

630
T 31m
#260

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY

interface it



*for
quality
and
fashion*

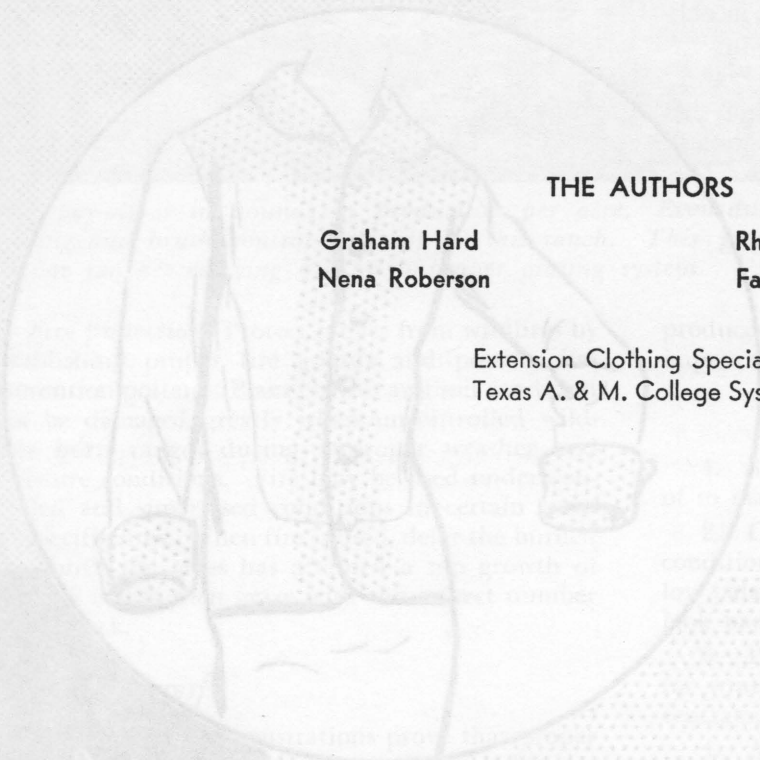
TEXAS AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
J. E. HUTCHISON, DIRECTOR, COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

THE AUTHORS

**Graham Hard
Nena Roberson**

**Rheba Merle Boyles
Fannie Brown Eaton**

Extension Clothing Specialists
Texas A. & M. College System



interface it! - - - for quality and fashion

AN INTERFACING is an extra piece of fabric placed between the facing and the outer section of a garment. Although hidden from view, an interfacing plays an important role in the final outcome of the garment. Interfacings help garments keep their shape through many wearings and provide a professional look. They help to prevent sagging and stretching in loosely woven fabrics. Interfacings should be used wherever crispness or body is wanted, as in collars and cuffs, wherever permanent shaping or molding is needed, as in a coat collar or bodice front, or wherever extra strain will be put on the garment, such as under buttons and buttonholes.

Fashion governs the use of interfacings. The fabric, design of the garment and the cleaning method to be used should determine the type of interfacing to be used and the areas to be interfaced.

Interfacing fabrics should react similarly to heat and moisture and require the same cleaning method as the fabric of the garment. For "minimum care" or "drip and dry" garments it is preferable that the interfacing be of the same fiber as the garment.

Avoid fabrics for interfacings that hold a sharp crease or tend to lose their crispness or body. Decide first on the amount of stiffness or softness desired in the area to be interfaced; then select your interfacing fabric accordingly. Interfacings should retain shape and reinforce without adding bulk or an undesirable hand. The surface of the interfacing fabric should be smooth; that is, without texture to press through and show on the right side. (See table on page 7.)

PREPARATION OF INTERFACINGS

If an interfacing fabric is not labeled "pre-shrunk," shrink and press it thoroughly before cutting. Keep the grainline straight when pressing.

Use the garment pattern of the piece to be interfaced if no pattern is given for the interfacing. Watch the grainlines carefully because the outer pieces of the garment and the interfacings should move and behave as one.

If the garment is to have tailored buttonholes, transfer from the pattern to the interfacing all markings, including the center front, buttons and buttonholes.

To join seams in light-weight interfacings, lap the seamline on seamline and stitch, Figure 1A. Trim seam allowances to $\frac{1}{8}$ inch from seamline.

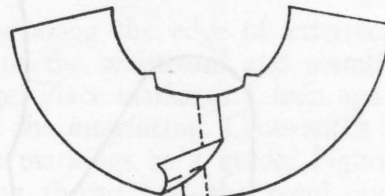


Figure 1A

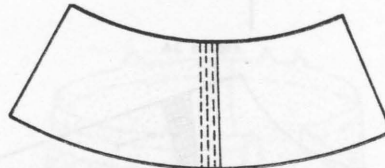


Figure 1B

To make darts in an interfacing, cut the dart through center to the point and lap seamline on seamline, Figure 2A. Stitch along the seamline, then zigzag across the lapped fabric. Figures 2B and 2C.

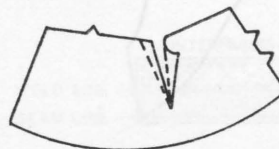


Figure 2A

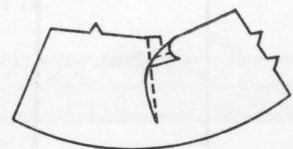


Figure 2B

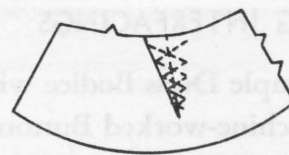


Figure 2C

When hair canvas or other heavy interfacing fabric is used, cut along the stitching line and remove fabric to be darted out, Figure 3A. Bring edges together over a 1-inch bias strip of muslin or similar fabric, Figure 3B. Stitch along edges, then zigzag stitching lines across the slit for reinforcement, Figure 3C. Join seams by lapping seamline on seamline and stitch where a firm seam is desired, as in the peplum of a jacket. A row of stitching near the edge of the seam allowance will prevent it from rolling.

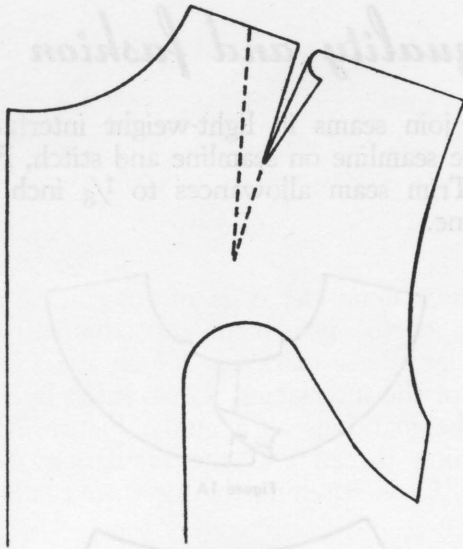


Figure 3A

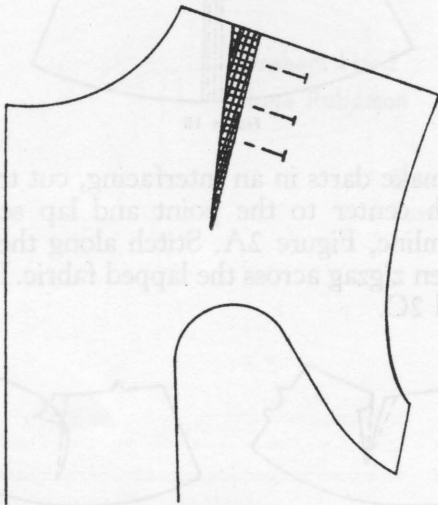


Figure 3B

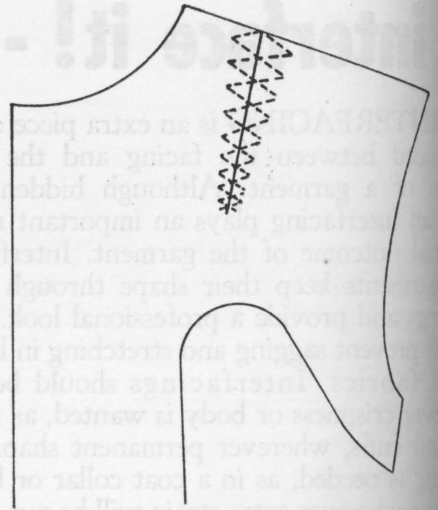


Figure 3C

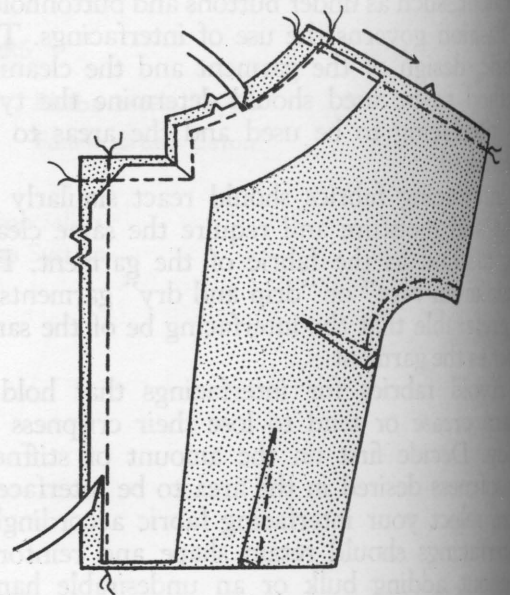


Figure 4

ATTACHING INTERFACINGS

Blouse or Simple Dress Bodice with Hand or Machine-worked Buttonholes

Place interfacing to wrong side of garment, matching corresponding markings. Trim interfacing at front neckline points, approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from seamline, Figure 4. Stay-stitch the interfacing to the wrong side of the garment section. Stitch with the garment next to the feed dog.

Trim the seam allowance of the interfacing as close as possible to the stitching line, Figure 4.

When the facing is cut in one with the bodice, the interfacing may be attached at the foldline with a long basting stitch, taking a very short stitch into the garment. Keep the long

float in the stitch between the interfacing and the facing, Figure 5.

Blouse or Dress Bodice with Tailored Buttonholes

The interfacing is attached to the garment by the same method as for the blouse or dress with worked buttonholes. Transfer such markings as center front, buttons and buttonholes to the right side of the garment by machine basting through the interfacing and bodice front.

Collar and/or Cuffs

Place the interfacing to the wrong side of the collar, keeping marked side out and corresponding markings matching. Trim interfacing

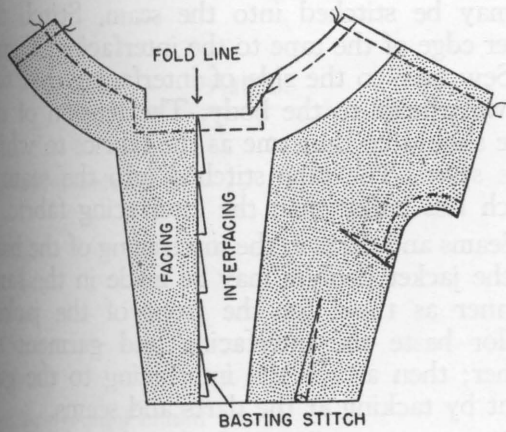


Figure 5

at points on outer edge of collar, approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from stitching line. This will make the points less bulky when the collar is turned, Figure 6A.

Stay-stitch interfacing to the underside of the collar with stitching exactly on the seamline, following direction of the grain. To hold the interfacing and under collar together on heavy fabrics, use the regulation machine stitch forming designs as shown in Figures 6A and B. The padding stitches may be omitted for garments of lighter weight fabric.

Trim the seam allowance of the interfacing to $\frac{1}{8}$ inch from the stitching line before completing the collar.

Treat the interfacing for the cuffs the same as for the collar.

Skirt Band

Cut the interfacing for the skirt band half the width and the same length of the strip cut for the band. Place interfacing on the wrong side of the band. Attach the interfacing to the half of the band which is worn next to the body, Figure 7A. One edge should be along the lengthwise fold of the waistband and the other at the edge. Join the band and interfacing by

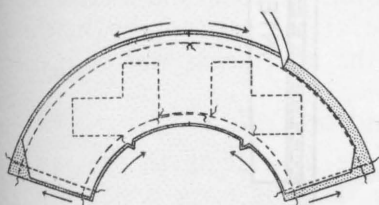


Figure 6A

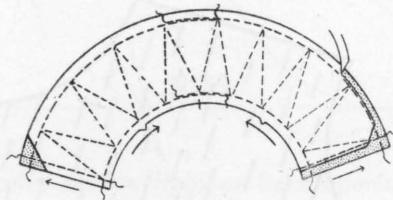


Figure 6B

stitching along the edge of interfacing at the center of the waistband and seamline toward the edge. Place markings 1 inch apart on each edge of the interfacing. Cross-stitch by following the markings as a guide, Figure 7B. Use matching thread and the regulation machine stitch. Cross-stitching the interfaced band rein-

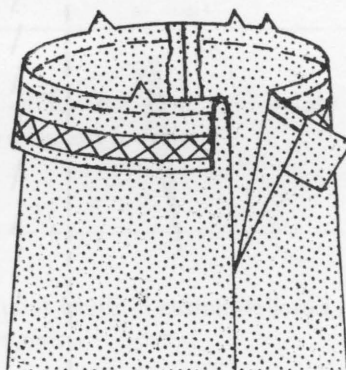


Figure 7A

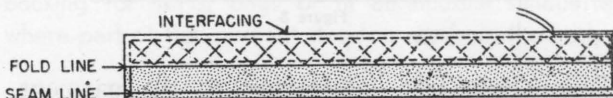


Figure 7B

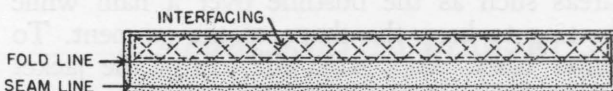


Figure 7C

forces the band and prevents stretching and crushing.

If the skirt fabric is heavy, the interfacing may be trimmed so that it does not go into the seams. When attaching the interfacing to the band, stitch the ends and the side that is away from the center of the band $\frac{3}{4}$ inch from the cut edge, Figure 7C.

Jacket for Better Dressmaking and/or Semitailoring

Place interfacing and garment fronts together with armseye, shoulder and neck edges even.

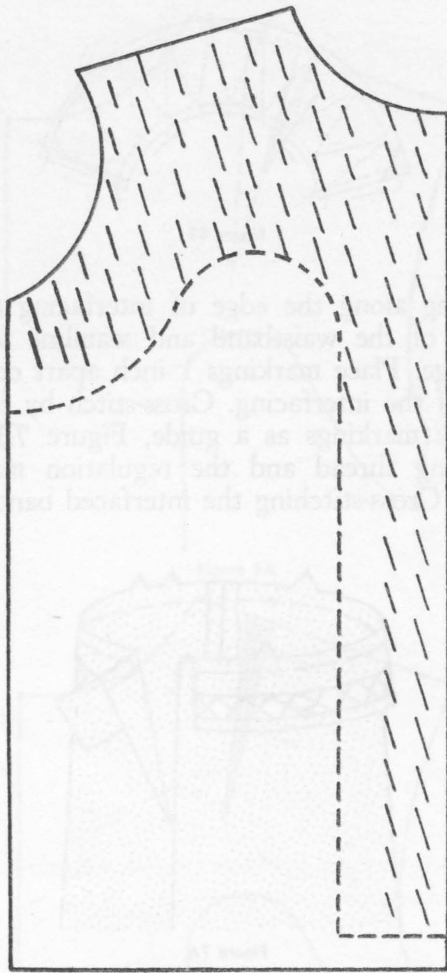


Figure 8

Tailor baste the interfacing to the garment, working with the garment side up. Place curved areas such as the bustline over a ham while basting to keep the shape of the garment. To tailor baste, work from the top of the jacket downward, taking short, horizontal stitches through both fabrics. Space rows of tailor basting about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches apart, Figure 8.

Stay-stitch the interfacing and garment together at armseye, shoulder and neck. If a light-weight interfacing, such as lawn or muslin is used, stay-stitch down the front. The interfacing may be trimmed close to the stitching line, Figure 4, page 4.

If a heavier interfacing such as very light-weight hair canvas is used, cut away the seam allowance down the front. Cut away seam allowance on shawl-type collars. Cover the edge of the interfacing with a firmly woven, rayon seam tape. Let the outer edge of the tape extend over the edge of the interfacing far enough that

it may be stitched into the seam. Stitch the inner edge of the tape to the interfacing, Figure 9. Sew tape to the side of interfacing that will be worn next to the body. The tension of the tape should be the same as the fabrics to which it is sewn. The tape stitched into the seam is much less bulky than the interfacing fabric.

Seams and darts in the interfacing of the back of the jacket peplum may be made in the same manner as those for the front of the jacket. Tailor baste the interfacing and garment together; then attach the interfacing to the garment by tacking at the darts and seams.

Seam tape may be stitched to the edge of the interfacing at the waistline to insure a snug fit and to prevent stretching.

Nonwoven or Bonded Fabric as Backing for Skirt

Cut the nonwoven fabric exactly by the skirt pattern. Pin together carefully the edge of the nonwoven fabric and skirt fabric; then stitch them together. Sew seams in the skirt, treating as one piece of fabric. Stitch with woven fabric next to the feed dog. The nonwoven fabric usually is cut off at the foldline of the hem.

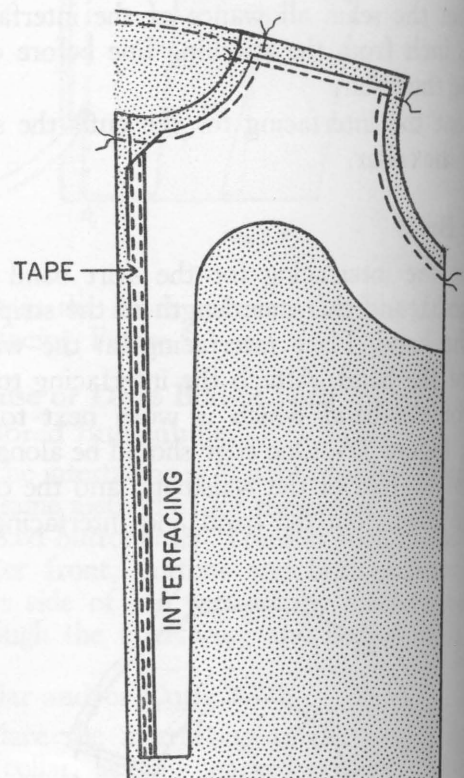


Figure 9

Suggested Interfacing Fabrics and Their Uses

FABRICS

USES

Permanent finish lawn

Collars, cuffs, bodice front or back openings, faced necks, and armseyes for dresses or blouses of light-weight cotton, linen, silk and rayon.

Firm light-weight muslin

Jacket fronts, collars, cuffs, skirt band and peplums. In tailored dresses and dress-maker suits and coats of cotton, linen, rayon and light-weight wool.

Crease-resistant cotton of medium weight

Same uses as for the firm light-weight muslin, but where more crispness is desired.

Hair canvas

Jacket and coat fronts in custom-tailored and/or semi-tailored garments.

Nonwoven or bonded fabrics

Backing for skirts, bags or in an unusual silhouette where part of the garment stands away from the body.

Net or chiffon

Lace garments.

Have You Met



. . . . YOUR COUNTY EXTENSION AGENTS? If not, drop by to see them soon. They represent both the United States Department of Agriculture and The Texas A. & M. College System in your county and they can furnish the latest information on farming, ranching and homemaking.

Most county extension agents have their offices in the county courthouse or agriculture building. Get to know them and take advantage of their services.

This publication is one of many prepared by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service to present up-to-date, authoritative information, based on results of research. Extension publications are available from your local agents or from the Agricultural Information Office, College Station, Texas.