

## 2 1/2 inch Binding Strips for Quilts

The best way to make quilt binding is to cut the strips on the lengthwise grain of fabric. The reason is that the lengthwise grain (parallel to the selvedge), is less stretchy than the crosswise grain of the fabric.

To cut binding on the Accuquilt die cutting system using the strip die, you will need to make two cuts with the rotary cutter and then use the strip die to make the remaining cuts. The advantage of using the die cutting system is that you get very accurate cuts.

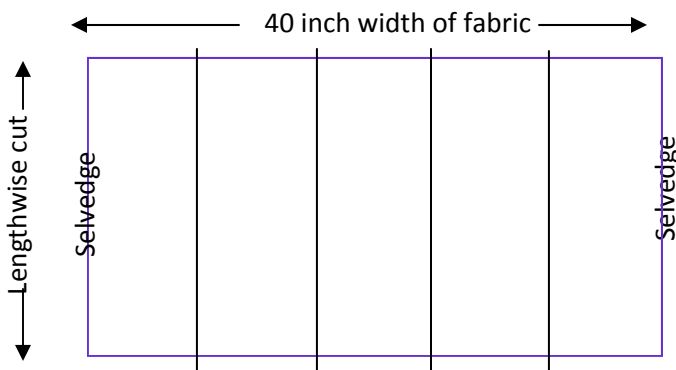
You can use the chart on page 2 to determine how much fabric you will need and the number of strips you will have to cut.

The red numbers in the left column red numbers are the length of the binding needed for the quilt.

The blue numbers in the top row are the amount of fabric needed for each binding.

The black numbers in the rows are the number of strips needed from each amount of fabric.

There are two cuts you will make. The first is the lengthwise cut of fabric that you found on the chart. The next is to cut strips from the lengthwise grain that are slightly larger than the width of the die blades. For the 2 1/2 inch strip die, this is 8-8 1/2 inches wide. A diagram is shown below.



Each vertical line indicates a cut of the fabric that is 8-8 1/2 inches wide. This will fit across the blades of the strip die. For the 2 1/2 inch strip die, you will get three strips in each 8-8 1/2 inch cut.

Let me give you an example:

I need to make binding for a quilt that is 80 inches x 96 inches for a total of 352 inches. I want my binding to be 2 1/2 inches wide. I do not have to calculate the extra fabric needed for connecting the strips and mitering the corners of the binding because that is already included in the chart.

First, I read the chart and find 360 inches in red in the left column. I have used the first number higher than 352. I then read the row across and see that I can cut 10 strips from a piece of fabric that is 40 inches long to get a binding that is the correct length. In that same row, I see that I can cut 15 strips from a piece of fabric that is 26 inches long to get a binding that is the correct length. The difference is the number of strips that I will cut at each length of fabric. Think of this as reading a chart to find your size in pantyhose.

# Binding Chart for 2 1/2 inch binding

Binding length in inches*	lengthwise cut in inches																				number of strips to cut	
	40	39	38	37	36	35	34	33	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21		20
<b>160</b>	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	8	8	8	9	9	9		
<b>180</b>	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	9	9	10	10	10	
<b>200</b>	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	9	9	9	10	10	10	11	11	
<b>220</b>	6	7	7	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	9	10	10	10	11	11	12	12	
<b>240</b>	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	9	9	10	10	10	11	11	12	12	13	13	
<b>260</b>	7	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	9	10	10	10	10	11	11	12	12	13	13	14	14	
<b>280</b>	8	8	8	9	9	9	9	10	10	10	10	11	11	12	12	12	13	14	14	15	15	
<b>300</b>	8	9	9	9	9	10	10	10	10	11	11	12	12	12	13	13	14	14	15	16	16	
<b>320</b>	9	9	9	10	10	10	10	11	11	11	12	12	13	13	14	14	15	15	16	17	17	
<b>340</b>	9	10	10	10	10	11	11	11	12	12	12	13	13	14	14	15	15	16	17	18	18	
<b>360</b>	10	10	10	11	11	11	12	12	12	13	13	14	14	15	15	16	16	17	18	19	19	
<b>380</b>	10	11	11	11	12	12	12	13	13	13	14	14	15	15	16	16	17	18	19	20	20	
<b>400</b>	11	11	12	12	12	12	13	13	14	14	14	15	15	16	17	17	18	19	20	20	21	
<b>420</b>	11	12	12	12	13	13	13	14	14	15	15	16	16	17	17	18	19	20	20	21	22	
<b>440</b>	12	12	13	13	13	14	14	14	15	15	16	16	17	18	18	19	20	20	21	22	23	
<b>460</b>	12	13	13	13	14	14	15	15	15	16	16	17	18	18	19	20	20	21	22	23	24	
<b>480</b>	13	13	14	14	14	15	15	16	16	17	17	18	18	19	20	20	21	22	23	24	25	
<b>500</b>	13	14	14	15	15	15	16	16	17	17	18	18	19	20	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
<b>520</b>	14	14	15	15	15	16	16	17	17	18	18	19	20	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
<b>540</b>	14	15	15	16	16	16	17	17	18	19	19	20	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
<b>560</b>	15	15	16	16	17	17	18	18	19	19	20	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
<b>580</b>	15	16	16	17	17	18	18	19	19	20	20	21	22	23	24	24	25	27	28	29	30	
<b>600</b>	16	16	17	17	18	18	19	19	20	20	21	22	23	23	24	25	26	27	29	30	31	

\* includes additional length for joining strips with 45 degree seams and mitered corners.