



The Ultimate Fabric & Seam Finish Matchmaker

(Keep this printed next to your domestic sewing machine!)

Step 1: Identify Your Fabric & Match the Finish

- **Lightweight / Sheer (Chiffon, Organza, Silk):**
 - *Finish:* Ultra-narrow French Seam (1/8 inch) or Rolled Hem.
 - *Needle:* Microtex (Size 60/8 or 70/10).
 - *Foot:* Walking Foot / Dual-Feed.
- **Medium Wovens (Quilting Cotton, Poplin, Linen):**
 - *Finish:* Clean Finish (Turn & Stitch), Zigzag with Overcast Foot, or Pinking.
 - *Needle:* Universal or Microtex (Size 80/12).
 - *Foot:* Overcast Foot / Standard.
- **Heavyweight Wovens (Denim, Canvas, Twill):**
 - *Finish:* Flat-Felled Seam.
 - *Needle:* Jeans / Denim (Size 90/14 or 100/16).
 - *Foot:* Standard Foot.
- **Knits & Stretch (Jersey, Spandex blends):**
 - *Finish:* Stretch Overedge or Multi-step Tricot Stitch.
 - *Needle:* Ballpoint or Stretch (Size 75/11 or 90/14).
 - *Foot:* Overcast Foot.

Step 2: Pre-Sewing Checklist

- [] Did I test the top thread tension on a scrap piece of this exact fabric?
- [] Is my needle fresh? (Replace every 8 hours of sewing).
- [] Am I using high-quality polyester thread instead of snapping cotton?
- [] Do I have my iron turned on with the correct heat setting for pressing?