

I have given you a very condensed version – see the tool for complete instructions.

Adding a small strip of piping to the binding of your quilts can set them off and add that bit of flash. Piping can also be added between seams.

I recommend the Susan Cleveland Groovin' Piping Trimming Tool. She includes the tool, cording and detailed instructions. See www.PiecesBeWithYou.com

Steps to preparing your quilt:

1. Quilt sandwich – square up the quilt (after quilting) by drawing or marking with masking tape a “new” edge – you can cut it even as well. Stabilize edge by stitching $\frac{1}{4}$ ” all the way around (optional).
2. Cut binding strips. Cut enough for perimeter of quilt plus 10”
Narrow binding: **cut 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ”**, Wide binding: cut 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ ”
3. Cut piping strips. Cut enough for perimeter of quilt plus 10”. Cut **1 $\frac{1}{4}$ ” for narrow** and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ” for wide.
4. Sew binding strips into one long strip using diagonal seams. Press wrong sides together the long way.
5. Do the same with the piping strips. Press long sides together the long way. Steam the cording if cotton.

Making the piping

(For Additional cording I use the Wrights #2 poly cord 3/32”)

1. Special considerations: sewing machine feet – one with groove in the bottom. Try an appliqué foot, piping foot or even button hole foot. On my Bernina I use a 20 or a 3.
2. Needle position. If not movable, use a zipper foot.
3. Tie a knot in end of cording so it won't pull through.
4. Use top and bobbin thread that matches piping.
5. Making piping if you have a foot with a groove:
 - a. Tuck the cording in the fold of the piping.
 - b. Place the soon to be piping under the grooved foot with the fold to the left, seam allowance to right and cording under groove.
 - c. Move needle to right so it stitches right next to cording.
 - d. Use masking tape or post it note to mark where edge of piping is on machine for guideline.
 - e. Sew the length of piping, pulling the cording into the fold and sewing a few inches at a time.
6. Trim the piping using the Groovin' Tool and the narrow, $\frac{1}{4}$ ”, edge.

Attach piping to quilt.

1. One side at a time, attach piping to the top of the quilt sandwich using a top thread that matches the piping and a bobbin thread different from the color used to stabilize the edge of the quilt.
2. Thread should contrast with the back. Align raw edge of piping with “new edge” you marked or cut. Seam allowance to outside. Pin.
3. Sew directly over the piping stitching line. Use an open toe foot so you can see and move your needle to make it work. The piping will run off the edge at the corner. Trim it to 1” over the corner. You will trim it even with the corners when you sew your binding on.
4. Trim off extra batting and backing even with raw edge of piping if not trimmed earlier.

Attach binding:

Again, the open toe foot seems to work the best.

1. Lay the binding over the piping. *****

****Lay the binding so it goes away from you towards the top of the quilt. This is the opposite of our usual direction. Pin in place on one side. Turn the quilt over so the binding is on the bottom. Leave an 8" tail and start stitching. Move your needle, follow the piping stitching, stitching just one thread to the inside of your previous stitching.**

2. When you get to a corner, turn the quilt over and flip your binding away from the next edge, then up onto the next edge and pin. Continue sewing.
3. Join tails at end and you are ready to tack the binding down in back.