Overview

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

Ruler Reference Table

1. Vertical “0” Cutting Slot
2. Horizontal “0” Base Line
3. Whole Inch Slot Indicator
4. Half-Inch Slot Indicator
5. 1½” Strip Width Indicator
6. 2½” Strip Width Indicator
7. ¼” Second Cut Adjust Line
8. Square Up Seam Diagonals
9. 1” Increment Square Up Outline
10. ½” Increment Square Up Marking
11. Square Up Size Indicator
12. 45° Diamond Line
13. 60° Diamond Line
14. Square to Triangle Alignment Lines
15. 0” to 22” Standard Measurement Scale
16. 6” to 0” to 6” Centering Scale
17. Quick Storage Hang Hole
18. Non-Slip Surface
Features | Benefits
--- | ---
• 45 Cutting Slots | Cut up to forty-four $\frac{1}{2}$” wide strips per set up
• 1¼” Strip Width Indicators | Quickly cut up to fourteen 1¼” strips per set up
• 2½” Strip Width Indicators | Quickly cut up to eight 2½” strips per set up
• 21 Square Up Positions | Cut 2” to 12” squares in $\frac{1}{2}$” increments
• Edge Rulers | Standard measurement scales from 0” to 22”
• Centering Ruler | Centering scale from 6” to 0” to 6”
• Non-Slip Surface | Holds fabric in place while cutting

Product Care

• Always lift or handle your ruler with two hands.
• Clean ruler with warm water, mild soap, and a smooth microfiber towel.
• Avoid alcohol or acetone based cleaning products as these will damage the ruler.
• Avoid ammonia based products, like glass cleaners, because they contain chemicals that may damage the surface leaving the ruler looking cloudy.

Please contact us if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions at: cs@quiltcut.com.

Selecting a Rotary Cutter

Choose a standard 45 mm or 60 mm rotary cutter with a manual blade guard and either a regular or ergonomic handle. Avoid cutters with automatic blade guards as these cutters can damage the ruler.

Preparing and Positioning 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 $\frac{1}{8}$” above the selvage edges. See Figure 1.

![Figure 1: Preparing Bulk Fabric](image)

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.
2. Locate Vertical "0" Cutting Slot.

3. Align ruler so fabric is slightly to the left of the Vertical "0" Cutting Slot.

4. Position ruler so bottom edge of fabric aligns precisely with the Horizontal "0" Base Line.

5. Verify top edge of fabric is parallel with nearest horizontal ruler line.

1. Place ruler over folded bulk fabric.

Strip Cutting

The Strip Savvy XL 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.
You can also cut strips in increments of \( \frac{1}{4} \)”. Cutting strips in \( \frac{1}{4} \)” 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 \( \frac{1}{4} \)” to the right, and cut the initial strips in half. The \( \frac{1}{4} \)” 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 \( \frac{1}{4} \)” 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 \( \frac{1}{4} \)” 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.

### \( \frac{1}{4} \)” 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>( \frac{1}{4} )”</td>
<td>0, 1%, 3, 4%, 6, 7%, 9, 10%, 12, 13%, 15, 16%, 18, 19%, 21</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2}, 2, 3%, 5, 6%, 8, 9%, 11, 12%, 14, 15%, 17, 18%, 20, 21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \frac{1}{2} )”</td>
<td>0, 2%, 5, 7%, 10, 12%, 15, 17%, 20</td>
<td>1%, 3%, 6, 8%, 11, 13%, 16, 18%, 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \frac{1}{2} )”</td>
<td>0, 2%, 5, 7%, 10%, 13%, 17%, 21</td>
<td>1%, 3%, 6%, 11, 15%, 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \frac{3}{4} )”</td>
<td>0, 4%, 9, 13%, 18</td>
<td>2%, 6%, 11, 15%, 20</td>
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<tr>
<td>( \frac{5}{4} )”</td>
<td>0, 5%, 11, 16%, 22</td>
<td>2%, 8, 13%, 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>( \frac{3}{4} )”</td>
<td>0, 6%, 13, 19%</td>
<td>3%, 9%, 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \frac{7}{4} )”</td>
<td>0, 7%, 15</td>
<td>3%, 11, 18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \frac{3}{4} )”</td>
<td>0, 8%, 17</td>
<td>4%, 12%, 21</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.
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.

Figure 5: Pieced Strip Sub Cutting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position of pieced strips just before second pass</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Position selvage to left of ruler’s Vertical “0” Slot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Align seams with horizontal lines on ruler.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Squares/rectangles after second pass</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3. Make first cut at Vertical “0” Slot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Make additional cuts at desired widths.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Squares/rectangles after second pass

Diamonds (45° and 60°)

Cutting diamonds requires two passes. In the first pass, you cut strips equal to the height of the diamond you plan to make. Then you position one strip (or stack of strips) diagonally on the cutting mat and cut it into sections to create individual diamonds. See Figure 6.

First Pass:
- Prepare and position your fabric to cut strips.
- Start with a cut at the Vertical “0” Slot. Then cut strips with widths equal to the height of the diamond.

Second Pass:
- Lift the ruler.
- Position one strip (or stack of strips) on the mat diagonally upward to the right at the angle you plan to cut (45° or 60°).
- Place the ruler on top of the strip.
- Position the lower left corner of the strip to the left of the Vertical “0” Cutting Slot.
- Align the bottom edge of the strip with the 45° or 60° line of the ruler.
- Make the first cut of the second pass at the Vertical “0” Slot. Make additional cuts equal to the strip width.
- If the strip extends above the height of the cutting slots, lift and reposition the ruler upwards, without disturbing the strip and align the top edge of the strip with the 45° or 60° line of the ruler, then continue cutting diamonds.

Figure 6: Cutting 45° and 60° Diamonds (60° diamond is shown)
Square Up and Fussy Cutting

The Strip Savvy XL Ruler can square up fabric blocks from 2" to 12" in ½" increments and fussy cut square blocks from printed fabric. Both Square Up and Fussy Cutting require two passes. For 1" increments use the ruler’s dark blue square up markings. For ½" increments use the ruler’s vertical cutting slots and white horizontal lines. You can use the ruler’s 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:
- Place the fabric on a cutting mat.
- Place the ruler on top of the fabric.
- Position a square up outline over the fabric block or fussy cut pattern you wish to cut and choose a size for your block.
- Align the left edge of the fabric block or selected fussy cut pattern just to the left of the Vertical “0” Cutting Slot.
- Align the bottom edge of the fabric block or fussy cut pattern 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 block size.

Second Pass:
- Lift the ruler.
- Rotate the fabric or the ruler 90°.
- Place the ruler on the fabric and align the left edge of the block or fussy cut pattern just to the left of the Vertical “0” Slot.
- Align the bottom edge of the block or fussy cut pattern 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 block size.

Triangles from Squares

Start with a square piece of fabric.

Place a corner of the square where the 12" Vertical 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.