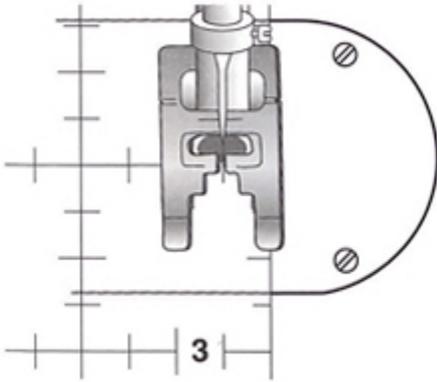


## Conquering the ¼" Seam

If you don't have a ¼" foot this will help you achieve a perfect ¼" seam.

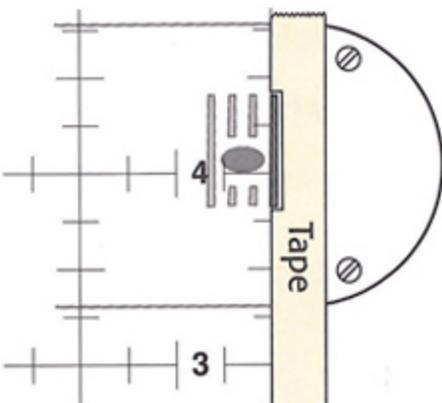
1. Place your ruler under your presser foot and slide it around until the needle is right above the ¼" line on the right-hand side of the ruler. Lower the needle until it sits right on that ¼" line. Fuss with the ruler until it's perfectly straight where it overlaps the rest of the machine.



2. Make a thick guide to help you sew a perfect ¼". We like something that is thick enough to keep the fabric from jumping the fence and riding off on its own little adventure. Layer five strips of 4"- or 5"-long masking tape on your cutting mat, one piece right on top of the other. You now have a piece of slightly chubby masking tape.

3. Look at the area to the right of the ruler, which is still under your needle and presser foot. If the feed dogs of your machine extend out to the right of the presser foot, use a pencil to draw a little notch on the masking-tape fence. Draw the notch about the same size as the exposed feed dogs. Use paper scissors to cut away the notch area.

4. Using the ruler as a guide, lay the stacked masking tape on the bed of the sewing machine so that most of the masking tape is aligned with the right-hand side of the ruler.



5. Set the stitch-length dial on your sewing machine to about 12 stitches per inch (written as 2.5 on many machines). The guide is the portion of the tape without the notch. Because the tape is thick, it is easy for the fabric to stay on track.