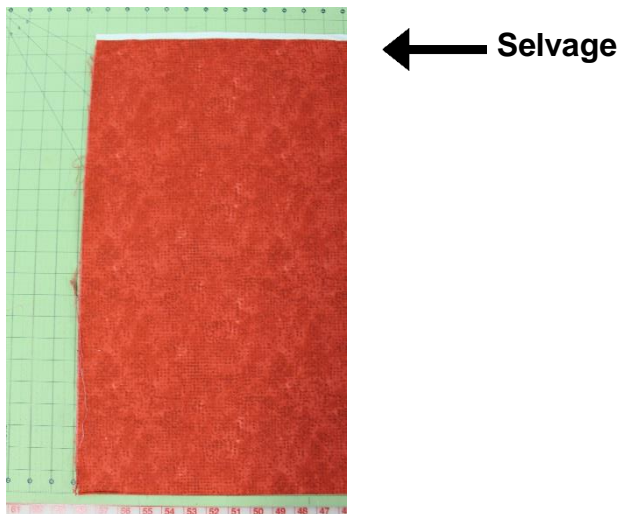


## HOW TO USE A ROTARY CUTTER

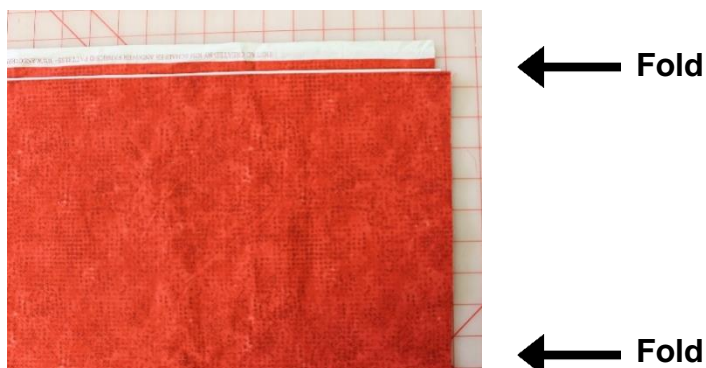
REFER TO THE "GETTING STARTED" INSTRUCTION, Page 3, #'s 1 to 4

The ROTARY CUTTER is a type of cutting tool that looks like a 'pizza cutter' and is most frequently used with quilting projects. It was invented in 1979 by Yoshio Okada of Osaka, Japan, an awesome tool for cutting fabric with speed and accuracy. However, as the Rotary Cutter is very sharp, its use requires your utmost attention!

1. Press your fabric before cutting.
2. Fold fabric with the "Selvage" edges together.
3. Lay the fabric on the cutting mat with the "Selvage" edges away from you.



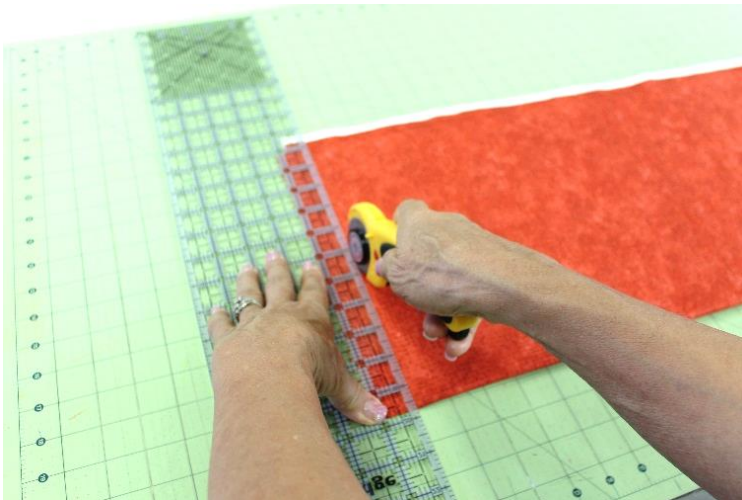
4. Bring fold to match the "Selvage" so you will be cutting 4 layers, which makes it faster.
5. Place the fold nearest you on a straight line. You will be straightening and squaring one edge by cutting off the least amount. In this case, the **right** edge will be trimmed.



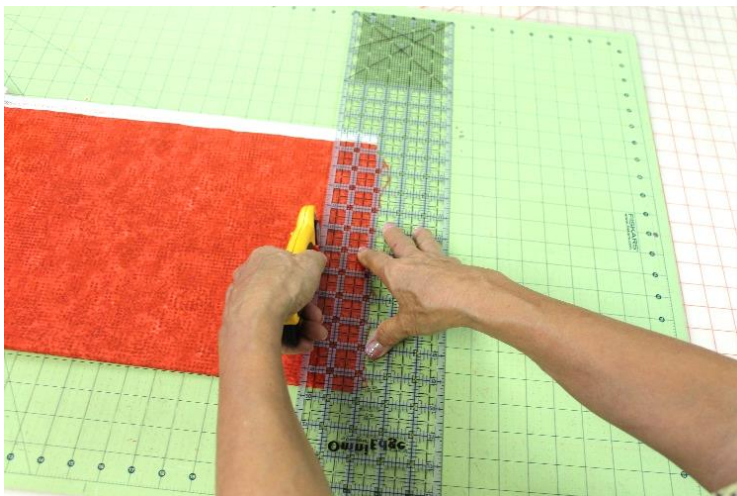
6. Whatever ruler width you use, you may add or subtract inches as needed. (e.g. 3", 5", etc.)

7. Rotary Cutters are available for RIGHT OR LEFT HANDED CUTTING:

For RIGHT-HANDED CUTTING, the fabric will be to the RIGHT of the ruler.  
For LEFT-HANDED CUTTING, the fabric will be to the LEFT of the ruler.



RIGHT-HANDED



LEFT-HANDED

8. Store the cutting mat flat, to prevent warping. If there are fabric fibers on the mat grid, use an "Art Gum Eraser" to remove them.

9. It's important to correctly HOLD the Rotary Cutter, similar to "Shaking Hands" with someone. The CORRECT ANGLE to hold the cutter is about 45 degrees. If your hand is too LOW, it won't cut. If your hand is too HIGH, it will feel awkward and uncomfortable and probably won't cut, as well.



**45 degree angle**

10. Make sure you begin cutting from the mat, and cutting from the beginning of the fabric. The Rotary Cutter should be straight and not slanted, with the blade against the ruler. Your other fingers should be spread out on the ruler to hold the ruler in place. I usually place my "Pinky finger" off the edge of the ruler to hold the ruler.
11. PUSH THE ROTARY CUTTER AWAY FROM YOU; NEVER TOWARD YOU. Be sure to CLOSE the blade when you set the cutter down, for safety's sake. When learning to use a Rotary Cutter, apply the same pressure throughout the cut. If you don't apply enough pressure, you may not cut all the way through and may miss a few threads. If this happens, run your blade through again, without lifting the fabric. If you have been using the same blade for a while and becomes dull, you will need to change the blade.
12. When changing the blade, be sure you use the same size blade. Take note of the pieces of the Rotary Cutter as you take it apart, and reverse the order when putting on the new blade. Be sure to safely dispose the old blade.
13. **SO LET'S GET ROLLING, AND ENJOY CUTTING!**

