

**Beginning Quilting**  
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**Tools**

- Rotary Cutter
  - Small rotary cutter good for free form
  - Different blades available – scallop for edge of label
  - Blades can be sharpened
  - Quilt after label on – can't be removed easily
- Scissors
  - Don't need expensive scissors
  - Those with small, rounded points don't mistakenly cut quilt
  - Embroidery for trimming
  - Duck bills (rounded blades) for appliqué trimming
- Seam Ripper
- Pins
  - 1 ¼"
  - Silk – sharper and finer
  - Plastic heads for design board
  - Flower head from Clotilde – extra fine
- Rulers
  - Those with thin lines enhance precision cutting
  - 24" to extend whole width of fabric
  - Use same ruler for whole project
  - Hold ruler down with finger off the ruler on fabric so ruler doesn't move, move hand

- Easy angles and triangles simplify cutting
- If you can only have one square ruler, get a 12 ½"
- Scale ruler with job you want to do (large for larger projects, smaller for small projects)
- Good practice to cut and complete one block first to discover problems

**Pre-washing**

- Personal Choice
- Zig zag edges prior to washing
- Press flat, press with straight of grain
- Square up by matching selvages
- Fold so no wrinkles show
- Press in crease
- Line up crease with line on cutting mat
- Find edge with smallest width, line up ruler and cut off

**Recommended Books**

- Basic block patterns
- Rotary cutting

**Color Books**

- Color and Composition for the Creative Quilter – Katie Pasquini Masopust
- Color Confidence for Quilters – Jinny Beyers, 1992
- The Quilters Ultimate Visual Guide
- Quick Quilts, McCalls
- Joan Wolfram