

Klic-N-Kut

Cut FABRICS with the KNK

Stabilizer Recommendations

Steam-A-Seam 2

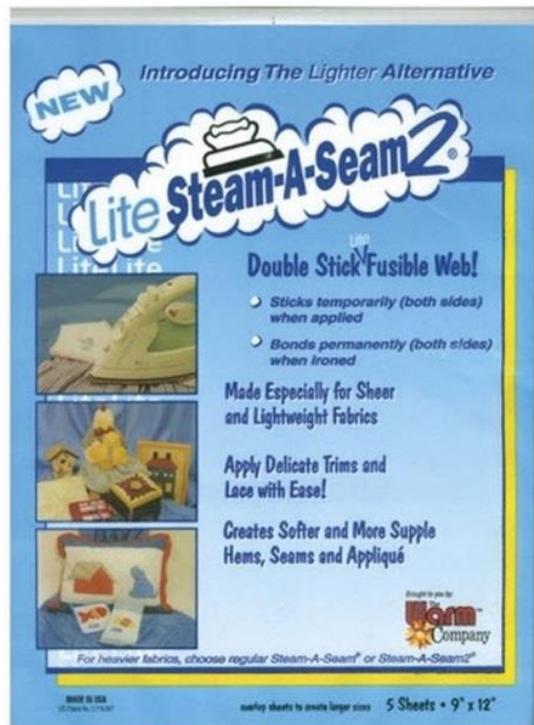
- Quilting-weight cottons
- Lite Fabrics that are **not** heat sensitive and will be sewn to a base fabric
- **Note:** This leaves a sticky residue on the fabric

Heat 'n Bond ULTRAHOLD

- Fabrics compatible with the KNK & is **not** heat sensitive
- Fabrics that will not be sewn on a sewing machine after they are cut
- **Note:** This leaves a very sticky residue on the fabric

OESD Stabil-Stick Tear-Away

- Fabrics that **are** heat sensitive
- Also suitable for fabrics that are **not** heat sensitive
- Delicate fabrics used for applique
- Fabrics not being sewn to a base fabric, such as organza flowers
- **Note:** This stabilizer leaves next to no residue on the fabric when removed



When fabric is being cut for a *sewing project*, such as quilting weight cotton for applique, **Lite Steam-a-Seam 2** is the stabilizer of choice.

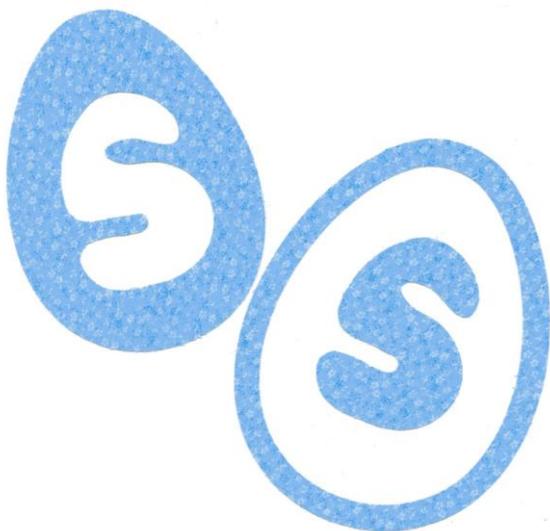
It doesn't gunk up the sewing machine needle, applies lite glue to the back of the fabric and holds the fabric securely in place on the cutting mat.

Iron the Steam-A-Seam 2 on the back side of the fabric.

The paper backing on the Steam-A-Seam needs to be removed prior to sticking the fabric to the KNK cutting mat because it has a finish that is resistant to sticking to the cutting mat.

The mat needs to be very sticky! I have prepped my mat with a very strong solution of Aleene's Tack It Over and Over. An excellent idea is to have a very sticky mat that is *dedicated to cutting fabrics*.

Lite Steam-A-Seam 2 is definitely the product of choice for appliquéing quilting weight fabrics because it is ready to be applied to the embroidery design when removed from the cutting mat. Simply place the cut shape within the embroidery design when the machine asks for it, press lightly to hold in place, and continue the embroidery process.



The picture above shows the letter "S" and the oval band cut from quilting weight fabric with Steam-A-Seam 2 ironed on the back, for an Easter banner that spells out the word "Easter". Note... how clean crisp, and precise the edges are. It would be very difficult to cut an oval as accurately by hand.

Lite Steam-A-Seam 2 is not just for quilting-weight cottons. Use it for any fabric that isn't too thick to cut on the KNK that you wish to adhere to another fabric and sew in place on the sewing machine. The star below is a thin, nylon sparkly fabric that was used as an applique for stars on this pillow. Unfortunately, the sparkles are lost in the photo.



The star color is truer on the pillow.



Heat 'n Bond ULTRAHOLD is another iron-on adhesive that works well to stabilize fabrics for cutting on the KNK. Unlike Lite Steam-A-Seam 2, it gives a much stiffer fabric when it is ironed in place.

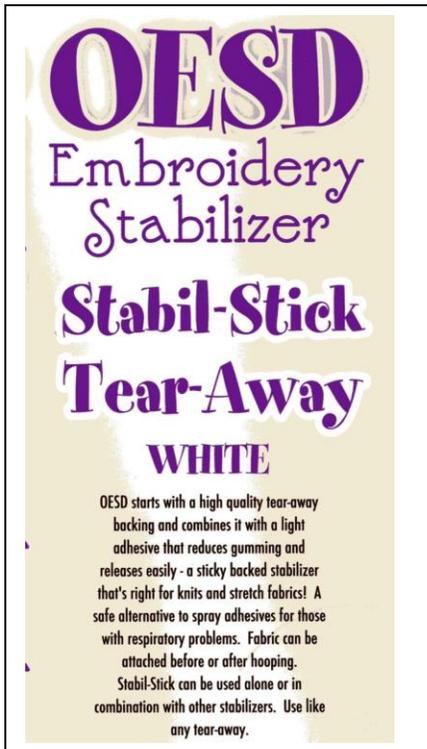
If you are cutting fabrics that you have no intention of sewing on the sewing machine, it may be the perfect stabilizer to use.

But, if you plan to sew the fabric on a sewing machine, you can expect that it will make the needle very sticky, impairing the needle from going in and out of the fabric without dragging.

It too has a paper backing that is resistant to sticking to the cutting mat. Remove the paper before sticking it to the mat.

When fabric is cut and removed from the cutting mat, it will have a slick, shiny layer of glue on the back side. It is ready to iron to another surface and adhere securely.

If you are not planning to iron the cut fabric to another surface after it is cut, you may not be happy with the thick layer of glue that will remain on the back side of the cut fabric.



Stabil-Stick Tear-Away, made by OESD, is a stabilizer that doesn't require ironing and doesn't leave a significant amount of glue on the fabric after it is removed.

It is the perfect answer for fabrics that are heat sensitive and those that aren't going to be attached to a base fabric after they are cut.

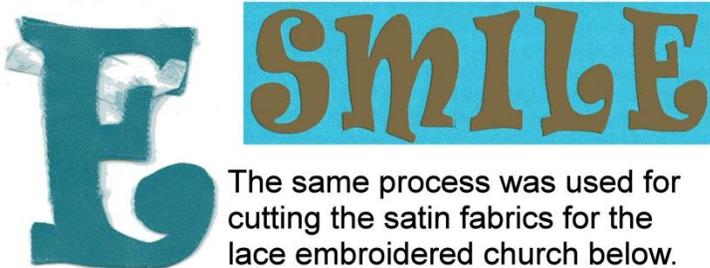
It comes with a liner that is removed when the sticky side of the Tear-Away is attached to the back side of the fabric being stabilized by hand or with a squeegee.

Place it on the cutting mat with the fabric side up and the Tear-Away next to the mat. A sticky mat is the perfect combination for a good clean cut.

The Tear-A-Way is easily removed from the cut fabric or can be left in place, if the purpose of the cut fabric allows it.

Consider using it to stabilize polyester satin, organza, and quilter's cotton (when you want to cut it without attaching it to a base fabric).

The following projects were completed with Hobby Lobby polyester satin fabric that was stabilized with Stabil-Stick Tear-Away. Note that the 'smile' letters cut with clean, crisp edges. I thought I might be able to remove the backing before inserting it into applique, but as evidenced by the letter "E", the satin was too unstable and began to fray. I opted to leave the light weight backing on with no negative affect, so that is now my procedure when sewing polyester satin.



The same process was used for cutting the satin fabrics for the lace embroidered church below.



But, the backing was removed from the organza before the little pink flowers were assembled.

