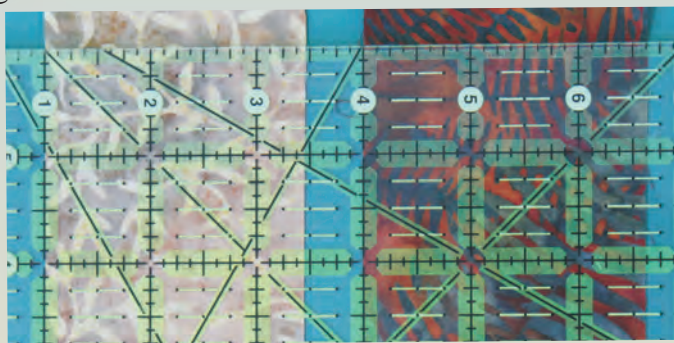


# Slight Variations in Width May Occur!

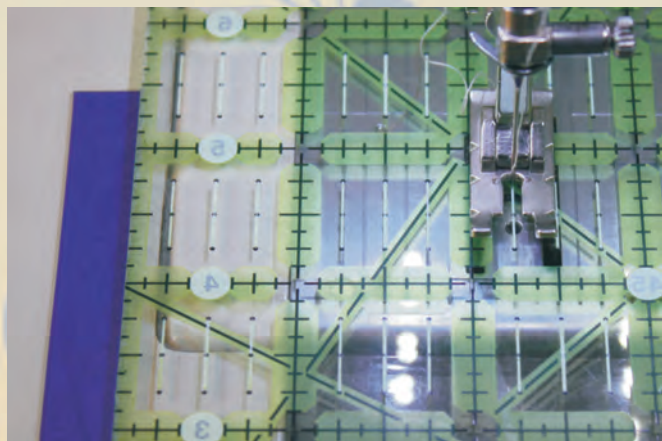
The fabric strips in Hoffman Fabrics Bali Pops® are hand cut in Bali where every yard is produced by hand at the Hoffman facilities. Hoffman Fabrics has chosen to create jobs and employ Balinese people. Without laser precision some cutting variations are bound to occur; however, this does nothing to squelch my devotion to Bali Pops.

Some strips are not exactly 2 ½” wide at all points along the strips. You might find that the strips are as much as 1/8” wider or narrower than 2 ½” - on the same strip!

These two strips show how the variation in strip width might appear. Notice how the left strip measures less than 2 ½” in width and the strip on the right measures greater than 2 ½” wide.



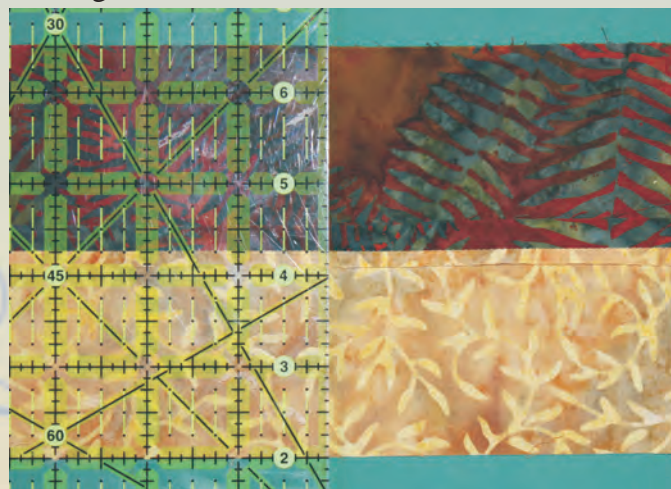
When I am sewing two strips together, rather than measuring 1/4” to the right of the needle position, I measure 2 ¼” to the LEFT of the needle. A rotary ruler that has been turned upside down (the markings are exposed and easier to line up with the needle) is slid under the needle, and the needle carefully lowered on the 2 ¼” line. A piece of tape or a Qtools Sewing Edge as shown is placed along the left edge of the ruler.



The fabric strips are positioned right sides together, paying close attention to keep the raw edges aligned at the left edge. As the strips are sewn together, care is taken to keep the left edges aligned with the tape strip. If there is any variation in strip width, it will fall within the seam allowance.



The sewn strip pair is pressed and the width measured. The seam allowance is narrow in some places and wide in others, but the finished width of the strip pair is consistently 4 ½” wide. This method works to correct the strips used when 2 strips are sewn together and then sub-cut.



When sewing two strips together in this manner you will need to adjust the way you hold the strips and where you watch the strips as they are being fed through the sewing machine.

While it is not a cure-all, it does put my piecing well on the way to accuracy when the project begins with strip piecing.