Sew on a Sleeve After Binding the Quilt

1. Cut or piece together fabric to make a strip 13" tall and slightly shorter than the width of the quilt.
2. Fold under short edges 1/4", wrong sides together. Fold under again. Press. Sew a straight or zigzag seam to hem the folds. (If you have a serger, you can serge the edges instead.
4. Place the open seam against the quilt's back. Center and pin the top edge of the tube to the back of the quilt, about 1/2" to 1" below the binding.
5. Use a whipstitch to sew the top edge of the tube to the quilt backing. Stitch into the batting occasionally to help strengthen the seam.
6. Smooth the sleeve downward along the quilt back, then make a 1/2" to 1” fold along its length to create a pleat. Leaving the pleat intact, pin the sleeve bottom to the quilt.
7. Whipstitch the lower edge of the sleeve to the quilt. Remove pins. The sleeve will pooh out a bit to allow space for a hanging rod.
8. Whipstitch the back sides of the sleeve to the quilt. Leave the front sides unsewn to allow for rod insertion.

If you choose to attach a sleeve before you bind the quilt, you may omit the step of sewing the sleeve lengthwise. Start with steps 1-2 above. After trimming the quilt, you can pin both long raw edges to the top of the quilt and baste the sleeve to the top of the quilt, then apply the binding. You will enclose the raw edges of the sleeve along with the quilt’s top edge when you finish the binding.

After the binding is sewn to the quilt, repeat steps 6 to 8 as above.

Adapted from directions at about.com.