

TRICKS OF THE TRADE

Sewing Machine Alternatives

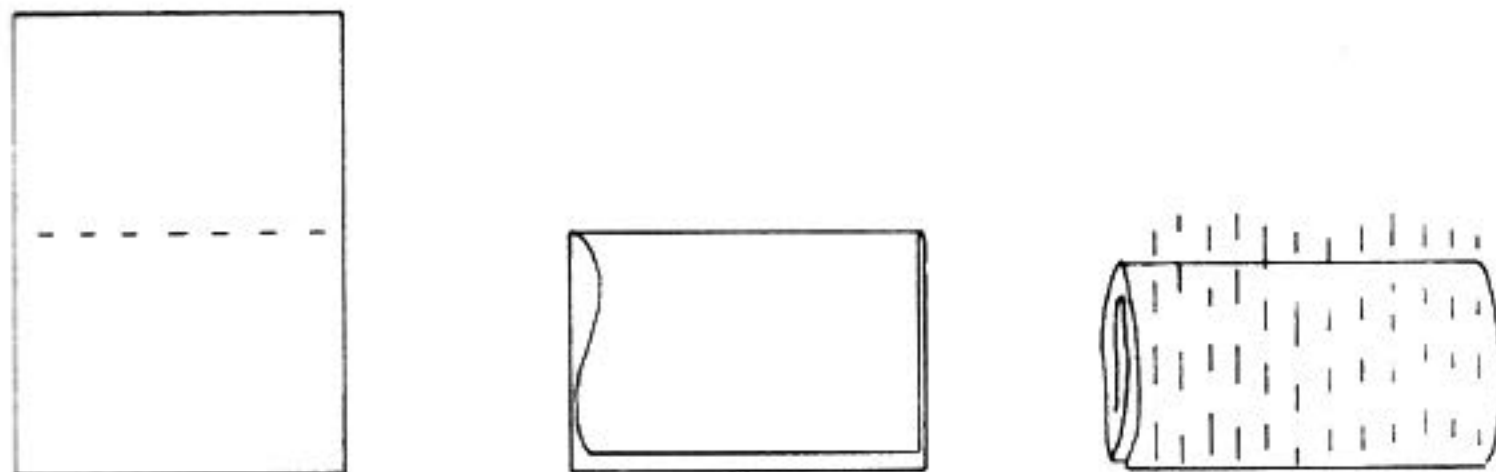
There are many new products available that allow you to make fabric treatments without a sewing machine. They require an iron and can safely be washed. Follow the manufacturer's directions.

Iron-on adhesive: Available by the yard or in precut rolls of various widths in fabric or crafts shops. You can make finished edges, hems, linings, and rod pockets on fabric projects.

Fabric glue: Use in place of iron-on adhesive. Squeeze from a bottle or a tube.

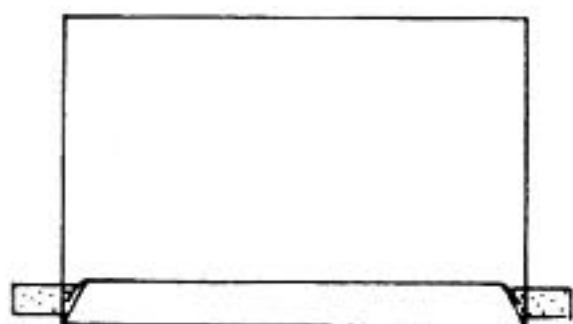
Fusing Techniques

To cut strips from a yard of iron-on adhesive: Fold adhesive in half, then fold in half two more times. Make vertical cuts 1 inch apart. Unroll each strip. (Figure 1)



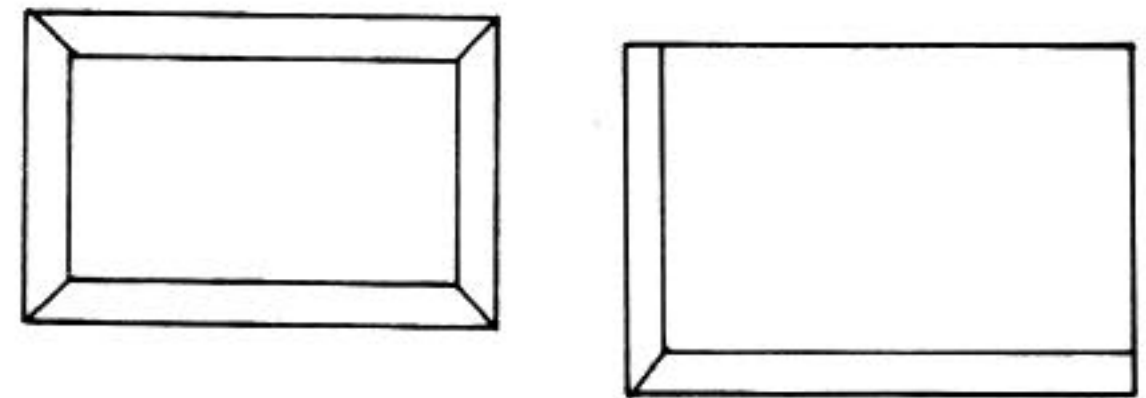
(Figure 1)

To make a finished edge or hem: Lay fabric right side down, fold raw edge of fabric over 1/4 inch and press. Fold again 1/4 to 1/2 inch and press to create a finished edge. Place a strip of iron-on adhesive or fabric glue along second folded edge and press to fuse. (Figure 2)

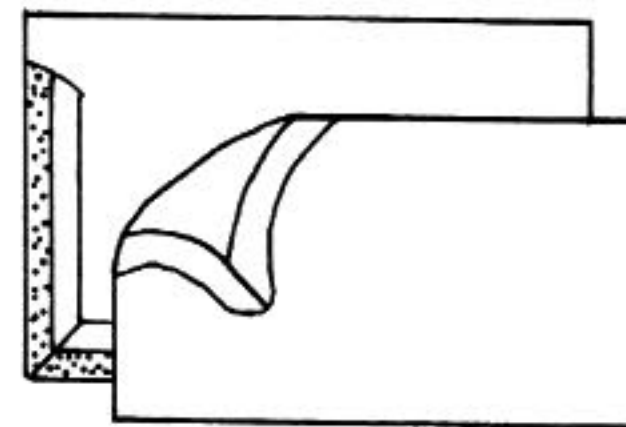


(Figure 2)

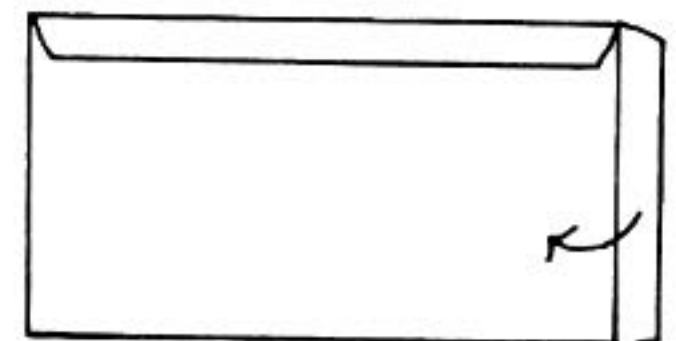
To line fabric: Lay fabric right side down. Fold all raw edges of fabric 1/2 inch and press to create crisp folds. Lay lining right side down. Fold and press only two sides (one length, one width 1/2 inch). (Figure 1) Lay fabric and lining with wrong sides together, so folded edges meet. Lay a strip of iron-on adhesive against edges or squeeze glue between folded edges and press. (Figure 2) Fold and press other two sides of lining over the fabric piece to match sides evenly. Tuck folds in between fabric and lining, place iron-on adhesive along edge, and press to fuse. (Figure 3)



(Figure 1)

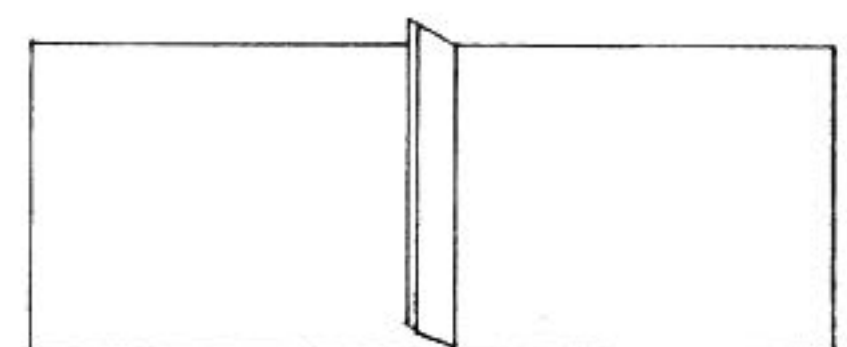
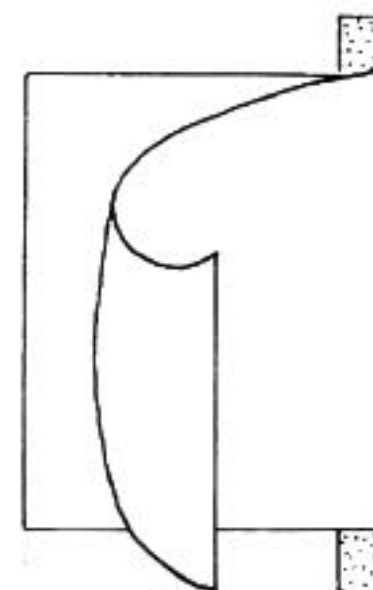


(Figure 2)



(Figure 3)

Seaming fabric: Lay fabric right side down. Fold sides of each piece of fabric to be seamed together 1/2 inch and press. Fuse together by placing a strip of iron-on adhesive between folds. Let cool and check bond. Press seam excess to one side. (Figure 4)



(Figure 4)