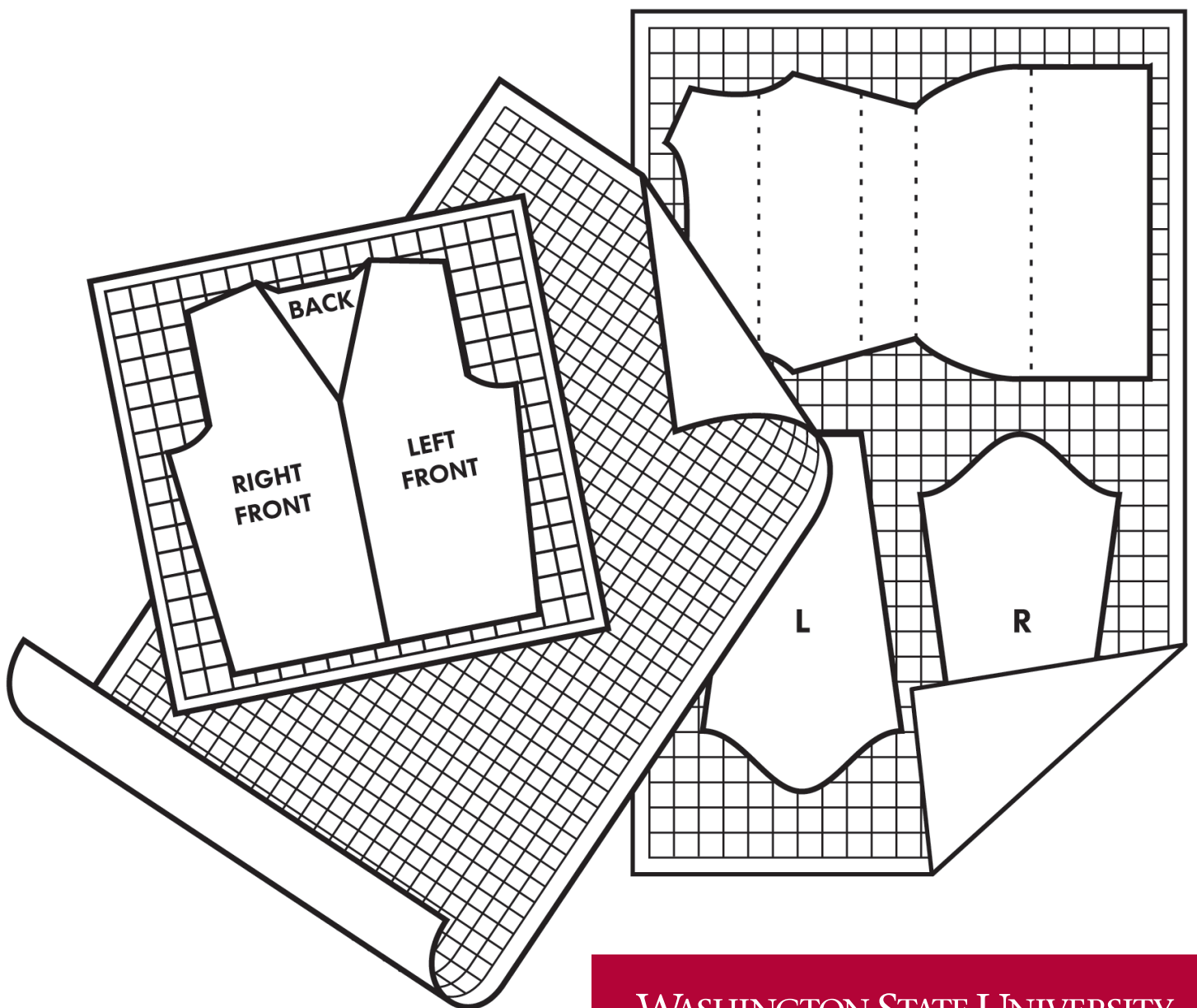


INTERFACINGS

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

EM014



Revised by Kay Hendrickson, Area Extension Agent, Washington State University. Reviewed by Extension textile and clothing specialists at the University of Idaho and Oregon State University and clothing and textile advisors in Benton and Franklin counties, Washington. Graphic design by Beverly Julian, clothing and textile advisor, Franklin County. Originally prepared by Nellie K. Patson, Extension textile and clothing specialist, University of Idaho.

An interfacing is a layer of fabric used between the outer fabric of a garment and its facing. Most garments look more professional and wear longer if they are interfaced. Selecting and using interfacing is important in clothing construction.

Why Use Interfacing?

The primary purpose of interfacing is to give stability, shape, and reinforcement to the fashion fabric. Interfacing is also used to prevent stretching and ravelling when the fashion fabric is trimmed. All interfacings must be compatible with the weight and characteristics of the garment fabric. The choice of interfacing depends on where it will be used, and the effect and shaping desired. Use as many different weights and types of interfacings in one garment as needed to achieve the desired results.

Areas needing interfacing include collars, cuffs, faced necklines, front or back openings, lapels, hems, and details such as flaps, pockets, and welts. Check your pattern guide for details on interfacing placement.

Selecting Interfacings

Fabrics used as interfacings have a combination of qualities such as body, firmness, crispness, softness, stiffness, give, drape, etc. Interfacings may be woven, nonwoven, or knit. They are available with or without fusible adhesive. Many are available in light, medium, and heavy weights. Interfacings are available in black, white, and neutral colors.

Solid color sheer fabrics, smooth wash-and-wear fabrics, and smooth lightweight cottons may need self-fabric interfacings (the same fabric the garment is made of) for compatible color match, care requirements, and desired effect.

To select an interfacing, shop with your garment fabric. Put the garment fabric, potential interfacing and any lining together. Observe the drape and hang of the layers. Decide if the interfacing gives the appearance you want for

the garment. Does the interfacing cause the fabric to look different where it is located? If crispness is needed, does the interfacing do its share without changing the look or feel of the garment fabric?

Make the final decision for a sew-in interfacing based on your careful observation. Fusible interfacings provide additional body after the fusing process. Decide on a fusible interfacing only after preparing a test sample and observing the results.

Interfacing should complement and support the garment fabric without adding bulk or too much stiffness. Select the right interfacing based on your needs. As you drape the fabric and interfacing together, keep in mind the following:

1. **Weight**—Select an interfacing that is lighter in weight, or about the same weight as the garment fabric. Interfacing should add body, but not bulk. It should not overpower or be heavier than the garment fabric.
2. **Amount of crispness**—A softly styled garment needs a soft, pliable interfacing; a more tailored garment calls for a firmer, crisper one. If the interfacing is too stiff, the garment will look rigid and board-like. If it is too limp, it will not provide the needed support. Determine the degree of crispness needed for each area you interface.
3. **Amount of give**—Some interfacings roll better and are more pliable than others. For example, collars and lapels call for a gentle roll. Collar and lapel interfacing should help achieve and maintain the effect of a gentle roll.
4. **Color**—The interfacing should match or harmonize with the garment fabric. If the outer fabric is sheer, you may need to use self-fabric to match color. Another option is a natural colored interfacing on light colors (including white) and gray or black on dark colors. The interfacing color is also important if the garment has buttonholes because the interfacing can show through.

5. **Care**—Select interfacings that require the same care as the garment fabric. Use washable interfacings with washable fabrics and interfacings that can be dry cleaned with fabrics that will be dry cleaned. If you are uncertain of the fabric properties, wash a test sample to see how it responds.

Since more than one kind of interfacing may be used in a garment, purchase a supply of different interfacings in quantities you are likely to use within several months. Fusible interfacings should not be stored for long periods of time. Label the interfacings with the name of the product, use instructions, and date of purchase. Preshrink if necessary. This will save time when you start a new project.

Fabric Structures Used for Interfacings

Woven, nonwoven, and knit are fabrics used to make interfacings. The characteristics of the various fabric structures give different properties to the fabric. The construction of the interfacing fabric and the garment fabric may be different but still compatible. The purpose of the interfacing will help you select the best type of construction.

- **Woven** interfacings may be made of cotton, rayon, wool, polyester, or a blend of fibers. Woven interfacings have a yarn direction or grain that affects the give. Usually, woven interfacings are cut on the same grain as the garment sections they interface. Garment sections and woven interfacings can be cut on the bias if a great deal of give is desired or if the section needs to be shaped. Woven interfacings in the appropriate weight and cut on the bias may be used with stable and moderate stretch knit. Interfacings containing wool can be shaped and molded with steam.
- **Nonwoven** interfacings are made of manufactured fibers, usually polyester, nylon, rayon, or blends of these fibers. Nonwovens are made by distributing fibers randomly and holding them together with chemical binders and heat. Because of the nature of construction, nonwovens have no yarn direction or grain and will not ravel. They

are porous, washable, and quick drying. They do not drape as well as a woven interfacing of the same weight and are used for crisper shaping.

Nonwovens are available in regular no-stretch, stretch only in one direction, modified one-way stretch, and all-bias with stretch in any direction. Nonwovens without stretch give firm support to flat areas. Nonwovens with stretch only in one direction may be cut to take advantage of stretch or stable properties. All-bias nonwovens have give in all directions. They can be manipulated for flexible shaping and support.

- **Knit** interfacings may be nylon or polyester and are available in three types of construction—tricot or warp knits and warp and weft insertion knits. Each of these offers different amounts of give. Most knit interfacings are fusible and tend to be softer than woven ones. Tricot knits are used for lightweight fabrics. They have the most give in one direction, making them compatible with soft knit fabrics when both are cut in the same yarn direction. Warp knits with a weft or warp insertion are actually tricot with an extra warp (lengthwise) or weft (crosswise) yarn inserted for added stability. Weft insertion knits stretch more in the lengthwise direction than they do crosswise. Weft insertion has the most stretch in the bias. Warp insertion knits are considered all-bias because the extra yarn is criss-crossed in the lengthwise direction allowing for only a little more stability lengthwise. Warp insertion interfacings can be fused at lower iron temperatures. This makes them compatible with fabrics such as silks and microfibers that cannot take higher temperatures.
- **Fusible webbing** adheres two fabric surfaces together. It is not an interfacing. It should not be used to adhere a sew-in interfacing to a fashion fabric because the result will be stiff and board-like. In apparel, web can be used to hem a garment, hold down seam allowances where seam lines come together, hold open seam allowances on stiff, heavy fabrics, or apply trim without sewing. Fusible web has numerous applications for crafts and home decorating.

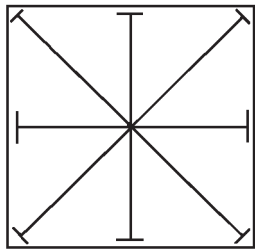
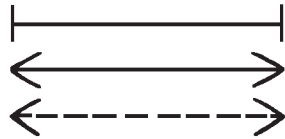
Give or Stretch in Interfacings

Today's interfacings offer many choices of give or stretch. What you choose depends on your garment fabric, the design of the garment, the area where the interfacing will be used, and the effect you wish to achieve. You may need several different types of interfacings in any one garment to achieve the best results.

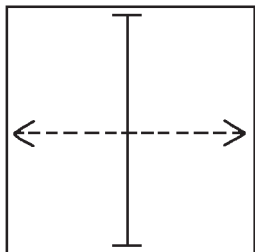
No Give or Stretch

Some Give or Stretch

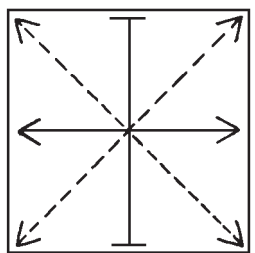
Much Give or Stretch



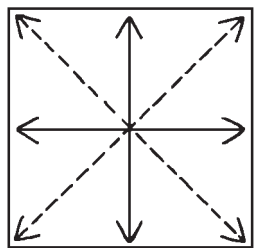
No Give or Stretch
Nonwoven fabric without any give or stretch. Usually not recommended for clothing. Best used in items such as handbags, draperies, or craft projects.



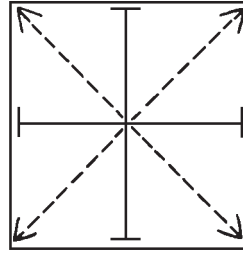
Uni- or One-Way Stretch
Usually a nonwoven or warp knit with stretch in the crosswise direction and stability in the lengthwise direction. Use in areas that need give in one direction. Use to stabilize areas like waistbands if used in lengthwise direction.



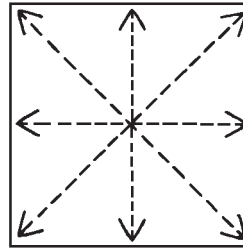
Modified One-Way Stretch
May be woven, nonwoven, or knit with some stretch in the crosswise, but most on the bias.



May be stable or stretch a little in the lengthwise direction. This tends to duplicate the give in many knit and woven fabrics.



Bias Stretch
Usually a woven fabric with most of the stretch or give on the true bias. Will give like woven fabrics when fused or sewn in. May be suitable with many knits if cut on the bias.



All-Bias or Multi-Directional Stretch
Has give or stretch in every direction. Nonwoven sew-in, many fusibles, and warp insertion interfacings fall into this category.

Ways to Use Interfacings

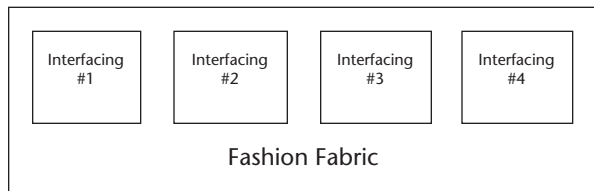
Woven and nonwoven interfacings can be sewn or fused into place. Warp knits in either tricot or weft insertion are available as fusible interfacings. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions that accompany fusible interfacing. Test a sample of your garment fabric and the fusible interfacing for compatible heat, moisture, time, and pressure requirements. Check the fused sample for water spots, adhesive showing through, color changes, or shine caused by the fusing process. Use fusible interfacing with fabrics that are firm enough so the edge of the interfacing is invisible on the outside. If an edge is visible on the garment fabric, use a lighter weight fusible, a low temperature fusible with a lighter adhesive, interface the entire garment section by extending the fusible 1/8" to 1/4" into the seam allowance, apply the fusible interfacing to the facing rather than the garment, or use a sew-in interfacing.

Remember, fusible interfacings become firmer and stiffer when bonded to fabric. If not fused properly, some fusible interfacings can separate and cause ugly bubbles and bulges after laundering or dry cleaning. Bubbles can also happen if the fashion fabric and the interfacing are not properly preshrunk.

Test a fused sample of garment fabric and fusible interfacing for durability to cleaning. If you are

not sure which interfacing is best for your project, test several at once and compare.

Cut out 4" X 4" pieces of the interfacings you want to test and fuse them onto a piece of the fashion fabric. If the finished garment is to be machine washed and dried, put the test strip through washing and drying cycles and then compare the samples.



Sew-in and fusible interfacings each have advantages and disadvantages. Decide which ones to use with each garment you make, keeping the following in mind.

Sew-in interfacings

Advantages

- Give softer, more supple shaping.
- May be used with woven and knit fabrics.

Disadvantages

- May shrink; preshrink before cutting out.
- May need to be basted in place. A nonwoven may buckle in an area such as a collar where it is completely enclosed because the interfacing is too heavy for the fabric. To avoid this, use lighter interfacing.
- May soften after washing. (This may be an advantage in some situations.)
- May need machine or hand pad stitching for firm shaping.

Fuse-in interfacings

Advantages

- Quick to use; no need to baste.
- Shape can be built into a garment as interfacing is fused in place; no need to do hand or machine pad stitching.
- Adds firmness to an area.
- Good for fabrics that ravel easily.

Disadvantages

- Gets firmer after fusing. Test a sample with the fashion fabric before fusing to the garment.
- May damage some fabrics that cannot be steam pressed. If this happens in testing, purchase an interfacing that is recommended for dry iron application or a low temperature application.
- Fusing adhesive may come through light-weight fabrics, sheers, or open structures such as eyelets.
- The fusing process may flatten the surface of some fabrics, such as those with nap or crinkle finishes. Test a sample. If fusing distorts the fabric, try low temperature fusibles.

Preshrinking Interfacings

Many interfacings shrink. Preshrink them to avoid problems with bubbling or poor adhesion. Also preshrink the fashion fabric. Surface problems, like bubbling, show up when the interfacing and the fashion fabric have incompatible shrinkage. Preshrinking just the interfacing will not prevent bubbling if the fashion fabric was not preshrunk as well. Preshrink sew-in interfacing in the same way that the finished garment will be cared for. Select a method of preshrinking that avoids distorting the fabric or fusing compound. Common methods used for preshrinking interfacing include washing, dry cleaning, steaming, and immersing. (See Reference Guide on page 5.)

Washing/Dry cleaning

Sew-in woven interfacings must be preshrunk along with the fashion fabric. If this includes laundering, then wash both the fashion fabric and the interfacing in the washer. If the garment will be dried in the dryer, put the sew-in woven interfacing and fashion fabric in the dryer before the fabric is cut out. Be cautious, as some fabrics may continue to shrink even after the first laundering. Cottons are the biggest offenders of residual shrinkage. If the garment will be dry cleaned, send the fashion fabric and

interfacing to the dry cleaner for cleaning or steaming before cutting out the garment. You may also thoroughly steam the fabric and interfacing at home.

Never wash fusible interfacings in the washer or dry them in the dryer. The washer action may remove the adhesive resin and the dryer may set the resin. The resin may also adhere to the dryer drum! Never dry clean fusible interfacings before applying.

Immersing

Preshrink woven, weft-insertion, cool temperature, and knit fusible interfacings in water. Fill a basin with warm to hot water, fold the interfacing loosely, and then let it soak in the water for 15 to 20 minutes. Let the water out of the basin and gently squeeze the excess water from the interfacing. Roll in a towel to remove excess water. Then lay out the interfacing to dry. Be careful not to agitate the interfacing, because the resin that holds the interfacing

to the fashion fabric can be disturbed. **DO NOT WRING DRY OR PUT IN THE DRYER.** This will damage the interfacing. When dry, fold or roll the interfacing to prevent wrinkles.

Steam shrinking

Steam shrink interfacing immediately before applying it to the garment. Nonwoven and knit fusible interfacings can be successfully preshrunk this way. Press the garment fabric with steam to remove wrinkles and warm up the fabric. Place the interfacing on the warmed fabric (fabric is wrong side up and interfacing is resin side down) and steam for 5 seconds without letting the iron touch the fabric. The iron should be 1/2" to 1" above the interfacing. You may notice the interfacing shrink when the steam hits it. After the interfacing is shrunk, fuse the interfacing and garment fabric together following the manufacturer's directions.

DO NOT PRESHRINK FUSIBLE WEB. It does not need it and you could destroy the web.

Preshrinking Reference Guide

Type of Interfacing	Machine Wash/Dry Clean	Immerse	Steam Shrink	Nothing Required
SEW-IN				
Woven	X			
Nonwoven			X	
FUSIBLE				
Woven		X		
Nonwoven			X	
Knit		X	X	
Weft-insertion		X		
Low temperature		X		
FUSIBLE WEB				X

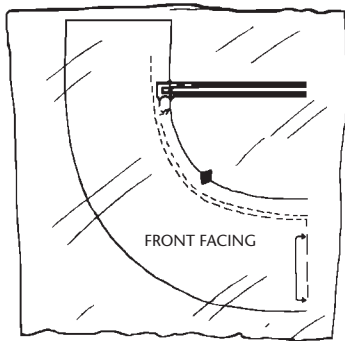
Cutting Out the Interfacings

Cut woven, nonwoven with one-way stretch, and fusible knit interfacings in the same yarn direction or grain as the garment sections they will interface. Woven fusible interfacings may be cut on the bias to be more compatible with stable or moderately stretchy knits. Regular no-stretch and all-bias nonwoven interfacings have no grain and can be cut in any direction.

Making Interfacing Pattern Pieces

You can make your own interfacing pattern pieces if the pattern does not include them. Separate interfacing patterns make construction faster because the pieces can be cut to correct size, eliminating the need to trim seam allowances later. Here's how:

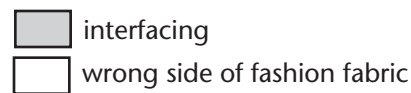
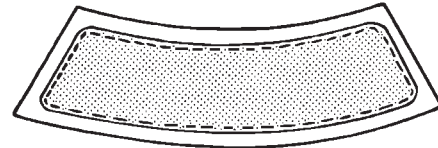
- Press the pattern piece needing interfacing with a warm iron. Lay the pattern on a flat surface and place a piece of wax paper the size of the interfacing needed on top of the pattern piece.
- Using a 6" sewing guide, place the tab at 1/2" and trace the pattern cutting line on every seam allowance edge. The ruler edge will etch the wax paper at the new cutting line. This new cutting line will be 1/8" past the stitching line into the seam allowance.



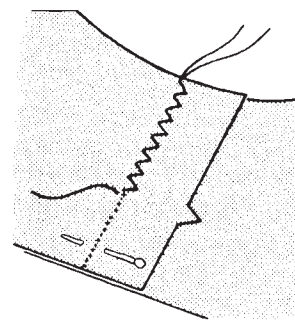
- Using a permanent marker, trace the rest of the pattern cutting lines, mark the grain line, and label the piece with pattern number and name. Cut out the pattern piece.
- Lay the newly created wax paper pattern on the interfacing and cut out.

Applying Sew-In Interfacing

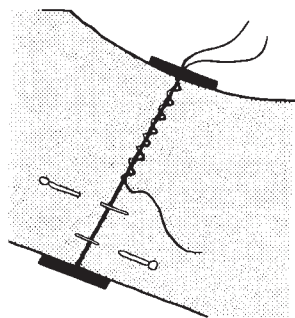
In applying any interfacing, you must form the seams and darts without adding bulk to the garment. You can stitch lightweight interfacings into the garment seams. Interfacing should extend 1/8" into the seam allowances. To eliminate excess bulk, trim the interfacing corners before stitching the interfacing to the garment piece.



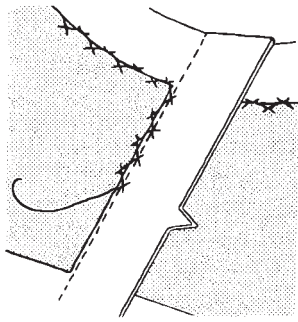
You may apply lightweight and medium-weight interfacings to the separate garment pieces before joining the interfaced units together. Or, you can join the interfacing pieces and apply them as a unit to the corresponding seamed garment units. Join interfacing seams by lapping them or putting them side by side.



Lapped seam: Lap corresponding edges of crisp interfacing, aligning seam lines. Pin in place. Stitch over seam line with wide zigzag or sew a row of straight stitching 1/8" on each side of seamline. Trim seam allowances.

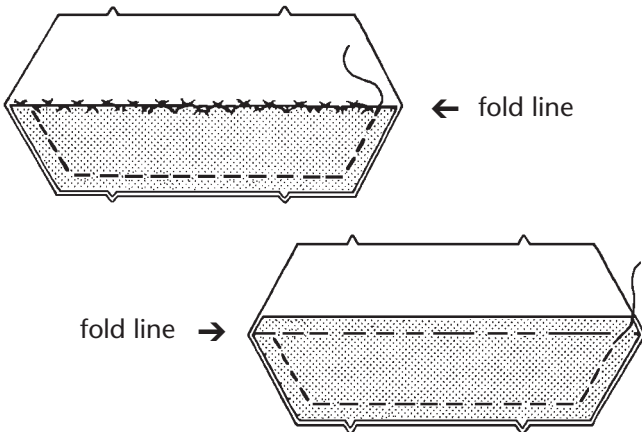


Abutted seam: If using a medium to heavy-weight interfacing, cut off seam allowances. Bring seams together. Pin to an underlay of woven tape or other lightweight fabric. Stitch over seamline with wide zigzag stitch or straight stitch 1/8" from seamline on each side.



Catch-stitched seam: This seam is the least bulky for heavy interfacings. Cut off seam allowances. Align seamline of interfacing with seamline of garment. Catch-stitch interfacing to garment over seamline. Lift out of the way any garment seam allowances to permit alignment of interfacing.

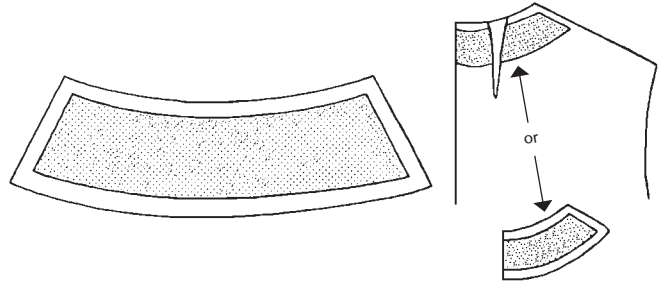
When interfacing a folded edge such as a cuff, straight collar, or hem, position the interfacing edge along the fold line for a sharp edge or extend it approximately 1/2" beyond the fold for a softer, rounded edge. If you position the interfacing edge along the fold, catch-stitch it into place. If the interfacing edge extends beyond the fold line, hold it in place with uneven basting stitches, making the short stitches as invisible as possible on the outside of the garment.



Applying Fusible Interfacing

Use fusible interfacing on the garment's facing, not on the outside piece. If this is not possible, interface the entire garment piece to avoid a ridge line. Apply fusible interfacing so that 1/8" is caught in the seam allowance. This makes a stronger seam and reduces bulk while allowing the interfacing to be held by the seam. In

addition, trim away diagonally 1/4" of the corners if the fabric does not ravel. If the interfacing pattern piece includes a dart, cut the dart out of the fusible interfacing to eliminate bulk.



Decide where the fusible interfacing will be applied to individual garment pieces by considering the type of garment (blouse, shirt, tailored coat) and the weight of the garment fabric. Make a seam sample. On many lightweight fabrics you may want to use a lighter interfacing and fuse interfacing to both the top and bottom collar, both sides of the cuff, waistband, etc., so that the seams in these areas are well cushioned. In other words, apply a lighter weight interfacing to both sides instead of one heavier interfacing to one side.

Following the manufacturer's instructions, fuse the interfacing into place. **READ THE DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY. ALL FUSIBLE INTERFACINGS DO NOT FUSE IN THE SAME WAY.** Most of the newer fusible interfacings fuse with steam. However, some fuse in place with a dry iron and steam will prevent them from fusing properly. Be sure to note:

Temperature setting—usually wool/steam setting. Low temperature fusibles use a silk setting.

Moisture—steam or dry iron; damp or dry press cloth.

Time—or number of seconds heat must be applied —10 to 12 seconds for most lightweight interfacings and 15 seconds for heavier weights.

Pressure—some interfacings require firm pressure to force the heat-sensitive resin into both interfacing and garment fabric.

If you do not follow the manufacturer's instructions, the fusing may not hold. The result is a puckered, bubbled look.

If no fusing directions accompany your interfacing, follow these general directions. Always pretest the fusing procedure.

1. Set the iron on steam or wool setting. Lay fabric piece to be interfaced right side down (wrong side up) on the ironing board and press.
2. Place fusible interfacing with the fusible side next to the wrong side of your garment fabric (fusing down).
3. Heat baste the fusible interfacing in place by lightly pressing, with a "lower and lift" motion, from the center to the outside edges allowing about 2 seconds in each location. **DO NOT SLIDE THE IRON.**
4. Place a damp press cloth over the area to be fused.
5. Fuse about 10 seconds for lightweight interfacing and 15 seconds for medium to heavyweight interfacing. **DO NOT SLIDE THE IRON.** Use firm pressure on the iron. For firm fabrics, bear down with both hands. Count slowly the number of seconds needed for fusing or use the second hand on a watch or clock. You may decide to reduce or increase pressure and time after evaluating the interfacing and garment fabric test sample.
6. Move the iron to the next section of the interfacing with a little overlap between sections and press again. Repeat this process until the interfacing is completely fused in place. If fusing medium to heavyweight fabric, turn the piece over at this point (interfacing and fashion fabric is fused together in one piece), cover with a press cloth, and repeat the pressing procedures. This results in a more solid bond between the fashion fabric and interfacing.

6. **COOL BEFORE HANDLING.** If you handle the fabric before it cools, you may damage the fuse and have to press again.

Fusible interfacings generally adhere best to fabrics that are fairly flat with little surface texture.

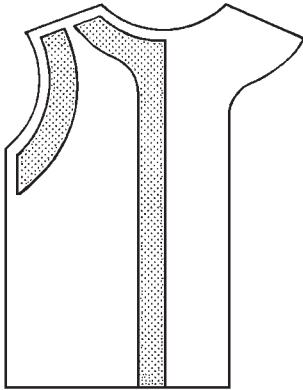
Removing Fused Interfacing

Sometimes you can remove fused interfacing. However, the fashion fabric may become distorted and unusable. Handle the fabric gently. To try removing a fusible, hold the steam iron 1/2" above the fused area and steam for about 5 seconds to soften the adhesive. Then try to peel off the interfacing. Some of the fusing agent will be left on the garment fabric. To remove, place a damp, lightweight scrap of absorbent cotton fabric over the piece and press. Peel off the fabric scrap while still warm. Do this several times if necessary, using a different fabric scrap for each pressing.

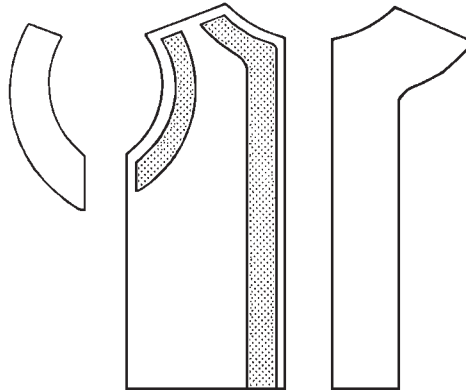
If the resins come in contact with the sole plate of the iron, remove the residue with mild abrasive or a commercial iron cleaner. (Commercial iron cleaners are available in the notions section of most fabric stores.) To restore smoothness to the sole plate, glide the hot iron over wax paper.

Where to Place Interfacing

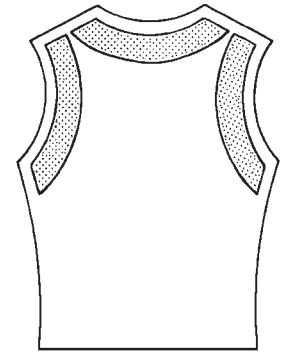
Sew-in interfacings are placed against the wrong side of the garment pieces, such as the front of a blouse or shirt, the upper collar and upper section of the cuff, and the outside of the pocket.



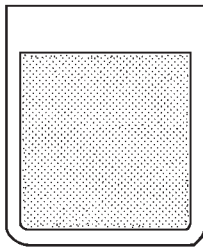
Blouse Front
(Cut-on Facing)



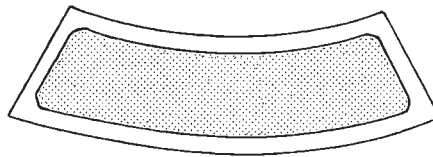
Blouse Front
(Separate Facing)



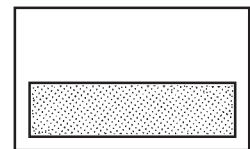
Blouse Back



Patch Pockets

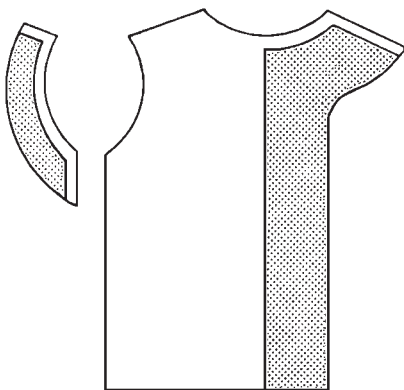


Upper Collar

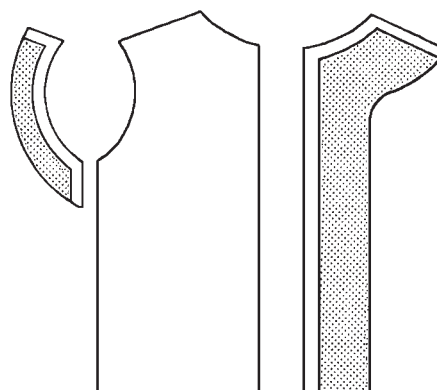


Cuffs

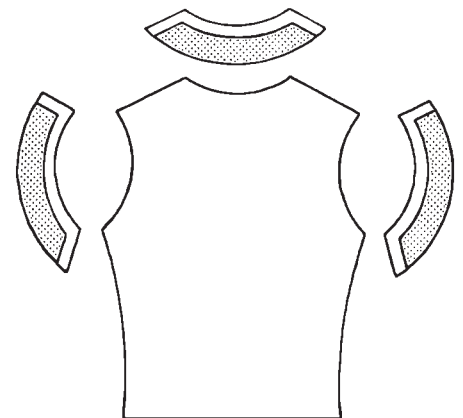
If using a fusible interfacing, or if the interfacing changes the outside appearance of the garment fabric, place the fusible interfacing against the facing pieces.



Blouse Front
(Cut-on Facing)



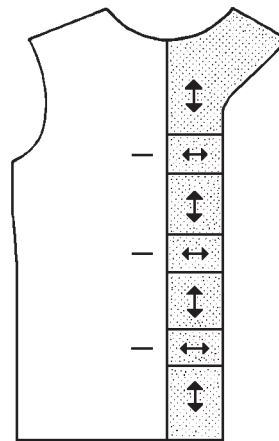
Blouse Front
(Separate Facing)



Blouse Back

Buttonholes in knit fabric may stretch and lose their shape if the interfacing gives with the buttonhole. To stabilize the buttonhole area, cut the interfacing so there is no give along the length of the buttonhole. To reinforce a buttonhole, cut a strip 1" wide and as long as the width of the interfacing. Fuse it to the facing.

Fusible interfacings are useful for stabilizing fabrics that ravel, around buttonholes, corners, points, and gussets. Save scraps of fusible interfacings for these uses.



GUIDE TO SELECTING INTERFACINGS & FUSIBLE WEBS

Woven Sew-In Interfacings

INTERFACING TYPE	DESCRIPTION	PROPERTIES	TYPICAL USES
Lawn, batiste	Lightweight, soft. Many colors. Cotton, polyester, rayon, polyester/cotton or polyester/rayon blends. Usual width 44 to 45".	Washable or dry cleanable. Must be preshrunk. Gives body, but no crispness.	Voile, crepe, broadcloth, silk, lightweight linen, and rayons. Can be used with some knits if cut on the bias.
Organdy and lightweight crease-resistant cottons	Very lightweight. Many colors. Crisp. Usual width 36 to 45".	Washable or dry cleanable. Gives crispness to lightweight fabrics.	Organdy, jerseys, shantung, linen, lightweight wool, cottons, and rayons. Can be used with some knits if cut on the bias.
Muslin, broadcloth	Various weights available. Muslin comes unbleached, black, and white. Broadcloth comes in many colors. Usual width from 35 to 45".	Washable or dry cleanable. Must be preshrunk. Gives body without stiffness.	Heavier fabrics, generally wool (as in dressmaker suits). Medium-weight muslin and broadcloth are good for back shoulder facings and hem strips in coats, jackets, and sleeves.
Other woven interfacing fabrics	Various weights. Many colors. Cotton, polyester, rayon, nylon, cotton/polyester, cotton/rayon blends. Usual width 45".	Washable or dry cleanable. Gives body and firmness.	Lightweight and medium-weight fabrics. Can be used with knits if cut on the bias.
Self-fabric	Use the same fabric for the interfacing as the garment.	Completely compatible.	Sheers. Can prevent show through. Works well if a compatible color of interfacing is unavailable.

Hair canvas	Natural color. Various weights. Wool, cotton, rayon, and/or polyester with goats' hair. Usual width 20 or 25".	Dry cleanable. Strong, resilient for long life. Should be preshrunk. Can be steamed to shape. Wrinkle resistant.	Medium-weight tailoring of wool fabrics (best for coats and suits). Offers exceptional firmness and shaping.
Buckram	Heavy and stiff. White and black. Usual widths include 3", 4", and 18".	Dry clean.	Belts, bands, hats, home accessories, and home furnishings.

Nonwoven Sew-In Interfacings

INTERFACING TYPE	DESCRIPTION	PROPERTIES	TYPICAL USES
Nonwoven stabilizers	No grain. Various weights. White and some other colors. Usual widths 25" and 45".	Washable or dry cleanable. Non-shrinking. No give. Stabilizes.	Accessories, arts, crafts, and home decorating. May be used for waistbands.
One-way stretch	Has grain. Give in one direction. Various weights. White and some other colors. Cotton, polyester. Usual width 22".	Washable or dry cleanable. Has stretch in one direction and stability in the other.	Facing openings, collars and general interfacing. Cut according to the grainline marked on the pattern. Coordinate weight of interfacing and garment fabric.
All-bias	No grain. Give in all directions. Various weights. White and some other colors. Usual width 22".	Washable or dry cleanable. Provides flexible, soft shaping. Crease and crush-resistant.	General interfacing. Coordinate the weight of interfacing and garment fabric.

Woven Fusible Interfacings

INTERFACING TYPE	DESCRIPTION	PROPERTIES	TYPICAL USES
Lightweight	Has grain. Usually cotton or cotton/polyester blend. White, black, and gray. Usual width 22".	Washable or dry cleanable. Preshrink.	Lightweight and medium-weight permanent press fabrics. Can use with knits if cut on the bias.
Medium weight	Has grain. May be cotton or cotton/rayon blend. White, black, and gray. Usual width 22".	Washable or dry cleanable. Preshrink.	Medium and heavier weight fabrics for tailoring and dressmaking.

Heavyweight (tailoring)	Has grain. May be a blend of cotton, rayon, or polyester. White and gray or natural. Usual width 22".	Washable or dry cleanable. Preshrink.	Heavier fabrics in tailoring.
Low temperature	Has grain. Some are very lightweight. Rayon. White, black, and ivory. Usual width 36".	Washable or dry cleanable. Has a very light fusing agent for temporary fusing so adhesive will not show on the right side. Must be preshrunk for best results. Stitch in as well as fuse.	Lightweight fabrics, microfibers, faux suedes, or other fabrics where the higher temperatures needed for fusing would distort the fabric.

Nonwoven Fusible Interfacings

INTERFACING TYPE	DESCRIPTION	PROPERTIES	TYPICAL USES
Regular	No grain. Various weights. White and some other colors. Usual width 22" or 25".	Washable or dry cleanable. Non-shrinking. No give; stabilizes and provides support in flat areas.	Flat detail areas like waistbands, tabs, flaps, scoop, and V-necklines. Use for accessories, arts, crafts, and home decorating. Coordinate weight of interfacing and garment fabric.
One-way stretch	Has grain. Give in one direction. Various weights. White and other colors. Various fiber content and blends. Usual width from 22 to 25".	Washable or dry cleanable. Has stretch in crosswise direction and stability lengthwise.	Facing openings, collars, and general interfacing. Cut according to the grainline marked on the pattern. Coordinate the weight of interfacing and garment fabric.
All-bias	No grain. Give in all directions. Various weights. White and other colors. Usual width 22".	Washable or dry cleanable. Provides flexible soft shaping. Crease and crush-resistant.	General interfacing. Coordinate the weight of interfacing and garment fabric.
Low temperature	Some have brushed surfaces, others smooth. Available in black or white. Usual width 24".	Washable or dry cleanable. Can be applied with a cool iron.	Lightweight fabrics, microfibers, faux suedes, or other fabrics where the higher temperatures needed for fusing would distort the fabric.

Knit Fusible Interfacings

INTERFACING TYPE	DESCRIPTION	PROPERTIES	TYPICAL USES
Fusible tricot knit	More stable in the lengthwise direction. Black, white, cream, and gray. 100 percent nylon or polyester. Usual width 20 to 25".	Washable or dry cleanable. Resilient. Lengthwise stability with crosswise stretch and recovery. Polyester is crisper than nylon.	Knits and stretch woven. May be used as an underlining for entire garment sections.
Tri-dimension low temperature knit	Nylon. Has true all-bias properties. White, black, and cream. Usual width 20".	Washable or dry cleanable.	Lightweight fabrics, microfibers, faux suedes, or other fabrics where the higher temperatures needed for fusing would distort the fabric.
Fusible weft insertion	Knit with thicker yarns in crosswise direction. Blend of polyester, rayon, and acrylic. White, gray, beige, and black. Usual widths 22 to 24".	Washable or dry cleanable. Lengthwise stability with limited stretch crosswise.	Woven and moderately stretchy knits. May be used as an underlining for entire garment sections.
Low temperature warp insertion	Knit with yarn inserted in the lengthwise direction. Usually all polyester. All bias allowing complete drape in all directions. White, ivory, gray, black. Usual width 24".	Washable or dry cleanable. Can be applied with a cool iron.	Lightweight fabrics, microfibers, faux suedes, or other fabrics where the higher temperatures needed for fusing would distort the fabric.

Fusible Webs

ADHESIVE	DESCRIPTION	PROPERTIES	TYPICAL USES
Fusible webs	Nonwoven, no grain. 100 percent polyamide (nylon). Comes in various sizes: rolls ½", 1", 1½" wide, and on bolts 17" to 20" wide. Some are paperbacked.	Joins two fabrics together. Washable or dry cleanable.	Crafts, accessories, and home furnishing projects. Can be used on many stable to moderate-stretch knits and woven fabrics.

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