

# Tricks of the Trade

## Hair Bow Instructions



Learn the  
Tricks that  
Only Pro's  
Know!



Copyright



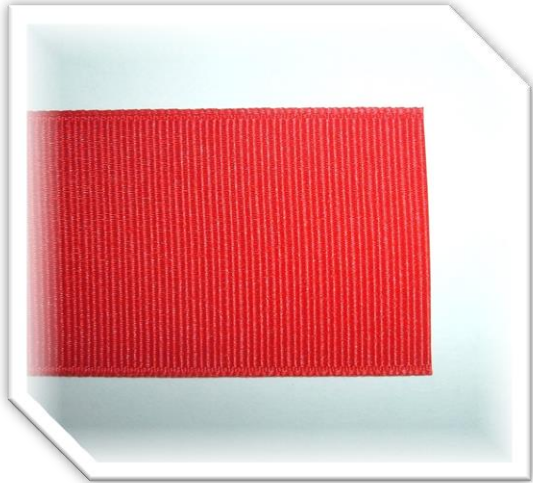
The Ribbon Retreat

# The Basics



# Cutting Tails

There are three popular ways to cut the tails of ribbon. They are listed below:



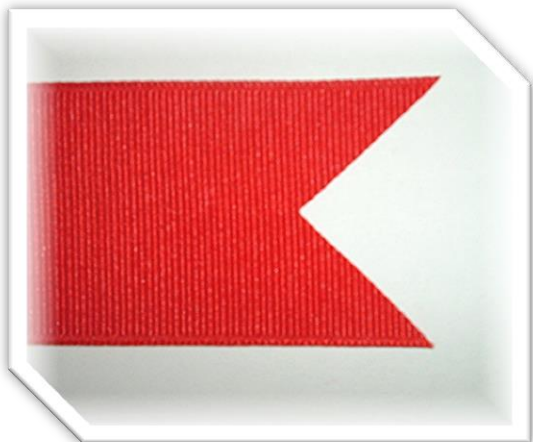
## STRAIGHT EDGE

Simply cut straight along the edge of the ribbon.



## ANGLED EDGE

Cut the ribbon at an angle. You can cut your angle at any degree you wish.



## V-CUT EDGE

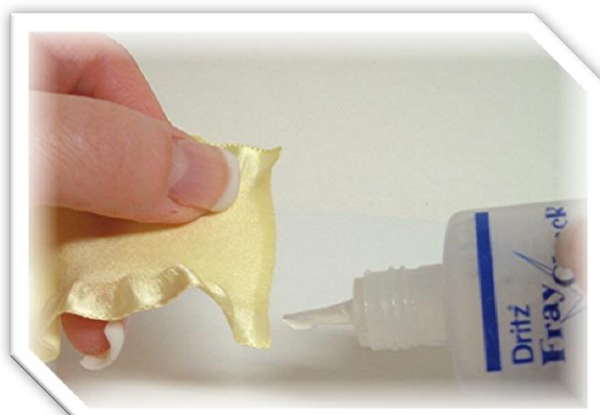
Fold the ribbon in half length wise and cut at an angle. This will give you a V-Cut. Once again, you can cut your angle at any degree you wish.

# Sealing Ribbon Ends



There are three different ways to seal the ends of your ribbon. First, you can use “Fray Check”. Second, you can use a lighter. And third, you can use a wood-burning tool. All three of these methods will be demonstrated and you can decide which works best for you.

## FRAY CHECK METHOD

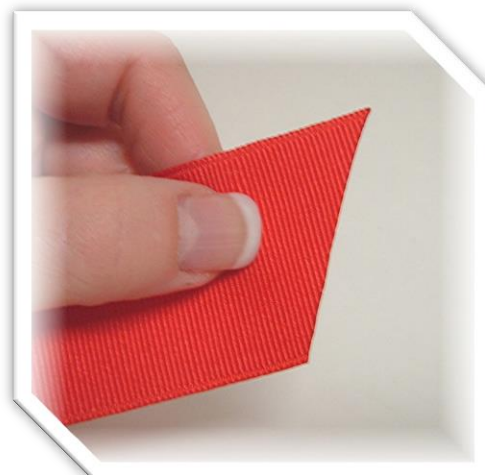


You can use “Fray Check” on Grosgrain Ribbon & Double Ruffle Ribbon. I chose not to even demonstrate “Fray Check” on Chiffon (Organza) because it leaves such an awful film that it’s very unattractive on the bow.

## LIGHTER METHOD



**CHIFFON:** Holding the ribbon tightly, quickly move the lighter along the edge of the ribbon. This will take a little practice, so use a spare piece of ribbon first.

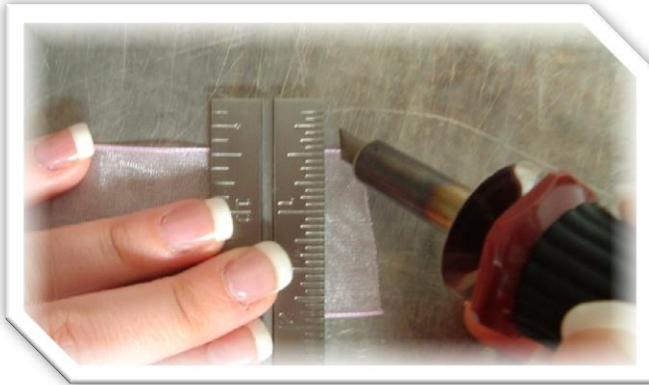


**GROSGRAIN:** Use the same technique as above, only with Grosgrain ribbon, you can move the lighter along the ribbon a little slower.

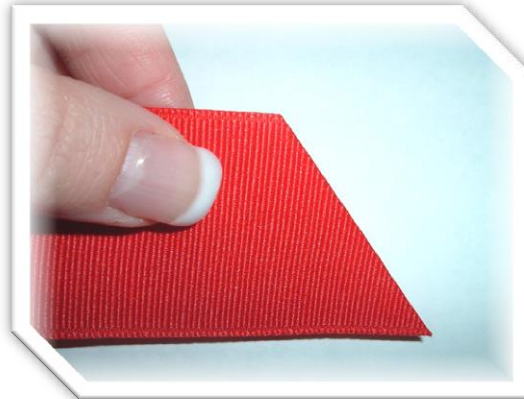
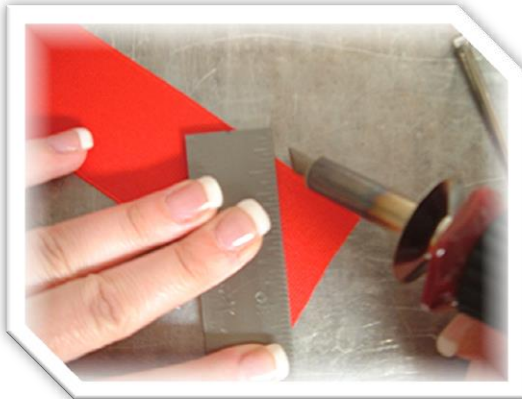


**DOUBLE RUFFLE:** Use the same technique as with the Grosgrain Ribbon.

## WOOD-BURNING TOOL METHOD



**CHIFFON:** Using the “Universal Tip” of your Wood-Burning Tool, place your ribbon on a cookie sheet. With the chiffon or organza ribbon, you will need to slide your tip along the edge of the ruler very quickly. It will leave a very nice, clean, and sealed edge! You may want to practice on a spare piece of ribbon.



**GROSGRAIN:** With grosgrain ribbon, you use the same technique as above, except you will move the tip of the Wood-Burning Tool along the edge of the ruler a little slower. Grosgrain ribbon is much thicker than chiffon (organza), so it takes a little longer to make the cut. Practice with this a few times on a spare piece of ribbon.



**DOUBLE RUFFLE:** With Double Ruffle Ribbon, use the same method as with the Grosgrain Ribbon. However, make sure that the ruler is close to the edge of the ribbon. Otherwise, you have too much “bunched up” ribbon to have to try and keep out of the way of the Wood-Burning Tool. Practice on a spare piece of ribbon.

# Center Knots

The most common ribbon for knots is 3/8" or 5/8" ribbon. Depending on the size of knot you'd like, you can also try 7/8".



1. Start with 6 inches or more of ribbon. Make a loop as shown.
2. Take the ribbon end on the right and bring it through the middle – just like you're tying a regular knot.
3. With your **RIGHT** hand holding the ribbon at the right, twist it towards you and then pull. This step is a **MUST** when you're using a double sided ribbon, such as a dot.



4. The blue knot is with 3/8" ribbon and the brown knot is made with 5/8" ribbon.
5. To make a layered knot, place any color of 3/8" ribbon over top of a contrasting color 5/8" ribbon. Use the same technique as above for tying your knot. Feel free to play around with other sizes as well (Example: 3/8" and 1/4").
6. Refer to this picture for the different sizes and styles of knots.

# Lined French Barrette



## STEP 1

Lay your clip down on the desired color of 3/8" ribbon. Cut the ribbon along both edges of the clip. Seal the ribbon ends.



## STEP 2

Place a bead of glue along the top of the barrette.

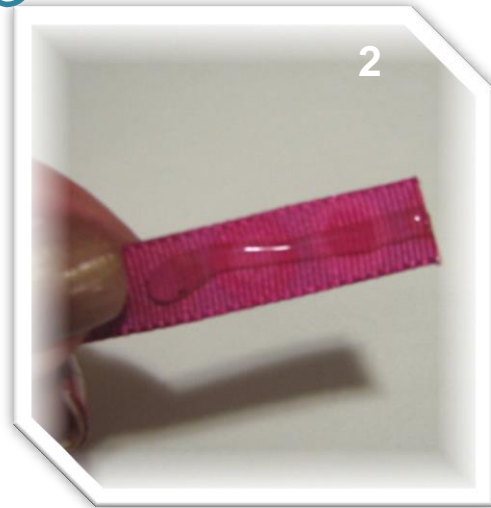
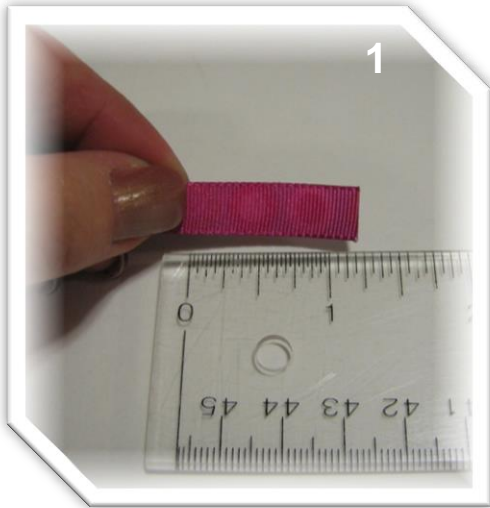


## STEP 3

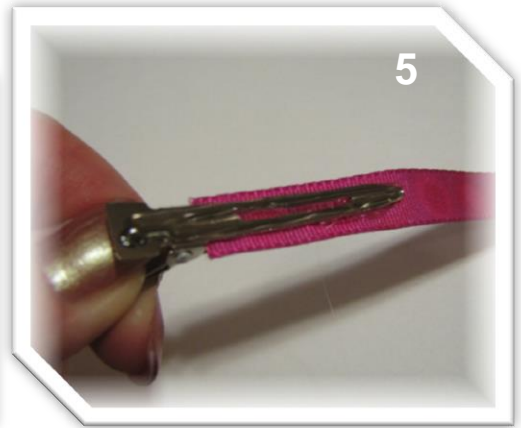
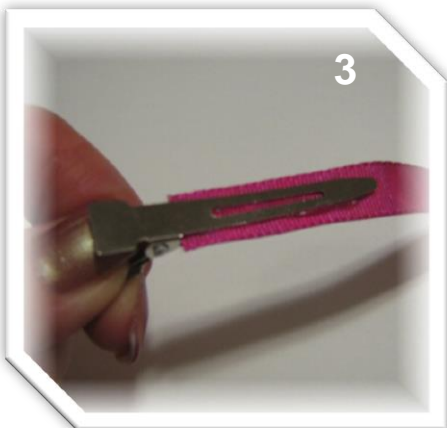
Place the ribbon over top of the glue and press with your finger. Simple as that. 😊



# Lined Alligator Clip



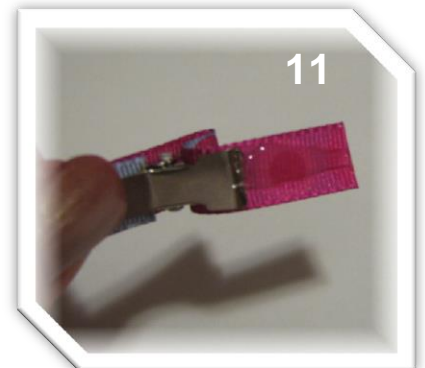
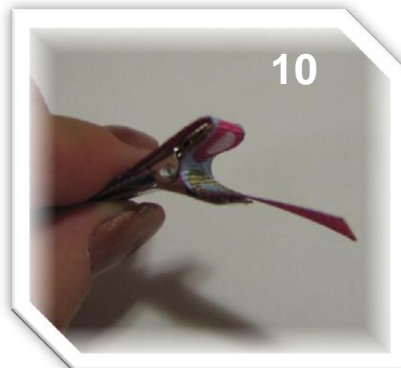
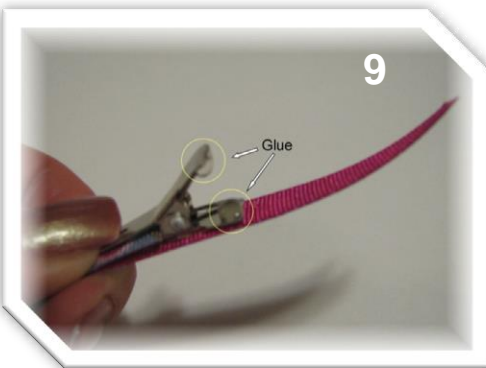
1. Cut a piece of ribbon to approximately 4 1/2". Measure up 1 1/4" from one end and hold in your hand.
2. Place a bead of glue on the end of ribbon you're holding (up 1 1/4"). The bead of glue will be on the wrong side of the ribbon if you're using a print.



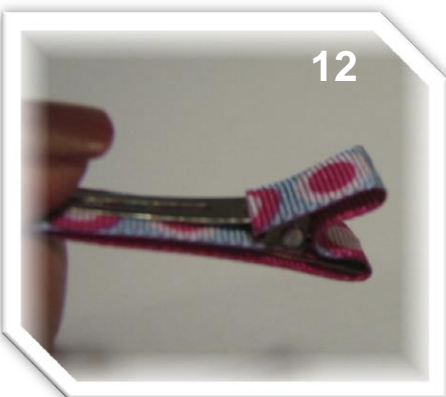
3. Slide the ribbon inside of the alligator clip – pressing it up against the top prong of the clip.
4. This is what the barrette will look like when you're holding the pinch part of the clip at your left, with the barrette open. This picture illustrates the TOP part of the clip facing downward so that you can see that the printed part of the ribbon is on the inside.
5. Now turn the barrette back over and place a bead of glue on the TOP part of the clip.



6. Take the long piece of ribbon and fold it over the hot glue, pressing down across the clip to adhere it securely.
7. This is what the clip will look like when it is opened.
8. Now turn the barrette over so that the lined portion is on the bottom (facing downward).



9. Place glue *inside* of the pinch part of the clip where indicated.
10. With your finger, press the ribbon inside of the pinch part of the clip and press firmly to adhere.
11. Now place a bead of glue on the remaining piece of ribbon.



12. Press the ribbon onto the back part of the barrette. Finished!!

# Attaching Bows to Clips

This technique will be demonstrated on an alligator clip.



1. Put a small dab of glue (hot glue or other instant glue) on the back (flat) side of your knotted center.
2. Place the knot on the center of the bow, being careful that no glue seeps through the edges.
3. Turn the bow over and glue your desired clip to the back.

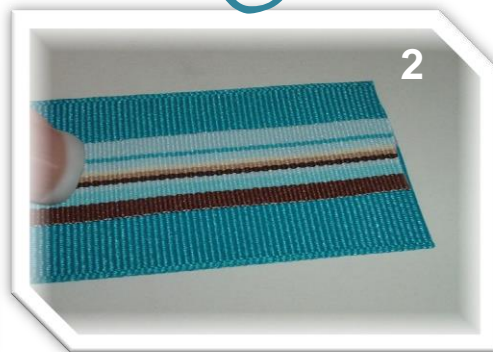
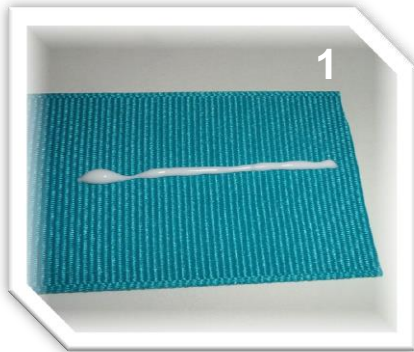


4. With your LEFT hand, hold the clip open. Place a line of glue along the center of the clip as shown.
5. With your RIGHT hand, bring the center ribbon closest to you around to the back (pulling tightly), and place it on the glue. Cut off the excess ribbon.
6. Place another line of glue along the center of the clip. Bring the ribbon from the other side forward and place along the center of the clip. Cut off the excess ribbon.



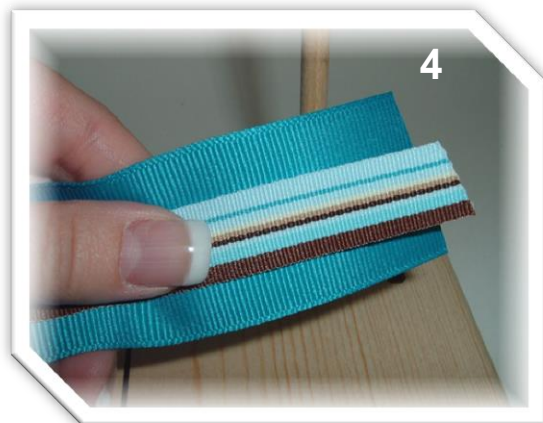
7. Here is a finished bow.
8. **With a French Barrette**, use the same method as above, but make sure you remove the metal piece from the inside first. After you've attached the bow to the french barrette and have the center ribbon glued on, *replace the metal piece*.

# How to Layer Ribbon

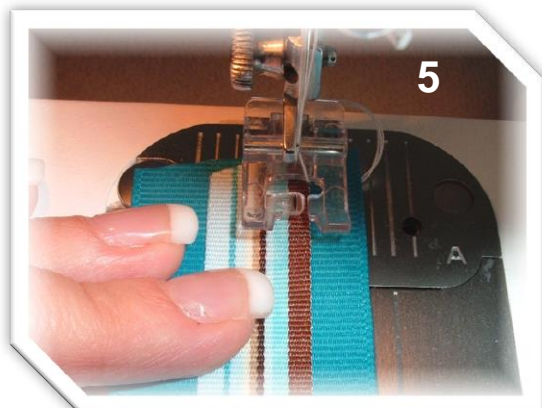


You can layer with as many ribbons as you wish. But, make sure you cut each one to size before starting – that way you don't waste ribbon.

1. Place a bead of glue in the center (if that's where you want to place your top ribbon) of the bottom ribbon.
2. Place the top ribbon over top of the glue in the desired spot (in this case: center). Press down with your finger. Continue with this step down the entire length of the ribbon you wish to use.
3. Make the desired bow (or spikes) as normal.



4. **Speed Method:** Place the top ribbon over the bottom ribbon and hold with your fingers as you make your bow.



5. **Sewing Method:** Place the top ribbon over the bottom ribbon and sew the two together.

# How to Stack Bows



You can stack as many bows together as you want. However, keep in mind that the more you stack, the “taller” the bow. I will be demonstrating this technique with 3 layers.



1. First of all, have a needle and thread ready – with a knot at the end. Starting with the bottom layer, (in this case a 6” Spike Bow), take up a stitch at the back of the bow. Pull the thread all the way through until the knot stops at the end.
2. Then place your next layer on top of the first layer (in this case a 5” Side-Loop Bow – it was actually made on the 4” setting of the Bow Maker). Take your thread around the middle of both layers 4 or 5 times, tightening each time.
3. Then place your third layer (in this case a 4” Layered Boutique Bow) over top of the bottom two layers. Take your thread around the middle of all three layers 5+ times, tightening each time.



4. Finish off the bow with a knotted or flat center and attach to your desired clip or headband.
5. This is a view of the bow on the side. Very fun and full!

Experiment with different colors!

# How to Add Marabou

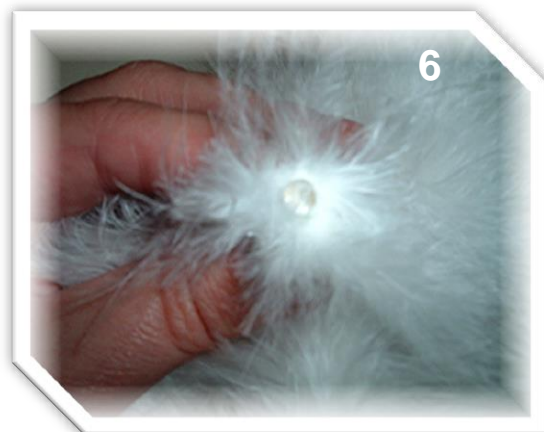
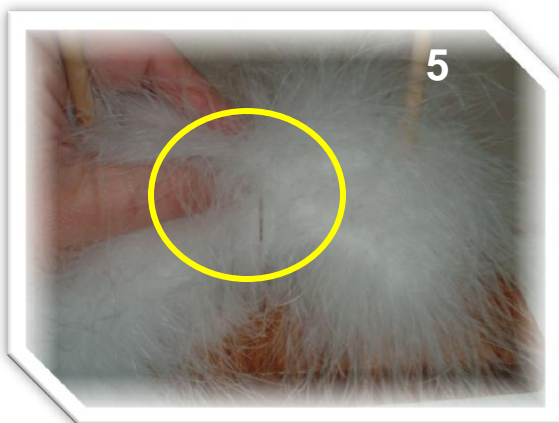


It is so incredibly easy to add marabou! The one thing about it, though, is that...IT'S MESSY! But if you can get past all the feathers flying around, it's very fun and little girls LOVE IT!!

Have a needle and thread ready.



1. Treat the marabou just like it's a piece of ribbon. Place one end of the marabou behind the LEFT dowel.
2. Take the marabou around the front of the LEFT dowel and bring it to the center.
3. Now take the marabou around the BACK of the RIGHT dowel.
4. Now bring the marabou to the center and hold onto it with your LEFT hand thumb and first finger.



5. Take your needle through the center and pull it all the way through until the knot stops at the back. Try to make sure the needle goes through the actual "cord" part of the marabou. Remove the marabou from the Bow Maker and take the thread around the center 7 or 8 times. Take up a stitch at the back and cut the thread.
6. Cut the end of the marabou about an inch or so away from the center. To prevent it from fraying ALL OVER THE PLACE ☺, use any form of glue – hot glue, super glue, or even fray check – and place it directly on the cut end, as shown. Use the marabou like any other layer. Use it at the back of a bow, in the center, or even on top.