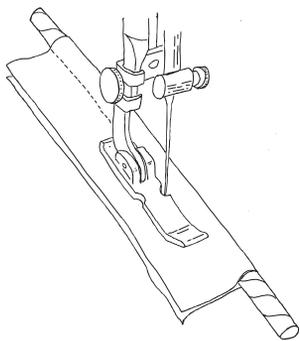


PIPING OR PIPED BINDING

One of the trickiest ways to bind a quilt is with a piped binding. Piping can add a very stylish twist and defined edge to your finished quilt or pillow. When using piping on a quilt you will need to either enclose it inside binding, as in the Power-line Sky (page 111) or put a backing onto it using the pillow-case method, as in the Road Transport Quilted Pillow (page 76).

You will need bias binding (see page 39) and cotton cord that is approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ in/6 mm in diameter.

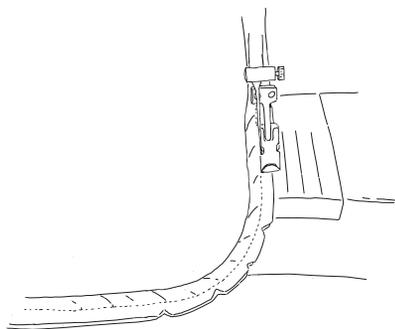
Put your zipper foot onto your machine, and place the cord inside the binding, snug up against the fold. Stitch into place, with your zipper foot, sewing as close to the cord as you can get.



Attaching piping to your quilt or pillow

To attach your piping, you will need a zipper foot on your sewing machine. Place the raw edge of the piping against the raw edge of the quilt and pin into place. When you get to the corners, ease the piping around by clipping the seam allowance up close to the stitching line; this will allow the piping to curve around the corners.

To join the piping, weave in the ends of the cord, open up the ends of the binding fabric, and stitch together. Then finish sewing it down, or simply overlap the two pieces of enclosed piping and fold to the back, stitching through in a straight line.



Whichever way you bind your quilt, make sure you choose a method that is going to suit the style of your quilt top and matches your available time and level of skill. Though none of the methods is particularly difficult, you'll need to make sure you have the time and energy to concentrate on getting it right if you are trying a method for the first time.