

The Bolivar
Fabric Cutter
Triple Base Model V
User's Guide



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Introduction

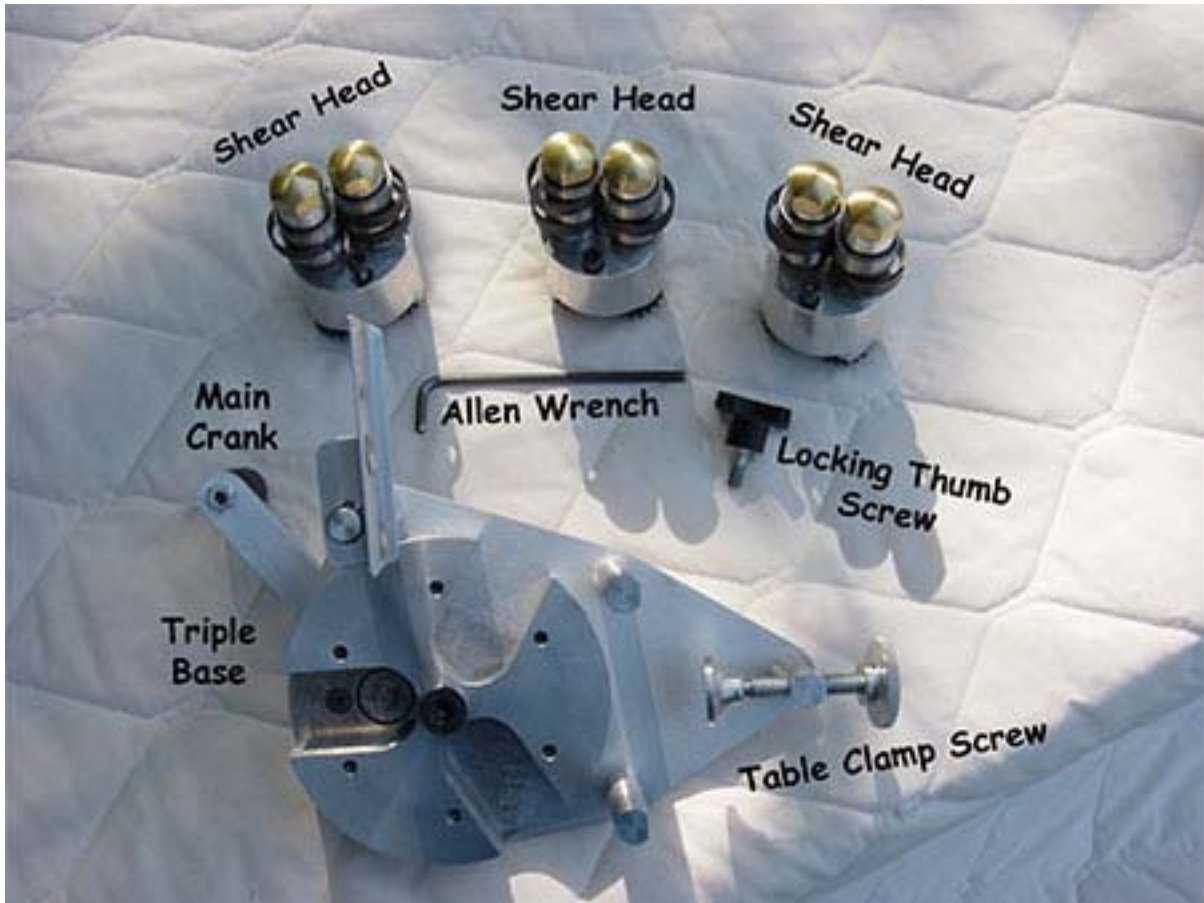
The BOLIVAR fabric cutter is a precision tool for cutting wool into small strips that are used for rug hooking. The BOLIVAR cutter uses a unique circular shearing action that cuts much like scissors. This special circular shearing action yields a neat clean cut.

Cutter Sizes

Cutter sizes are specified with a number that stipulates the cut width in 32nds of an inch. The following table shows cutter size numbers, the corresponding strip widths in inches, and the number of strips that are cut:

Cutter Number	Size in inches	Standard Shear Number of Strips	Double Shear Number of Strips
3	3 / 32	6	12
4	1 / 8	5	10
5	5 / 32	4	9
6	3 / 16	4	8
7	7 / 32	3	6
8	1 / 4	3	6
9	9 / 32	3	6
10	5 / 16	3	5
11	11 / 32	3	4
12	3 / 8	2	4
13	13 / 32	2	4
14	7 / 16	2	3
15	15 / 32	2	3
16	1 / 2	2	3

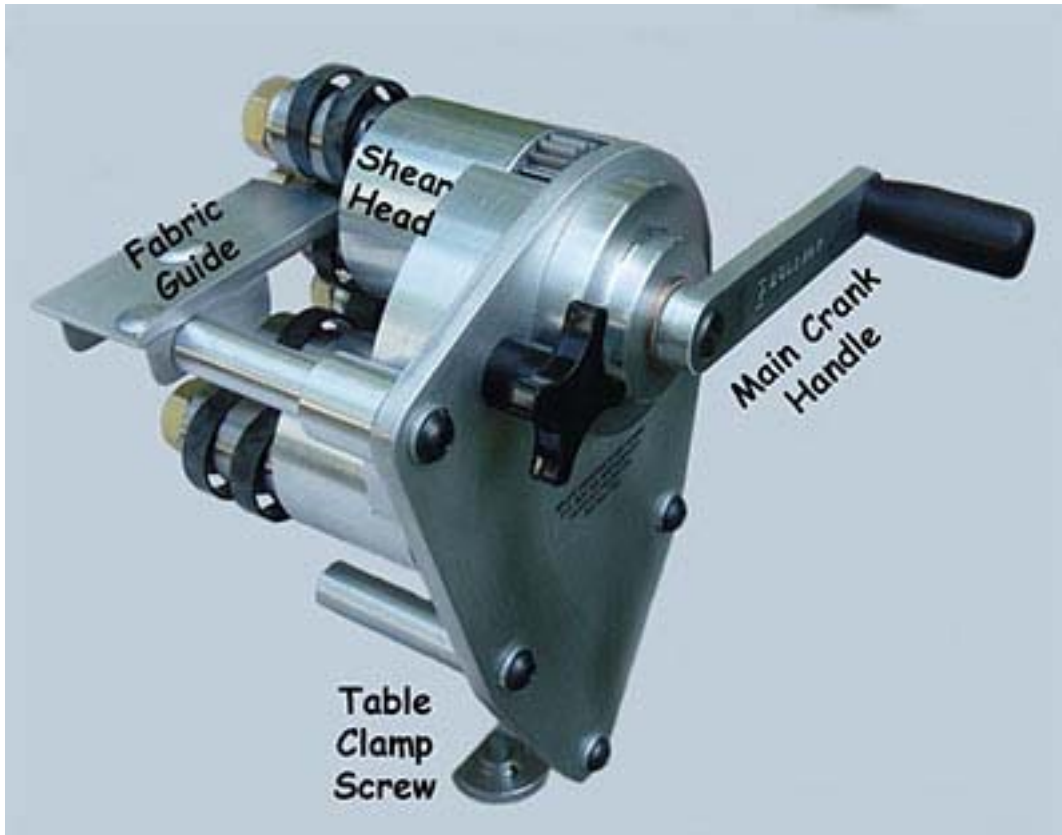
Each cutter is fitted with three of the above size shear heads depending on the sizes selected when the unit is ordered. A small number on the side of each shear head indicates the cutter sizes installed. Additional shear heads may be purchased and changed as needed.



Cutter Setup

The BOLIVAR fabric cutter comes fully assembled and ready to use.

To set up the cutter use the built in table clamp to fasten it securely to a work table which can be up to 1.25 inches thick. Hand tighten the *Table Clamp Screw* until the unit feels snugly mounted. Never use a wrench, pliers, vice grips, or any other tool as you may strip the threads. The table clamp is designed for hand tightening only. You should be able to turn the *Main Crank* freely without being fouled by furniture or other obstructions. Make sure there is sufficient clearance for hands, fingers, and knuckles.



Using the Cutter

Ensure the *Fabric Guide* is in place between the two circular blades. Place the fabric against the edge of the guide closest to the *Base*. Turn the handle clockwise very slowly, carefully working the fabric with your fingers into the circular blades until the cutter starts to feed itself.

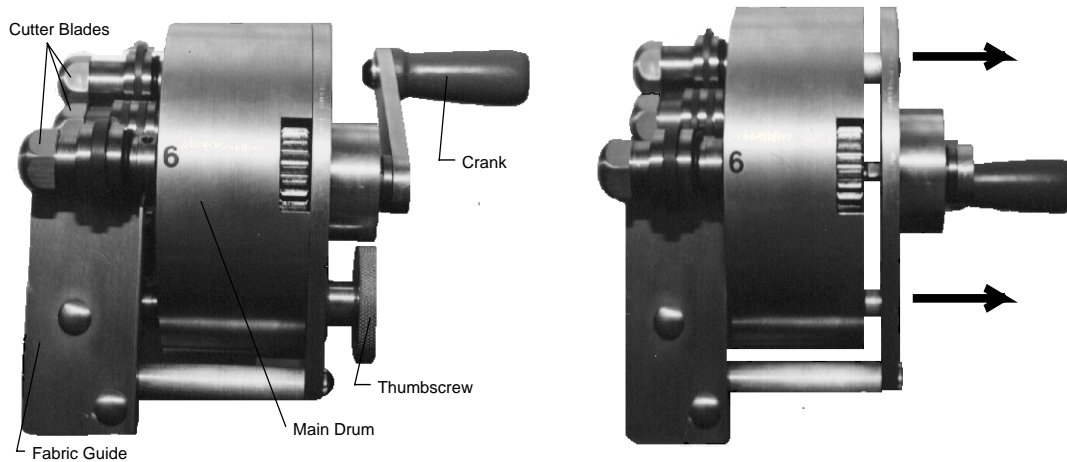
Once the self feeding action has started, back your fingers off away from the cutter blades, and direct the fabric flow by keeping the cloth up against the guide edge closest to the *Base*. Continue to turn the crank until the desired amount of fabric has been cut.

Changing Width of Cut

The cutter is fitted with 3 shear heads that rotate into position. To change the cutting width, first remove the *ThumbScrew* on the backside of the *Main Drum*. Pull the *Main Drum* out (about half an inch) and turn it counter-clockwise until the desired blade is in place. Push the *Main Drum* back in. You may have to move the *Crank* back and forth a little bit while you do this to get the internal gears to line up and the drum to snap in place. Do not use excessive force. When the parts are lined up properly the *Main Drum* will pop into place with very little effort. Excessive force will damage the unit. Place the

Thumbscrew back in and hand tighten. Never use a wrench, pliers, vice grips, or any other tool as you may strip the *Thumbscrew* threads.

If you wish, you may turn the *Main Drum* clockwise when changing the blades but you will have to flip the *Fabric Guide* up out of the way.



Changing a Shear-head

Follow this procedure to change a shear-head to a one of a different size:

- 1) Loosen up the two screws on the shear head with the allen wrench.
- 2) Remove shear-head.
- 3) Install new shear-head of desired width. It may necessary to move the handle back and forth to get the new shear-head gears to line up and seat properly.
- 4) Tighten the allen screws on the shear-head.

Care and Maintenance

Your BOLIVAR cutter is designed for many years of reliable service and is constructed of high quality aluminum, brass, and steel components. New units may be a bit stiff, but this goes away as the unit is used and broken in.

All the bearings are permanently lubricated. The BOLIVAR cutter never has to be oiled. If the unit is not being used for a long period of time, it should be stored in a dry place as moist environments may contribute to the corrosion and pitting of the tempered steel blade edges and make the crank more difficult to turn with thicker fabrics.

The only regular maintenance required on the cutter is the cleaning of the blades with the cleaning brush supplied. As the cutter is used, lint builds up under the blade guide rings. When there is too much lint, the unit does not feed properly. The blade guide rings are the oversized nylon loops between the metal cutting blades that guide the fabric out of the circular shear as the crank is turned. The frequency of cleaning depends on the type of fabric being cut. The faster the lint builds up, the more often the blades need to be cleaned.

Cleaning the blades consists of pushing the blade guide rings aside so that the supplied cleaning brush can be worked underneath to remove built up lint. Do not bend, twist, or squeeze the blade guide rings as they will not function properly if they are not round.

The cutter should only be used to slice textile fabrics. Do not cut paper, cardboard, plastics, metal, foil, or any other non-textile material as the blades will become dull and the unit will become difficult to operate.

Safety Precautions

Although it is difficult to get your fingers caught in the blades of the cutter, one should always be wary of this possibility. With something the size of a finger, the unit is more likely to pinch or squeeze rather than actually cut. Always observe the following operating procedures:

- 1) Always have the unit securely clamped to a sturdy table;
- 2) Always give the cutter your full attention while in operation;
- 3) Always use the cutter such that the person turning the crank is also feeding the fabric
- 4) Never attempt to motorize the cutter; and
- 5) Always supervise children when they are using the cutter

Adjusting the Guides



- 1) Loosen screw with Allen wrench [A] until shaft is loose.
- 2) Hold shaft of guide holder [B] with fingers.
- 3) Turn larger shaft [C] UP to make width of strip wider – turn DOWN to make strip narrower.
- 4) Tighten screw with Allen wrench and check width. Repeat if necessary until desired results are obtained. This setting should do for all shear heads.

Warranty

The BOLIVAR cutter comes with a 30 day money back guarantee and a one year parts and labour warranty FOB Bridgewater, Nova Scotia.

If you are not satisfied with your fabric cutter for any reason, you may return it with proof of purchase for a full refund.

The Bolivar fabric cutter is also guaranteed to be free from manufacturing defects for a period of one year from the date of purchase or else the manufacturer will repair or replace the unit at no cost to the owner.

The manufacturer will not be held responsible for any direct or indirect costs that arise from the failure of the unit no matter how they are caused and limits its liability to repair or replacement of a defective unit only.

This warranty is void if:

- 1) The unit is used to cut materials other than textile fabrics;
- 2) Has been dropped or otherwise subjected to rough handling;
- 3) Has been exposed to rain, excessive moisture, salt water, or any other caustic substance; and
- 4) Has been generally misused or abused.

Contacting the Manufacturer

If you are experiencing problems with your unit, please contact the manufacturer first as it may be possible to fix the problem over the phone or by EMAIL. Otherwise send the unit to the address below with a copy of the original bill of sale:

Bruce Grinding and Machining
PO Box 539
Bridgewater, Nova Scotia,
Canada B4V 2X6

Telephone: **902-543-7762**
Internet: Sales@BolivarCutter.com
Website: <http://www.BolivarCutter.com>