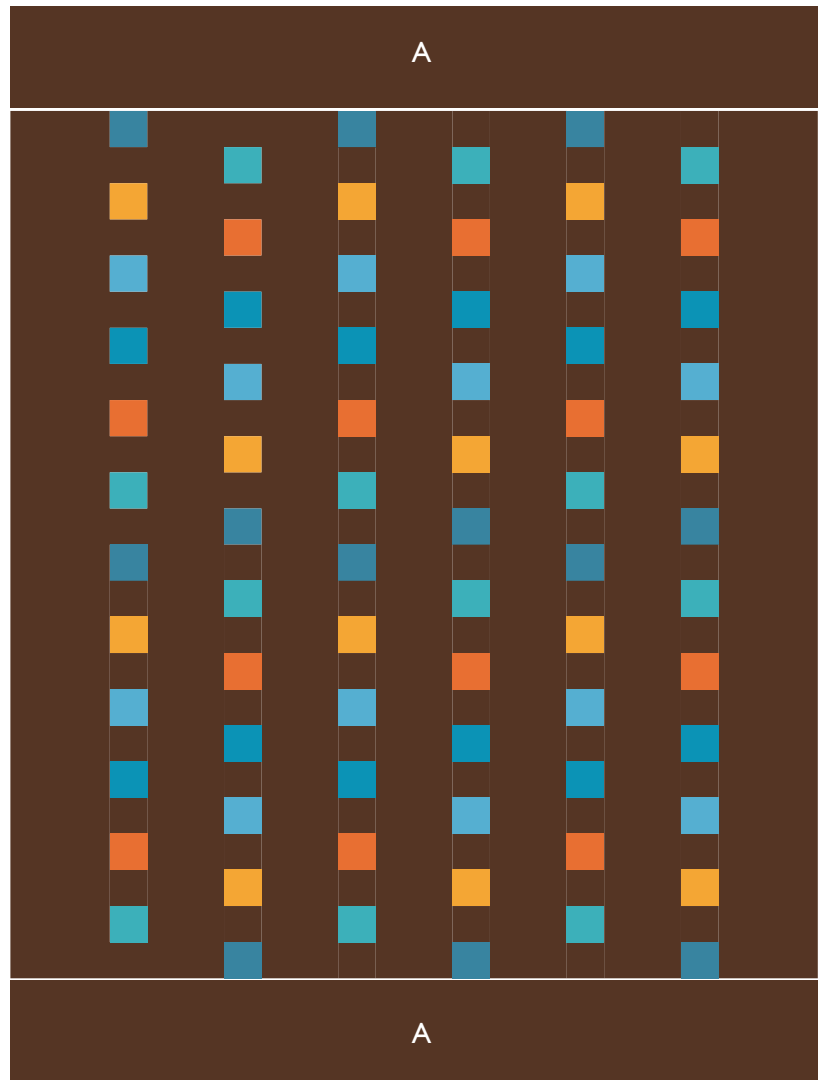
4 Step Four

Sew these strips with B & C as shown, rotating 3 of them 180 degrees. Press the seams outward toward B & C.



5 Step Five

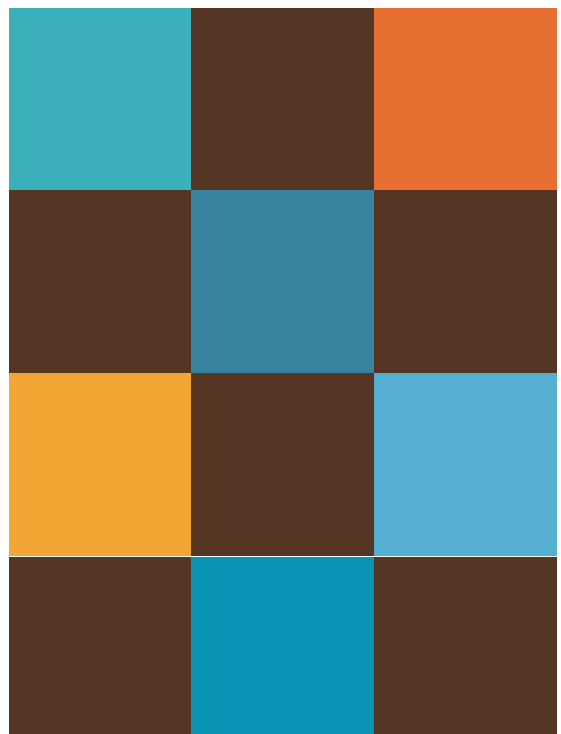
Trim the top and bottom of your quilt top, if necessary, to straighten the edge. Sew A to the top and bottom. Press seams toward A. Trim excess.



6 Step Six

(If you bought extra fabric for backing, skip this step and go on to Step 7.)

Scrappy backing assembly: Sew together your 15½" pieces as shown, creating a checkerboard pattern. Your backing should measure about 45½" x 60½"—just slightly larger than your quilt top.



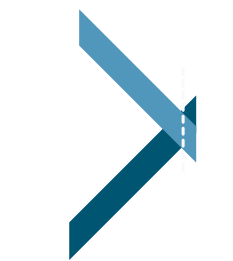
7 Step Seven

Use quilter's safety pins, spray adhesive, or regular pins to make a sandwich with your quilt top, batting & backing (right sides facing out). It's best to do this over a flat hard surface like a floor or dining room table to get the layers as straight and smooth as possible. The batting and backing should be slightly larger than the top. Quilt your layers as desired, either by hand or with your machine. We used a sewing machine and quilted with straight lines running diagonally to form a diamond pattern. For straight quilting lines, mark the quilt with chalk, painter's tape, or a quilter's marker and a ruler, and quilt along those lines with your sewing machine. Once your quilting is complete, trim off the excess batting and backing, so that the edges of your quilt are smooth and square.

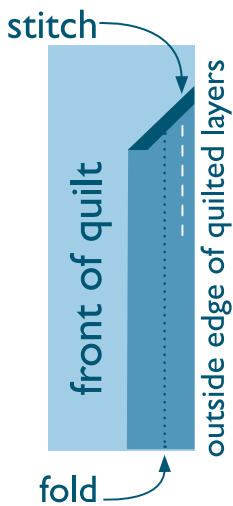
8 Step Eight

You can use pre-packaged binding available at fabric stores, or you can make your own binding using scraps or contrasting fabric. We used fabric 1 to make binding that blends with the quilt top, you should have enough left over after completing the quilt top. There are many different ways of binding a quilt. We recommend the following method for beginner quilters.

Binding Instructions:



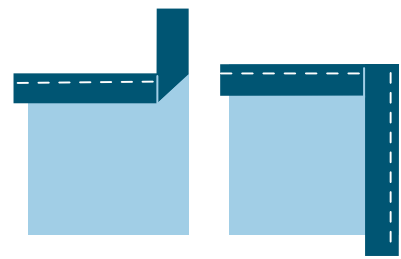
1 Cut 2" strips of your binding fabric of choice. You will need enough fabric to go around the entire quilt, plus about 6" extra. You can cut your strips along the length of the fabric, or from selvedge to selvedge. Sew the strips end to end (right sides together) at a 45 degree angle. Trim seam to $\frac{1}{4}$ " and press open. Trim off the little flaps on the sides of the seam.



2 Once you have a long enough 2" strip, fold the strip in half wrong sides together down the length. Press.

3 Open one end of the folded strip and fold one edge down approx. $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Press. Place the right side of the binding on the right side of your quilt with the raw edges lined up. Sew a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam down approx. 3" of the binding strip, attaching it to all the layers. This will create a finished pocket in which you will tuck the other end of the binding at the end. Remove from machine.

4 Fold the other raw edge of the binding flush with the outer edge of the quilt along the crease you created in step 2. Begin sewing through all layers approx. 3" from the folded end of the binding strip (where you left off sewing in step 3). Continue sewing the binding around the quilt with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam.



5 At the corners, stop sewing $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edge and take back a few stitches. Remove from machine. Fold binding back at a right angle, then down even with the edge of the next side of the quilt, leaving the fold even with the previous side of the quilt and continue sewing with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam.



6 Once you have sewn the binding around the quilt and only have a few inches left, join the ends as follows: slip the unfinished end inside the pocket you created in step 3. If necessary, trim excess length off to eliminate unnecessary bulk. Sew down the remaining area of binding and trim threads.

7 Fold the binding around the raw edge of the quilt to the back. Press. For a polished, seamless look, tack the binding down by hand with a simple whip stitch, sewing the folded edge to the quilt back. If you're in a hurry, you can topstitch the binding to the quilt with your sewing machine.