

Facing a Quilt: Method 1 (Celia Demonstration)
"Quilting with Japanese Fabrics" by Kitty Pippen

Sometimes you want a clean finished edge on your quilt and do not want the distraction of a binding. This is the method I found in "Quilting with Japanese Fabrics" by Kitty Pippen. I like the nice square corners I get with this method.

Steam press your piece and trim away all excess batting and backing. Measure the sides and top and bottom of quilt. Choose a fabric that blends with the borders and the backing. Cut facing strips for the sides that are 2 ½" wide and ½" longer than the measurement. Cut a facing strip for the bottom that is 2 ½" wide and 1 ½" longer than the measurement. If you want a sleeve in the top facing, cut the facing strip 5" wide and 1 ½" longer than the measurement; if not cut facing 2 ½" wide.

Press one long side of each facing strip under ¼" to wrong side.

Starting on one side, center the facing strip on the right side of your quilt. Pin and stitch facing in place. Repeat for the other side. Press the seam, and then press the facing flat towards facing. Edge stitch the facing 1/8" from the seam line. Fold the facing to the back of the quilt and press, making sure to roll the facing edge towards the back so it doesn't show from the front side of the quilt. Press well. Pin and whip stitch the facing to the back of the quilt and trim facing edges with the top and bottom edges.

Stitch, press, edge stitch and roll facings to the back on the bottom and top facings as described above. On these edges turn the raw edges of the facings under before stitching it down. On the top edge I usually leave a 2" opening for a dowel sleeve. Run a small running stitch 2" from the top to keep the facing flat to the back of the quilt.

Facing a Quilt: Method 2 (Nancy Demonstration)
Hilde Morin's Faced Quilt Finished

1. Trace the corner pattern template 4 times onto freezer paper.
2. Cut out 4 corners from your facing fabric. Be careful to keep the grain line of the fabric accurate, so the bias edge tolls nicely and pulls the quilt corners in slightly.
3. Cut straight of grains strips 1 ¾" wide, enough to cover the quilt from corner piece to corner piece with some overlap. Iron one long edge under ¼".
4. With right sides together, pin the corner facing pieces into each corner of the quilt. Fold under the short sides ¼".
5. With right sides together, pin the facing strips onto the edges of the quilt. Overlap by 2" the folded back facing edges.

6. Sew all the way around the quilt using a 1'4" seam allowance. Additional but not necessary: To add stability to your quilt edges, sew on 1/8" grosgrain ribbon to the edges of the quilt.
7. Clip the corners and push the corners out.
8. On the right side of the facing, under-stitch the facing and seam together as close to the seam line as possible (stitch on facing side). You won't be able to get all the way into the corners.
9. Press the seam allowances towards the back of the quilt.
10. Turn under the raw edge of the facing and hand sew to the quilt.

