

Pinning & Basting



Day Dreams Custom Sewing
& Handmade Gifts

Stitches & Tips

Pinning & Basting

Help/Information, write to:

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Pinning and/or basting are just as important a step as sewing a straight seam. Okay, all steps are important, but this one in particular. Have you sewn a seam that was perfectly matched when you began only to have an inch or so off at the end of the seam? No, you didn't cut it crooked, the fabric slid while you were sewing.

Tips to Remember:

- Pin each seam you are sewing. Taking the time to do this at first will develop good habits and keep your garment from fitting wrong because you trimmed too many seams short.
- When sewing seams with intersections (sleeves, quilts, skirts, shirts, bodices), pin the intersections after matching their seams. This assures you to have a perfectly matched seam each time.
- Don't sew over pins! Never never never!
- While sewing, slow down then stop just before a pin is reached. Pull the pin, then proceed.
- It is advisable to baste bulky seams or those you have several thicknesses too (quilts, jeans, coats). When basting, use a running stitch:



- **BASTING IS NOT ONLY FOR QUILTING!** Basting needs (must) be done when inserting zippers for proper placement, when making jockey shorts openings, or when making coats, inserting linings and more.
- Basting works better when you are sewing deep curves. Pins tend to keep fabric puckered.
- Basting requires only one strand of thread.
- Basting does not make your fingers bleed when poked like pins do :)
- Pins should be placed as follows:

