Do I need to put stabilizer on top of my projects?

When do luse

tear away and

when do luse cut

HELP

When should I hoop

and when should I

HELP

sheer fabrics?

Do stabilizers

come in various

weights?

HELP

How do I

stabilizer

use sticky and baste? Members Only Webinar **Stabilizing and Hooping for Success** 

- Use the smallest hoop possible for your embroidery
- Always hoop so that the project is tight and not droopy in the hoop. Many people refer to this s "tight as a drum"
- After your project is hooped do not pull around the edge excessively to "tighten" the project in the hoop. This can cause the fabric to be stretched and once it is removed from the hoop it will relax and cause puckers around the design.
- Make sure the inner ring of the hoop extends beyond the outer ring on when you are looking at the back of the hoop. This helps to avoid the project popping out of the hoop during the embroidery process.

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Correct size hoop for embroidery

Fabric hooped tight but not stretched

Hoop too large for "G" embroidery

No topper on textured project







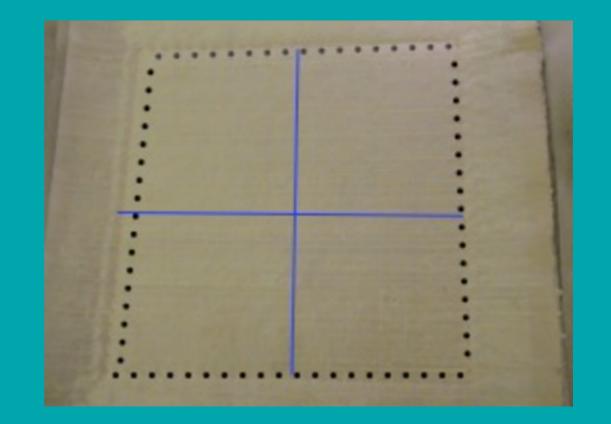
• When using sticky stabilizer, hoop with the protective paper side up, score an "X" through the center and remove the protective paper.



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• I like to then attach the hoop to the embroidery machine center the project under the needle, line up the brail marks with the lines on my project and then gently press the project onto the sticky stabilizer and base in place.





# When to baste in place

- Baste when the fabric might be damaged by the hoop. Velvet, leather etc.
- Baste when the project is too thick to hoop. Terry Cloth, some purses totes etc.
- Baste when the design is so large you can not move it in the hoop and you want to have an easy placement technique.
- Baste when the project is too small to hoop. Baby "onsies" socks, corners of handkerchiefs and napkins, neck ties, headbands etc.

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## When to baste in place

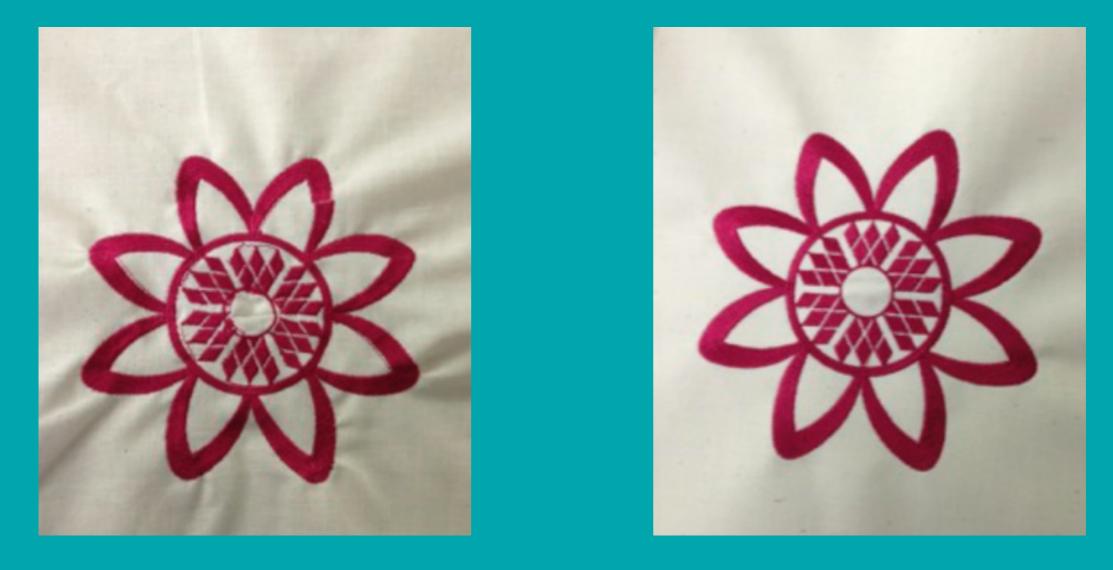


#### Also when the fabrics can't be hooped. Example: Velvets Leathers





## Prepping your Fabric



Fuse a knit interfacing to the back of your fabric. This increases the number of stitches your fabric can hold, and allows you to get beautiful results.

## Stabilizers have lots of names:

#### • Water Soluble

Aqua Magic Dissolve Magic Solvy Badgemaster Wet and Gone FaBric Stick and rinse Perfect Sew Terial Magic

#### • Tear Away Stabilizer

Tear Away Magic Tear Easy Pellon Tear Away FaBricStick and Tear

#### · Cut Away

Cut Away No Show Mesh

#### · Iron Away

Heat and Melt Heat and Gone Heat Away Melt Away

#### Adhesive Backed Pressure Sensitive Sticky

- Fusible
- Water Activated

#### Tear Away and Cut Away Colors: black white

- *Water Soluble : Fabric Like Plastic Film Like*
- Heat Away Plastic Film Like Brush Away









#### **Tear away stabilizer:**

Tears away from the design.

**Uses:** Great for projects/fabrics that are somewhat stable such as quilters cotton, a fabric that has been "prepped" with knit interfacing, a fabric that has fusible batting on the back of it etc.

When used for designs that are "open" it can sometimes be difficult to pick out all the little pieces of stabilizer that are left behind.

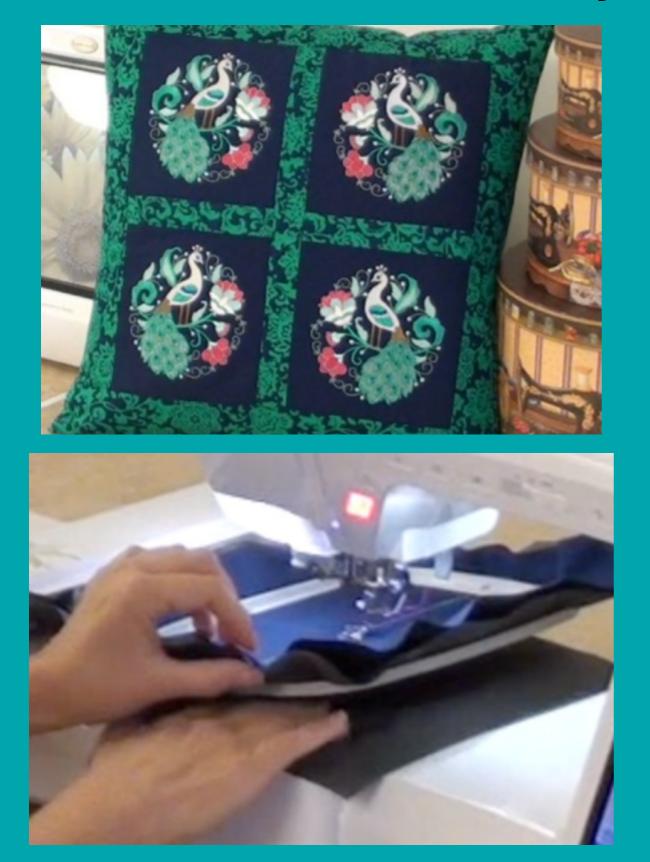
When used for designs that are filled in, it easily tears away from outside the design.

Great for use behind decorative satin stitches.

**Instructions for use:** Hoop the stabilizer and the project/fabric together *or* hoop the stabilizer and then baste the project/fabric in place.

Gently tear away the stabilizer from the outside of the embroidered design.

#### **Tear away stabilizer:**



Cotton/Ploy Fabric Black Tear Away Floating extra layer of stabilizer

"Floating Stabilizer"

For added stabilization place a piece of stabilizer under the hoop and on top of the feed dogs.

### **Tear Away Fusible Stabilizer:**

Fuses to the project/fabric to give added stabilization, and tears away when finished. IMPORTANT: This is to be fused LIGHTLY to the project. If you fuse it too well, it will not come off.

**Uses:** Perfect for projects/fabrics such as linen, cotton, etc that need just a bit more stabilization than a regular tear away provides.

When used for designs that are "open" it is difficult to pick out all the little pieces of stabilizer that are left behind.

When used for designs that are filled in, it easily tears away from outside the design. (If you haven't fused it too much)

**Instructions for use:** Fuse (according the the manufacturers instructions) a piece of stabilizer to the back of the area to be embroidered, making sure the stabilizer extends beyond the design about 1 1/2" When finished gently pull the stabilizer away from the outside of the design and tear away to remove it.

### **Tear Away Sticky Stabilizer**

"Sticky" to hold your fabric in place during embroidery, and tears away when you are finished.

**Uses:** Great for when you don't want to or can't hoop your fabric (velvet, thick terry cloth etc), when you need perfect line up for multiple embroideries, when your fabric is really "drapey" and needs extra help to keep it lined up correctly for your project, when you want to do just a corner on a napkin or hanky, a tie, a baby blanket corner, etc.

When used for designs that are "open" it is difficult to pick out all the little pieces of stabilizer that are left behind.

When used for designs that are filled in, it easily tears away from outside the design. (If you haven't fused it too much)

Sometimes the sticky will pull the loops on terry cloth when trying to remove it.

Instructions for use: Hoop the stabilizer protective paper side up, score the protective paper and remove it from inside the hoop are.

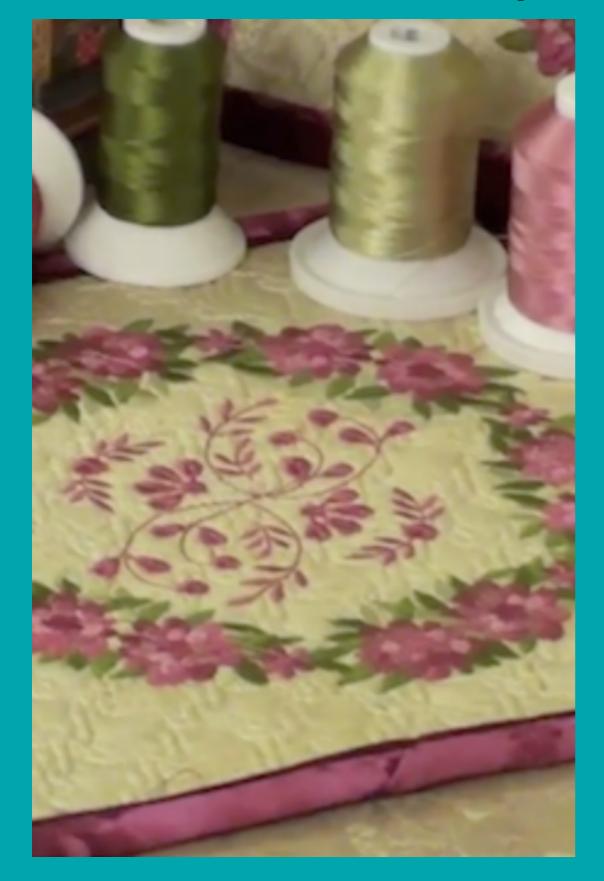
Place your project/fabric on the hoop, lining it up appropriately and press down to "stick" to the stabilizer, baste in place and then do your embroidery design.

When finished gently pull the stabilizer away

from the outside of the design and GENTLY tear away to remove it.



#### **Tear Away Sticky Stabilizer**



Silk Fused with batting StickyTemplates for placement Sticky Tear Away





#### **Cut Away Stabilizer**

Cut away excess from around your design when finished. Stays in the project forever to support the design even after laundering.

**Uses:** Great for dense designs, medium to heavy weight woven fabrics, and unstable fabrics such as knits, and open weave fabrics. Perfect for golf/polo shirts. This is great anytime it will not matter if your stabilizer shows behind the embroider.

*Instructions for use:* Hoop the stabilizer and the project/fabric together or hoop the stabilizer and then baste the project/fabric in place.

CUT (do NOT tear) away the stabilizer from the outside of the embroidered design.

#### **Cut Away Stabilizer**



Stays in the fabric forever so designs hold their shape even after laundering



### No Show Mesh Poly or Nylon Cut Away Stabilizer

Stays in your project forever. Excess can be removed with a heat tool.

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**Uses:** Great for creating 3D Embroideries (AKA Embroidery Decoupage and Embroidery Appliqué). Perfect for children's garments because it is so soft. Use anytime you do not want added stiffness on your project.

*Instructions for use:* Hoop the stabilizer and the project/fabric together or hoop the stabilizer and then baste the project/fabric in place. **CUT (do NOT tear)** away the stabilizer from the outside of the embroidered design.

**3D** Embroidery: Hoop 1 layer of No Show Mesh Stabilizer between 2 layers of poly or nylon organza. Stitch out the design. Use a heat tool to remove the stabilizer outside of the design. Stitch your 3D Embroidery to your project with a free motion stitch or a zig zag stitch.

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### No Show Mesh Poly or Nylon Cut Away Stabilizer







- 1. 2 layers of organza and one layer of NSM Hoop, stitched, remove excess with heat tool.
- Hoop 2 (blue) organza and 1 NSM Stitch placing appliqué fabric on front and back as needed and trimming away as directed. Remove excess stabilizer and organza with heat tool.
- 3. Finished ornaments from photo 2
- 4. Same technique as photo 2



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### No Show Mesh Poly or Nylon FUSIBLE Cut Away Stabilizer

Can be fused to the back of your project/fabric for added stabilization. Stays in your project forever. Cut away excess.

**Uses:** Fuse a piece of this stabilizer over the embroidery designs on children's garments to keep the garment smooth agains the child's skin. Prep the fabric with this to increase the number of stitches your fabric/project can hold. (Fuse to the back of fabric and then stabilize with other stabilizer.)

*Instructions for use:* Fuse to the back of your fabric following the manufacturers instructions and making sure the iron will not damage the fabric you are fusing to.

Hoop the stabilized fabric and stitch out the design, or if you are going to be using additional stabilizer you can hoop the additional stabilizer and baste your project in place.

If desired cut away excess stabilizer, but this is not usually necessary since this is "no show"

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#### No Show Mesh Poly or Nylon FUSIBLE Cut Away Stabilizer





I actually did this with tear away, but it would be great with No Show Fusible Mesh. Fuse the entire center square with NSFM, hoop and embroider....Quick easy, great results!

Butterfly done with 2 layers of water soluble and 1 layer of organza. The stabilizer was NOT fully washed out so the butterfly has some stiffness to it for shaping.

### Water Soluble Stabilizer

Totally washes away in water so you have no stabilizer left on your project.

**Uses:** Perfect for creating lace, and free standing embroideries (AKA: 3D embroidery, embroidery decoupage, embroidery appliqué)

Perfect for embroideries done on sheer and delicate fabrics. (Example organza, tulle, etc) No stabilizer remains in your project.

Instructions for use: Excess stabilizer must be cut away, not torn away from your project.

#### Free Standing Lace:

Note: not all sheer designs/lace are digitized as "Free Standing". Be sure to check the design to see if is digitized for this technique.

Hoop 1-2 layers of this stabilizer (depending upon the density of the embroidery design), stitch out the design, cut away the excess stabilizer and then follow the manufactures directions to dissolve the remaining stabilizer.

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#### 3D Embroidery

*Note: This can be done with water soluble stabilizer or no show mesh stabilizer* Hoop 1 layer of nylon or polyester organza between two layers of Water Soluble Stabilizer Stitch out the design using rayon thread in the needle Remove the excess stabilizer with a heat tool



#### Water Soluble Stabilizer

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2 layers of water soluble1 layer of organza betweenthe stabilizer

Hoop Stitch Remove excess with heat tool Wash away remainder



#### Heat tools



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### Water Soluble Sticky Stabilizer

"Sticky" to hold your fabric in place during embroidery, and totally washes away in water so you have no stabilizer left on your project.

**Uses:** Use this when you don't want to or can't hoop your fabric (velvet, thick terry cloth etc), when you need perfect line up for multiple embroideries, when your fabric is really "drapey" and needs extra help to keep it lined up correctly for your project, when you want to do just a corner on a napkin or hanky, a tie, a baby blanket corner, etc.

Instructions for use: Hoop the Water Soluble Sticky Stabilizer protective paper side up.

Score and remove the protective paper to expose the "sticky"

Place your project on the sticky, lining it up as desired and baste in place.

Gently pull the project away from the stabilizer when you are finished and **cut (do NOT try to tear)** away the excess stabilizer.

Remove the remaining stabilizer following the manufacturers instructions.

If you have "hard water", or your project is not soft when you are finished, you may need to use a water softener to your rinsing process.

If you need to do multiple hoopings on a really "drapey" fabric it might be easiest to put the sticky stabilizer on the back of as much of the fabric as you will be embroidering and then hoop the stabilized fabric for embroidery.

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#### Water Soluble Sticky Stabilizer



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### Water Soluble Liquid Stabilizer

Totally washes away in water so you have no stabilizer left on your project.

#### Uses:

Perfect for embroideries done on sheer and delicate fabrics. (Example organza, tulle, etc) No stabilizer remains in your project

*Instructions for use:* Brush, spray or immerse your fabric to get the stabilizer on your fabric. Let the fabric dry completely. Iron if recommended by manufacturer. Hoop the fabric and embroider your design.

Remove the stabilizer by soaking/rinsing with water.

Each of these might be slightly different so please follow the manufacturers instructions. If you have "hard water", or your project is not soft when you are finished, you may need to use a water softener to your rinsing process.

This is great for really "drapey" fabrics for single embroideries, but also for multiple hoopings. You can create your own by saving al your scraps of water soluble, putting them in a container with water and dissolving them. I have always used a thick consistency, however I want to experiment with a thinner stabilizer to see the results I get.

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#### **Toppers:**

#### Water Soluble and Heat Soluble Toppers

Use on fabrics that have a "loft", "pile", or texture to them. Velvet, terry cloth, fleece, corduroy, etc. Also use on knits so it is "sandwiched" between stabilizers so the stretch is minimized.

Put on top so the stitches do not sink into the fabric. Adds a small amount of additional stabilization.

Iron Away.

I have used this as a stabilizer for projects where the project basically doesn't need a stabilizer. Example a tote that has a layer of batting between two layers of fabric, and the design was near the edge so I couldn't hoop the project. I just hooped the heat soluble and basted the project in place.

## Questions that were submitted

- When to use tear away and when to use cut away
- What are the uses for various weights of sticky stabilizers , and examples of when to use the different ones.
- How tight should the material be hooped? Does it change for larger hoops?
- Help please. I spend way to much time trying to decide which stabilizer to user for the project if the pattern doesn't have it.
- I rarely hoop my projects. Are there any cases when you need to hoop rather than baste or adhere the fabric to the stabilizer?
- When is it best not to hoop and just lay the fabric on top of the hoop? Does it depend on the fabric?
- What is the best stabilizer to use when trying to topstitch a quilt?
- What is the best stabilizer for continuous design on bath towels
- Are all the stabilizer the same from all manufacturers?
- What are the different names and uses
- What is the appropriate stabilizer for burlap, top and bottom?
- Where to place designs on garments (will cover this in detail on a different webinar)

## A few last tips

- Store the label from the stabilizer inside the tube the roll is on
- When testing a design, fill out the worksheet, put it in a plastic sleeve and keep them all together in a 3 ring binder
- Save your scraps of water soluble stabilizer to create your own liquid stabilizer. Once made, store in a jar in your refrigerator Be sure to use it as soon as possible. (Within a few days)
- The more you embroider the easier it will become to choose the correct stabilizer.
- Follow manufacturers instructions each stabilizer.
- Fuse knit interfacing or no show mesh over the back of an embroidery design after it is stitched to make it soft against the skin.



### Enjoy great results when you stabilize and hoop correctly!