

Cutting Thin Strips

Making the score

- It's essential to apply a smooth consistent pressure. It should not exceed 6 lbs. The more the pressure, the more likely you score will fail to break accurately.
- Start the score as near the starting edge as possible and run it completely off the finishing edge.
- Keep the cutter head perfectly vertical.
- Exhale while scoring. Use the same technique used for shooting a rifle. Inhale, then exhale slowly and steadily while running the score.
- Stand with one foot about two feet behind the other. This allows you to step forward or back as you make the score.
- Lean forward using your upper body weight to apply the necessary pressure. Adjust pressure by bending up or down at the waist.
- It's easiest to maintain a consistent pressure if you minimize the movement of your arm. Instead of moving your arm, try to instead move your entire body.

Breaking the score

- Do not try to break the piece off with one movement. Do it in 3 separate movements and pause between each movement.
- First, start the score by using breaking pliers or breaker/grozers to just initiate a crack using a straight downward rolling pressure with one hand. This hand motion is as you would for using a bottle opener to pop the lid off a bottle.
- Second, use a gentle pressure to run the score. It isn't necessary to run it the full length – doing it in increments is safer. Run the score until it has cracked its full length.
- Third, break the glass apart.

General

As it is with many skills, the ways to cut glass can be divided into 3 distinctively different categories. There's the easy way to learn, the most efficient way to do, and the way most likely to produce desired results.

