

## What is a Quilt Sleeve and why is it needed?

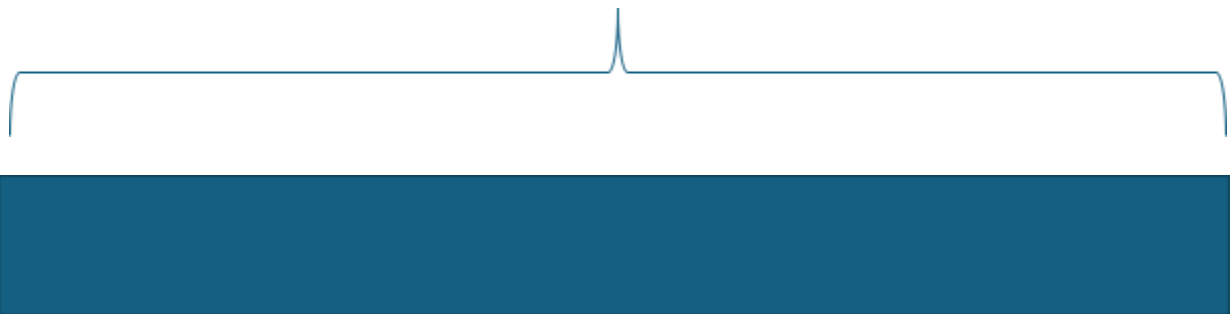
Quilt sleeves are needed for the hanging process. A pole will be inserted into the sleeve and then suspended from the display frames with chains and “S” hooks.

The sleeve fabric can be anything you like, but often matches the backing fabric or is a fabric that looks nice to the eye. Your sleeve should be strong enough to hold the weight of the quilt so a light-weight lace, for example, would not work unless your quilt is small.

## Hanging Sleeve Instructions

A hanging sleeve is a fabric tube attached to the backside of a quilt to accommodate a rod used to hang the quilt for display. All quilts and wall hangings (except minis) submitted for the Quilt Show must have a 4” hanging sleeve.

1. Cut the sleeve 8½” wide x the width of your quilt minus 2 inches. **Width of quilt minus 2”**



2. Fold the ends in twice (¼” and ¼” again) to finish each end of the sleeve. Stitch using a scant ¼” seam allowance.



3. With wrong sides together, press the sleeve in half lengthwise to form a crease



4. Fold each of the long raw edges to that center fold and press again.

5. With wrong sides together, stitch a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam along the long edge to make a tube. Press the seam open (Note: this seam will be placed against the back of the quilt so it will not show).
6. On the back of the quilt, center and pin the sleeve about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " below the top edge binding. Stitch the top edge of the tube to the quilt back.
7. Pin the bottom edge of the sleeve to the back of the quilt and stitch that as well. Note that the sleeve will lay flat against the back of the quilt and will cup out slightly. This is intentional and allows a rod to be inserted without pulling on and distorting the quilt.

If your quilt is longer than 84 inches, follow these same instructions for sleeve preparation, but position the top of the sleeve 84 inches from the bottom of the quilt and stitch in place.