

# Strips + Templates = Quick Cutting & Accurate Piecing

## Right-Handed



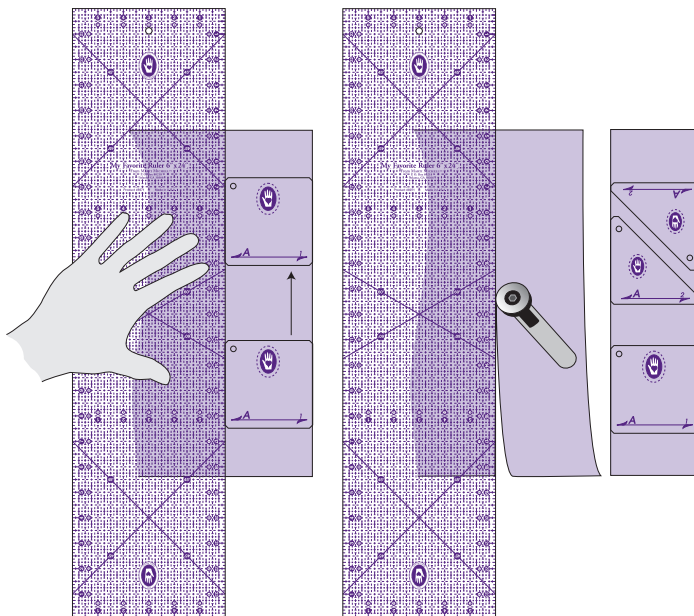
### The Best Way to Measure and Cut Strips

The first step in cutting with **From MARTI MICHELL Perfect Patchwork Templates** is just like ruler cutting. Cut strips the width of one dimension of the shape to be cut. Then the size-specific acrylic templates are placed on the strips and cut against to create the final shape. The pieces are perfected by trimming off the “dog-ears” using the engineered corners of the template as the guide.

### Use Templates to Measure Strip Width

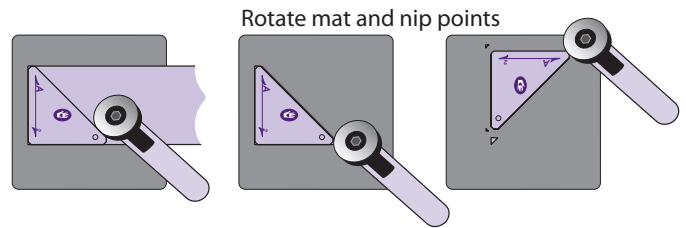
Necessity truly is the mother of invention! My “aha! moment” happened when some of the templates in Set L (12” blocks with a 7x7 grid) needed strip widths ending in sixteenths and thirty-seconds of an inch. I said, “If the strip to be cut is to be as wide as one dimension of the template, why not use the template to measure the width?” This is how it works. (If you are left-handed, see inside back cover.)

1. With fabric extended to the left, straighten the edge to be cut. Don't move the fabric or yourself, just move the ruler a little to the left.
2. Place the template on the fabric, aligning one edge of the template with the just-cut edge of the fabric. Place your ruler against the other edge of the template to establish the strip width.
3. Slide the template along the raw edge to be sure the ruler is aligned properly.
4. Remove the template and cut the strip. See, “Start Cutting with the Blade in the Fabric” on page 41.



### Use Templates to Cut Shapes from Strips

Slip a smaller cutting mat or rotating mat under the strips. Place the template on the strip to cut the shape. Right-handed cutters should start at the left end of the strip. See “Make Successful Second Cuts” on page 42.

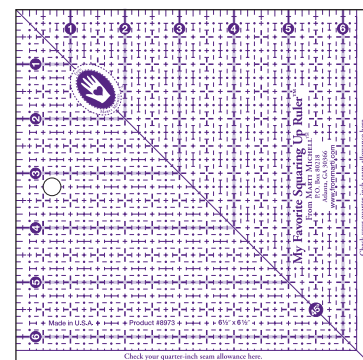


### Added Benefits of Cutting Strips This Way

There are many added benefits of measuring and cutting strips this way. We recommend it even when you aren't using templates. Just measure the desired strip width from the trued-up fabric edge with that edge closest to your preferred cutting hand—right side for right handers, left for lefties. Measuring this way means:

1. You use the same edge of my ruler to straighten the fabric and cut the strips, eliminating the need to move around the table or rotate your fabric.
2. The ruler is flat on the fabric, not rocking between the levels of the mat and multiple layers of fabric.
3. The large ruler is on the uncut fabric. You can move the cut strip and assure a complete cut before you move the ruler. If two or three pesky threads did not get cut, the ruler is still exactly where it needs to be!

Our Squaring Up Ruler (Product #8973) is perfect for measuring strips up to 6½” wide when you use this method.



Excerpted from *More Bang for the Buck!* © 2015 by Marti Michell. Used with permission.

# Strips + Templates = Quick Cutting & Accurate Piecing

## Left-Handed



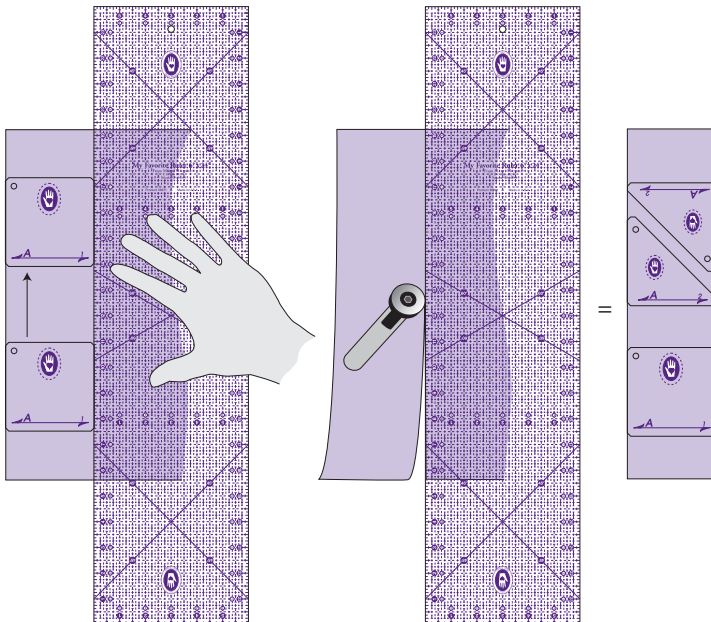
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### Use Templates to Measure Strip Width

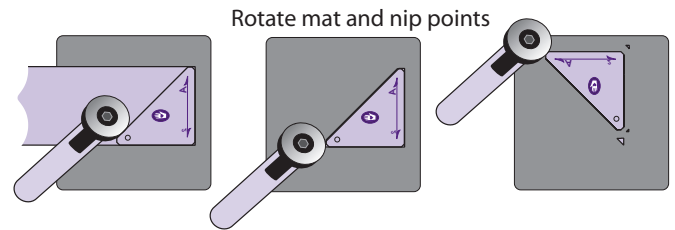
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1. With fabric extended to the right, straighten the edge to be cut. Don't move the fabric or yourself, just move the ruler a little to the right.
2. Place the template on the fabric, aligning one edge of the template with the just-cut edge of the fabric. Place your ruler against the other edge of the template to establish the strip width.
3. Slide the template along the raw edge to be sure the ruler is aligned properly.
4. Remove the template and cut the strip. See, “Start Cutting with the Blade in the Fabric” on page 41.



### Use Templates to Cut Shapes from Strips

Slip a smaller cutting mat or rotating mat under the strips. Place the template on the strip to cut the shape. Left-handed cutters should start at the right end of the strip. See “Make Successful Second Cuts” on page 42.

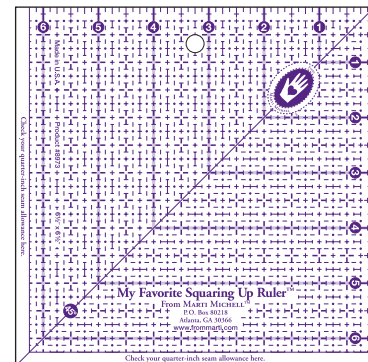


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