



Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

SEAM FINISHES

WHAT?? is a seam finish? A method to keep the fabric from raveling
 along the seam

WHY?? finish a seam? 1. To prevent fraying
 2. To add strength to the seam
 3. To give a professional look to the garment

WHEN?? is a seam finish used? Whenever the fabrics tends to ravel

WHERE?? is a seam finished? Right on the very edge of the seam allowance

HOW?? is a seam finished? 1. By clean-finishing
 2. By zigzagging
 3. By serging

Method No. 1:

Clean-finished

Clean-finishing is when the edge is:

- A. Turned under 1/2 inch and stitched in place
- B. Stitched with a zigzag stitch
- C.* Turned under 1/4 inch and stitched in place

Clean-finishing prevents the fabric edge from raveling. It is an effective method for:

- A.* Light and medium weight fabrics
- B. Heavier fabrics

Why? Makes the seam too bulky on heavy fabrics

It also works best with:

- A. Curved seams
- B.* Straight seams

Why? It's hard to keep the curved areas flat

Method No. 2:

Zigzagged

Zigzagging is done by setting the machine to do a zigzag stitch and stitching along the:

- A. Seamline
- B.* Edge of the seam allowance
- C. Middle of the seam allowance

Zigzagging is a quick and effective method of finishing seams if a serger is not available.



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Method No. 3: Serged

Stitching around the edge of the fabric with the serger is the quickest method of finishing seams. However, one has to be careful not to cut any fabric off the edge until the seam has been stitched. Sometimes the seam is stitched and finished in the same operation on the serger.

Serging should be done:

- A. On the seamline
- B.* At the edge of the seam allowance
- C. In the middle of the seam allowance

Serging works well on:

- A. Straight seams
- B. Curved seams
- C.* Both straight and curved seams

It is easiest to finish the seams:

- A.* Before the pieces are sewn together
- B. After the pieces are sewn together
- C. It doesn't really matter

However, it is possible to finish the seams:

- A. Before the pieces are sewn together
- B. After the pieces are sewn together
- C.* Either time

If you have stitched the seam first, the seam should always be pressed:

- A. Closed before finishing
- B.* Open before finishing
- D. To the side before finishing

There's an old saying that goes like this, "You should never cross a seam with another seam until it is pressed and finished." Describe what this means.

___It is important to press after each seam is sewn, and certainly before another piece is sewn to it._____

Directions: Cut six pieces of fabric 3 inches by 6 inches in size, and sew a sample of each of these three seam finishes. Attach your samples to this sheet before turning in.