

## Plain Seams

You will use a plain seam for most garments.

1. Pin the two pieces of fabric with right sides together. Make sure that the edges of your fabric, as well as pattern notches or markings, are matched up evenly.
2. Sew at the required distance-the seam allowance- from the raw fabric edges. (usually 5/8 inch)



## Flat-Felled Seams

Use a flat-felled seam for garments that will receive a lot of wear, such as children's clothing or jeans.

1. Sew a plain seam and press it open with an iron.



2. Press both layers of fabric to one side and trim the inner fabric layer to 1/8 inch.



3. Press the top layer of fabric under 1/4 inch and stitch this folded edge to the garment.



4. Keep stitches as straight as possible, because the stitches will be seen on the right side of the garment.



## French Seams

Use a French seam for sheer fabrics.

1. Place the wrong sides of the fabric together, pin and sew  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch from the fabric edges.



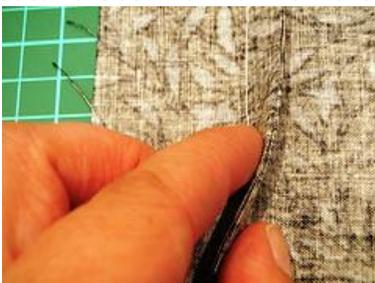
2. Trim the seam allowance layers to  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch and press the seam open.



3. Fold the fabric so that the right sides are together and the seam is in the center of the fold.



4. Press again.
5. Stitch the seam  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch from the fold and press the seam to one side.



## Zig-Zag seam finish

1. Press seams open.
2. Stitch carefully along the edge of the fabric, taking one stitch with the needle just off the fabric, and the next in the fabric or stitch as close to the edge as possible and cut off the excess.



## Pinking Shears seam finish

This is very good for light fabrics, when you don't want to add bulk to your seams.

1. Use the shears to cut along the edge of your seams.
2. Press the seam open

