The Strip Savvy Square Up Ruler by QuiltCut is designed to make strip cutting fast and accurate without measuring or the need to reposition your ruler. The Strip Savvy Ruler is made in the USA from ultra-flexible, clear, resilient material to provide years of use.
Preparing Bulk Fabric

Remove your fabric from the bolt and iron for best results.

Place the fabric on a cutting mat and fold the fabric along the original bolt fold. Fold the fabric a second time on to itself. Position the second fold along bottom of the mat with the original bolt fold and selvage edges at the top to create four layers. Extend the bolt fold about 1/8” above the selvage edges. See Figure 1.

Make sure the original bolt fold and the second new fold are parallel to ensure accurate and uniform strips.

Place the ruler over the folded fabric. Align the ruler so that the left edge of the fabric is just to the left of the Vertical “0” Cutting Slot. Position the ruler so that the bottom edge of the fabric aligns precisely with the Horizontal “0” Base Line. As a final check, verify that the top edge of the fabric is parallel to a nearby horizontal ruler line - this will ensure your cut strips are straight, accurate, and uniform. See Figure 2.

Working with Fat Quarters and Fat Eighths

Place your precut Fat Quarter or Fat Eighth fabric block on a cutting mat. Fold the fabric in half, lengthwise, with the open edges toward the top of the mat to form 2 layers. You may stack and cut up to 3 layers of precut fabric blocks.

Place the ruler over the folded fabric. Align the ruler so that the left edge of the fabric is just to the left of the Vertical “0” Cutting Slot. Position the ruler so that the bottom edge of the fabric aligns precisely with the Horizontal “0” Base Line. As a final check, verify that the top edge of the fabric is parallel to a nearby horizontal ruler line - this will ensure your cut strips are straight, accurate, and uniform. See Figure 2.
Strip Cutting

The Strip Savvy Square Up Ruler works for both right and left handed cutting. For right hand use, secure the ruler by placing your left forefinger and thumb along the left ruler edge as you cut through the Vertical “0” Slot. Reposition your left hand as you move across the ruler. For left hand use, secure the ruler by placing your right hand just to the right of the slot you are cutting through.

Insert your rotary cutter into a cutting slot at the bottom of the ruler by tilting the cutter sideways so you can see the face of the blade. Once the blade is in the slot, tilt up the cutter so the blade is perpendicular to the cutting mat. Cut fabric by applying even pressure and extending the cutter upward the full length of the cutting slot.

You may cut any strip width in increments of ½”. Make your first cut in the Vertical “0” Slot. Make additional cuts at the desired strip width by referencing the inch and half-inch indicators (1, ½) located horizontally across the bottom of the ruler. See Figure 3.

1½” Strips

Cutting popular 1½” strips was made simple - without the need for math! Make your first cut in the Vertical “0” Slot. Cut strips one at a time, moving left to right cutting in the ( ) slots. See Figure 3.

2½” Strips

Cutting popular 2½” strips was made simple - without the need for math! Make your first cut in the Vertical “0” Slot. Cut strips one at a time, moving left to right cutting in the ( ) slots. See Figure 3.

Figure 2: Positioning Ruler Over Fabric

Figure 3: Slot Indicators (whole inch and half-inch) and Strip Indicators (1½” and 2½”)

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¼” Increment Strips

You can also cut strips in increments of ¼”. Cutting strips in ¼” increments requires two cutting passes. In the first pass, you cut strips at twice the final strip width. Then you adjust your ruler over the fabric, move it ¼” to the right, and cut the initial strips in half.

The ¼” Strip Reference Table shown below identifies where to make your first and second pass cuts based on your final strip width.

First Pass:
- Find your strip width in the ¼” Strip Reference Table.
- Make your first pass cuts. Start with the Vertical “0” Slot. Then, cut the slots listed in the “First Pass Cutting Slots” column.

Second Pass:
- Lift the ruler without disturbing the fabric. It is important strips cut in the first pass remain stationary as you lift the ruler!
- Clear away the leftmost remnant of fabric from the Vertical “0” Cutting Slot.
- Move the ruler to the right, aligning the trimmed left edge of the fabric with the dashed vertical ¼” Second Cut Adjust Line.
- For your second pass, skip the Vertical “0” Slot. Instead, cut only the slots listed in the “Second Pass Cutting Slots” column.

### ¼” Strip Reference Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRIP WIDTH</th>
<th>FIRST PASS CUTTING SLOTS</th>
<th>SECOND PASS CUTTING SLOTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>¼”</td>
<td>0, 1¼, 3, 4¼, 6, 7¼, 9, 10¼, 12</td>
<td>½, 2, 3¼, 5, 6¼, 8, 9¼, 11, 12¼</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1¼”</td>
<td>0, 2¼, 5, 7¼, 10, 12½</td>
<td>1¼, 6, 8¼, 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1”</td>
<td>0, 3¼, 7, 10¼</td>
<td>1½, 5, 8¼, 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2¼”</td>
<td>0, 4, 9</td>
<td>2, 6¼, 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2¼”</td>
<td>0, 5, 11</td>
<td>2¼, 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3¼”</td>
<td>0, 6%</td>
<td>3, 9¼</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3¼”</td>
<td>0, 7½</td>
<td>3½, 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4¼”</td>
<td>0, 8%</td>
<td>4, 12¼</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cutting Strips into Squares and Rectangles

Cutting squares and rectangles requires two passes. First you cut strips with a width equal to the size of your square or width of your rectangle. Then you rotate the strips you just made by 90° and cut them into squares or rectangles.

First Pass:
- Prepare and position your fabric to cut strips.
- Start with a cut at the Vertical “0” Slot. Then cut strips that have a width equal to the width of your square or rectangle.

Second Pass:
- Lift the ruler.
- Rotate the cut fabric strips 90°. You may alternatively rotate the ruler or cutting mat. If you rotate the cut fabric strips, lay them horizontally on the cutting mat in parallel rows. See Figure 4.
- Place the ruler on top of the strips.
- Align the left edges just to the left of the Vertical “0” Slot and visually align the top edge of each strip with the nearest horizontal line of the ruler.
- Start the second pass cuts at the Vertical “0” Slot. Make additional cuts equal to the length of the square or rectangle.

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**Figure 4: Cutting Squares and Rectangles from Strips**
Cutting Pieced Strips

Cutting squares and rectangles from pieced strips is a one pass process. See Figure 5.
- Lay the pieced strips horizontally on a cutting mat.
- Place the ruler on top of the pieced strips. Align the left edge of the fabric just to the left of the Vertical “0” Slot and visually align the seams of each pieced strip with the nearest horizontal line of the ruler.
- Start with a cut at the Vertical “0” Slot. Make additional cuts equal to the length of the square or rectangle.

Position of pieced strips just before second pass
1. Position selvage to left of ruler’s Vertical “0” Slot.
2. Align seams with horizontal lines on ruler.

Squares/rectangles after second pass
3. Make first cut at Vertical “0” Slot.
4. Make additional cuts at desired widths.

Square Up Cutting

The Strip Savvy Square Up Ruler can square up fabric blocks from 2” to 12½” in ½” increments. Whole inch squares are outlined in blue, starting from the lower left corner of the ruler and increase in size up and to the right. Half-inch squares are outlined in white, starting in the center of the ruler and increase in size going outward.

Whole Inch Square Up Cutting

Square up cutting requires two passes. For whole inch cutting, use the ruler’s blue square up markings. You can use the ruler’s blue dashed diagonal lines to align pieced blocks with diagonal seams. Use the ruler’s horizontal lines to align pieced blocks with horizontal seams. See Figure 6.

First Pass:
- Lay the fabric on a cutting mat and place your ruler on top of the fabric.
- Position a blue whole inch square up outline over the fabric block you wish to cut and choose a size for your block.
- Align the left edge of the fabric block just to the left of the Vertical “0” Cutting Slot.
- Align the bottom edge of the fabric block precisely with the Horizontal “0” Base Line.
- Make your first cut along the Vertical “0” Slot.
- Make a second cut to the right, at the slot for the desired block size.

Second Pass:
- Lift the ruler and rotate your fabric block 90°.
- Place the ruler on the fabric and align the left edge of the block just to the left of the Vertical “0” Slot.
- Align the bottom edge of the block precisely with the Horizontal “0” Base Line.
- Make your first cut along the Vertical “0” Slot.
- Make a second cut to the right, at the slot for the desired block size.

Figure 5: Pieced Strip Sub Cutting

Figure 6: Whole Inch Square Up Cutting
Triangles from Squares
Start with a square piece of fabric.
Place a corner of the square where the Vertical 12” Cutting Slot and the Horizontal “0” Base Line meet. Align the right and left edges of the square fabric block with the dashed Square to Triangle Alignment Lines.

See Figure 8.
Cut through the 12” slot.

Half-Inch Square Up Cutting
Square up cutting requires two passes. For half-inch cutting, use the white lines forming squares emanating from the center of the ruler. You can use the ruler’s white diagonal lines to align pieced blocks with diagonal seams. Use the ruler’s horizontal lines to align pieced blocks with horizontal seams. See Figure 7.

First Pass:
- Lay the fabric on a cutting mat and place your ruler on top of the fabric.
- Locate the white half-inch square up outline for the fabric block you wish to cut.
- Position the ruler so that the edges of the fabric block extend beyond the edges of the square up outline.
- Make your first cut through the left edge of the selected white outline.
- Make a second cut through the right edge of the selected white outline.

Second Pass:
- Lift the ruler and rotate your fabric block 90°.
- Locate the white half-inch square up outline for the fabric block you are cutting.
- Position the ruler so that the top and bottom edges of the fabric block are aligned precisely with the square up outline and the left and right edges of the fabric block extend beyond the square up outline.
- Make your first cut through the left edge of the selected white outline.
- Make a second cut through the right edge of the selected white outline.

Fussy Cutting and Embroidery
You can also use your Strip Savvy Square Up Ruler for fussy cutting and to trim embroidery blocks. Determine your square size and locate the matching outline on the ruler. For whole inch squares, use the blue outlines that originate in the lower left corner of the ruler. For half-inch squares, use the white outlines that emanate from the center of the ruler. To help center half-inch sized blocks, you can use the white vertical and horizontal lines that run through the center of the ruler.

Figure 7: Half-Inch Square Up Cutting

Figure 8: Triangles from Squares