

# Cuddle® 101: Tips for Sewing with Cuddle®

## Cutting

- Check nap BEFORE you cut each piece to be sure it is going in the right direction.
- When cutting with a rotary cutter or scissors, you will get “Cuddle® dust”; the longer the fibers, the more “dust.” To control this, after cutting remove from cutting surface and place in dryer with a damp wash cloth on no/low heat for about 10 minutes. After the initial shed is over, the Cuddle® will stop shedding.
- For less shed, use a sharp blade, such as a snap-off knife or scalpel-style seam ripper. Use along the edge of your ruler or draw the cutting line along wrong side first. Cut from the wrong side, then pull apart gently.
- Keep a portable hand vacuum nearby. Vacuum along cutting lines before moving fabric, being careful not to suck up fabric.
- Clean the Cuddle® dust from your cutting mat with a damp washcloth.
- Cuddle® does not fray because it is a knit. You can use Cuddle® raw edge for appliques and binding.
- When using pattern pieces, use pattern weights rather than pins for more accurate cuts.
- Use a press cloth if pressing is needed.

### Don't forget:

- 90/14 Stretch Needles
- Walking Foot
- Basting Spray
- Flat Flower Head Pins
- Polyester Thread

## Sewing

- Sew using at least a 3.5mm stitch length and use a 90/14 Stretch Needle.
- Be aware of nap, grain and stretch. Stitch stretchy sides together and non-stretchy sides together.
- Pin fabrics together well and sew slowly. Flat flower head pins are best because they are easy to see in the thickness of Cuddle®. Sewing fast will cause upper fabric to stretch.
- Use a Walking Foot (preferred) or Even Feed Foot to prevent stretching, pleating and shifting of fabric.
- Engage the “needle-down” feature on your machine. If you do not have this feature, turn the wheel on the right side of your machine to put the needle in the fabric when you stop to adjust the fabric, and continue stitching.
- Make sure that your presser foot tension is not too tight. This can cause the fabric to not feed through the machine evenly. Check your machine’s manual to learn how you can adjust it.
- For rugs or extra thick items, try a 100/16 needle.

## Assembling

- Quilts made with Cuddle® are easiest to sew when using basting spray. Be sure to ventilate area when spraying. We prefer 505® Spray and Fix by ODIF.
- Use scrap muslin or paper to protect projects and surrounding area from overspray.
- For batting, we especially like Quilters Dream Poly™ and Quilters Dream® Angel™ from Quilters Dream® Batting; both will not add too much extra weight. We also like Poly-Down® from Hobbs Bonded Fibers; it has a nice soft drape and is very light.

## Care

- Wash in cool water. Tumble dry without heat. Do not over-dry. Do not use liquid fabric softener.