

TRANSCRIPT: Crosswise Grain or Cross Grain; Encyclopedia

I purchased this piece of fabric at the fabric store. As you can see, I have a little over a yard. They've cut the fabric on each edge, and this part, this edge is called the selvage. Sometimes the selvage has a different color and sometimes you can get the dye colors in the selvage. The selvage is the strongest part of the fabric. When you pull it, it really doesn't move very much. This is called straight of grain. Anything that is perpendicular to this, is called cross grain. The cross grain has a little bit of give in it; not too much though. A little bit more than the straight of grain. So straight of grain, cross grain.

Anything that's not on the straight of grain or the cross grain is called the bias. True bias is at a forty- five degree angle. Now, so the bias is going to be at this forty- five degree angle. The bias has the most give, as you can see. So if you want to test out and see if you can find the selvage, which is the straight of grain, or the cross grain, one of the easiest ways to do it is just to tug.