

Stabilizing Knits with SewkeysE Extremely Fine Fusible Stay Tapes

Fusible stay tapes are used stabilize key areas of knits garments in preparation for sewing or serging. They are available in ½", 1", 1¼" sizes and three colors, white, natural and black. Generally, stitch with the tape on top, the fabric against the feed dog.

A. Woven Stay Tape

1. Shoulder Seams. Fuse the front *or* back seam. Fusing the front shoulder seam is recommended. Ease in the back seam, which is often a bit longer, into the front seam.
2. Horizontal Seams in areas that require stability, not stretch. For example, the center front of a shawl collar.
3. Zipper Insertion. Fuse entire length of both sides of the zipper opening.
4. Pocket Openings.
5. Support Embellishments, such as embroidery or beading.



B. Knit Stay Tape

1. Neckline. Fuse the front and back necklines. Press and ease around the curves. May require clipping the outer edge for a smooth fusing.
2. Horizontal seams that need stretch. For example, yoke or color blocking seams.
3. Hems. Use tape that is the width of the finished hem. For example, fuse 1¼" tape to the outer edge of the hem. Fold a 1¼" hem, stitch with a double needle, narrow zig zag or cover stitch.
4. Vertical seams. Fuse side seams if fabric is extremely stretchy or unravels excessively.



Resources

SewkeysE, Emma Seabrook, <https://shop.emmaseabrooke.com/category.sc?categoryId=3>

Pamela's Patterns. *Stay Application for Knits*, <https://pamelaspatterns.com/technique-sew-alongs>