

Aussie Christmas

Tree Skirt



4x4 5x5

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MACHINE EMBROIDERY

Aussie Christmas tree skirt 4x4 x 5x5 instructions

Blocks – flip flop, bauble, star 2, koala and gumnut

4x4 hoop (100mm x 100mm) hoop

Fabric A – 14cm x 14cm (6" x 6") Background

Fabric B – 14cm x 14cm (6" x 6") Circle

Small piece of fabric for applique

Batting 1 – 14cm x 14cm (6" x 6")

5x5 hoop (130mm x 130mm) hoop

Fabric A – 17cm x 17cm (7" x 7") Background

Fabric B – 17cm x 17cm (7" x 7") Circle

Small piece of fabric for applique

Batting 1 – 17cm x 17m (7" x 7")

Blocks – candle, star and tree

4x4 hoop (100mm x 100mm) hoop

Fabric A – 14cm x 14cm (6" x 6") Background

Fabric B – cut 2 - 9cm x 14cm (3.5" x 6") Two halves of circle

Small piece of fabric for applique

Batting 1 – 14cm x 14m (6" x 6")

5x5 hoop (130mm x 130mm) hoop

Fabric A – 17cm x 17m (7" x 7") Background

Fabric B – cut 2 - 10cm x 10cm (4" x 6") Two halves of circle

Small piece of fabric for applique

Batting 1 – 17cm x 17m (7" x 7")

Backing

4x4 – 86cm x 86cm (34" x 34") to be cut later – measure you sewn blocks first

5x5 - 95cm x 95cm (38" x 38") to be cut later – measure you sewn blocks first

Finished dimensions (approx.):

4x4 - 81cm x 81cm (32" x 32")

5x5 - 88cm x 88cm (34.5" x 34.5")

For the 4x4 - You will require 60 blocks (You can do any combination you like of course.)

They need to be sewn together in rows. You will need two rows of 7 blocks and six rows of 8 blocks.

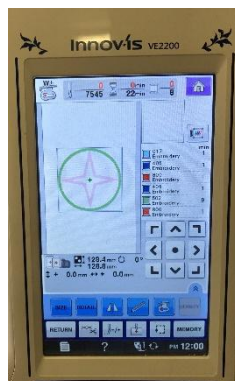
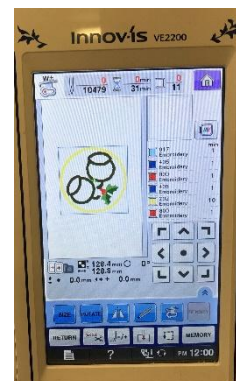
For the 5x5 - You will require 45 blocks (You can do any combination you like of course.)

They need to be sewn together in rows. You will need two rows of 5 blocks and five rows of 7 blocks.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAKING THE BLOCKS

Blocks – flip flop, ornament, star 2, koala and gumnut

Load the design onto your machine.



Hoop cutaway or soft mesh stabiliser in the hoop.

The first step, which is sewing the batting down and trimming it, is optional. It is so no batting is in the seam, making the blocks easier to join together. If you prefer the batting in the seam just skip STEP 1 and proceed straight to STEP 2.

Place **batting 1** on top of the hoop.



STEP 1 Stitch the batting down.



Remove the hoop from your machine and trim the batting about 1-2mm from the stitching.



Place **fabric A** right side up on top of the batting.



STEP 2 Stitch the fabric down.



STEP 3 Stitch the placement line for the circle.



Place **fabric B** right side up on top of the hoop.

STEP 4 Sew the fabric down.



Remove the hoop from the machine and trim 1-2mm from the stitching without cutting the stitching. Use applique scissors if you have them.



Return the hoop to your machine and continue.

STEP 5 Embroider the satin stitch around the circle.



Now do the embroidery and applique as follows for each type of block.

Flip flop Block

STEP 6 Stitch the placement line for the flip flop.



Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover the placement line and lay right side up on the hoop covering the placement line completely.

STEP 7 Sew the fabric down.



Remove the hoop from the machine and trim 1-2mm from the stitching without cutting the stitching.



Return the hoop to your machine and continue.

STEP 8 Embroider the satin stitch around the flip flop.



STEP 9 Embroider the first colour of the strap.



STEP 10 Embroider the second colour of the strap.



STEP 11 Embroider the first colour of the leaves.



STEP 12 Embroider the second colour of the leaves.



STEP 13 Embroider the berries.

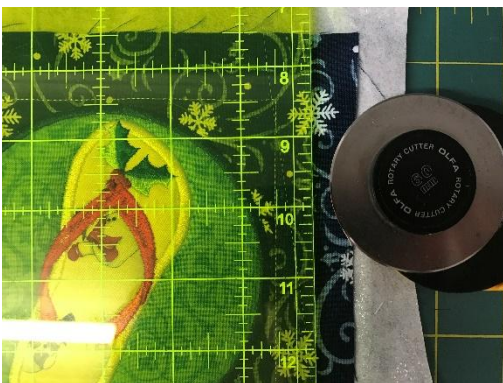


All blocks

Remove from the hoop.



Trim the batting out of the seams if you skipped STEP 1.
Trim the seam to about ½ an inch.



Hold aside until you have finished all the blocks.



Bauble Block

STEP 6 Stitch the placement line for the bauble.



Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover the placement line and lay right side up on the hoop covering the placement line completely.

STEP 7 Sew the fabric down.



Remove the hoop from the machine and trim 1-2mm from the stitching without cutting the stitching.



Return the hoop to your machine and continue.

STEP 8 Stitch the placement line for the bauble stripe.



Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover the placement line and lay right side up on the hoop covering the placement line completely.

STEP 9 Sew the fabric down.



Remove the hoop from the machine and trim 1-2mm from the stitching without cutting the stitching.



STEP 10 Embroider the satin stitch around the bauble stripe.



STEP 11 Embroider the other detail on the bauble stripe.



STEP 12 Embroider the satin stitch around the bauble.



Remove from hoop and follow instructions for trimming in the “all blocks” instructions.



Gumnut Block

STEP 6 Stitch the placement line for the gumnut.



Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover the placement line and lay right side up on the hoop covering the placement line completely.

STEP 7 Sew the fabric down.



Remove the hoop from the machine and trim 1-2mm from the stitching without cutting the stitching.



Return the hoop to your machine and continue.

STEP 8 Embroider the satin stitch around the gumnut.



STEP 9 Embroider the first colour of the leaves.



STEP 10 Embroider the second colour of the leaves.



STEP 11 Embroider the berries.



Remove from hoop and follow instructions for trimming in the “all blocks” instructions.



Star 2 Block

STEP 6 Stitch the placement line for the star.



Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover the placement line and lay right side up on the hoop covering the placement line completely.

STEP 7 Sew the fabric down.



Remove the hoop from the machine and trim 1-2mm from the stitching without cutting the stitching.



Return the hoop to your machine and continue.
STEP 8 Embroider the satin stitch around the star.



Remove from hoop etc



Koala Block

STEP 5 Stitch the placement line for the koala.



Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover the placement line and lay right side up on the hoop covering the placement line completely.

STEP 6 Sew the fabric down.



Remove the hoop from the machine and trim 1-2mm from the stitching without cutting the stitching.



Return the hoop to your machine and continue.

STEP 7 Embroider the satin stitch around the circle.



STEP 8 Embroider the detail on the ears.



STEP 9 Embroider the satin stitch around the koala.



STEP 10 Stitch the placement line for the hat.



Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover the placement line and lay right side up on the hoop covering the placement line completely.

STEP 11 Sew the fabric down.



Remove the hoop from the machine and trim 1-2mm from the stitching without cutting the stitching.



Return the hoop to your machine and continue.

STEP 12 Embroider the satin stitch around the hat.



STEP 13 Stitch the placement line for the hatband.



Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover the placement line and lay right side up on the hoop covering the placement line completely.

STEP 14 Sew the fabric down.



Remove the hoop from the machine and trim 1-2mm from the stitching without cutting the stitching.



Return the hoop to your machine and continue.

STEP 15 Embroider the satin stitch around the hatband and the pom pom.



STEP 16 Embroider the nose and then the eyes.



Remove from hoop and follow instructions for trimming in the “all blocks” instructions.



Blocks – candle, star and tree

Load the design onto your machine.



Hoop cutaway or soft mesh stabiliser in the hoop.

The first step, which is sewing the batting down and trimming it, is optional. It is so no batting is in the seam, making the blocks easier to join together. If you prefer the batting in the seam just skip STEP 1 and proceed straight to STEP 2.

Place **batting 1** on top of the hoop.



STEP 1 Stitch the batting down.



Remove the hoop from your machine and trim the batting about 1-2mm from the stitching.



Place **fabric A** right side up on top of the hoop.



STEP 2 Stitch the fabric down.



STEP 3 Stitch the placement line for the left hand half of the circle.



Place **fabric B** right side up on top of the hoop.

STEP 4 Sew the fabric down.



Remove the hoop from the machine and trim 1-2mm from the stitching without cutting the stitching.



Return the hoop to your machine and continue.

STEP 5 Stitch the placement line for the right hand half of the circle.



Using the placement line, lay the second **Fabric B wrong side up** on the hoop with one edge crossing the placement line by about 1cm (1/2") and with the excess towards the left side of the hoop (on top of the other half of the circle).



STEP 6 Stitch down.



STEP 7 Fold over and stitch down.



Remove the hoop from the machine and trim 1-2mm from the stitching without cutting the stitching.



Now do the embroidery and applique as follows for each type of block.

Candle Block

STEP 8 Stitch the placement line for the candle.



Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover the placement line and lay right side up on the hoop covering the placement line completely.

STEP 9 Sew the fabric down.



Remove the hoop from the machine and trim 1-2mm from the stitching without cutting the stitching.



Return the hoop to your machine and continue.

STEP 10 Embroider the satin stitch around the candle.



STEP 11 Embroider the satin stitch around the circle.



STEP 12 Stitch the placement line for the flame.



Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover the placement line and lay right side up on the hoop covering the placement line completely.

STEP 13 Sew the fabric down.



Remove the hoop from the machine and trim 1-2mm from the stitching without cutting the stitching.



Return the hoop to your machine and continue.

STEP 14 Embroider the satin stitch around the flame.



STEP 15 Embroider the detail on the flame.



Remove from hoop and follow instructions for trimming in the “all blocks” instructions.



Star Block

STEP 8 Embroider the satin stitch around the circle.



STEP 9 Stitch the placement line for the rear star.



Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover the placement line and lay right side up on the hoop covering the placement line completely.

STEP 10 Sew the fabric down.



Remove the hoop from the machine and trim 1-2mm from the stitching without cutting the stitching.



Return the hoop to your machine and continue.

STEP 11 Embroider the satin stitch around the rear star.



STEP 12 Stitch the placement line for the front star.



Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover the placement line and lay right side up on the hoop covering the placement line completely.

STEP 13 Sew the fabric down.



Remove the hoop from the machine and trim 1-2mm from the stitching without cutting the stitching.



Return the hoop to your machine and continue.

STEP 14 Embroider the satin stitch around the front star.



Remove from hoop and follow instructions for trimming in the “all blocks” instructions.



Tree Block

STEP 8 Embroider the satin stitch around the circle.



STEP 9 Stitch the placement line for the left side of the tree.



Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover the placement line and lay right side up on the hoop covering the placement line completely.

STEP 10 Sew the fabric down.



Remove the hoop from the machine and trim 1-2mm from the stitching without cutting the stitching.



STEP 11 Stitch the placement line for the right hand half of the tree.



Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover the placement line and lay **wrong side up** on the hoop with one edge crossing the placement line by about 1cm (1/2") and with the excess towards the left side of the hoop (on top of the other half of the tree).



STEP 12 Stitch down.



STEP 13 Fold over and stitch down.



Remove the hoop from the machine and trim 1-2mm from the stitching without cutting the stitching.



STEP 14 Embroider the detail on the tree and then the satin stitch around the tree.



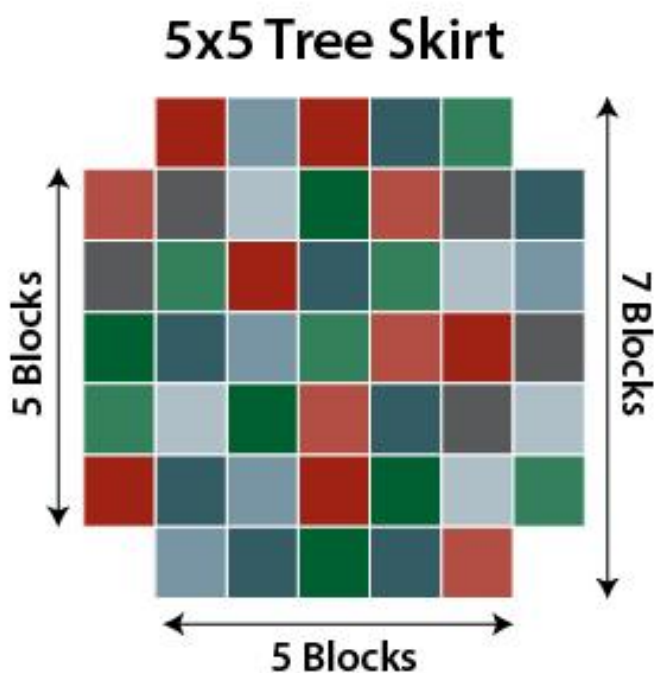
Remove from hoop and follow instructions for trimming in the “all blocks” instructions.



Arrange your layout of the blocks.

For the 5x5 Tree skirt you will require 45 blocks – we used at least 5 of each block type. (You can do any combination you like of course.)

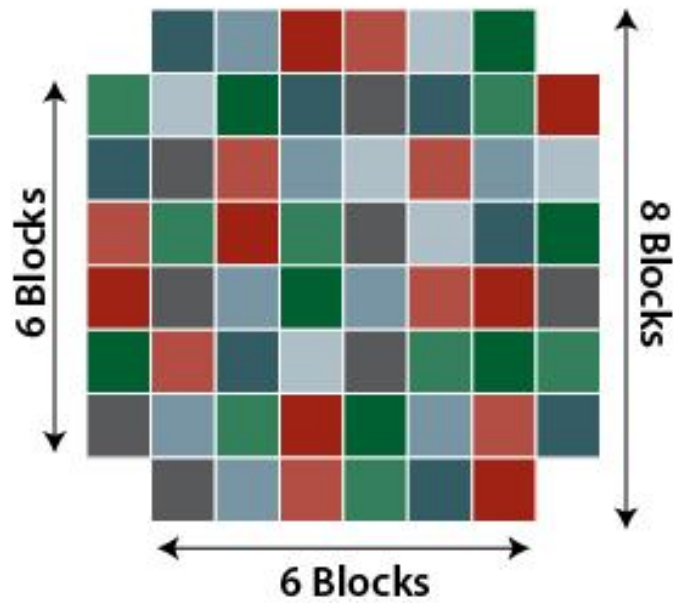
They need to be sewn together in rows. You will need two rows of 5 blocks and five rows of 7 blocks. Arrange the blocks as shown.



For the 4x4 Tree skirt you will require 60 blocks – we used at least 7 of each block type. (You can do any combination you like of course.)

They need to be sewn together in rows. You will need two rows of 6 blocks and six rows of 8 blocks. Arrange the blocks as shown.

4x4 Tree Skirt



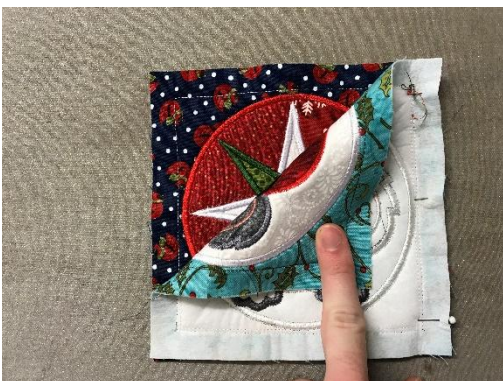
Joining the blocks

Lay out your blocks on a flat surface and decide on your layout.



Join the blocks in rows.

Place the first two blocks right side together.



Pin and stitch the side seam on your sewing machine. Stitch just inside the border already stitched on the blocks so the stitching will not be seen on the right side later.



Continue this until you have each horizontal row of blocks joined together.



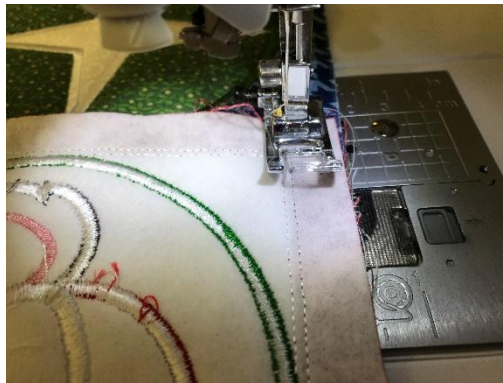
Open out the stitched seams and iron flat.



Next join the horizontal rows to each other by placing the first two rows right sides together.



Pin and stitch the seams on your sewing machine. Stitch just inside the border already stitched on the blocks so the stitching will not be seen on the right side later.



Continue this until you have each of the horizontal rows joined together.

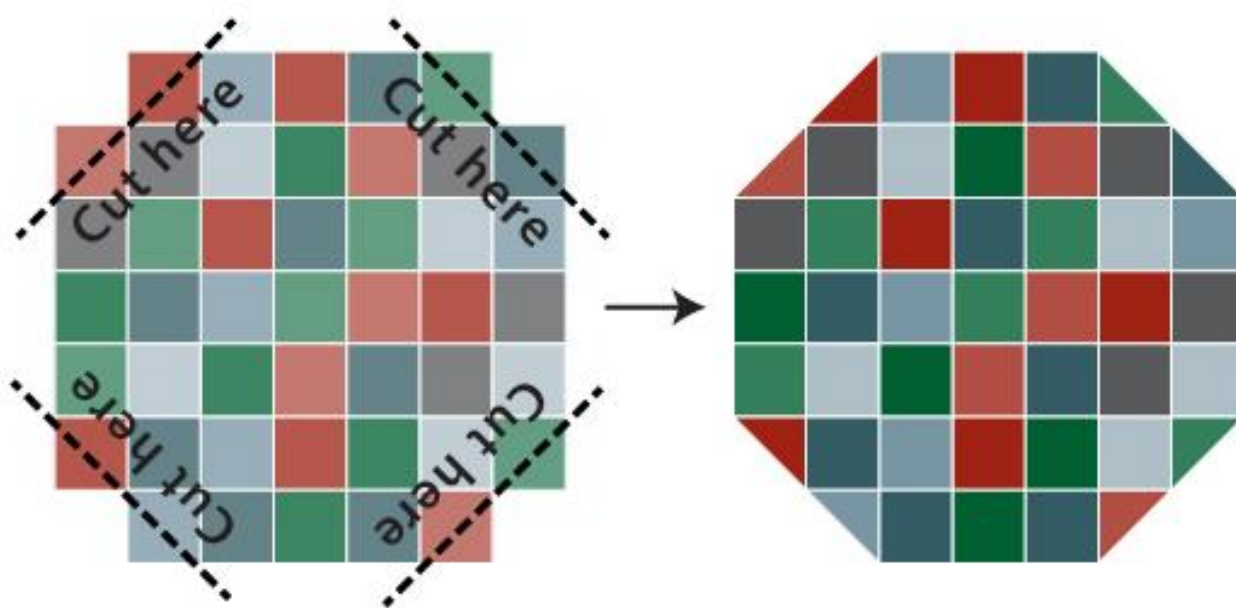


Open out the stitched seams and iron flat.

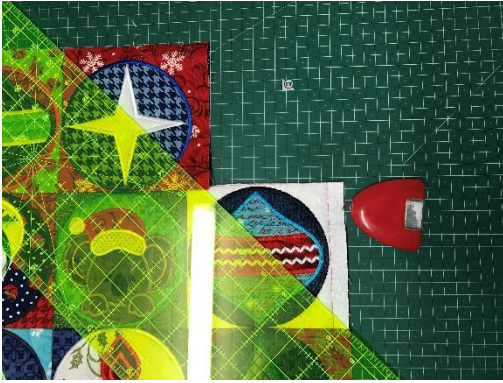


Now to make the shape of the tree skirt.

Measure in two blocks from the left and then two blocks down from the left. Draw a line running diagonally between these two points.



To allow for some seam allowance, measure $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from the point where the two blocks join together and draw your diagonal line there. Shown below.



Repeat on all four corners drawing diagonal lines between the first two blocks on each edge.



Cut along all four diagonal lines.



Draw a circle on the centre quilt block with a diameter of your choice (we use 6cm or about 2.5 inches diameter using a round object like a glass).



Then draw a line going from the centre of one edge of the circle to the centre of one edge of the tree skirt. Cut along the line to create the slit and cut out the circle.

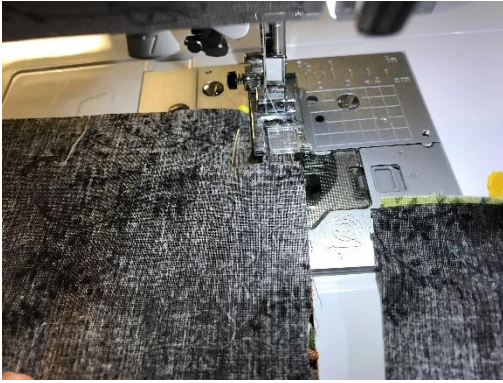
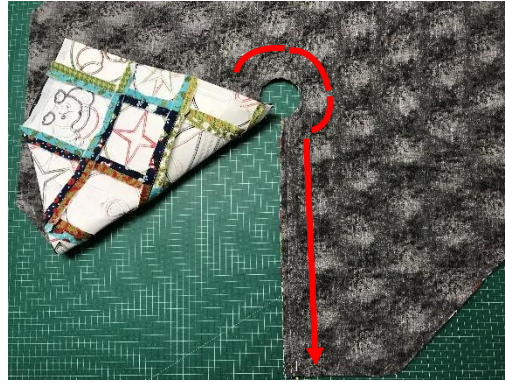


Add the backing.

Place the tree skirt you have made on top of the backing (right sides together) and cut it to the same size and shape as the tree skirt. Also cut out the circle and the slit on the backing.



Now sew them together with a ½ inch seam – sewing along one side of the slit and then around the circle and then along the other side of the slit.



Turn out the right way and iron flat.



Top stitch the around the circle and along the slit to make it sit neatly.



Pin the backing to the quilt using safety pins spaced evenly all over the quilt. About every 10cm (4") or one per block.



To join the backing to the quilt stitch along the straight seams where each block is joined trying to stitch in the ditch made by the seam.

Stitch each horizontal line and vertical line.



Trim the outside edges of the skirt leaving a ¼ inch seam allowance around the edge (excluding the slit and circle).



Adding the binding

To make the binding, measure the perimeter of the skirt. Add extra length if you are joining strips. About 10cm (4") per strip.

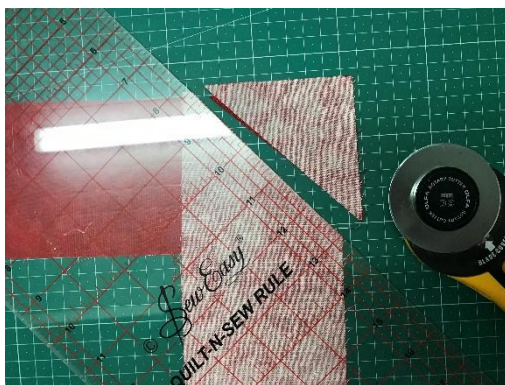


Cut a long strip of fabric this length or cut a couple of strips and join them together with your sewing machine as shown. Add extra length if you are joining strips. About 10cm (4") per strip.



The width is optional but I usually find 8cm wide (3 1/2") wide sufficient.

JOINING STRIPS - Lay your fabric strips right sides together as shown, sew a diagonal seam from corner to corner, trim the corner, iron the seams, and repeat until all of the binding strips are sewn together into one long strip.



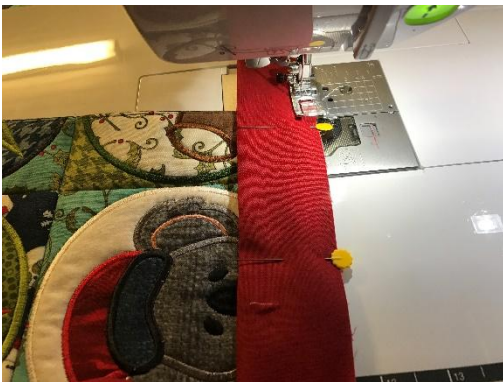
Then press that whole long strip in half, wrong sides together.



Pin the folded binding to one side of the slit of the skirt. Match the raw edges of the skirt and the binding. Place the binding on top of the right side of the skirt. Leave about a 2 inch excess past the edge of the slit.



Sew to the quilt using a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch seam.



Keep sewing until you reach the first corner, and stop stitching and do a bit of backstitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " before the corner.



It is important to leave $\frac{1}{4}$ " unsewn at the end!

Lift the binding strip up as shown forming a diagonal fold and then pull the binding strip back down creating a fold at the top, pin.



Continue sewing until you've reached the other side of the slit. Once finished trim the excess about 2 inches from the edge of the slit as you did for the other side where you started.



To make the binding end neatly at the edge of the slit, pull down the binding and then fold it in half as shown. Pin in place.



Now stitch down the fold as close to the edge of the tree skirt as you can. Trim the excess.



Turn out the binding to make a neat edge to match with the edge of the slit.



Repeat the same process for the other side.



Now turn the tree skirt over so you are working on the back of the skirt.



Start by folding the binding strip right over around the back of the skirt.

The fold should go JUST past the 1/4" seam line that you made sewing the binding onto the front.



Once folded over, pin from the front.



To stitch the binding down without being able to see a visible line on the front of the quilt, we used the stitch in the ditch method.

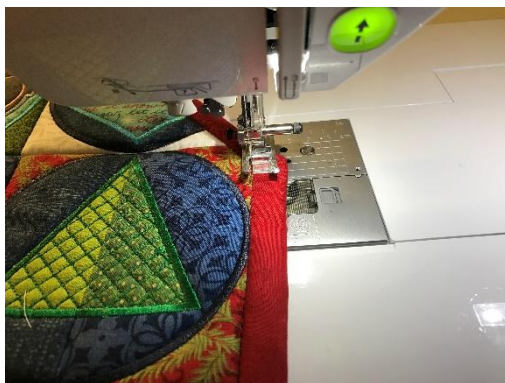
By stitching from the front of the skirt and 'in the ditch' you will not have any visible lines on the front. Now starting on one of the edges on the front, stitch "in the ditch".



Keep sewing until you reach the first corner. Stop about 20cm (8") before the corner. Fold the two lengths of binding on top of each other creating a nice mitred corner and pin.



Continue stitching until you reach the point of the corner and then leave your needle down and lift the foot and turn the corner. Put your foot down and continue stitching in this fashion until you are right around the skirt.



Continue sewing your binding all the way around your tree skirt.



We added KAM snap fasteners to the slit so it can be fasten neatly around a tree.



Enjoy!

