

Cotton Cocktails

Sewline Glue Pen Hints and Tips



This glue pen is specifically designed to use with fabric. It contains a narrow column of glue for precise application and is safe to use for machine sewing without making the machine needle sticky. The glue is blue in colour when applied but dries clear and can be washed out of the finished project. The glue pen pack contains one refill and further refills are available in packs of two.

General Hints and Tips

When applying the glue to fabric use light pressure and short strokes of the pen and rotate the pen as you apply glue to avoid lumps. The glue will dry quite quickly so only apply it to small sections of your work at any one time. Hold the ridged grip below the glue tip and twist the pen to raise the glue. When you have used all the glue you will see a grey stopper appear as you twist the glue up. It's time to refill your glue pen!

Refilling the Pen

Hold the ridged grip and turn the barrel to expose the grey base cap of the glue stick remnant. Pull this cap from its holder. Take the cap off a refill and you will see the grey base. Push it into place on the glue pen then slide off the refill cover. Turn the barrel anti-clockwise to wind down the glue.



Glue Pen Uses

Seams

Use a dab of glue to hold fabrics together at seam intersections rather than pins. The seams won't shift as you sew over them and you won't have to sew over pins and risk breaking your sewing machine needle!

The glue is very useful if you are sewing unusual materials such as vinyl or leather as you can glue the materials together before sewing and avoid leaving pin holes in your project. If your sewing machine foot sticks to the smooth surface of these materials temporarily glue tissue paper on them. After stitching you can simply tear away the paper.

English Paper Piecing

Place your fabric wrong side up on a flat surface and place your paper template on top. Apply a thin line of glue along each side of the paper shape in turn and fold the seam allowance onto the paper. This avoids the need to tack the fabric to the paper and the paper shapes can easily be removed after sewing.

Applique

Use the glue to tack your fusible applique shapes in place on the background before heat setting.

For turned edge applique:

cut the applique shape out of soluble paper or lightweight interfacing

use the glue to stick the paper to the wrong side of your fabric

trim the fabric to ¼" larger than the paper shape

Now apply a thin line of glue around the edge of the paper shape and finger press the seam allowance over the edge of the paper shape to adhere it to the glue

Glue the shape onto the background and hand or machine stitch in place

Ribbons and Trim

Using glue to hold your ribbons or trims in place before sewing helps to give a much neater finish than pins as the ribbon won't shift as you sew. Try it on bias binding applied to fabric edges too!

Inserting Zips

Use the glue pen to adhere the fabric to the zipper tape before stitching. Your zip will be so much easier to stitch than using pins and won't distort as you sew.

More detailed instructions for inserting zips into cushion backs is available from Cotton Cocktails. Contact hazel@cottoncocktails.co.uk for details.