# Ironing and Pressing



## What's the Difference?

#### · Ironing:

- The process of using an iron to remove wrinkles from damp, washable clothing. Heat and pressure are used to <u>FLATTEN</u> THE FABRIC.
- Ironing is done with a gliding or sliding motion, BACK AND FORTH. It is done to the entire garment after laundering.

#### · Pressing:

- Involves NO sliding of the iron. The iron is placed on the fabric and then lifted, in an UP AND DOWN motion.
- Moisture is added from a pressing cloth or from STEAM in the iron.
- It is often done to apparel between wearing and during garment construction.



## Number One Roules

The number one rule when it comes to ironing or pressing is:

## PRESS AS YOU SEW!

#### Why?

- -It flattens and sets the stitches so the seam lays smooth and flat.
- -It gives you a crisp, professionallooking garment.

## Ironing and Pressing Equipment

#### Tailor's Ham & Sleeve Roll

Used to make an even curve on seams and darts while pressing.





#### Sleeve Board

Mini ironing board that lets you press sleeves easily.



#### Point Press

## Pushes out points on projects to get sharp, even points.



#### Steam Iron

A heated piece of equipment that flattens creases and shapes.



Ironing Board

A padded, flat, heat-resistant surface used for ironing and pressing.



#### Pressing Cloth

A thin cloth placed over fabric while ironing. It creates extra steam when wet. It also prevents scorching and shine marks on fabric while ironing.



## Tem Perature Settings

-It is very important to pay attention to the temperature settings when ironing different types of fabric.

-Most steam iron settings are broken into:

High - Cotton & Linen

Medium - Wool & Silk

Low - Synthetics

-Synthetic fibers are extremely **HEAT**SENSITIVE and can be irreversibly damaged by high heat.

## Other Important Info

- -You should use <u>DISTILLED WATER</u> in steam irons because then it won't leave behind mineral build-up that can clog the steam vents.
- -Always iron WITH THE GRAIN of the fabric to prevent permanent stretching.
- -A straight <u>SEAM</u> should be <u>PRESSED FLAT</u>

  THEN OPEN. This sets the stitches so the seam will lie smooth and flat.