

GLOSSARY OF TERMS USED

Use this section to better understand the terminology being used in the sewing pattern. With each pattern, we will be adding to the Glossary.



BASTE

Basting stitches are temporary longer stitches you can sew by hand or machine that hold fabric in place before sewing. They are removed once the final seam is sewn. Always try to baste just inside the seam allowance so your machine stitches are to the left of the basting, so the basting stitches don't scar the fabric.



TOPSTITCH

Topstitching is stitching on the outside of a garment that is parallel to the seam that has just been sewn. To topstitch, sew through the fabric and seam allowance after pressing to help the seam lay flat.



SEAM ALLOWANCE

The seam allowance is the distance between the stitching line and the raw edge of the fabric. Always check the seam allowance on the pattern instructions as they can vary for different parts of a garment.



BIAS TAPE

Is used to finish edges and stretches slightly as it is cut on the bias (diagonally). You can buy premade bias tape or easily make your own so it matches your project. The bias line in fabric runs 45 degrees to the selvedge edge and allows for the most stretch.



OVERCAST/FINISH SEAM

This can be done by trimming your seams with pinking shears, or by using a zig-zag stitch along the seam edges or finishing with an overlocker / serger. Some new machines also have an overcast stitch which will nicely finish your seams too!