

Ribbon Yardage Chart & Bow Guide

Know before you cut — plus a step-by-step for the perfect wreath bow

RIBBON NEEDED (yards) — with 12-inch tails, 2.5-inch ribbon

Loop size	4 loops	6 loops	8 loops	10 loops	12 loops
3"	1.9 yd	2.4 yd	2.8 yd	3.3 yd	3.7 yd
4"	2.2 yd	2.7 yd	3.3 yd	3.9 yd	4.4 yd
5"	2.4 yd	3.1 yd	3.8 yd	4.5 yd	5.2 yd
6"	2.7 yd	3.5 yd	4.3 yd	5.1 yd	5.9 yd
7"	2.9 yd	3.8 yd	4.8 yd	5.7 yd	6.6 yd
8"	3.2 yd	4.2 yd	5.3 yd	6.3 yd	7.4 yd

Each loop uses roughly twice its width in ribbon. Add 10% spare — everyone redoes a loop.

POPULAR BOWS

Small gift bow	4 loops × 3"	1.9 yd
Basket / chair bow	6 loops × 4"	2.7 yd
Classic wreath bow	6 loops × 5"	3.1 yd
Large wreath bow	8 loops × 6"	4.3 yd
Statement bow	10 loops × 7"	5.7 yd
Mailbox bow	4 loops × 4"	2.3 yd

CHOOSING A RIBBON WIDTH

1.5"	gift bows, small wreaths
2.5"	the everyday workhorse
4"	large & deluxe wreaths
6"	oversized statement pieces
Wired	holds loops — worth the extra
Unwired	soft drape, tails & wrapping

MAKING THE BOW — five steps

- 1 Leave your first tail hanging free, then pinch the ribbon between finger and thumb.
- 2 Make a loop to one side, bring it back to the centre and pinch, giving a half twist so the right side faces out.
- 3 Make a matching loop on the other side, then keep alternating. Make each pair slightly smaller for a fuller look.
- 4 Wrap floral wire or a pipe cleaner tightly around the pinched centre and twist it at the back.
- 5 Cut the tails at an angle or in a V, then fluff every loop — this last step matters more than any measurement.

RIBBON RULER — mark and cut without a tape measure



Print at 100% — check that this ruler measures 6 inches exactly.