

# 10 Tips for Working with Cuddle® Minky

## Mark it before you cut it.

First, lay your piece of minky fabric on a flat surface — this can be done on the floor, dining room table or a cutting mat depending on the size. Use a ballpoint pen or a permanent marker to mark your cutting lines or curves on the back of the fabric.



## Cut minky with the right tools.

Regular minky fabric (our Cuddle® 3 fabric or Cuddle® Dimple) works especially well with a rotary cutter.

If you're working with Luxe Cuddle®, a craft knife is a better option. Cut from the wrong side to avoid cutting the fibers and making a mess.



## Get rid of the mess before you start to sew.

Vacuum edges as you cut, then put your cut pieces and a wet washcloth in the dryer. Let them tumble around on low or no heat for five to ten minutes, and all of the small fibers will end up in your lint trap!

## Double-pin to keep it more stable as you sew.

Pin parallel to the raw edge, then pin a second row parallel to the first, in alternating positions. Take the first row of pins out to sew, the second row of pins will keep the fabric from sliding.



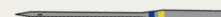
## Lengthen your stitch length & lower your pressure

Use a straight stitch, but start with a 3–3.5mm stitch length. The longer stitch works better with the plush fabric and walking foot. Lower the presser foot pressure if the foot is pushing it forward instead of feeding through nicely.

## Use a 90/14 stretch needle

Because Cuddle® is a knit fabric, make sure to use a sewing needle made for knits. We've had the best luck with a 90/14 stretch needle—it is made specifically to work with knits.

You can use a jersey or ballpoint needle, but do not use a universal. Universal needles will often result in skipped stitches.



## Use a walking foot.

Many machines come with a walking foot, but if you don't have one, we recommend getting one. A walking foot drops down to hold the fabric, but lifts up as you sew, which feeds the fabric through much more smoothly and efficiently.



## Always sew Cuddle® with polyester thread.

Sew with polyester thread to increase stitch strength! Because minky fabric is a knit polyester, it has stretch inherently. Polyester thread has a bit of stretch as well, so when you combine the two they work together nicely (and don't forget about the bobbin!).



## Use basting spray to keep fabrics in position.

Put basting spray to work to keep fabric smooth and in position while sewing. Basting spray is a great way to hold strips in place when pinning or holding two layers together while binding.



## Wash it the right way.

All Cuddle® and Luxe Cuddle® fabrics are machine-washable in cool water and a low-heat dryer. Do not overdry or use fabric softeners. Wash as needed.