

ROSIE & ME

VINTAGE INSPIRED PATTERNS

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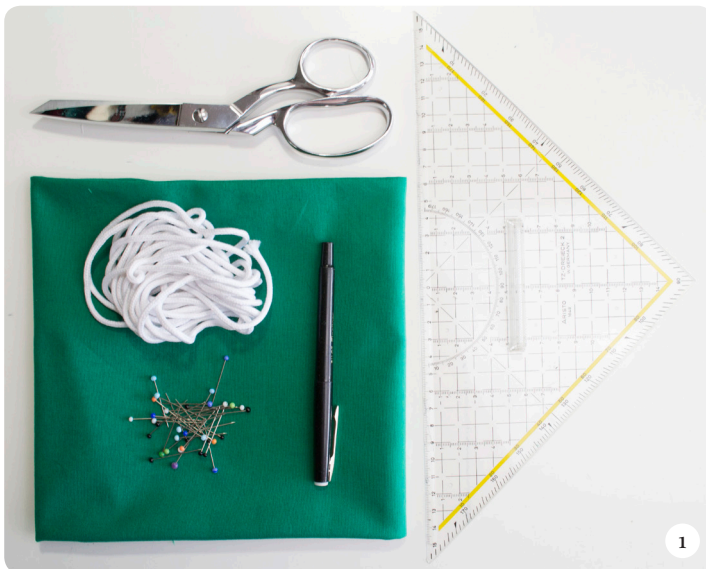


HOW TO MAKE PIPING

Author: Rosie & Me | Date: July 2015

Recently I found this method on how to make your own piping on the internet. And this method is much easier than the way I used to do it: which was cutting bias strips from fabric and stitching the strips together. In case you were also doing it this way, this tutorial will make you very happy:

1 WHAT DO YOU NEED:

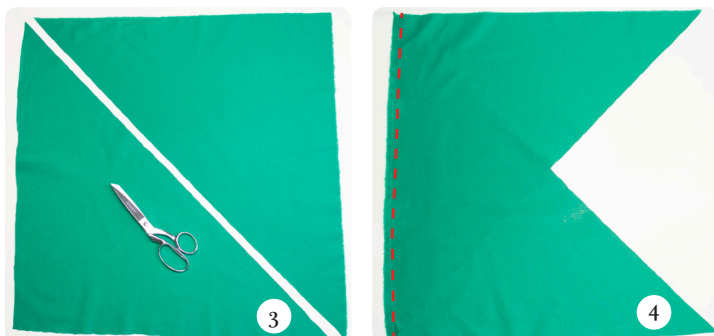


- **General:** yarn, a protractor triangle, fabric marking pen, fabric scissors, pins, iron and sewing machine.
- **Fabric:** I used a square piece of fabric that was 0,65 yards (60 cm x 60 cm). But this ended up being way too much! It gave me 14,7 yards (13,5 meter) of bias strips. Yikes...I didn't need that much for piping finishings! To give you a more appropriate example: a square piece that is 0,27 yards (25 cm x 25 cm) will give you 2,6 yards (2,4 meter) of cut bias strips.
- **Pipingcord:**
 - Length: naturally the same amount of length you need for the piping finishing you wish to use.
 - Width: I suggest using cord that is slightly thinner than the one in photo 1. I found this one too thick and ended up replacing it with a smaller one.

One of my workshop students found this cord from Sencys (photo 2.) at the 'Praxis', which is a Dutch Home Improvement store. It's perfect for this purpose as it is nice and clean (not fluffy), 100% cotton, plenty of length on a roll (26,5 yards / 24 meters) having a nice width (1/8" / 3 mm) which is similar to a match width as you can see in the photo. So in case you have a hard time finding the right cord, check your Home Improvement store!

2 PREPARING YOUR FABRIC:

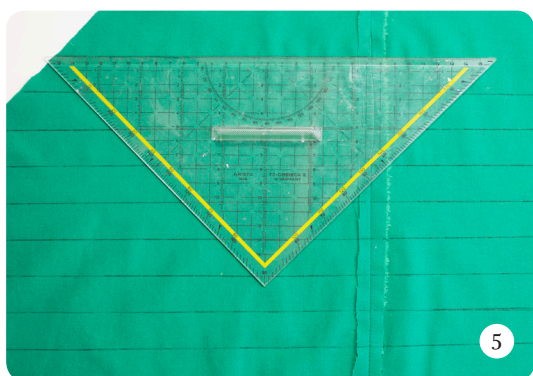
- Cut your fabric square diagonally in two separate pieces (photo 3). You can first fold and press to mark a cutting line.



- Place the two pieces with the straight grain on top of each other (right sides of the fabric facing) and stitch them together (see red line in photo 4).

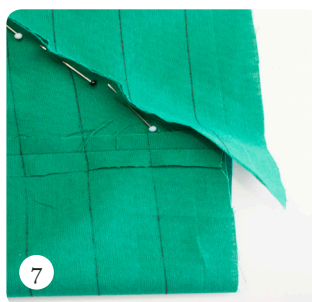
- Press the stitched seam open.

- Now, on the wrong side of the fabric you will draw parallel lines 1" (2,5 cm) apart from each other, using a protractor triangle (photo 5).



- Fold and pin the ends of the fabric together (right sides facing) making sure the drawn lines meet exactly (photo 6). The beginning and end will be sticking out (photo 7).

- Stitch the pinned seam with little allowance creating a tunnel shape. Press the seam open (photo 8).



- Then you start cutting along the lines, and cutting and cutting and cutting.... resulting in a big pile of bias strips (photo 9)
- Place the cord on the wrong side of the bias strips and fold the tape around it. Pin closed, securing the cord (photo 10).
- Stitch with your zipper presser foot close to the cord. And voila! Your piping is finished to use on your garment.



! *Examples of piping cord being used as a finish:*

- **AMBER OPTION B IN THE PATTERN STORE**
- **A VARIETY OF BROOKE DRESSES IN THE ME GALLERY**
- **CHECKERED DAISY SHOWN ON THE TIPS & TRICKS PAGE**