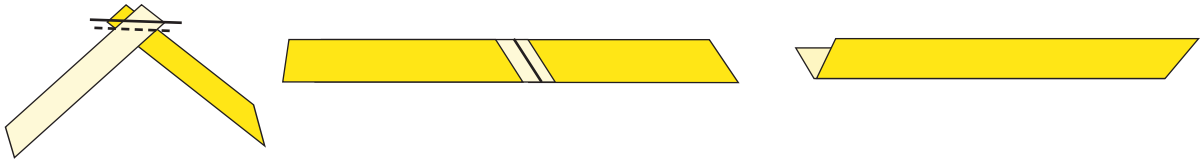


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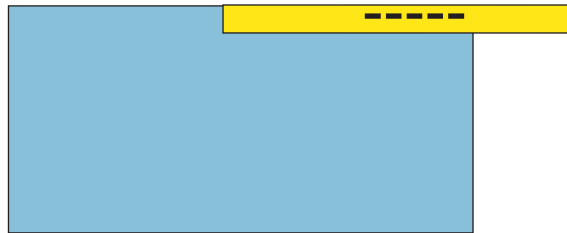
## BINDING YOUR PROJECT

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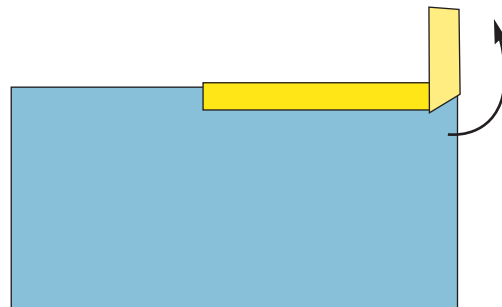
1. If you haven't done so yet, you'll need to prepare your binding. You may need to sew two or more pieces together so you have the total length needed for each item you are making. Once all the pieces are sewn into one long piece, fold the whole piece in half lengthwise and press.



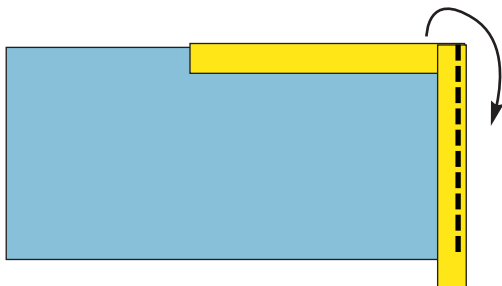
2. On the back side of your item, sew binding around the entire outer edge. Start along one of the longer edges, using a 1/4 inch seam. Leave about 6 inches of binding free, and sew to first corner, to within 1/4 inch of the edge.



3. Raise needle, remove from under presser foot and cut thread. Fold binding straight up so raw edge of binding is now parallel to raw edge on the end of your item.



4. Now fold binding back down so fold is even with edge just sewn and raw edges are even along the next edge. Beginning at the corner, sew this seam, using a 1/4 inch seam. This will produce nice mitered corners. Sew the next corner the same way, then continue stitching along the next edge.

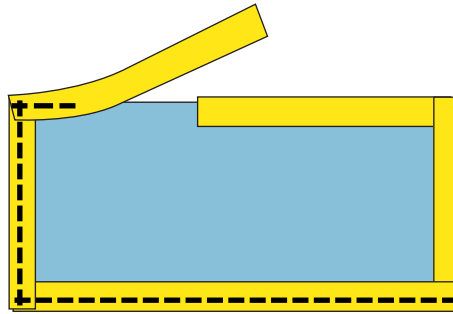


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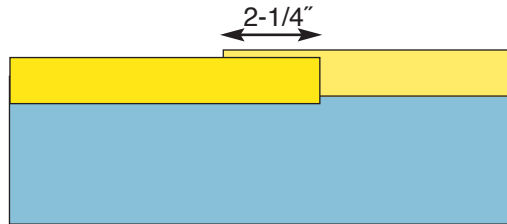
## BINDING YOUR PROJECT

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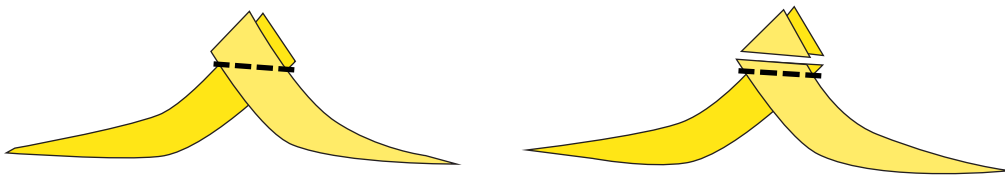
5. Continue around the entire piece and stop when you are about 8 to 10 inches from where you started attaching the binding. Cut thread and remove from the sewing machine.



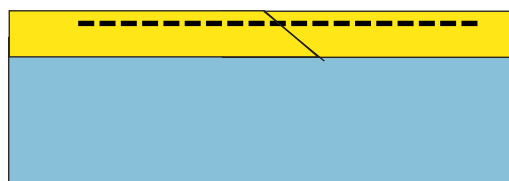
6. On a flat surface, lay the last end of the binding over the first end (where you left the 6 inch end free), overlap the two ends by 2-1/4 inches (be precise here), then cut the remainder off each end.



7. Open the folds on both ends of binding and pin the ends together, right sides facing, at 90 degrees to each other, (leave a scant 1/8 inch on each end so you can see where they meet easier). Sew the two ends together diagonally (it's easier to sew it straight if you pin it first). Trim off the corners, leaving a 1/4 inch seam allowance.



8. Finger press the seam open, then refold on the original binding fold, replace binding along edge of the item and finish sewing the seam. Flip your item over to the front.

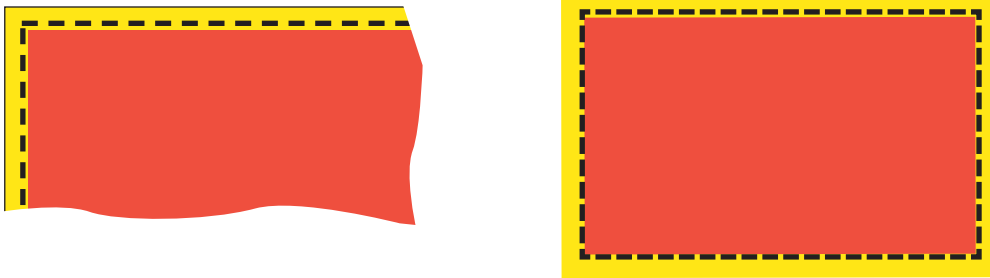


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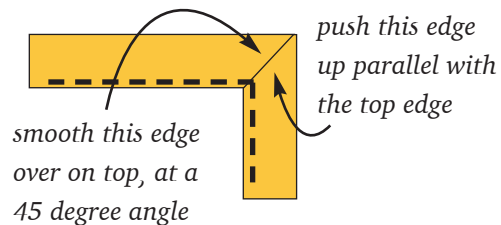
## PARTY TIME PLACEMATS

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9. Fold binding to the front and pin or clip it all the way around. Stitch binding in place, close to the inner folded edge.



10. To make a nice mitered corner, push the bottom edge of the corner up parallel to the edge you are on, then smooth the top corner edge down, adjusting how much it's tucked in until you get a good 45 degree angle. Be sure to catch the inside edge of the corner in your stitching.



Your project is finished!