

Kelly Ashton, Kellyquilter Designs

Cutting Binding from GO! Strip Dies

Cutting binding strips - whether straight-grain or bias - has never been quicker or easier! AccuQuilt offers an impressive variety of GO! Strip Cutter dies, great for cutting binding strips in your desired size. These GO! Strip Cutter dies are also great for cutting sashing strips and so much more!

In this demo and/or from this handout, you will learn:

- how to prep your fabric for optimal results, especially when working with bias edges
- how to cut straight-grain strips for binding
- how to cut bias strips for binding
- how to finish quilt binding by machine

Featured in this demo:

- Accuquilt GO! Fabric Cutter
- GO! Strip Cutter 2 1/2" (2" finished) (Item #55017)
- Fabric - 100% cotton quilting fabric
- Roxanne's Glue Baste-It
- Open-toe applique' presser foot
- OR edge stitch presser foot

GO! Strip Cutter Die / Item #	Cut Size	Finished Size	Other Details
GO! Strip Cutter: 1", 1 1/2", 2" (55164)	1", 1 1/2", 2"	1/2", 3/4", 1 1/2"	3-strip die (varied sizes) – cut up to 18 strips per die pass
GO! Strip Cutter 1" (55052)	1"	1/2"	7-strip die – cut up to 42 strips per die pass
GO! Strip Cutter 1 1/4" (55109)	1 1/4"	3/4"	7-strip die – cut up to 42 strips per die pass
GO! Strip Cutter 1 1/2" (55024)	1 1/2"	1"	5-strip die – cut up to 30 strips per die pass
GO! Strip Cutter 1 3/4" (55083)	1 3/4"	1 1/4"	5-strip die – cut up to 30 strips per die pass
GO! Strip Cutter 2" (55025)	2"	1 1/2"	4-strip die – cut up to 24 strips per die pass
GO! Strip Cutter 2 1/4" (55053)	2 1/4"	1 3/4"	4-strip die – cut up to 24 strips per die pass
GO! Strip Cutter 2 1/2" (55017)	2 1/2"	2"	3-strip die – cut up to 18 strips per die pass
GO! Strip Cutter 2 1/2" (55014)	2 1/2"	2"	2-strip die – cut up to 12 strips per die pass
GO! Strip Cutter 3" (55084)	3"	2 1/2"	3-strip die – cut up to 18 strips per die pass
GO! Strip Cutter 3 1/2" (55032)	3 1/2"	3"	2-strip die – cut up to 12 strips per die pass
GO! Strip Cutter 4" (55085)	4"	3 1/2"	2-strip die – cut up to 12 strips per die pass
GO! Strip Cutter 4 1/2" (55054)	4 1/2"	4"	2-strip die – cut up to 12 strips per die pass
GO! Strip Cutter 5" (55023)	5"	4 1/2"	1-strip die – cut up to 6 strips per die pass
GO! Strip Cutter 5 1/2" (55026)	5 1/2"	5"	1-strip die – cut up to 6 strips per die pass
GO! Strip Cutter 6 1/2" (55086)	6 1/2"	6"	1-strip die – cut up to 6 strips per die pass

General Tips for cutting patchwork with the AccuQuilt Die-Cutting System

- Use good quality fabric.
- Keep scissors handy. Occasionally, a thread or two will remain where die blades meet. Snip with scissors.
- It's always a good idea to test cut one shape before cutting several to ensure fabric orientation is as desired
- Up to 6 layers of cotton fabric may be cut at once.

Fabric Preparation

Whether or not you pre-wash your fabrics, I recommend this “fabric prep” step to help add stability to the fabrics prior to cutting. This step is not related to cutting with AccuQuilt; the AccuQuilt cutter and die will cut the fabric beautifully, with or without this step! Prepping the fabric is beneficial by diminishing the likelihood of distorting the fabric strips or patchwork when working with them after they’re cut. I believe this step is especially important if you do pre-wash your fabrics, as all of the sizing in the “off the bolt” fabric will have been washed away.

Procedure: Generously spray your fabrics (damp; not drippy wet) with Mary Ellen’s Best Press or other fabric sizing product. Press fabrics with a dry iron on cotton setting, then hang fabric to dry completely (or put fabric in the dryer for a few minutes on cotton heat setting). Once dry, press your fabric to remove any creases. Fabric prepped!

AccuCutting Straight-Grain Binding Strips With AccuQuilt

AccuQuilt Cutter

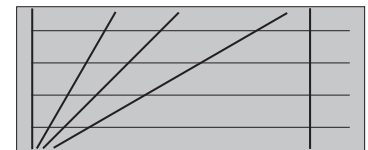


YOU are here.

The die can move through manually-propelled AccuQuilt Die-Cutting machines in either direction (GO! Me; GO!, or Studio). If using the electric GO! Big machine, the die will be propelled through the machine in only one direction.

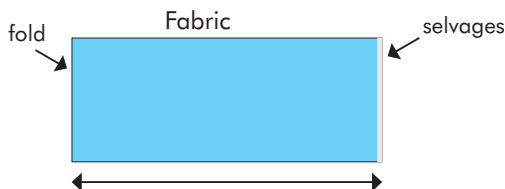
GO! Strip Cutter Die(s) & Cutting Mat(s)

Because they have no cross-cutting blades, all the AccuQuilt GO! Strip Cutter dies are made so that the die blades are placed parallel to the long sides of the die board. All of the GO! Strip Cutter dies have 90-, 60-, 45- and 30-degree reference lines printed on them for perfect fabric placement for cutting strips AND for perfect strip placement for cutting squares and a variety of diamonds! Always use the appropriate sized cutting mat for the die that is being used.

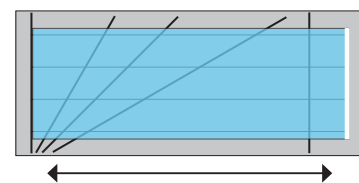


GO! Strip Cutter Die: 2 1/2" cut size

Fabric, Grain, and Placement

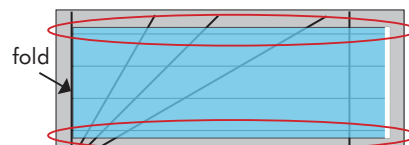


For GO! Strip Cutter dies, the CROSS-WISE grain of the fabric is placed in the direction the die moves through the machine.



This is the direction that the die with fabric will go through the machine. The white die label is facing you as the die moves through the AccuQuilt cutter.

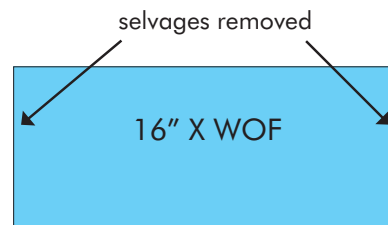
Note how the fabric fold is aligned just beneath the first 90-degree line, and the fabric is overlapping the die blades on both long edges.



Cutting Bias Binding with GO! Strip Cutter Die

Begin with a rectangle of fabric, 16" x width of fabric (WOF). Remove selvages. Once pieced together, this amount of fabric will produce approximately 230 linear inches of bias binding! Cutting two 16" x WOF pieces of fabric will cut enough strips to make binding for a queen-sized quilt.

In the accompanying video, I'll demonstrate how to fold, press, and cut one 16" x WOF piece of fabric for bias binding.



Your notes here:

Neat & Tidy Machine-Finished Binding:

In this demonstration, I'm using straight-grain binding strips cut using the GO! Strip Cutter 2½" (cut-size) die. For this machine binding technique, I always cut my binding strips ¼" wider than I would if I were finishing the binding with hand-stitching.

I'm using the French Double-Fold binding technique. The binding strips have been sewn together with diagonal seams. The excess fabric at each joining seam has been trimmed to ¼", and the seams have been pressed open. The binding strip has been pressed, wrong-sides together, to create one, long binding strip. The binding has been machine-stitched to the front of the quilt, mitering each corner, and the tails have been trimmed, joined, and sewn to the quilt top, just as I would do if I were about to turn the binding to the back for a hand-stitched finish.

From this point forward, I'll be proceeding differently than if I were about to hand-stitch. Working on my ironing board / large pressing surface and using a dry iron on cotton setting, from the front of the quilt, I gently press my binding toward the outside of the quilt.

Next, I turn the quilt over, working from the back. Using my Roxanne's Glue Baste-It (I like the EZ Squeezie bottle version for this technique), I apply glue to my quilt, in 2-3" increments, in the area between the raw edge of the quilt and the seam line where the binding was attached. Fold the binding down over the glue area, making sure the fold-edge of the binding extends beyond the line of stitching that attached the binding to the quilt by approximately ⅛". Press the folded area of binding with the hot, dry iron to dry the glue, holding the binding in place. This takes only about 4-5 seconds. Continue in this manner around the entire quilt, including gluing the mitered corners. Once the binding is glued in place, it's time to stitch.

Take the quilt to the sewing machine, positioning the quilt RIGHT SIDE UP. I set my machine's stitch length to approximately 2.8mm. Using a thread color, on top and in the bobbin, that blends with the area of the quilt top that touches the binding, I stitch "in the ditch" as close to the binding - but not on the binding - as possible. I use either an open-toe applique' foot for excellent visibility OR an edge-stitch foot that has a guide to assist in keeping the stitches exactly where I want them to be: right in the ditch where the binding is sewn to to the quilt top. Stitch all the way around the quilt, overlapping the beginning stitching by a few stitches, and back-stitching 1-2 stitches. Voila!! The binding is finished! The Roxanne's glue is water-soluble and will wash out when the quilt is washed.

AccuQuilt has made such a wonderful variety of GO! Strip Cutter dies! You can see the list and their AccuQuilt Cutter compatibility below.

AccuQuilt Strip Cutter Dies & Cutter Compatibility:

CUTTER:	<u>GO! Me</u>	<u>GO!</u>	<u>GO! Big</u>	<u>Studio</u>
GO! Strip Cutter die / item #				
GO! Strip Cutter: 1", 1 1/2", 2" (55164)	X	X	X	X (with adapter)
GO! Strip Cutter 1" (55052)	--	X	X	X (with adapter)
GO! Strip Cutter 1 1/4" (55109)	--	X	X	X (with adapter)
GO! Strip Cutter 1 1/2" (55024)	--	X	X	X (with adapter)
GO! Strip Cutter 1 3/4" (55083)	--	X	X	X (with adapter)
GO! Strip Cutter 2" (55025)	--	X	X	X (with adapter)
GO! Strip Cutter 2 1/4" (55053)	--	X	X	X (with adapter)
GO! Strip Cutter 2 1/2" (55017)	--	X	X	X (with adapter)
GO! Strip Cutter 2 1/2" (55014)	X	X	X	X (with adapter)
GO! Strip Cutter 3" (55084)	--	X	X	X (with adapter)
GO! Strip Cutter 3 1/2" (55032)	--	X	X	X (with adapter)
GO! Strip Cutter 4" (55085)	--	X	X	X (with adapter)
GO! Strip Cutter 4 1/2" (55054)	--	X	X	X (with adapter)
GO! Strip Cutter 5" (55023)	--	X	X	X (with adapter)
GO! Strip Cutter 5 1/2" (55026)	--	X	X	X (with adapter)
GO! Strip Cutter 6 1/2" (55086)	--	X	X	X (with adapter)

You can find GO! Strip Cutters and other great AccuQuilt products at your local AccuQuilt Signature Retailer or at accuquilt.com. Also at accuquilt.com: educational videos and free patterns!!

Thank you for joining me for ***Kelly Quilts With AccuQuilt! : Cutting Binding From GO! Strip Dies.*** Happy quilt-making!

Kelly

