

No Sew Decorative Pleats

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<http://www.burdastyle.com/techniques/no-sew-decorative-pleats>



I needed to create a quick way to attach pleats to a formal without hand stitching.

Step 1 — Create Your Pleats



I started the process by pinning the pleats as I needed. Since the pleats were on the bodice, I simply stitched the fabric to the backing I planned to attach the pleats 3 lengths longer than I needed.

Step 2 — Layer the Pleats



Layer the fabric you plan to attach the pleats to on top. In my project, I wanted the pleats to match at the seams so I pleated one large sheet of fabric and attached it to my dress parts.

Step 3 — Separate the Fusing from the Paper



I found it easier to sandwich the fusing between the layers as opposed to the directions because it was easier to handle. The fusing is tacky/sticky so it adhered somewhat to the pleats which was helpful.

Step 4 — Fuse the Materials with Heat



The iron used without steam works as a temporary hold. I later fused the material permanently with steam after I completed the dress.

Step 5 — Cut Away Excess



Again since I wanted the bodice pleats to match at the seams, I had to cutaway the excess fabric.

Step 6 — Stitch and Steam



This pretty much completes the steps. Just be cautious of the type of material used. If you are using a synthetic, you may be able to use a steam iron but as pictured in Step 4, I used the steam function on my iron and carefully fused the chiffon on wool. That was risky of course so I first did a test pleat on some scrap fabric. Could be very creative with the layout and instead bunch, crinkle, or swirl fabric.

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