

Episode 11 Class Notes: Make Beautiful Quilt Sashings with Applique

This episode is all about bias-cut sashings and how to use them to add decorative elements to your Quilt As You Go projects. We'll be preparing the sashings, but not stitching them yet—that part will come in future episodes. If you've been following along and using the glue and batting method, your sashings will stay in place until you're ready to sew.

We'll be working on:

- Accurately cutting bias strips to ensure smooth curves.
- Applying bias strips to sashings for decorative effects.
- Adding appliqué elements like teardrop shapes and circles.
- Learning when to use bias and when straight grain works fine.

Cutting Accurate Bias

Cutting fabric on the true bias is essential for smooth curves and preventing puckering. If the bias isn't cut accurately, fabric won't sit properly around tight curves.

Using the Bias-Sasher Ruler:

To ensure precision, I recommend using the [Bias-Sasher Ruler](#). This tool has multiple 45-degree lines, making it easier to check both edges of the fabric and ensure you're cutting at a true bias angle.

Steps for Cutting Bias:

- Determine the finished bias width needed. Bias strips are always cut twice the finished width.
 - *Example:* A $\frac{1}{4}$ " finished bias requires fabric cut at $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide and is then fed through the $\frac{1}{4}$ " Sasher tool.
- Line up the fabric using the Bias-Sasher Ruler to ensure the cut is on the true bias.
- Use a [small rotary cutter](#) (instead of a large one) to minimize distortion while cutting.
- Check for shrinkage before cutting all your strips.
 - Cut a small bias test strip and press it with an iron.
 - Re-measure the strip—if it has shrunk, you may need to cut strips slightly wider to compensate.

Folding and Pressing Bias Strips:

- Lay the cut bias strip on the ironing surface, wrong side up.
- Fold both edges in until they meet and press the first 1" to help guide the Sasher tool.
- Insert the strip into the $\frac{1}{4}$ " Sasher with the folded edge facing down.
- Use a double fork pin to secure the starting point.
- Gently push the Sasher with the side of the iron. Do not apply downward pressure, as this can distort the fabric.
- Move the pin every 8-10 inches to keep even tension.

Tip: If working in a hot or cold environment, bias strips may not hold their fold well. After pressing, lightly mist with water and press again to set the shape.

Sashings

2" Appliqué Sashing

(Joining blocks A3 – A4)

This sashing incorporates bias stems and appliqué flowers. [You can download the Episode 11 templates here. The Flower and Leaves Templates are on page 2.](#)

Cutting Instructions:

- **White fabric strip:** Cut 4" x 10", then put through the 2" Sasher to make a 2" finished sashing.
- **Batting:** Cut 1 7/8" wide x 10" long and insert into the sashing.

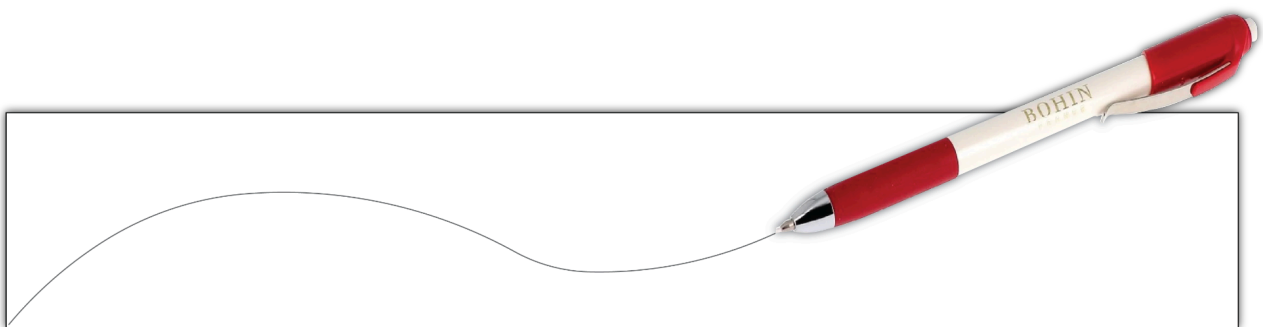
Appliqué Elements:

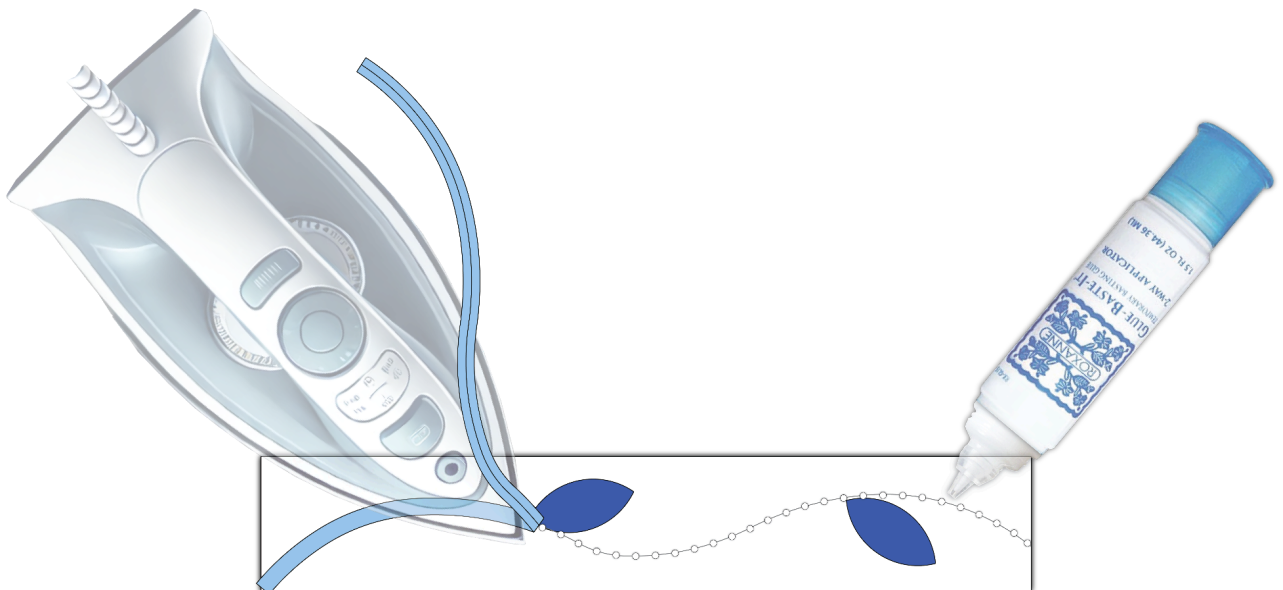
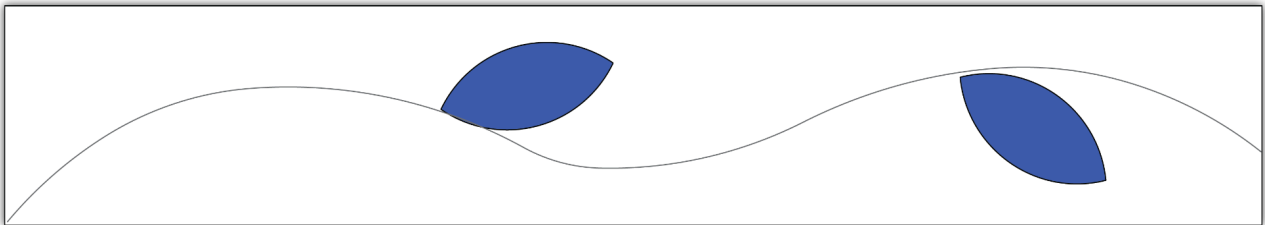
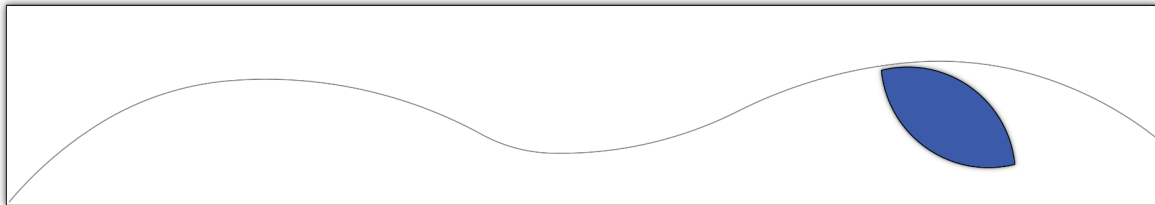
- Cut 8 small petals and 2 large petals from selected fabrics using the template.
- Cut 2 leaves from the template.
- Cut 2 circles from the template.
- Make 1/4" bias for the stem effect by cutting 1/2" wide strips, then putting them through the 1/4" Sasher.

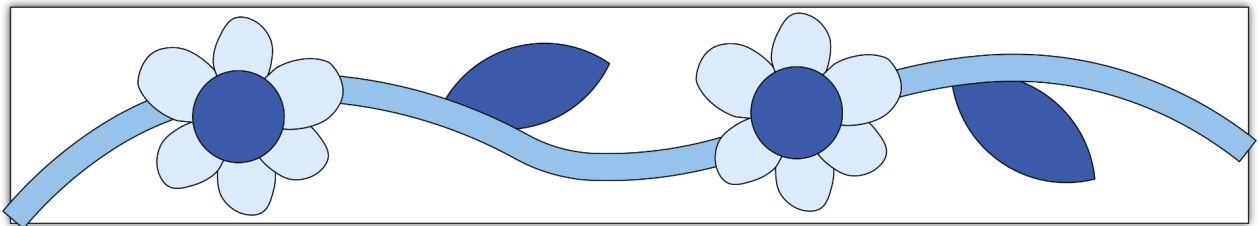
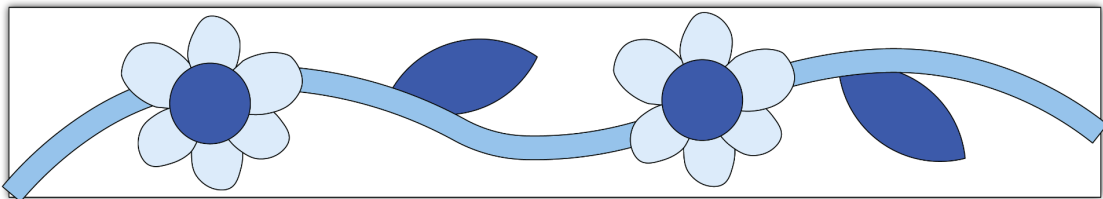
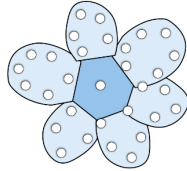
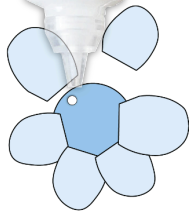
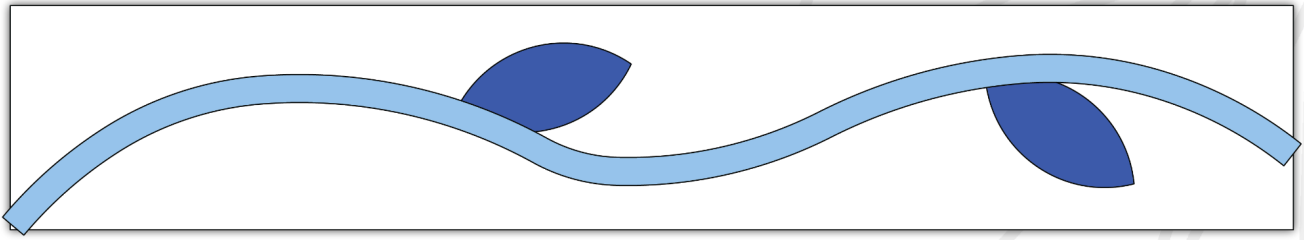
Assembly Instructions:

1. Lay the bias strip on the sashing to create a stem effect.
2. Glue and press the bias into place.
3. Arrange the petals, leaves, and circles as desired and glue them in place.
4. Press with a hot iron to set the glue.

Refer to the diagrams below to see the assembly.







2" Teardrop Sashing

(Joining blocks C1 – C2 – C3 – C4)

This sashing features appliquéd teardrop shapes with a bias outline, creating a smooth, decorative curve. [You can download the Episode 11 templates here. The Teardrop Template is on page 1.](#)

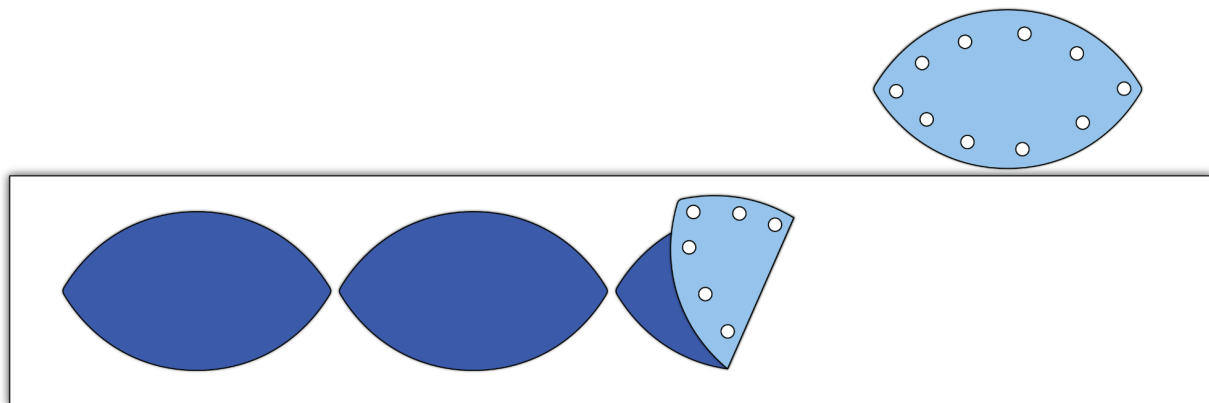
Cutting Instructions:

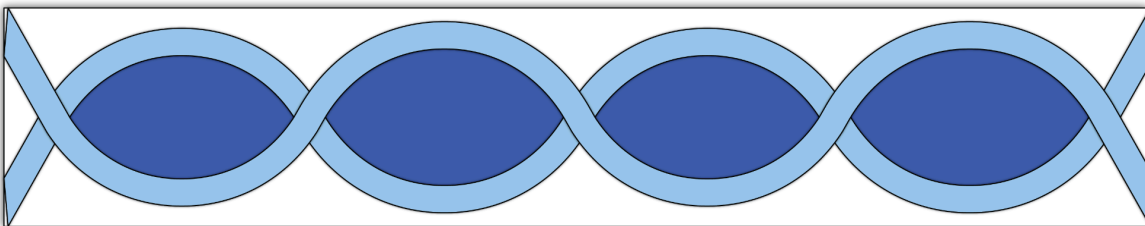
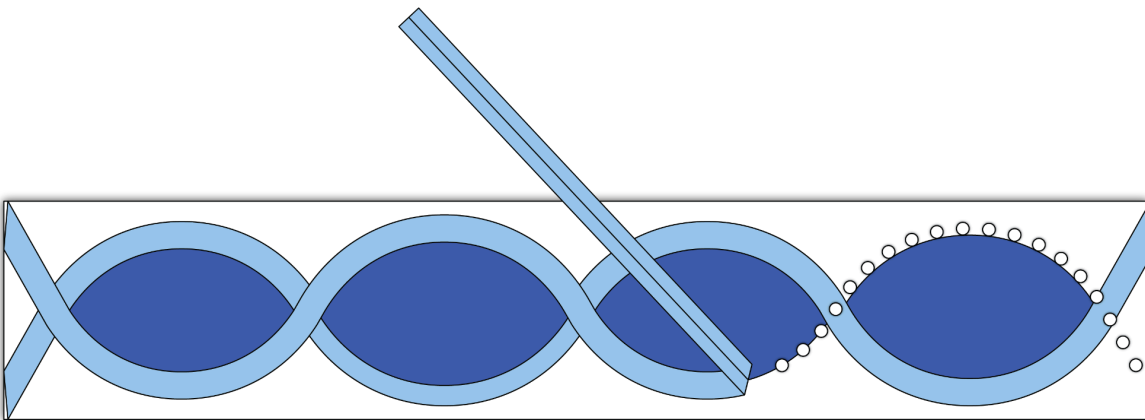
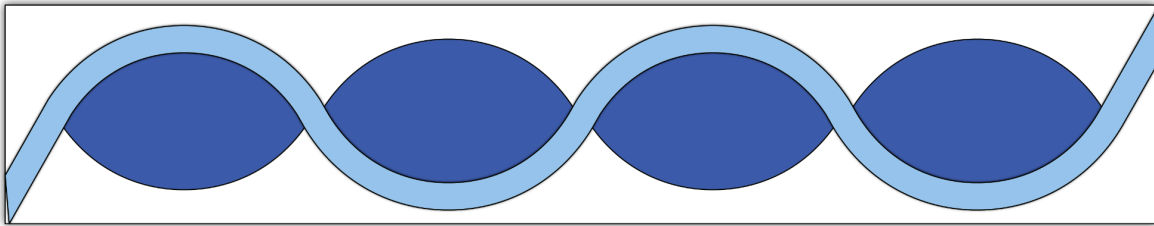
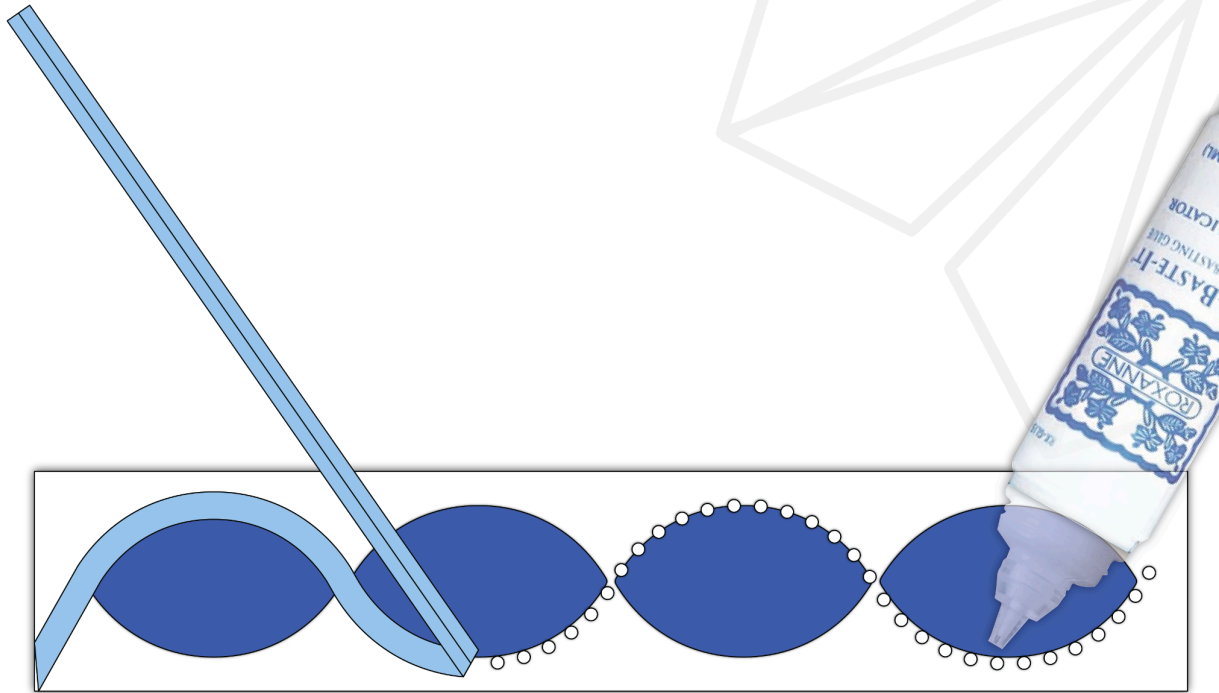
- **White fabric strips:** Cut 2 pieces, 4" x 11", then put through the 2" Sasher.
- **Batting:** Cut 1 $\frac{7}{8}$ " wide x 11" long and lay inside the sashing.
- **Teardrops:** Trace and cut 8 teardrops from a medium fabric using the Teardrop Template.
- **Bias Strips:** Cut 3 strips, $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide x 12" long, then put through the $\frac{1}{4}$ " Sasher.

Assembly Instructions:

1. Glue the teardrops in place on the sashing and press to set the glue.
2. Apply small dots of glue around the edges of the teardrops.
3. Lay the bias strips around the edges of the teardrops, gently curving them to fit.
4. Press with a hot iron as you apply the bias to hold it in place.

Refer to the diagrams below to see the assembly.





2" Zig-Zag Bias Sashing

(Joining blocks B1 – B2 together)

This sashing features a zig-zag bias design, giving a dynamic look to the quilt. [You can download the Episode 11 templates here. The Zig Zag Templates are on page 3.](#)

Cutting Instructions:

- **White fabric strip:** Cut 4" x 10", then put through the 2" Sasher to make a 2" finished sashing.

Marking the Zig-Zag Pattern:

Use the Zig-Zag Template or follow these optional measurement markings for precise placement:

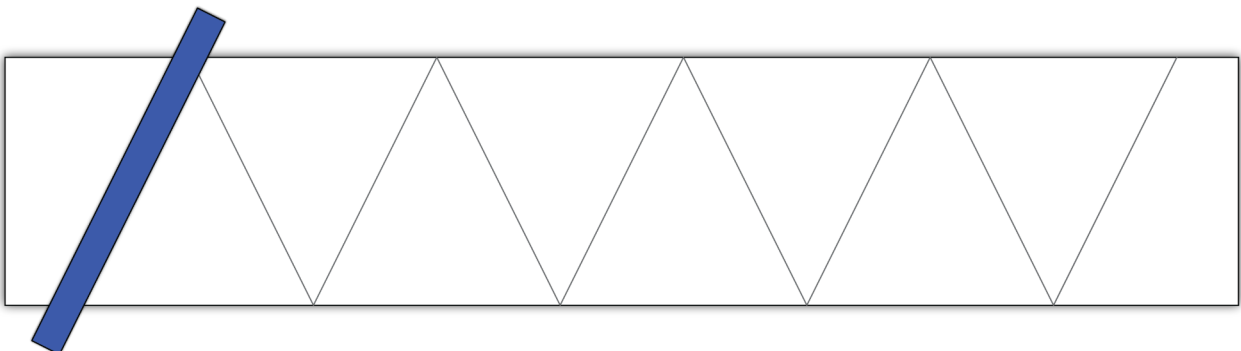
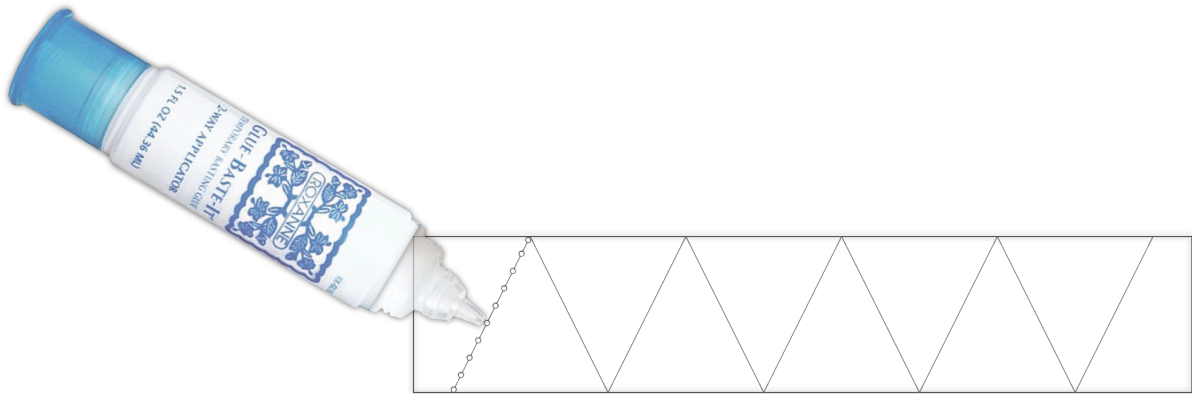
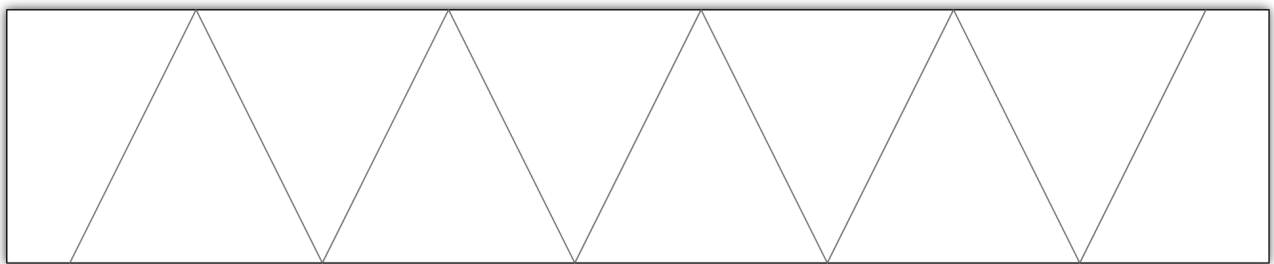
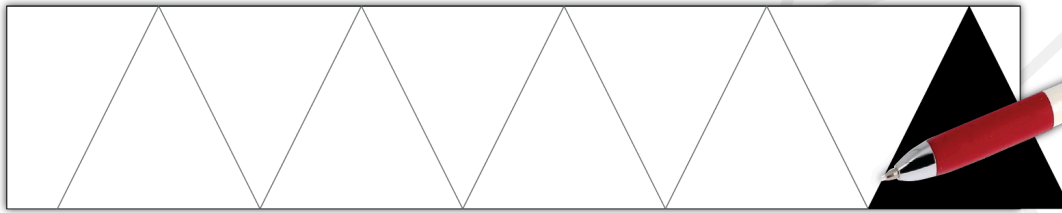
1. Find the halfway point of the strip (5") and mark with a fabric marking pencil.
2. Draw a faint guideline $\frac{1}{4}$ " from both ends of the strip.
3. At the **top** of the strip, measure $\frac{3}{4}$ " in from the guideline and mark.
4. At the **bottom** of the strip, measure $\frac{3}{4}$ " in from the **opposite** end and mark.
5. Mark out 2" intervals at both the top and bottom of the strip to create an offset zig-zag effect.

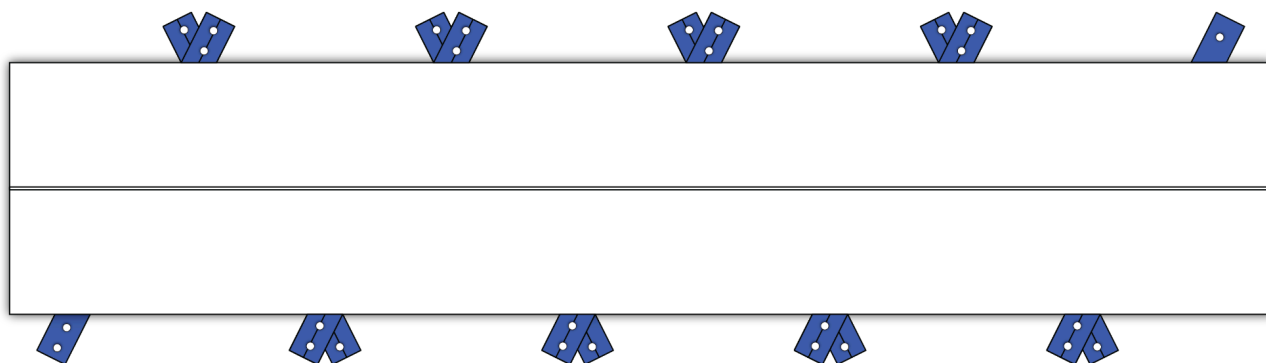
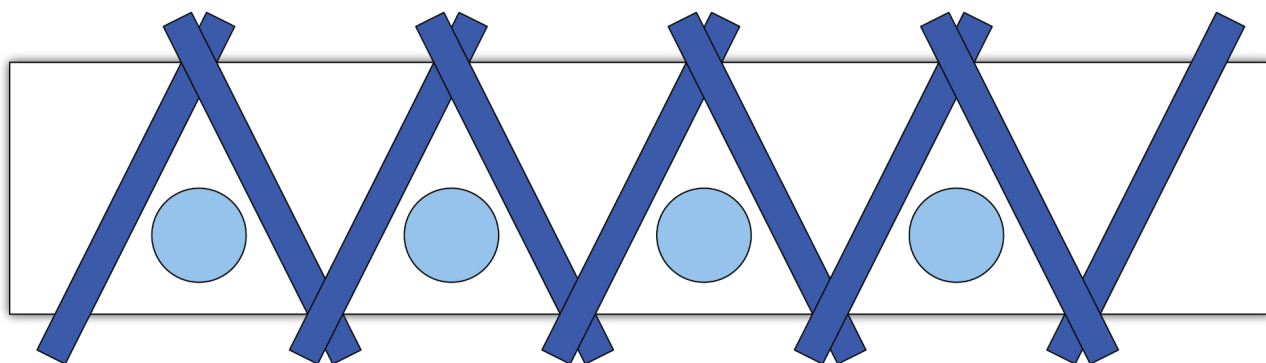
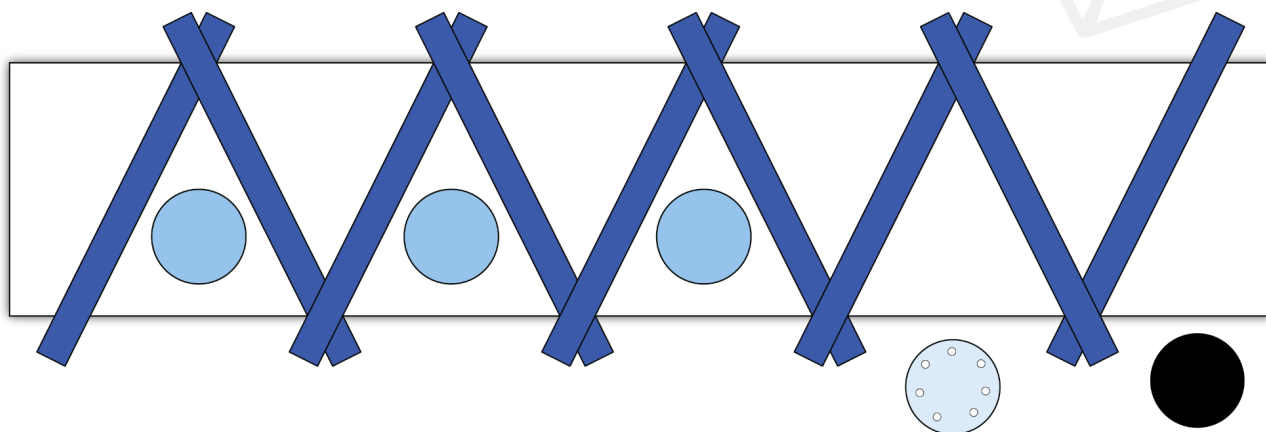
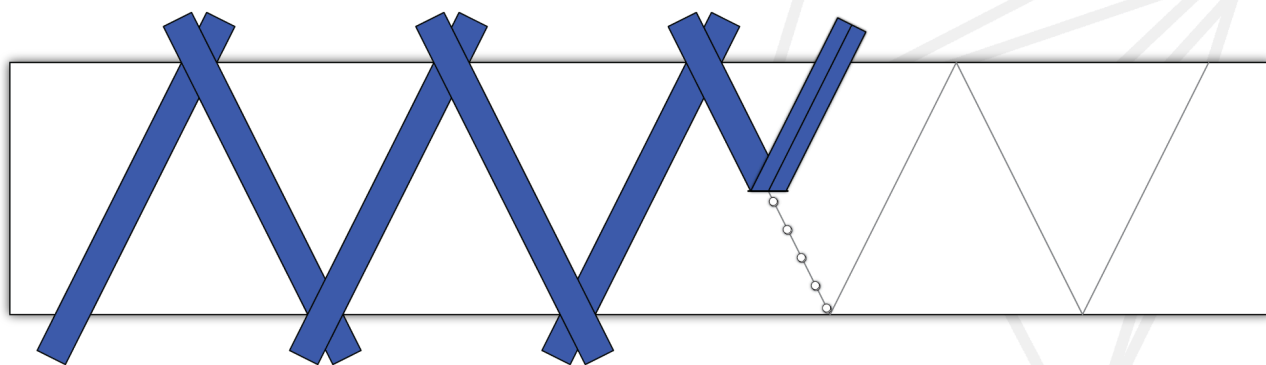
Assembly Instructions:

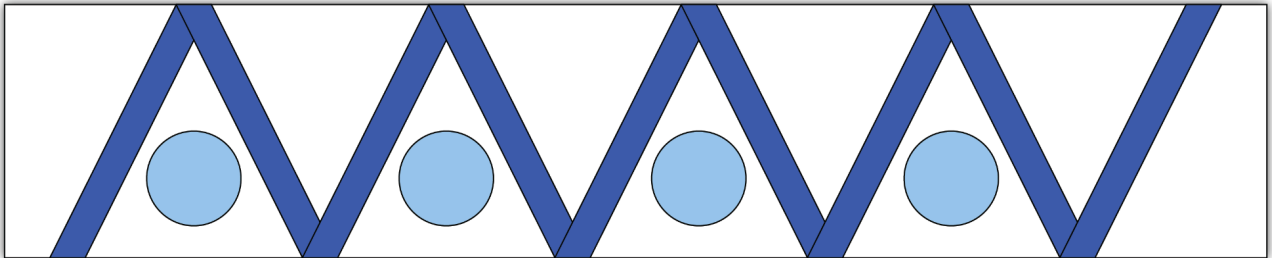
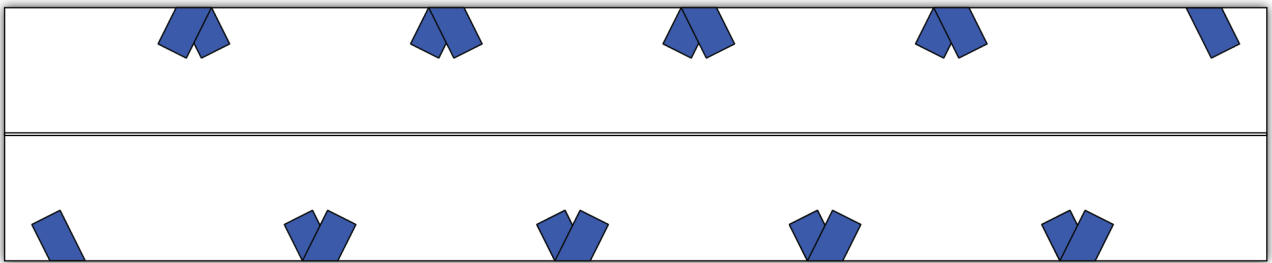
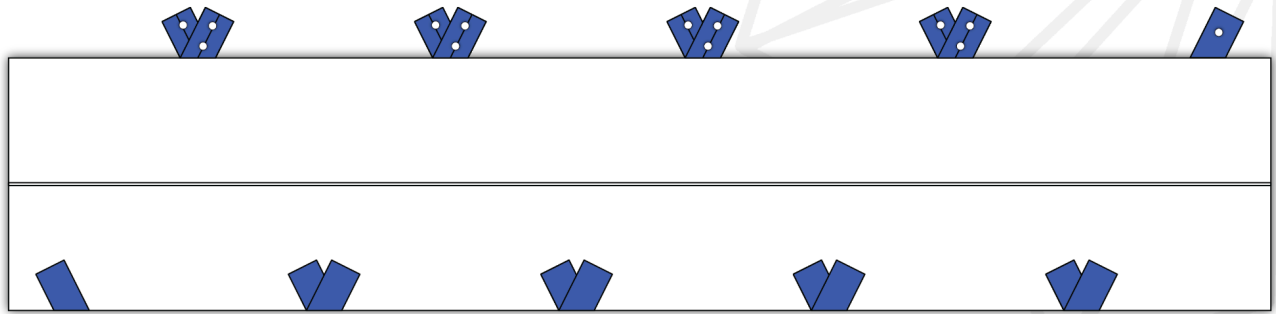
1. Mark the zig-zag pattern using the template.
2. Cut 2 bias strips $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide x 12" long, then put through the $\frac{1}{4}$ " Sasher.
3. Glue the bias strips along the marked zig-zag lines using [Roxanne Glue-Baste-It](#).
4. Press with a hot iron to set the glue.
5. Add four small circles cut from the template and glue them in place.

Refer to the diagrams below to see the assembly.









2" Sashing with Peeper/Flange (from Episode 10)

(Joining Units E – G together)

This sashing adds a contrasting peeper strip (flange) for an extra decorative touch.

Cutting Instructions:

- **White fabric strip:** Cut 2 ½" wide x 25" long.
- **Contrast fabric strips:** Cut 2 pieces, 1" wide x 25" long.

Assembly Instructions:

1. Fold the 1" contrast strips in half and put through the 1" Sasher.
2. Stitch the folded strips to either side of the white fabric using a ¼" seam.
3. Press the seam to set the stitching.
4. Fold the peeper strips outward and press the first 2 inches.
5. Thread the sashing into the 2 ½" Sasher and gently press.
6. Cut batting slightly smaller than 1 ⅞" wide.
7. Lay the batting under the seam of the peeper and press in place.

Refer to the diagrams below to see the assembly.

