

French Seam

French seams are most commonly used on sheer fabrics because no raw edges show through. French seams work well for straight seams, but are not flexible enough for curved seams. A French seam looks like a plain seam on the garment's outside and a narrow tuck on the wrong side. Follow these steps to make a French seam sample:

1. Pin the wrong sides of the fabric together.
2. Stitch $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch from the raw edges. Trim the seam allowances to $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch. Press the seam allowances open.
3. Fold the fabric along the seam line with the right sides together. Press.
4. Stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch from the folded edge.
5. Staple your sample to the back of this direction sheet.