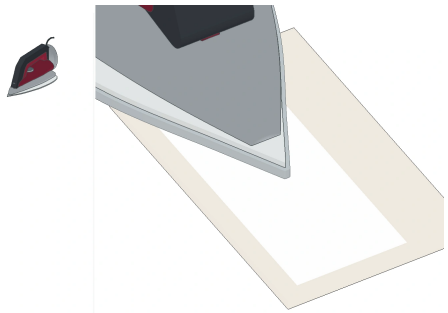
Ironing & pressing · Start here

Full guide

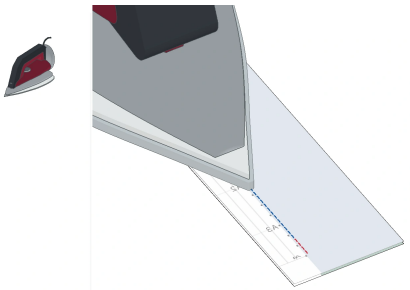
1 Test a scrap



Step help

Test heat and steam on a scrap from your kit. Check the print and fabric before pressing your pieces. Use a pressing cloth if needed.

2 Set the seam

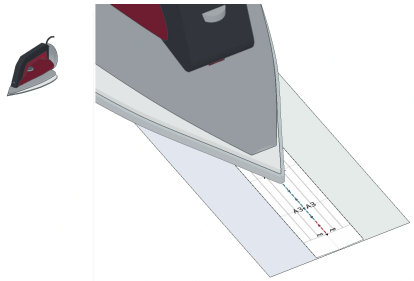


Step help

After machine sewing, remove the basting. Keep the layers together and briefly press along the sewn line to settle the stitches.

Ironing & pressing · Choose one: Flat surface Finish

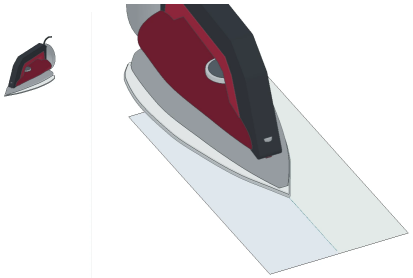
1 Press allowances open



Step help

Open the pieces, with the wrong side up. Spread the two allowances away from the stitch line and press them onto their own sides.

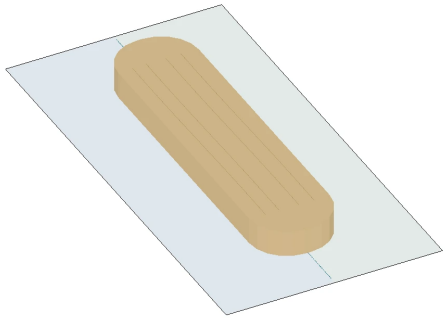
2 Optional: set a crisp edge



Step help

On a flat pressing surface, press the seam or folded edge with the heat and steam your fabric allows. Lift the iron away.

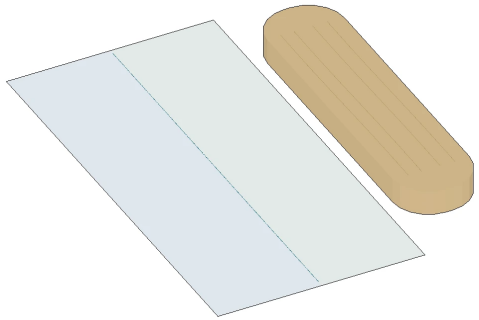
3 Hold the clapper on the warm seam



Step help

Immediately place the flat wooden clapper on the pressed area. Hold it still with gentle pressure as the seam cools.

4 Lift and check



Step help

Lift the clapper once the fabric has cooled and dried. Check for a flat seam. Use the ham or roll again if the shape needs to stay rounded.

Ironing & pressing · Choose one: Tailor’s ham Finish

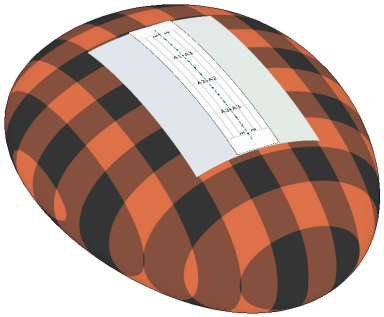
1 Choose the ham



Step help

Use the rounded ham to support curved seams. Choose the part whose curve matches your piece.

2 Rest the curve on the ham



Step help

Wrong side up. Set the seam over the rounded surface and spread the allowances apart. Keep the fabric relaxed.

3 Press a small section

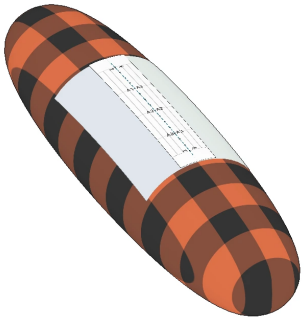


Step help

Place the iron tip between the allowances. Press, lift and move. Let the fabric cool on the ham so it keeps its curve.

Ironing & pressing · Choose one: Seam roll Finish

1 Use the roll for a narrow seam



Step help

Lay the seam along the top of the roll. Let the rest of the fabric hang to the sides, clear of the iron.

2 Press along the roll

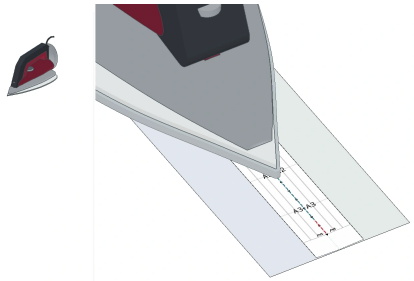


Step help

Keep the iron tip on the seam. Press short sections without flattening the garment around it. Lift before moving.

Ironing & pressing · Finish on your chosen surface

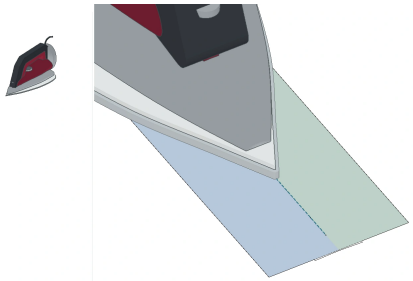
1 Press, lift, move



Step help

Press, lift, then move. Keep the fabric supported on your chosen surface and let it cool in shape.

2 Press the right side

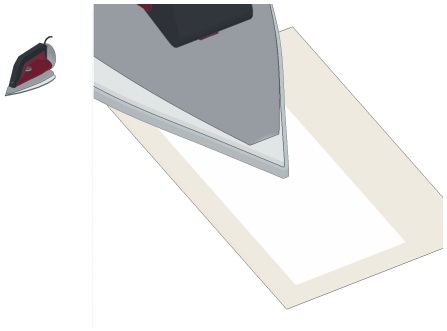


Step help

Turn the work over and press the join from the right side.

Ironing & pressing · Tips

1 Test your fabric



Step help

Test heat and steam on a scrap. Use a pressing cloth if needed. The ham, roll and clapper are optional tools, available separately.