

Creating a 6-inch hanging sleeve.

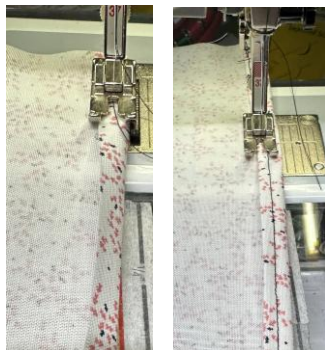
1. Prepare the Fabric Strip

To achieve a sleeve with the necessary "slack" for the rod, use the following measurements:

- **Width:** Measure the total width of your quilt. We will be hemming the ends so the sleeve stays hidden behind the side bindings.
- **Height:** For a 6" finished sleeve, cut a strip of fabric **13 ½ inches tall**.
 - *Calculation:* 6 inches (front) + 6 inches (back) + ½ inch (for seam) and 1 inch for slack.
 - For a 4" finished sleeve, cut a strip of fabric **9 ½ inches tall**

2. Hem the Short Ends

1. On the two short ends (the sides), fold the fabric toward the wrong side by **1/4 inch** and press. (If it is easier, you can stitch the folded fabric).
2. Fold over another **1/4 inch** and topstitch at the fold edge to create a clean, finished hem. This will prevent you from having raw edges on the short ends of the sleeve.



3. The sleeve should now be about 1 inch narrower than your quilt. This now ensures that the sleeve stays hidden behind the side bindings.

3. Create the Tube

1. Fold the strip in half lengthwise, **right sides together**.
2. Sew along the long raw edge using a **1/4-inch seam allowance**.



3. Turn the tube right-side out.



4. Flatten the tube so the seam is on one edge. Press the other edge as this will be used for our “slack”.

5. Using a long basting stitch, Stitch a ½ inch seam along the other edge from the original seam.



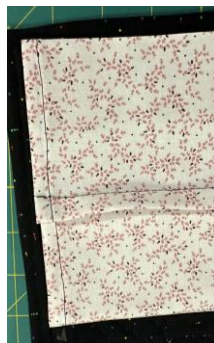
6. Fold the tube in half lengthwise again matching the original seam and the based ½ inch seam along the center of the tube. Press the folds. These will be the sides that will be sewn to the quilt.



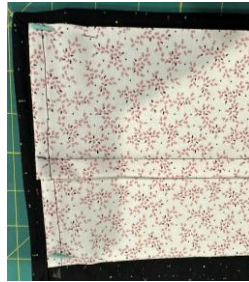
4. Attach to the Quilt

A show-quality sleeve must be hand-stitched to the backing only (do not let stitches show on the front).

- **Positioning:** Place the top of the sleeve **below** the top edge of the quilt's binding. The basted seam should be on top, and the original seam should be facing the quilt.



- **Top Edge:** Pin the top edge of the sleeve across the width of the quilt. Hand-stitch securely using a whipstitch or blind stitch.



- **Bottom Edge:** Pin the bottom edge of the sleeve across the width of the quilt. Hand-stitch securely using a whipstitch or blind stitch.
- **Creating the "Slack":** After the top and bottom of the sleeve have been secured to the quilt, remove the basting stitches. It forms a small "fold" or "D-shape" away from the quilt.



Note: This extra slack prevents the heavy rod from pulling on the back of your quilt and causing a horizontal line or bulge to appear on the front of your masterpiece.

- Stitch quilt side ends of the sleeve to the quilt. This ensures that the rod will go into the sleeve instead of in back of it along the quilt top.



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- **Labeling:** Most shows require your name and the quilt's title to be visible. Ensure your label is attached to the back (usually the bottom-right corner) before hanging.