

Choosing Interfacings



Just as there are many different types of fabrics, there are also many different types of interfacings. For best results:

- Take into account not only the weight and texture of the fabric, but also the amount of control the fashion styling requires.
- Remember that a fusible interfacing, once fused to a fabric, will feel slightly crisper and firmer.
- Both the fashion fabric and the interfacing should have the same care requirements.
- Fusibles should not be used on sensitive fabrics damaged by heat and moisture, i.e. certain silks, metallic, sequined or napped fabrics, such as velvet.

Permanent bonds may not occur on heavy texture of glazed finish fabrics as well as water repellent or stain resistant finishes.

• Always make a test sample to be sure you've selected the right interfacing and to determine the best combination of heat, time and pressure for a permanent bond.

The way the interfacing is cut will determine how it behaves in the garment.

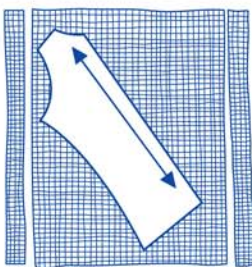


Figure A

- Woven interfacings are available in a variety of weights and finishes. Cut wovens on the straight grain for firm control and shape. Cut woven interfacings on the bias for more drape and subtle, soft shaping. (See figure A) A good example is hair canvas. Bias cutting requires about 1/2 yard more than the pattern suggests.



Figure B

- Cut knit and weft-insertion lengthwise for stability to prevent stretch and distortion. (See figure B). When used as an underlining fuse the knit to the fabric before cutting out the garment sections. Cut weft-insertion crosswise for supple shaping or flexibility, perfect method for heavier fabrics. (See figure C).

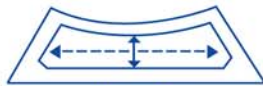


Figure C

- Non-wovens that are stable have little or no give in any direction, so it's not necessary to follow grain line during layout. Stretch non-wovens generally have stability in the lengthwise and offer stretch in the crosswise. Examine your silhouette and fabric to determine the direction of greater stretch needed. Bias non-wovens have some stretch in all direction, so grainline is not key, especially good in cuff and collar areas.

Don't be afraid to use bias-cut or crosswise interfacing under straight grain sections of your garment, the layers will work together beautiful.

Preshrinking Fusibles

- Washable wovens wefts, and knit fusibles can be pre-shrunk in water. Fold the piece loosely and immerse in a tub of hot tap water. Let sit for 15-20 minutes, or until the water cools. Do not agitate the piece, as the resins may loosen. Drain water and roll interfacing in a towel to remove excess water. Unroll. Lay woven and weft yardage over a towel rack or shower rod to air dry; lay knits flat to air dry. When you are ready to use the interfacing, pre-shrink further using the following "steam shrink" method.
- Non-woven and dry-clean only interfacings can generally be "steam shrink" with a shot-of-steam type of iron, immediately before the actual fusing process.

Position the interfacing (resin side down) over the wrong side of the garment piece (i.e. collar, cuff, etc.). Holding the iron 2 inches above the pieces, apply steam only for about 5-7 seconds-do not iron on the fabric. Smooth out the pieces, then fuse together as usual.

To Test Fuse



- Cut 6" x 6" swatches of your fashion fabric and swatches of interfacing at least 3" x 3".
- Place coated side of your fusible interfacing on the wrong side of your fashion fabric.
- Cover with a lightweight dry press cloth.
- Steam press with iron set at "Wool". Use this setting as a general guideline, as iron temperatures vary greatly. Press firmly for 10-12 seconds. It takes a minimum of 10 seconds to fuse interfacing to any fabric. The heavier the fabric, the more seconds it takes, so adjust your timing accordingly.
- Do not glide iron back and forth. Use a lift and press motion.
- Turn pieces over and repeat process on the right side of fabric to achieve a smooth, secure bond.
- Be patient. Always allow fused pieces to cool completely before handling them.
- If your iron is too hot, bubbling may occur; adjust iron to a lower temperature and do another test, increasing the fusing time.



- If your fashion fabric is too light or sheer for the interfacing, the coating may show through on the right side of your fabric. In this case we suggest selecting one of HTC's lighter weight fusible or sew-in interfacings.

Take note while you test and keep a record of the time and temperature which produces the best results with your fabric and interfacing. When you are fusing the interfacing to your garment pieces, refer to your notes and follow the time and temperature

you found most successful. When fusing large areas, slightly overlap your iron placement to insure that the entire area has been fused.

Be sure to keep the notes with the interfacing remnants for future sewing projects and you'll soon develop favorites suited to the fabrics and items you sew most.

Fusing Instructions For Fleece

- Cut fusible fleece according to shape and size of the pattern pieces you are fusing.
- Cut away seam allowances to exact pattern size in craft projects, such as band box covers and padded picture frames, to eliminate bulk at seam line.
- Place the fusible fleece, fusible side up and cover with your fabrics wrong side down. This method of reverse fusing on the face side of the fabric side allows and easier fuse without reducing the loft of the fusible fleece.
- Cover with a lightweight dry press cloth.
- Steam press with iron set at "Wool".
- Press lightly for 10-12 seconds.
- Do not glide iron back and forth.
- Allow fused pieces to cool and check adhesion by trying to separate one edge.
- If a firm bond is desired, turn pieces over and fuse again in the traditional fusing method on the fleece side. Increase pressure used.
- Note: This increase of pressure and steam tends to reduce the loft of the fusible fleece.

Important Tips:

- Preshrink all fabrics prior to fusing with the fusible fleece.
- Test fuse the fusible fleece on a swatch of fabric being used before you start your project.
- For most craft projects, a light bond is all that is necessary. Stitching and gluing techniques that are included will prevent any movement of the interfacing.

Content: 100% Polyester.

Care: Machine wash, warm. Tumble dry. Use warm iron, if needed. Or dry clean.

For all your sewing needs ...fusibles or sew-ins...interface with products from

