ALL ABOUT
the bias binder foot

The bias binder foot will bind edges with both narrow single-fold and flat bias strips. The cone (1) on the front of the foot guides and folds in the edges on flat bias strips or holds the single-fold tape in place while you sew.

Unlike the adjustable bias binder, you are limited in the width of bias strips you can use for binding. A maximum 1-1/8” wide flat bias strips will easily feed through the cone on the foot.

binding a straight edge

Trim the end of the bias strip at a 45 degree angle. Using the point of a seam ripper, guide the tape through the cone and under the back of the foot.

Slide the edge to be bound between the lips (2) of the cone and the folded bias strip. Make sure all the layers are under the opening on the presser foot. Use either a straight stitch or narrow zigzag stitch to attach the binding to the fabric edge. Move the needle position to make sure the needle is piercing all the layers.

While sewing, use your left hand to keep the fabric edge in position in the cone while guiding the bias strip into the front of the cone with your right hand.

binding a curved edge

Curved edges take a little more guiding than a straight edge to make sure the raw edge is evenly bound.

inside curves

Set up the binder as you would for a straight edge. For softer or raveling fabrics, stay-stitch the curved edge to be bound. Insert the edge between the lips of the cone. As you are sewing, straighten the edge in front making sure the edge remains in the cone.

outside curves

When binding an outside curve, the fabric tends to pull out of the cone while sewing. To make sure the edge is completely bound, guide the fabric keeping the edge in line with the needle. Trying to straighten or pull the fabric will only create a rippled binding.

FOOT FACTS
If necessary, loosen the screw located on the right side of the bias binder foot to move the cone to the right or left, aligning it with the needle hole before stitching.

TIP
Use a right-sided zigzag stitch instead of a centered zigzag stitch to attach the binding. The left swing of the stitch will just fall off the edge of the binding.

Don’t pull or stretch the binding as it feeds into the binder.
bias binding

Add a bias strip of fabric to an edge as a seam finish. Lace or rick rack trims can be added at the same time.

1. Either the standard or adjustable bias binder can be used to finish an edge. (#1)

2. Narrow single fold, double fold, and 1”-wide flat bias tape can be used in the standard bias binder. First, trim the end to a point and feed it into the cone. Using a straight stitch, the single or double fold tape slides through the cone on the foot as you sew. (#2)

3. With flat bias tape, the binder will also turn in the edges as you sew creating a finished 1/4”-wide taped edge. Cut a 1”-wide strip of bias fabric and feed it into the cone on the foot. Slide the fabric to be bound between the lips of the cone. As you sew, the bias tape will be fed through the foot and fold around the raw edge of the fabric. (#3)

4. Add rick rack or lace trim at the same time as you bind the edge. If desired, baste the rick rack or lace to the edge of the fabric to be bound. Feed the bias tape into the cone on the foot and slide the flat fabric and trim between the lips of the cone. Select a narrow zigzag stitch and sew the trim and binding to the edge. (#4)
5. Use the adjustable bias binder to attach, double fold bias tape. Cut the bias tape to the size desired using a bias tape maker, press in the edges. (#5)

6. Trim the bias tape to a point and feed it into the adjustable bias binder. Tighten the adjusting screw up to the bias tape to hold. Place the fabric to be bound between the lips of the binder. Carefully sew the binding to the edge keeping the bias strip feeding evenly into the foot. (#6)

7. For additional detail, use an all-forward decorative stitch to apply the bias tape to the raw edges. (#7)

When feeding the fabric and binding into either the standard or adjustable binder feet, keep the flat fabric in your left hand and the bias tape in your right. Keep the bias tape feeding straight into the binder so an equal amount of tape is fed on the top and bottom. Make sure the fabric does not slide from between the lips of the binder as you sew.