

Applying interfacing

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<http://www.burdastyle.com/techniques/applying-interfacing>



How to apply fusible and sew-in interfacing to your project. Check out more techniques at:
<http://sewhappyclothes.blogspot.com/search/label/Techniques>.

Step 1 — Preparation

Generally, I don't pre-shrink my fusible interfacing. If you choose to do so, make sure not to put it in the dryer. Dunk it a few times in hot water (from the tap, not boiled) and hang to dry. The dryer or boiling water will cause the glue to start melting, which you don't want to do until you fuse it to your fabric.

Step 2 — Cutting

Patterns will usually tell you which pattern pieces also need to be cut out of interfacing. Traditional instructions will tell you to cut the interfacing 1/4" smaller on all sides than the fabric so that the interfacing will not go too much into the seam allowance. Most modern interfacing is light enough that this does not matter. If you have lots of interfacing pieces to cut out, it may make more sense to fuse your fabric to the interfacing first, and then cut, although this may be more wasteful.

Step 3 — Fusible interfacing

Set your iron to its hottest steam setting. Place a press cloth between your fabric and the ironing board and place your fabric wrong side up on the press cloth. Put the interfacing on top, making sure that it isn't hanging out over the edge of your fabric. The side of the interfacing with the glue dots should be facing down (for finer interfacing, the rougher side should face down). Put a second press cloth between the interfacing and your iron. You want to prevent any glue from getting on your ironing board or iron, so the press cloths are important. Press, holding the iron down in one spot for ten seconds, lifting, and moving to the next spot, overlapping slightly with the previous press. Pressing is different from ironing in that you should not move the iron around as you press the interfacing. This may cause wrinkles to form in your interfacing and fabric. For more the manufacturer's directions, see the plastic slip that is wrapped around your interfacing that you

buy at the store. Keeping this plastic is also helpful in identifying the different types of interfacing you have once you are home and they have been buried away in your stash.

Step 4 — Sew-in interfacing



If you use cotton interfacing, make sure to pre-shrink as you would any fabric. Then follow the same cutting instructions as for fusible interfacing. Sew it to your fabric with a 1/4" stitch allowance so that the seam will be in the seam allowance. Sew with a shorter allowance if your garment's seam allowance is less than 5/8".

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