bias binding

WATCH THE VIDEO TUTORIAL:

Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LjCcxMckheY

1. BASIC FABRIC TERMINOLOGY:

GRAIN LINE:

- The grain line is an often-overlooked element of clothing. However, its importance becomes evident when it's misused, leading to fitting issues, or when it's creatively utilized to shape the fabric uniquely around the body. Additionally, it can be manipulated to rotate a print for a distinct visual appeal.
- Fashion designers and pattern creators use the term "grain line" to describe the orientation of a pattern when it's positioned on fabric for cutting. At its core, fabric is constructed from threads moving in two distinct directions.

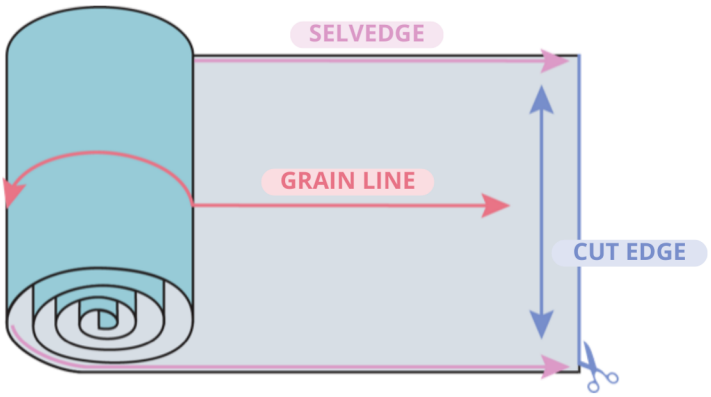
- The **straight grain** is predominantly used in clothing. It typically aligns with the center front and back of outfits and extends through the middle of sleeves and trouser legs. For parts like waistbands that endure tension, the most robust thread should encircle the body. Hence, waistband patterns are cut in alignment with the straight grain, which is parallel to the selvedge.

SELVEDGE:

- The selvedge is a denser woven strip that flanks both sides of the fabric's length. Essentially, it represents the fabric's boundaries found at both ends of a fabric roll. Visualize the fabric being crafted on a loom; the selvedge is where the thread pivots to start weaving the subsequent row.

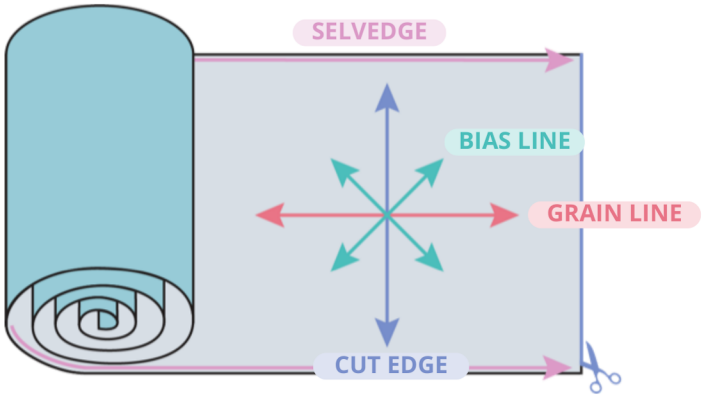
CUT EDGE:

- This refers to the edge trimmed at the fabric store. When you purchase fabric by the meter, it will have two of these cut edges.



BIAS LINE:

- The Bias line is oriented at a 45-degree angle relative to the grain line.
- So, why the emphasis on bias cuts?
  - Cutting on the bias imparts unique characteristics to woven fabric. One notable trait is its inherent elasticity, making it ideal for bias binding, especially when navigating curves and corners.



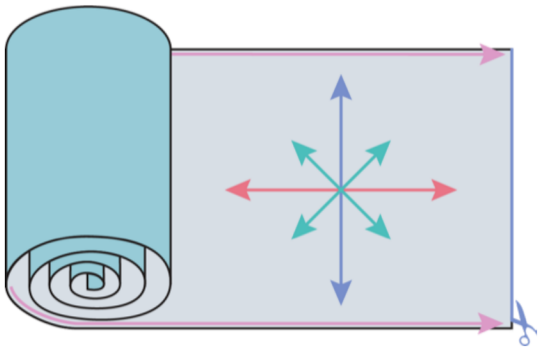
2. BIAS BINDING VERSUS PIPING:

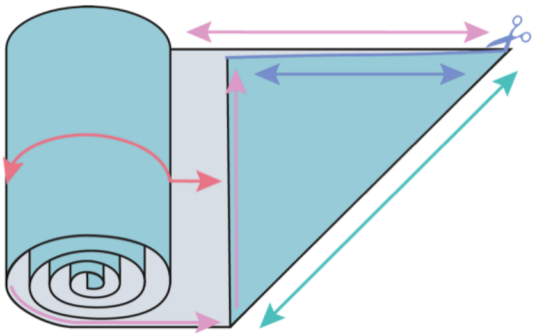
- **Binding** serves to refine a raw edge with an additional fabric strip, often in a contrasting shade or texture.
- **Piping** accentuates a seam or boundary and can reinforce corners prone to wear.

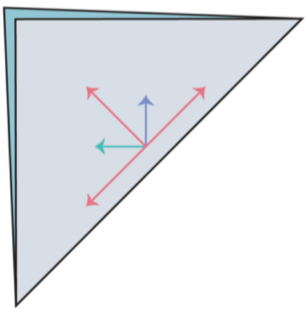
- For both binding and piping, bias-cut fabric strips are preferred due to their inherent flexibility. Numerous methods exist to press and finalize bias binding. Personally, I find the **Bias Binding Tape Maker** most effective.

3. CUTTING BIAS STRIPS

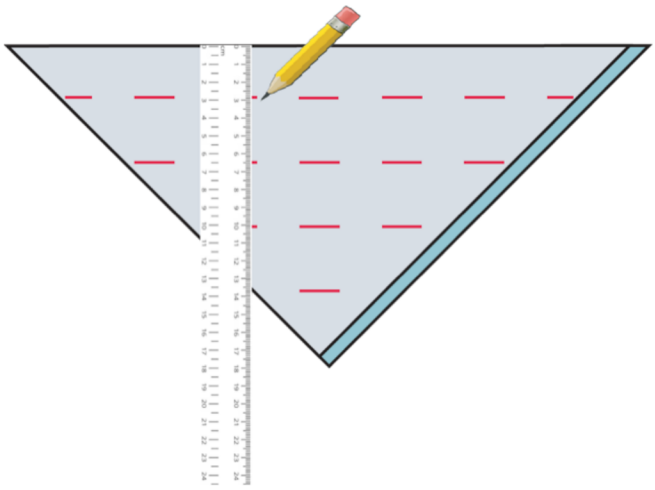
- To cut Bias Binding, angle the fabric at 45°, ensuring a straight cut edge aligns with the selvedge.



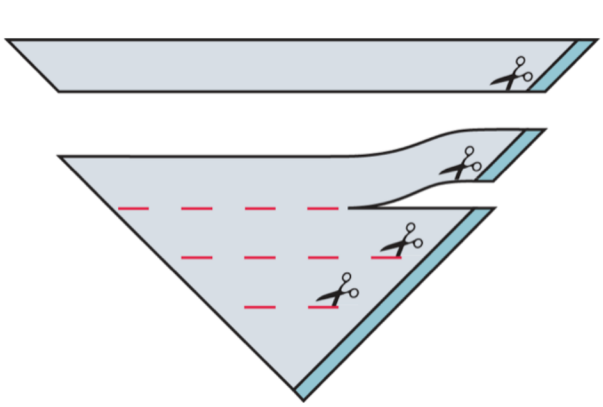


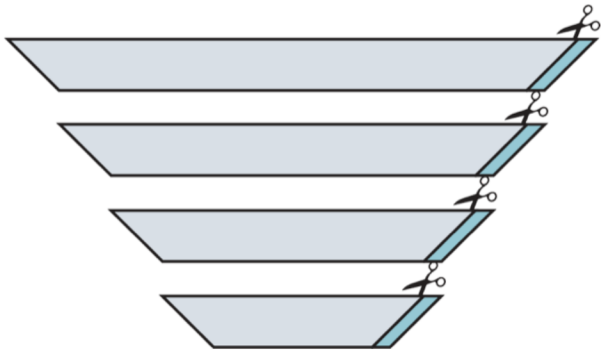


- Press this fold gently and use the resulting crease to delineate parallel lines for bias strips. Refer to the subsequent table for measurements of diverse binding sizes.



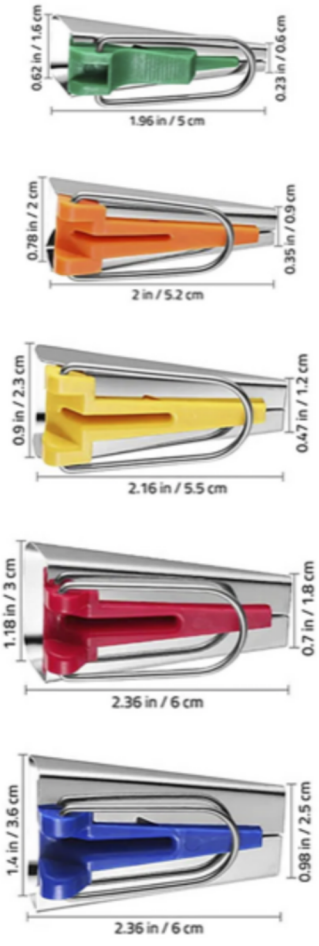
- Cut along your drawn lines to produce Bias Binding strips.





4. BIAS BINDING MAKER

- The **Bias Binding Maker** is an invaluable tool for those who frequently work with fabrics, especially in the realms of quilting, sewing, and fashion design. This simple yet effective device is designed to transform strips of fabric into bias tape or binding, which can then be used to finish edges, create piping, or add decorative touches to various projects.
- At its core, the Bias Binding Maker is a metal or plastic tool with a wide end for inserting fabric and a narrower end where the folded bias tape emerges.



BIAS BINDING MAKER SIZE: 6MM

- Finished Bias Binding Size: 3mm
- Bias Binding Cutting Width: 12mm

BIAS BINDING MAKER SIZE: 9MM

- Finished Bias Binding Size: 4.5mm
- Bias Binding Cutting Width: 18mm

BIAS BINDING MAKER SIZE: 12MM

- Finished Bias Binding Size: 6mm
- Bias Binding Cutting Width: 24mm

BIAS BINDING MAKER SIZE: 18MM

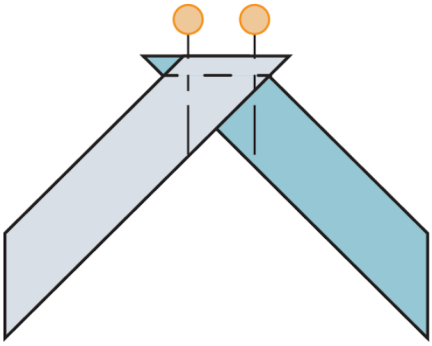
- Finished Bias Binding Size: 9mm
- Bias Binding Cutting Width: 36mm

BIAS BINDING MAKER SIZE: 25MM

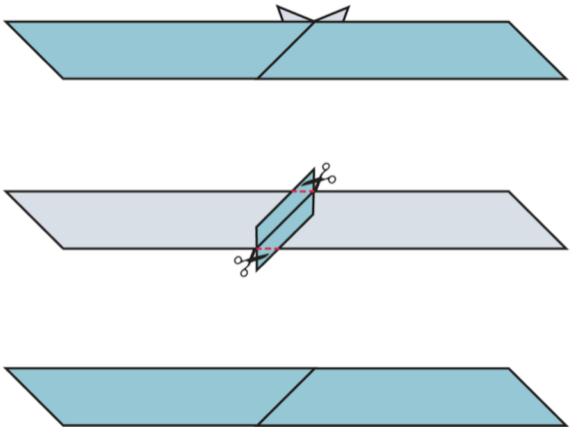
- Finished Bias Binding Size: 12.5mm
- Bias Binding Cutting Width: 50mm

5. JOINING BIAS BINDING STRIPS

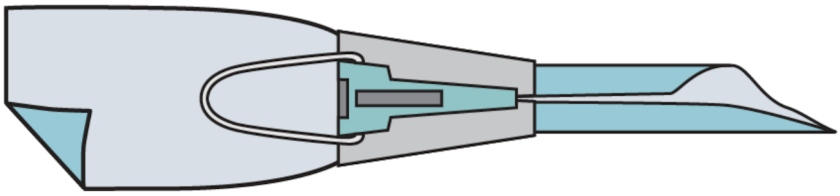
- To join bias binding, align two lengths with their right sides facing each other at right angles(as below). Then, sew them together.



- Unfold, flatten the seam, and trim any excess overlapping edges.



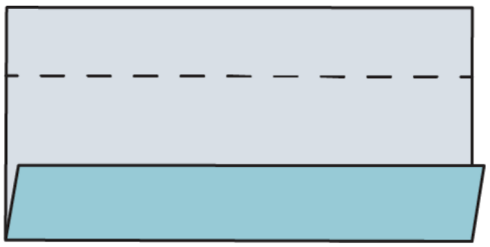
- Utilize a Bias Binding Maker as illustrated below to draw the binding through, pressing the folds as it emerges.



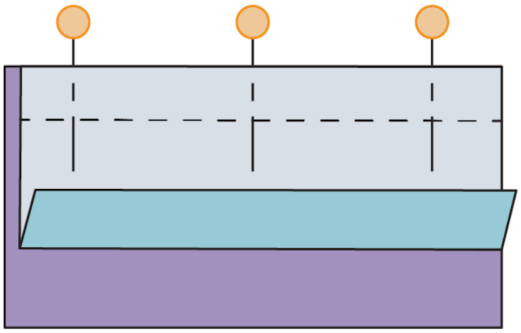
- After using the Bias Binding Maker, your binding should resemble the below image. When you fold this Single Fold Binding centrally throughout its length, it's termed a Double Fold Binding.

6. INSTRUCTIONS FOR BINDING AN EDGE

- For Single or Double Folded Binding: Unfold one side of the binding as shown in the below image. Ironing this section makes the process smoother.



- Align this unfolded section with the fabric's right side, ensuring raw edges match up and pin. Sew along the binding's fold line.



- Wrap the binding over the fabric's raw edge to its reverse side. Pin and Baste the binding's fold over the machine-stitched line on the reverse side.

- From the front, execute a stitch-in-the-ditch where the bias meets the fabric. This stitch nestles into the "ditch" between the two materials, securing the folded bias on the reverse side.