

INTERFACING PERMIT



Adding stability to fabric

This tutorial is provided for free. It is for personal use, but may be shared in a social sewing group or public school to teach others. It is not to be distributed online.

It may not be used as learning material in a paid sewing lesson.

Direct others to the Pattern Orchard website to obtain their own copy.

The information provided in this tutorial is general in nature. Different terminology may be used by sewers from different backgrounds and the sewing equipment used is based on commonly purchased items available in 2017 in Australia. Some older or newer equipment may have settings or options that differ from the examples given.

Please share the www.patternorchard.com link with anyone who is interested in learning to sew or furthering their sewing skills. There are free Learning Patterns available on the website for personal use or donations for charities.

Tag #PatternOrchard on social media when sharing photos of items made from a Pattern Orchard pattern to spread the word about this free resource.

This tutorial is suitable for most kids over the age of 8 with adult supervision for all sewing practice. Never leave kids unsupervised around sharp objects or machines.

Plain language is used to gradually introduce some basic sewing terminology.

Read through this document and complete the check list on page 8 to achieve your Interfacing Permit. Only pages 7 & 8 need to be printed.



INTERFACING PERMIT

Topics covered

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Before you start

Learning something new can come naturally or be a fun challenge. Approach every lesson without worries at the back of your thoughts, with a clear workspace, full stomach and well rested. Remind yourself that every skill takes time and patience to learn well. Your first attempt is practice so use scrap fabrics first.

You choose what to sew. Stick to items you know you can achieve or challenge yourself with new fabrics, techniques or tools. Learn as much as you want to learn.

Each of the Pattern Orchard sewing permits teaches a different set of skills.

Start with the Learners' Permit, then move on to any of the other S.E.W.I.N.G.

Permits. They do not need to be completed in order. Choose the skills that you want to focus on. Read through "Pick a Pattern" on the website to help you choose a suitable sewing pattern to start with after finishing each Permit.

Sewing can be a relaxing, creative and productive outlet. Enjoy.

What is Interfacing?

Interfacing is a fabric-like product that can be adhered to the back of fabric to make it firmer, thicker or less transparent. It is usually sold by the metre in either black or white. It looks like a stiff fabric on a roll, but is not used on its own.

Types

Just like fabric, interfacing can be either woven or knitted. A woven interfacing is designed to add stability that does not stretch. Knitted interfacing adds stability while still offering movement.

Interfacing can be self-adhesive with a thin layer of dry glue on the back of it that will stick to fabric only when heated with an iron. You can also get interfacing that is not adhesive, known as sew-in interfacing.

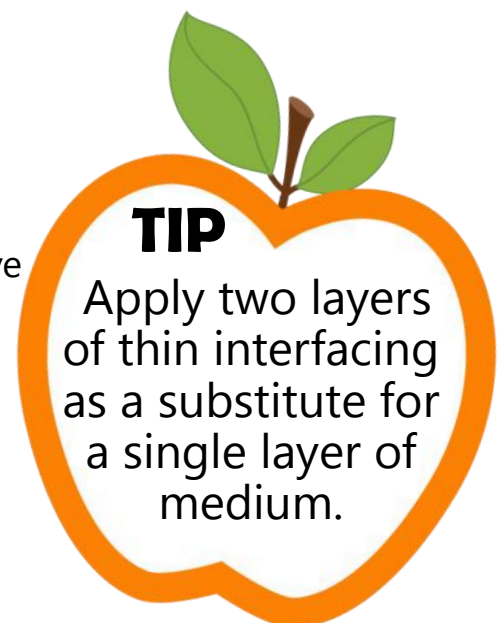
Thicknesses

Different thicknesses of interfacing allow you to choose how firm to make your fabric before sewing it together. A thin interfacing on the back of your fabric will add a little firmness but still allow it to bend. A thicker interfacing on the back will be firmer and less bendable.

Thicker interfacing can be more difficult to sew with as there is more bulk for the machine to sew through.

Uses

You may not realise that many items you use daily have interfacing inside. You can find interfacing in wallets, handbags, collars on business shirts, in plackets down button-up shirts, under press studs, in flat waistbands on skirts and pants, in the fly of your jeans, cuffs of a shirt or brim of a hat.



Interfacing Chart

Fusible Weights

THICKNESS	BRAND	NAME	USES
SHEER	Pellon/Legacy	906F	Plackets on light weight fabrics
	Vilene	H180	
	SureBond	Lite	
LIGHT	Pellon/Legacy	30	Under plackets or cuffs on shirts.
	Vilene	H200	
	FormFuse	1400	
MEDIUM	Pellon/Legacy	931TD	Collars, cuffs or homewares.
	Vilene	H250, G405	
	SureBond	Medium	
HEAVY	Pellon/Legacy	809	Bags, wallets and home décor.
	Vilene	H320	
	FormFuse	1600	
XTRA HEAVY	Pellon/Legacy	Peltex 71F	Extra firm bags and décor.
	Vilene	LE420	

These fusible interfacings are ideal for use on woven projects such as bags, woven clothing collars and cuffs or other small items like table runners and fabric baskets.

The fusible nature of the interfacings makes them quick and easy to apply to the back of your fabric before sewing. Check your pattern for specific requirements.

There are also specialty interfacings made from foam and fleece that can be used to add both stability and padding to your sewing projects.

UV protector interfacings for projects like hat brims are also now available.

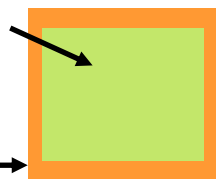
Using Interfacing

Applying

As many interfacing options have a fusible underside of dry glue, it is vital you can tell the difference between the right and wrong side of the interfacing. The side that has the adhesive on it is usually shiny under a good light. The shiny surface is the glue. Always ensure the glue covered side is against the **BACK** of your fabric it is being applied to.

Cut the interfacing to the specified size (usually a little smaller than the fabric as interfacing often does not need to cover the seam allowance).

Cut your fabric to the specified size on your pattern.



Place the fabric on your ironing board with the right side down on the board so you can see the wrong side of the fabric.

Place the interfacing in the correct position on the fabric so that the glue side of the interfacing is down on the fabric.

Place a light cloth over the top being careful not to move the fabric or interfacing underneath. This pressing cloth should be no heavier than quilting cotton.

Use a warm iron (not too hot) to slowly press down on the pressing cloth over the area where the interfacing is. Press and lift the iron without sliding the iron across the pressing cloth. Press down for 5 seconds, then lift. Repeat a few times to cover the entire area of the interfacing.

Lift the fabric off the ironing board and allow to cool.

Gently attempt to lift the edge of the interfacing away from the fabric to check that it is firmly attached. It should not separate. If it does, you may need to press with the iron again to heat the glue up more.



Removing

Occasionally your interfacing may slide around and end up in the wrong position. If this happens you may need to remove it. Once the glue has touched the fabric, it is very difficult to remove entirely .

Heat the interfacing with your iron to melt the glue, then quickly lift the interfacing away from the fabric with tweezers so you don't touch the hot surface with your hand.

The remaining glue on the back of the fabric can be quickly wiped/dabbed off with a folded muslin cloth.

Heat again with non-stick baking paper over the gluey fabric, being careful not to get glue on your iron or any other surface. Wipe glue again to remove as much as you can.

If a little glue remains, it shouldn't interfere with applying new interfacing to the fabric as long as there are not lumps of glue. Apply a new piece of interfacing.

Washing

Most interfacings are washable, however some come with strict no-washing instructions so be sure to check the info about each one.

An item that has interfacing inside can look a bit crumpled after a wash. A quick iron usually fixes this.

If a fusible interfacing is starting to lift away from the fabric after a few washes, a slow hot iron can help to re-stick the interfacing and fabric together.

Always line-dry items made with fusible interfacing as clothes drying machines that heat the clothing can affect the glue.

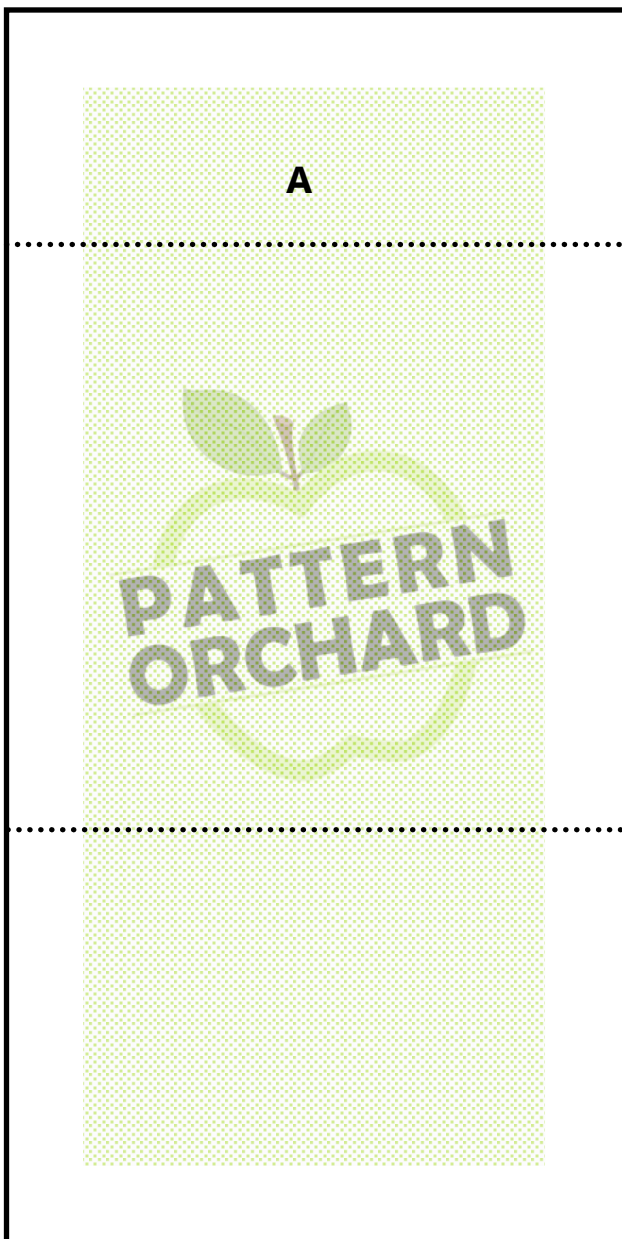
Learners Permit

Practice

Print this page. Cut 2 pieces of fabric (A & B). Apply a medium fusible interfacing to the back of each fabric in the shaded areas indicated.

Fold the fabrics along the dotted lines, short end first, so that the interfacing is hidden inside and only the right side of the fabric is visible.

Sew down the long sides of each sample at 1cm from the raw edge.



Note the difference in thickness as you sew down the sides.

Feel the difference along the folded edges. The non-interfaced edge on B is much softer than the interfaced edge.

Interfacing Permit

Check list

Read & understand the entire Interfacing Permit document

Head to your nearest sewing store (or order a few samples online) to feel the difference between the weights.

Read through a pattern that uses interfacing.

Search your home for items that you think have interfacing


Complete the page 7 practice paper sewing sheet



Once all of the above have been ticked, you are now ready to attempt your first interfaced sewing project! Head to www.patternorchard.com to find more information about choosing a good first pattern as well as free patterns for you to try.

You can now fill out your name and the date on your Interfacing Permit license card below. Cut it out and keep it to remind you of how long you have been sewing for. Congratulations!

Interfacing Permit



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