

KESTREL'S MODIFIED HANGING SLEEVE INSTRUCTIONS

This variation on the standard 4" hanging sleeve design makes it easy to hang quilts on one nail – no hanging wire required. Quilts with hanging sleeves modified by this method can be easily hung at traditional quilt shows, at fine art venues, and at home.



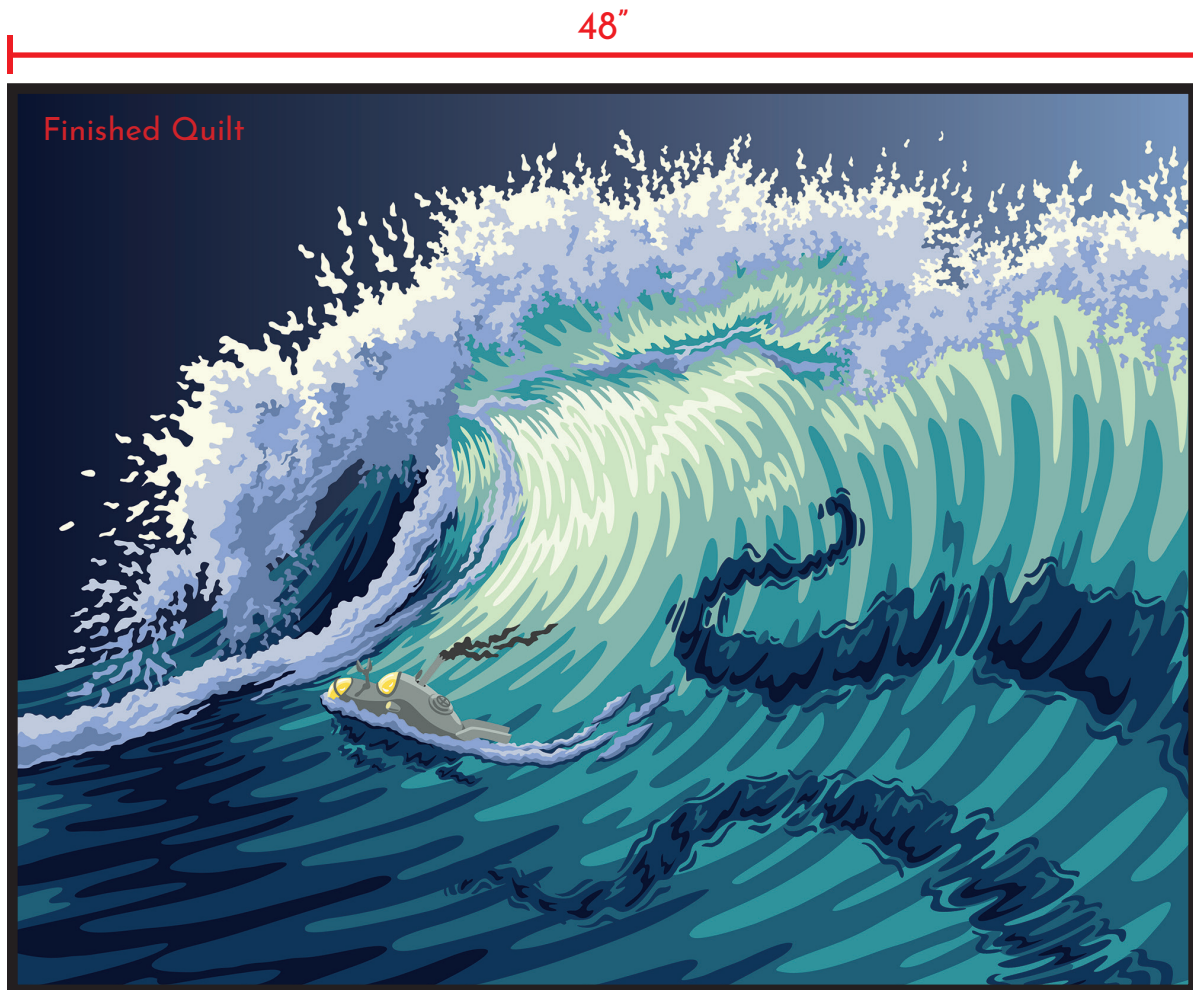
Kestrel Michaud 
Fine Art Quilting
& Fabric Illustration

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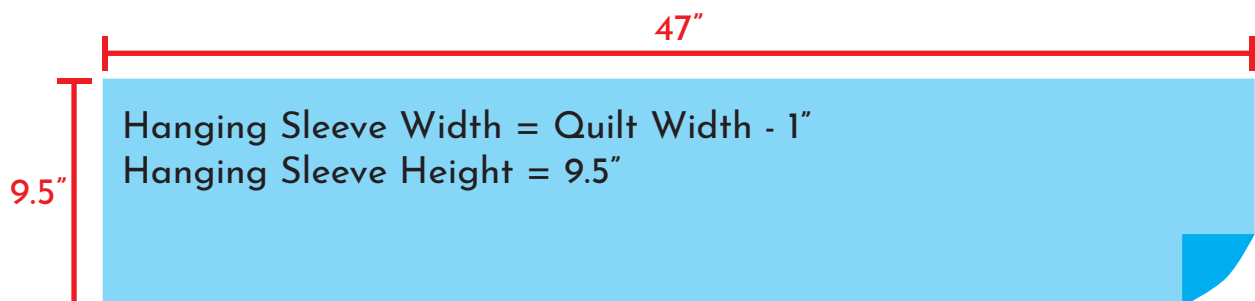
Step 1

Determine size of hanging sleeve fabric and cut

Measure the width of your finished quilt.



The width of the hanging sleeve fabric is one inch less than the width of the quilt. The height of the hanging sleeve fabric will always be 9.5" to make a standard 4" finished sleeve.

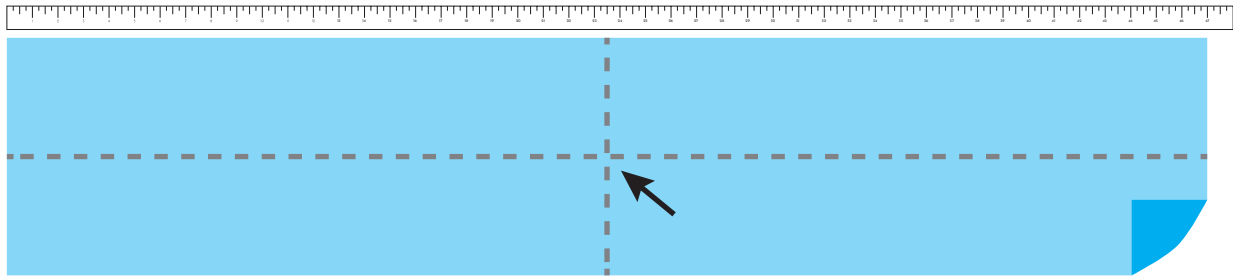


Cut your hanging sleeve fabric. At the end of this step you should have a long, skinny rectangle of fabric ready to sew. Make sure the back of the fabric is facing up.

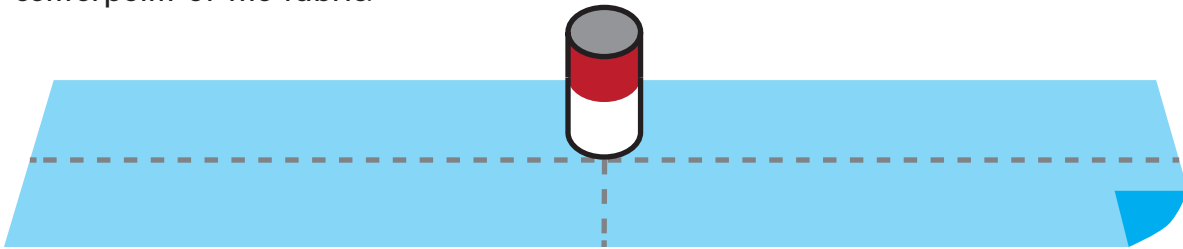
Step 2

Mark a hole for hanging

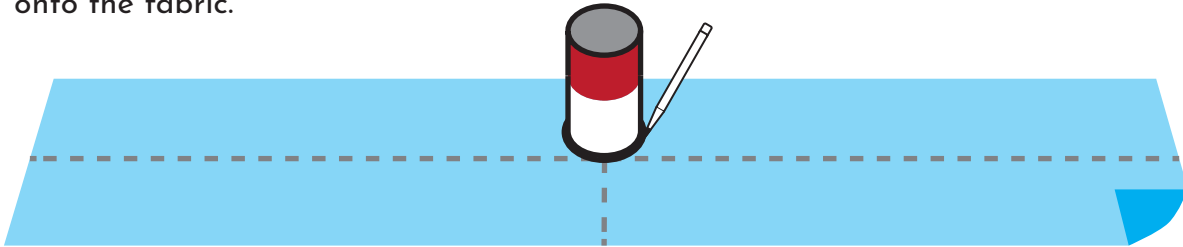
Use a ruler to find the center of the hanging sleeve fabric.



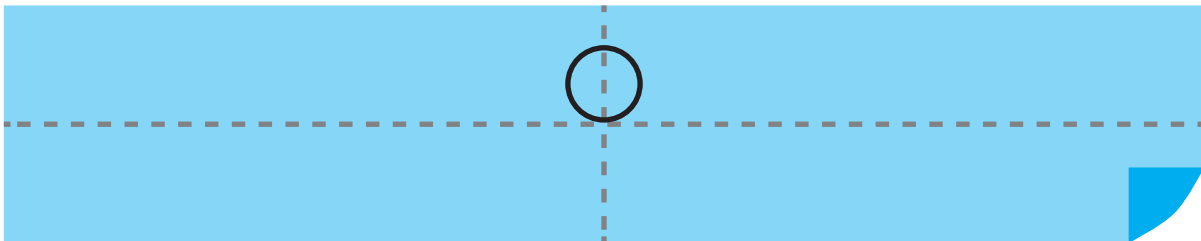
Set a standard 14oz can on the fabric. The can should be centered horizontally in the top half of the fabric. The bottom edge of the can should touch the centerpoint of the fabric.



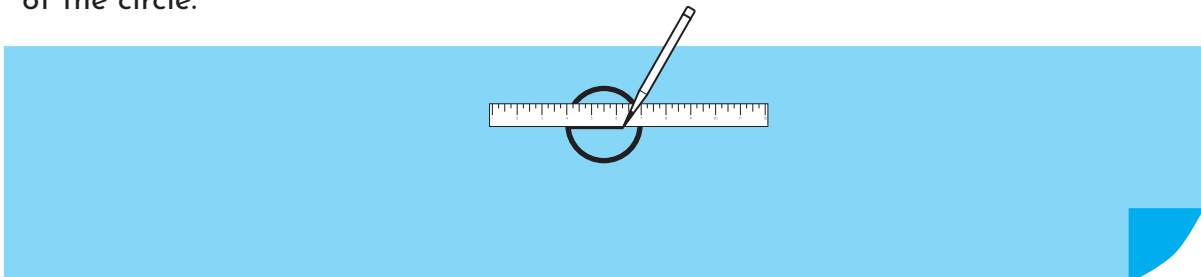
Use your preferred fabric marking pen or tool to trace the bottom of the can onto the fabric.



Remove the can. You should now see an approximately 3" circle on the fabric.



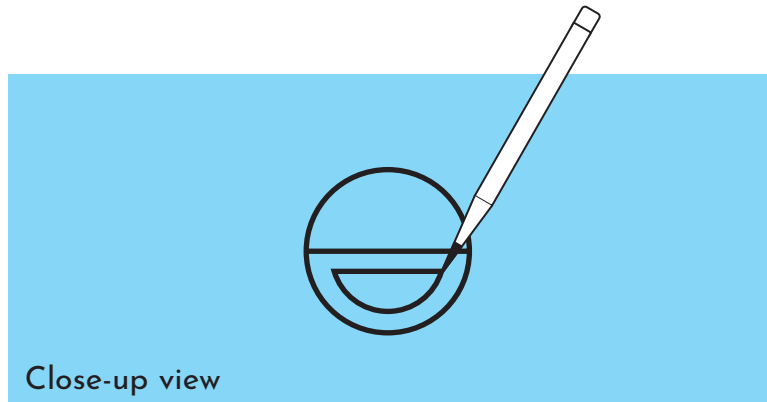
Use a ruler and the marking pen to draw a line horizontally through the center of the circle.



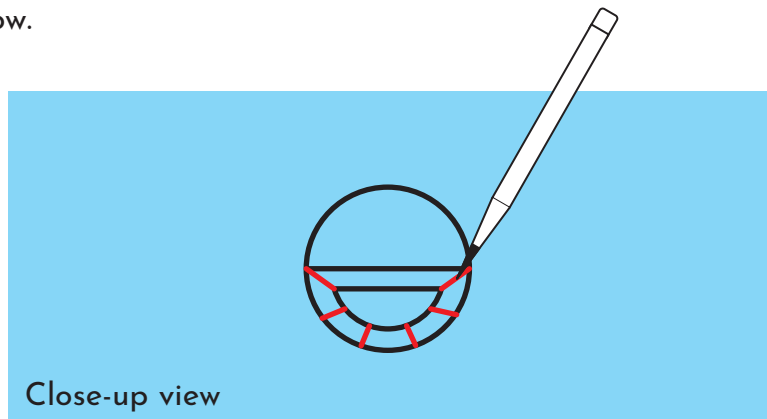
Step 3

Cut hole and finish edges

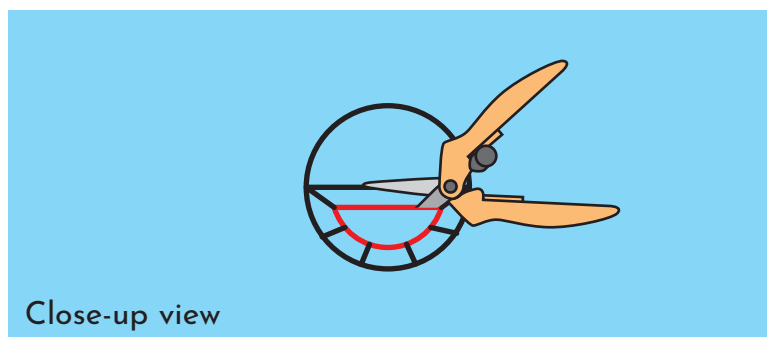
Draw a second semi-circle 1/2" inside the first with the marking pen. The new semi-circle should be inside the lower half of the original circle.



Use the marking pen to draw the additional six lines, as shown in red in the diagram below.

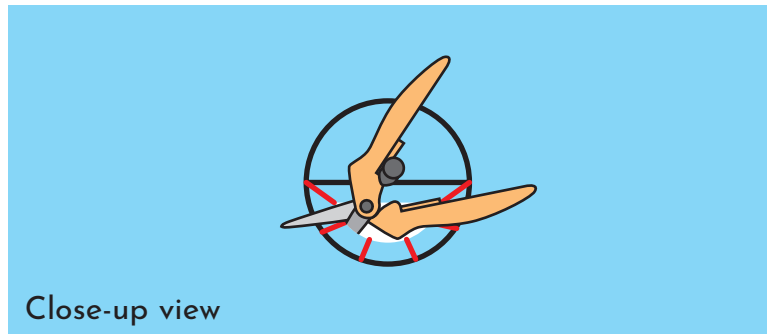


Use scissors to cut and remove the inner semi-circle of fabric, shown in red in the diagram below.



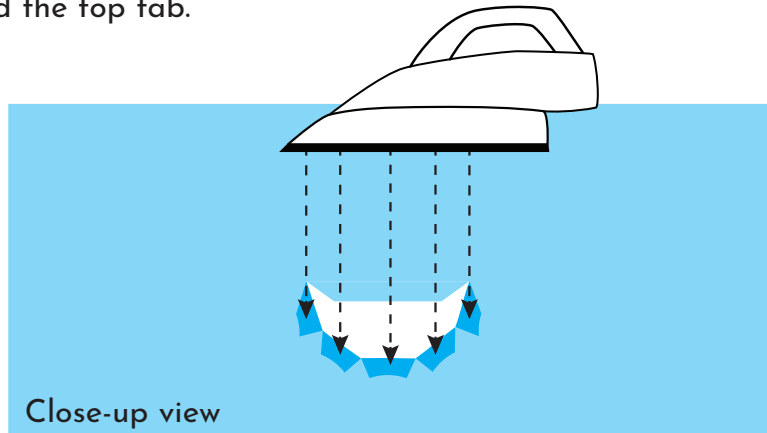
Step 3, Continued Cut hole and finish edges

Use scissors to slice the six extra lines, indicated in red in the diagram below. This will create six tabs: one long one along the top of the semi-circle and five smaller ones along the curved edge. DO NOT cut past the outer circle.



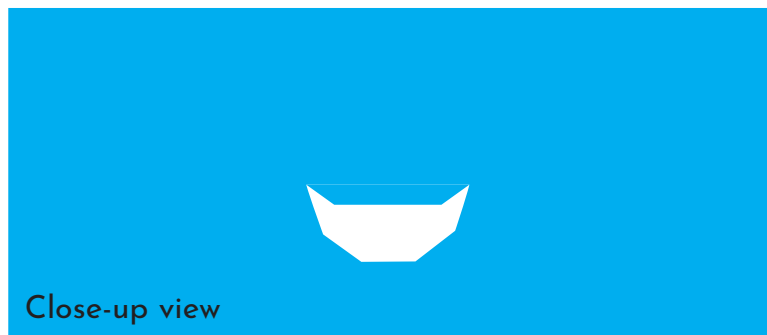
Note: The top semi-circle will not be used, so I removed it from future diagrams.

Fold the five bottom tabs back and iron them in place. DO NOT fold the top tab.



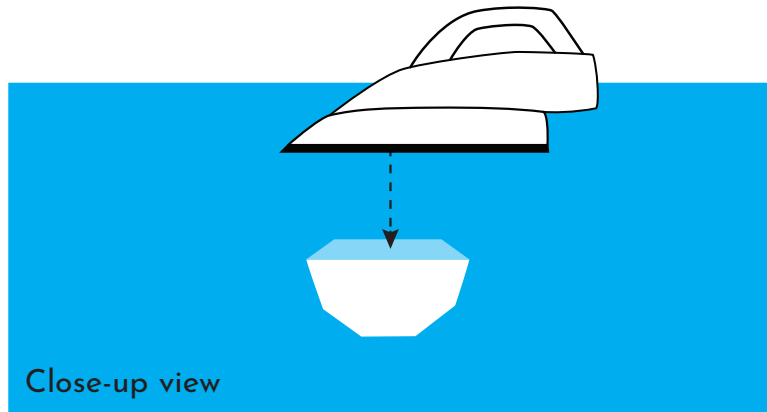
Pro Tip: Place a small swatch of fusible web under the tabs to hold them in place.

Flip the fabric over so the front is now facing up. It should now look like this:



Step 3, Continued Cut hole and finish edges

Fold the top tab up and iron it in place.

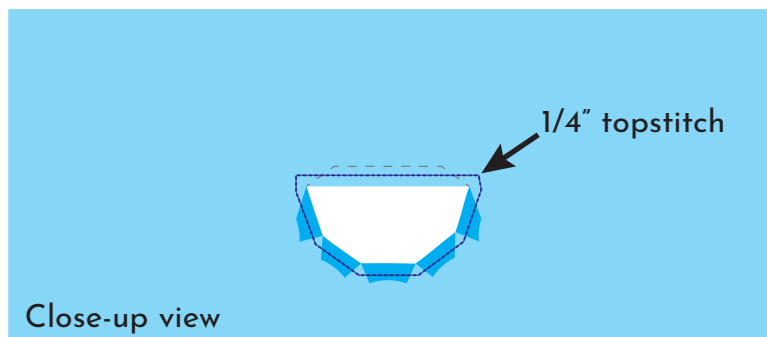


Pro Tip: Place another small swatch of fusible web under the tab to hold it in place.

Flip the fabric so the back is now facing up. It should look like this:

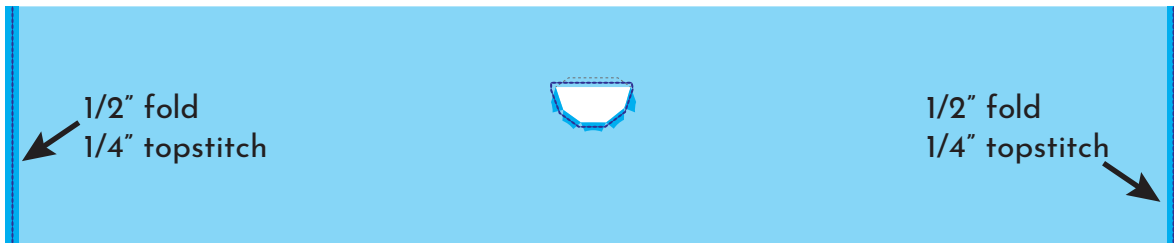


Sew a 1/4" topstitch around the outside of the opening to finish the edges and hold the tabs in place.

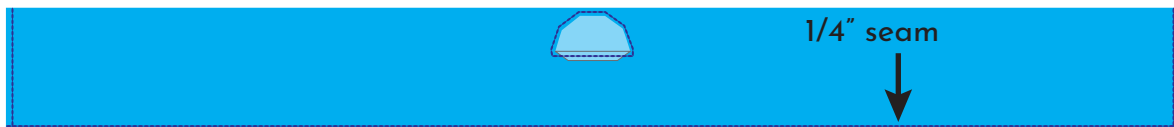


Step 4 Finish the sleeve

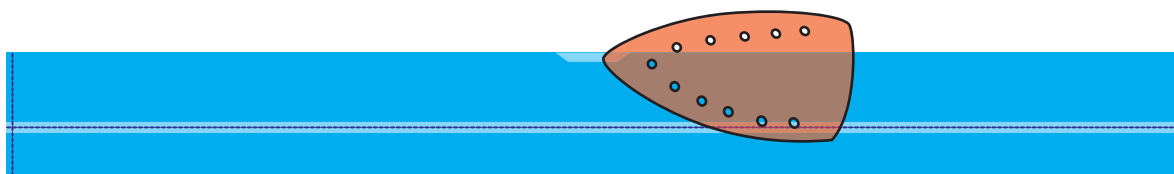
Fold the left edge over 1/2" and sew a 1/4" topstitch. Repeat on the right edge.



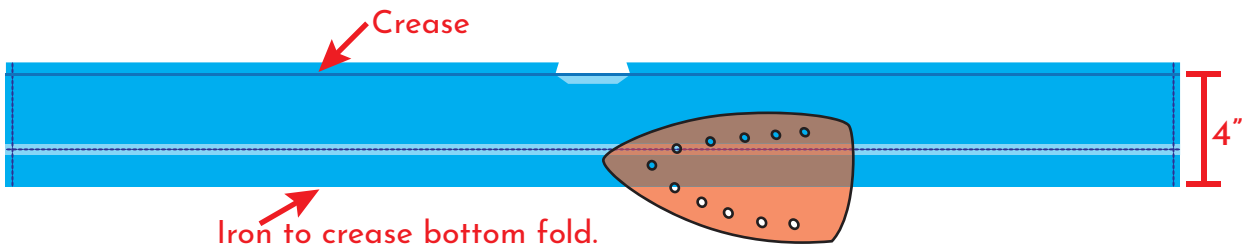
Fold the long sides together, right side out, and sew a 1/4" seam.



Fold the sleeve so the long tab is along the top edge. The seam running the full length of the sleeve will be partway down. Iron the sleeve to crease the top and press the long seam open. DO NOT press the bottom edge of the sleeve.



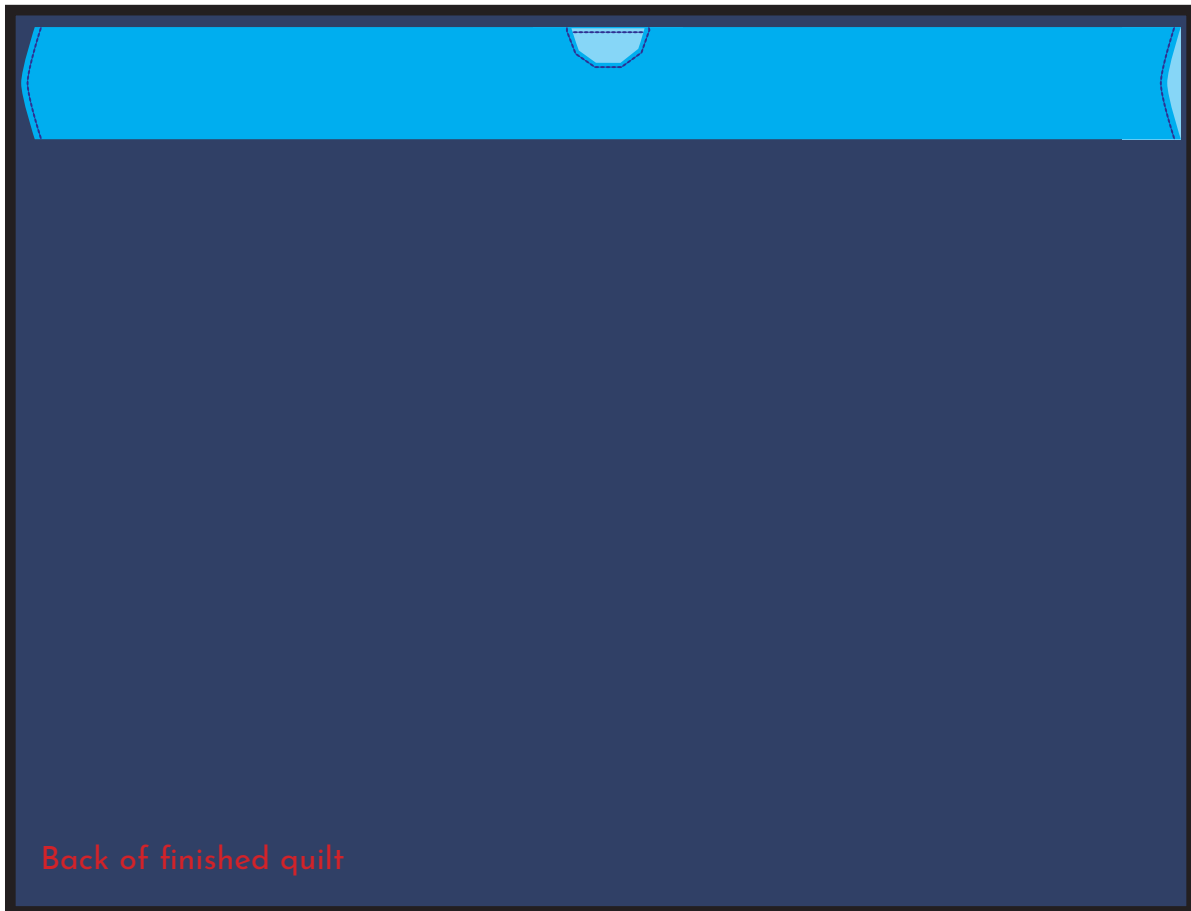
Adjust the sleeve so 1/2" of the sleeve extends above the top crease. There should be about 4" between the top crease and the new fold along the bottom. Iron to crease the bottom fold. DO NOT iron the top of the sleeve.



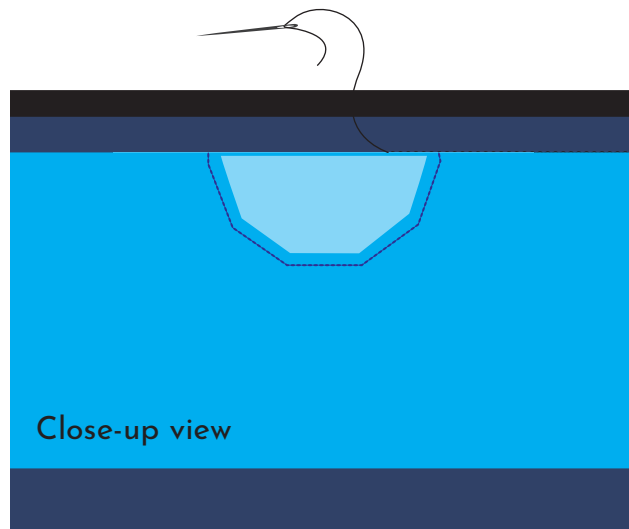
Pro Tip: I like to use fusible instead of pins to attach my sleeves to my quilts. If you want to try it, iron strips of fusible web in the 4" between the top and bottom creases. Remove the paper backing when finished.

Step 5 Attach sleeve to quilt

Align sleeve to back of quilt. Sleeve should have 1" clearance on left, top, and right sides.



Fuse or pin the sleeve to the quilt. Blind stitch along the outside edge to secure it in place.



Step 6

Cut and prepare dowel for hanging.

Choose a dowel rod appropriate for the width of your quilt. Wider quilts require a thicker dowel to stay straight. Below are the three sizes I use. For the 48" quilt used as the example in these instructions, I used a 3/4" dowel.

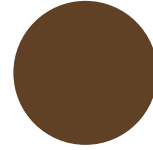
3/8" dowel



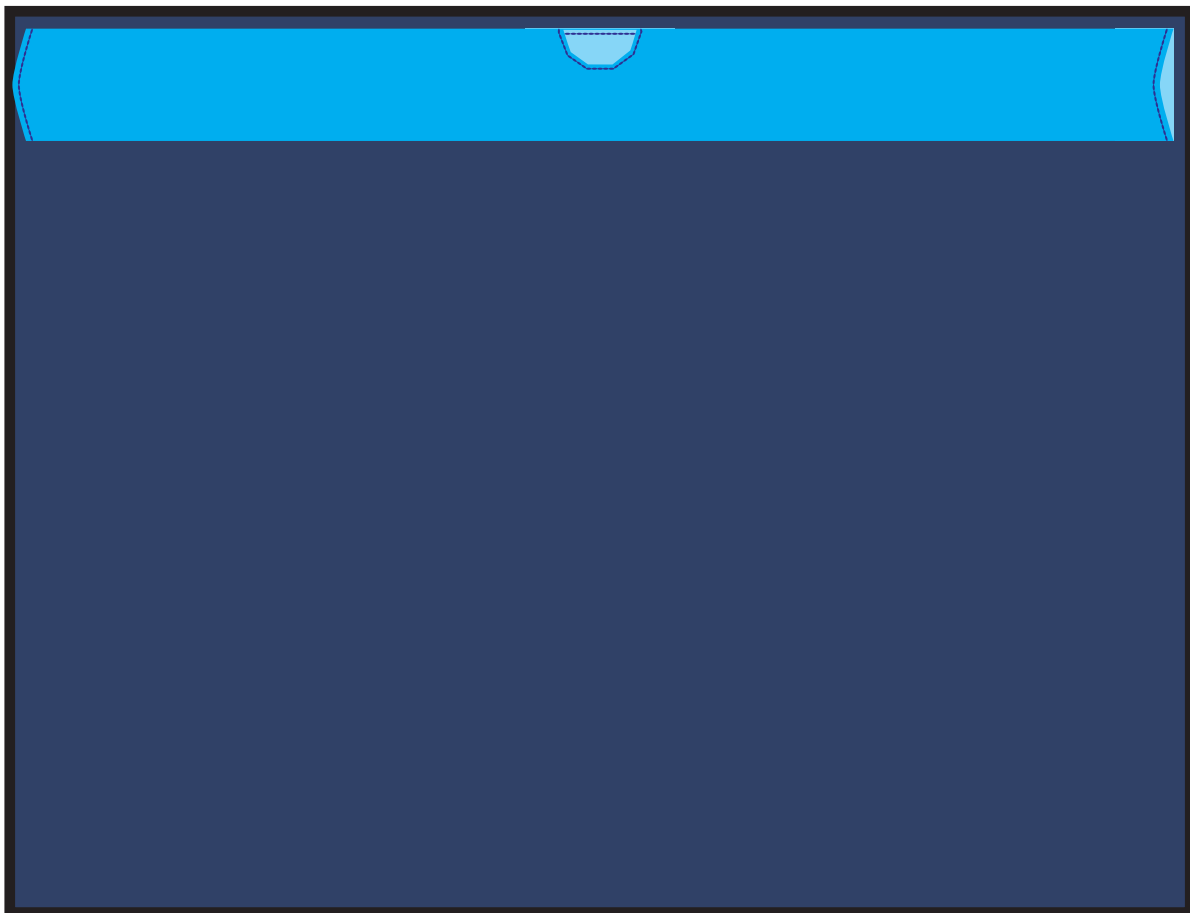
1/2" dowel



3/4" dowel



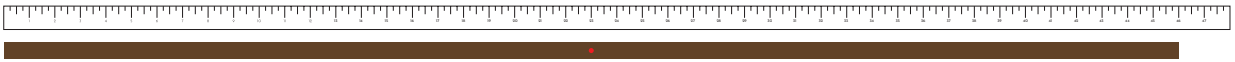
Cut the dowel to two inches shorter than the width of the quilt, which should match the width of the sleeve.



Step 6, Continued

Cut and prepare dowel for hanging

Use a ruler to find the center of the cut dowel. Mark the centerpoint.



Attach a D-hook to the dowel at the marked centerpoint. Drill a hole for the screw to avoid splitting the wood.

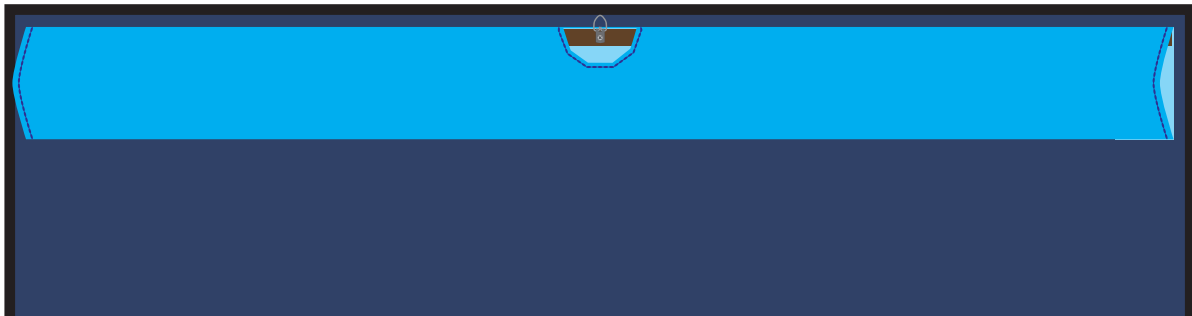


This is a D-hook for picture hanging. A screw will be included with the hook. Only use a D-hook that has 1 screw hole. The kind with 2 holes are too difficult to attach to the dowels.



Dowel rods and D-hooks can be purchased at home improvement stores, hobby shops, or online.

Slide the dowel into the quilt sleeve. D-hook should face out.



Your quilt is now ready to hang. Yay! The quilt may need to be shifted left or right along the dowel to ensure it hangs level.