

# seams



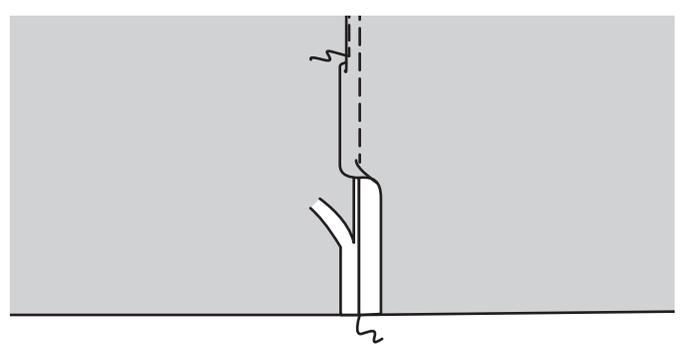
RIGHT SIDE  
OF FABRIC



BACK SIDE  
OF FABRIC

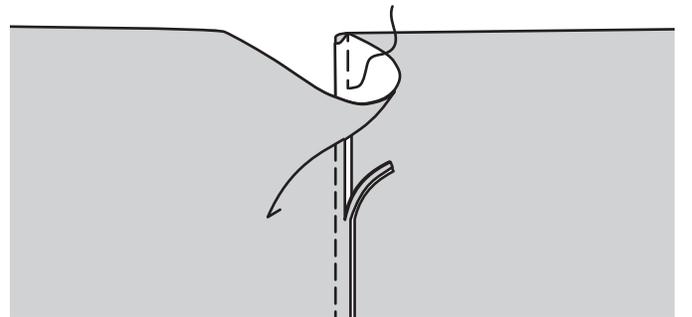
## HOW-TO SEW A FLAT FELLED SEAM

Stitch seam with wrong sides together and press to one side. Trim the underneath seam to 1/8" (3mm). Turn under 1/4" (6mm) on the top seam allowance and baste in place over trimmed edge. Edgestitch close to fold.



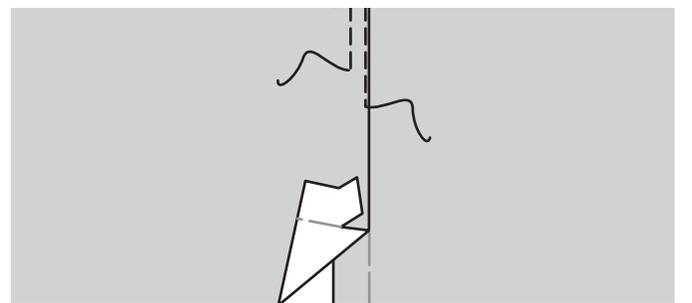
## HOW-TO SEW A FRENCH SEAM

To make French seam, stitch first seam wrong sides together, 3/8" (1cm) from seam line. Trim seam allowance to 1/8" (3mm). Fold fabric right sides together along stitching. Press. Stitch 1/4" (6mm) from the fold, encasing first seam. Press seam flat and then to one side.



## HOW-TO SEW A LAPPED SEAM

Trim away the seam allowance on the upper (overlap) section. Lap the trimmed edge over the underneath section, placing trimmed edge along the seamline. Edgestitch along the trimmed edges. Topstitch 1/4" (6mm) away from first stitching.



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# seams continued

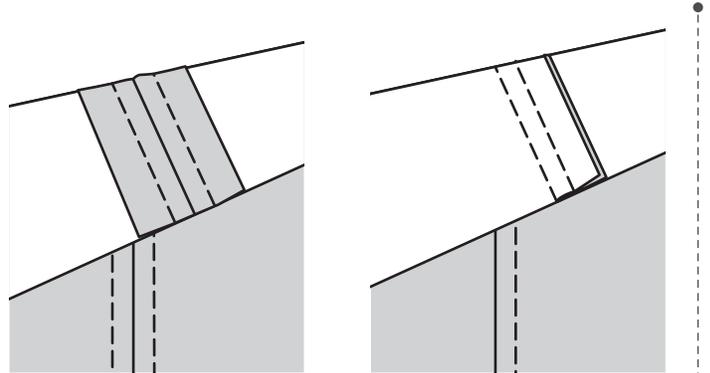
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## HOW-TO SEW A TOPSTITCHED SEAM

Stitch seam and press open. On outside, topstitch on both sides of the seam 1/8"-1/4"(3mm-6mm) from seamline.

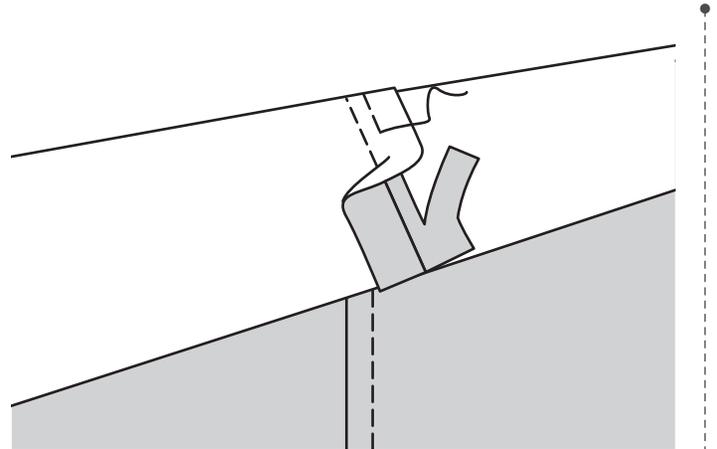
OR

Stitch seam and press to one side. On outside, topstitch 1/8"-1/4"(3mm-6mm) from seamline through all layers.



## HOW-TO SEW A WELT SEAM

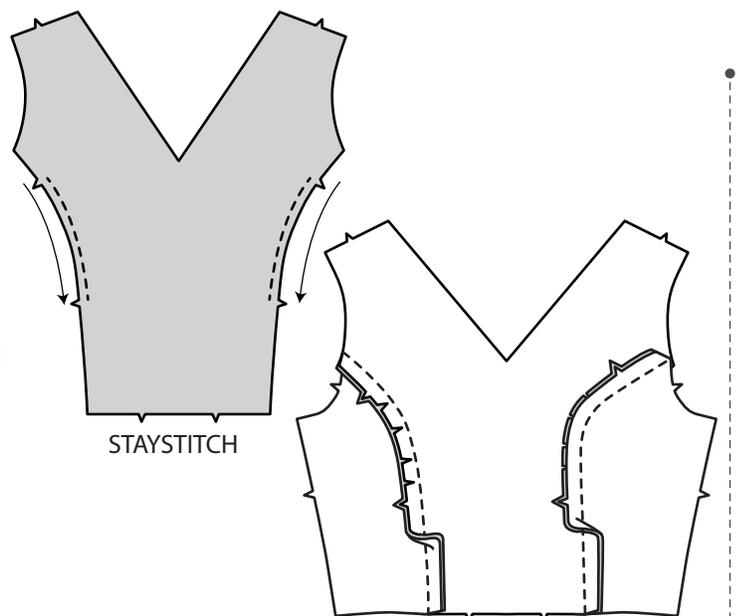
Stitch seam right sides together and press to one side. Trim the underneath seam to a scant 1/4"(6mm). On outside, topstitch 1/4"(6mm) from seam, catching the untrimmed seam allowance. If desired, edgestitch close to the seamline.



## HOW-TO SEW A PRINCESS SEAM

STAYSTITCH side edge of bodice front between notches.

With RIGHT sides together, stitch bodice side front sections to bodice front. Clip curves, if necessary. Press seams toward front.



# seams continued

## HOW-TO SEW BONING IN SEAM ALLOWANCE

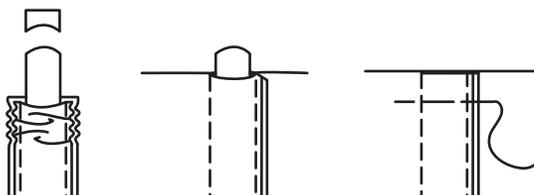
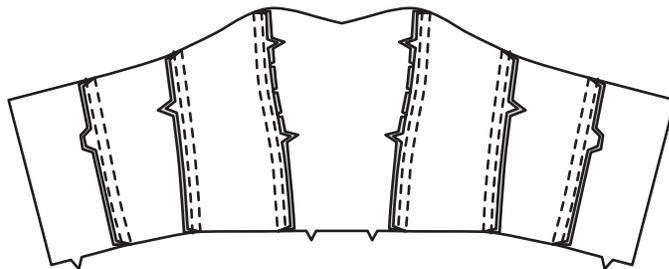
To form casings for boning, stitch seams  $\frac{3}{8}$ " (1cm) from previous stitching with the seam allowances.

Cut boning the length of seam minus the upper and lower seam allowance.

Remove boning from original casing, if necessary.

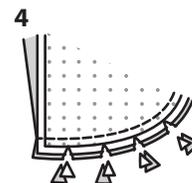
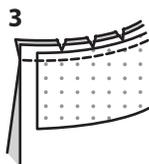
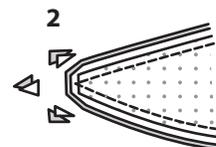
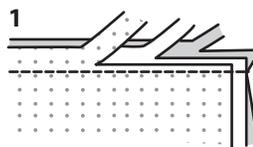
Trim  $\frac{1}{4}$ " (6mm) of boning from each end, curving ends, as shown. Insert boning into seam allowance casing of bodice.

Baste  $\frac{5}{8}$ " (1.5cm) from upper and lower edges of casing, being careful not to catch in boning.



## HOW-TO TRIM, CLIP AND LAYER SEAMS

1. Reduce bulk by trimming seam allowance layering seams as shown.
2. For sharp points trim excess seam allowance and trim corners.
3. For smooth inner curves trim excess seam allowance and clip close to stitches.
4. For smooth outer curves trim excess seam allowance and clip out triangle wedges along the curved stitches.



## HOW-TO FINISH SEAM ALLOWANCES

Seams can also be finished by pressing seams open and finishing the raw edges by stitching  $\frac{1}{4}$ " (6mm) from edge. Finish with one of the following:

1. Trim raw edge with pinking shears or zigzag stitch raw edge.
2. Turn under edge along stitching and stitch in place.
3. With a serger sewing machine, stitch along raw edge without trimming away the seam allowance.
4. Encase raw edge with seam binding or bias tape.

