

Choosing interfacing

By: SewHappyClothes

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



How to choose the correct interfacing weight and type for your project. Check out more techniques at: <http://sewhappyclothes.blogspot.com/search/label/Techniques>.

Step 1 — Sew-in vs. fusible



There are two types of interfacing: fusible and sew on. For silk or plastic fabrics that you won't wash and that shouldn't be steamed, sew on is a good option because you won't damage the fabric by steaming the interface on. For most other things, fusible interfacing is a good option because it's easier than sewing each piece to the fabric.

Step 2 — Weight



You should also choose interfacing based on weight--how stiff and thick you want your interfaced piece to be. To make a collar stand up or a tote bag sit upright on a table you want a heavier interfacing. For lightweight fabric and light tailoring you will want a lighter interfacing. Remember that, when buying interfacing in the store, it will be heavier once the glue is bonded to the fabric. So if in doubt, go with the lighter one.

Step 3 — Silk organza



This is a sew-in interfacing that is a great sheer interfacing for skirts and sheer fabrics that you want to give a little body to. The silk is much softer than polyester organza, so take note when purchasing. To "underline" a skirt (ie give it more body), cut out the silk organza with your pattern piece, baste the two together at 1/4" seam allowance, and treat the two as one piece of now slightly heavier fabric.

Step 4 — Fusible featherweight



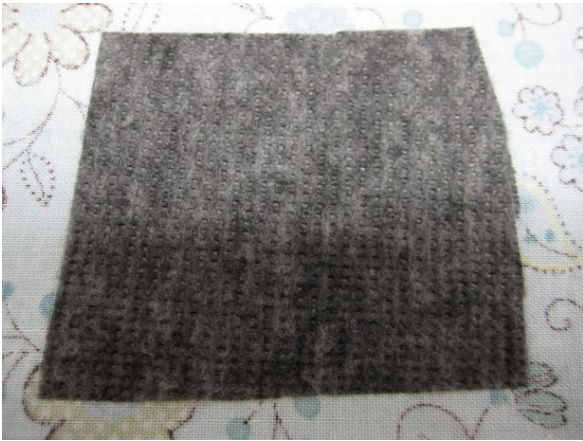
This is good for light tailoring, like button holes and collars that you want to give some extra thickness to but that you want to remain flexible. This interfacing is thinner so you won't see the glue dots on one side--the rougher side is the side with the glue.

Step 5 — Mid-weight fusible



This is good for coats, tote bags, and tailored pieces like collars and buttonholes that you want to be a little more stiff.

Step 6 — Heavy-weight fusible



Good for coats, pieces that you want to be very stiff, bags, etc. (Note: interfacing can come in a few different colors, so you could get white or black in any of these weights).

Step 7 — Easy-knit fusible



As the name implies, this interfacing is great for knits and other stretch fabrics as it will stretch slightly with your fabric.

Step 8 — Horse-hair canvas



This is an old-fashioned sew-in interfacing that used to be made from horse hair. It is used for traditional men's suits and very stiff pieces.

Step 9 — Applying interfacing



Tips on applying interfacing can be found here: <http://www.burdastyle.com/techniques/applying-interfacing>.

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