

# Choosing the Right Buttonhole

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<http://www.burdastyle.com/techniques/choosing-the-right-buttonhole>

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When to use a square, rounded, keyhole, zig-zag, and reinforced buttonhole. For more techniques, check out: <http://sewhappyclothes.blogspot.com/search/label/Techniques>.

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## Step 2 — Square Buttonhole



Uses: This is your standard, go-to buttonhole.

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### Step 3 — Rounded Buttonhole



Uses: This is for lighter weight fabrics because the diagonal stitches do a good job of securing themselves in the looser weave of the fabric.

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### **Step 4 — Keyhole Buttonhole**



Uses: This is for heavier fabric because the keyhole allows the buttonhole to stretch open farther in what may otherwise be a stiff, thick fabric.

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### **Step 5 — Zig-Zag Buttonhole**



Uses: This buttonhole is designed for stretch knit fabrics. The reinforced zig-zag allows the buttonhole to stretch with the fabric instead of staying rigid.

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## Step 6 — Reinforced Buttonhole





Uses: For when your buttonholes look wimpy and could use some backbone.

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## Step 1 — General Buttonhole Tips



Always purchase your buttons before making your buttonholes. For a machine like mine, the button fits right into the buttonhole foot and helps determine the length of the buttonhole. Try your button hole out on a swatch of fabric to make sure it is the right size for your button. Buttons of different thicknesses, even if they are the same diameter, need different size button holes. Buttons should also be sewn on fabric that has been interfaced or at least three layers of fabric. When you are making your test swatch, make sure to use the same number of layers or add interfacing. Also note that it takes more stitches for a machine to go back up the second side than it did for it to come down. Be careful of this to make sure that your machine is lining up its buttonholes correctly and that your second side does not fall short. This is another reason to make a test buttonhole and adjust accordingly.

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