

Tips for using HeatnBond Liquid Vinyl for bag making.

HeatnBond Liquid Vinyl is a paint on gel that waterproofs fabric and gives it the look and feel of oil cloth. This makes it the perfect solution for treating fabric for sewing bags.

Effects:

1 coat provides some water and stain resistance and adds a little body.

2 coats make the fabric waterproof and stain resistant and adds some more body and a slight sheen.

3 coats increase the results above and gives the fabric a semi-glossy oil cloth finish.

Uses:

Anywhere you want a waterproof or wipe clean surface. For instance, the inside of toiletry or make-up bags, tool rolls, picnic lunch boxes, backpacks, hats etc.

Fabric:

The smoother the fabric the better the result, cotton and canvas are good options. Harris Tweed would not be.



Application

1. Pre-wash your fabric if desired or if there is any type of factory applied surface coating on it. Do not use fabric softener.
2. Always test a small piece of your fabric first to see how it works and to see how many coats you will need to get your desired result.
3. Apply HeatnBond to your fabric BEFORE you cut your pattern pieces out as it will shrink slightly, (around $\frac{1}{4}$ " for every 14" in my experiments on both pre-washed and unwashed samples).

As pattern pieces for bag making are generally quite small, this may be enough to throw your pattern out and create problems for you when you are sewing, particularly where small seam allowances are specified.

4. Line your work area with a good quality double sided baking parchment.
5. After cutting the fabric that you want to treat, carefully trim any fraying edges as this can be problematic. If a thread sticks and you don't notice it at the time you will not be able to remove it later. See image below. Whoops!



6. Lay your fabric flat on top of the baking paper.



- Using a fine bristled synthetic paint brush like the one in the picture, dip the tip of your brush into the gel and apply the first coat of HeatnBond with long smooth strokes. You need just enough to completely cover the fabric with a smooth layer. Check for any lumps or blobs and smooth them out.



- Leave to dry for 45 minutes.
- Place clean baking paper onto a firm heat proof surface, not spongy like an ironing board. You could place a thickish layer of newspaper onto a bench top with a Tea Towel on top and lay the baking paper on that. Anything that will protect your surface from heat.
- Lay your fabric down with a second layer of baking paper on top.
- Set your iron to medium heat with no steam and press the treated fabric with the layer of baking paper in between. Average around 45 seconds in each spot. You don't have to press hard, and you can move the iron around.



- Allow to cool.
- Repeat with a second and third coat if desired.
- Leave the fabric to sure completely for 24 hours before sewing it.

You can also [watch this video from Thermoweb on Youtube](#):

Ironing and Interfacing

You can iron the fabric and interface it once it is treated.

To iron or press seams etc:

Sandwich the fabric between 2 layers of baking paper and use a low to medium heat setting to press.



To interface:

Because the HeatnBond adds body to the fabric you will NOT need to interface it for most uses, linings for instance.

If you need to eliminate stretch in your fabric or add additional body, you may want to interface.

Again, sandwich the fabric between two sheets of baking paper, you don't want it sticking to your ironing board.



Depending on your chosen interfacing, you may need to carefully increase the temperature slightly in increments from low to medium to medium. With the higher temperature it may feel a little sticky, but it returns to its original state once cooled. I tested it with Shape to Create and it adhered well on the low to medium setting.

After applying the interfacing, allow the fabric to completely cool before sewing.

Sewing with fabric treated with HeatnBond

I tested the HeatnBond on both an industrial walking foot machine and a domestic machine.

I experienced absolutely no problems when sewing it on the industrial and nothing insurmountable when sewing on my domestic machine.

Tips and tricks for sewing HeatnBond treated fabric on a domestic sewing machine.

1. Every domestic sewing machine sews differently. Test a piece of fabric. Cut 2 pieces and set your machine to a long stitch length such as 4. This is so that you can see how the stitches are behaving.
2. Sew a line of stitching on one piece with the treated side up and then on the other with the treated side down. Check to see how even the stitches are.
 - If the stitches are uneven when you sew with the treated side down, insert a piece of non-stick baking paper under the fabric as you sew. (Note: baking paper tears easily off the back of your project unlike tissue paper which can take forever to remove).
 - If the stitches are uneven when you sew with the treated side up, switch to a Teflon or walking foot. You should still be able to use a zipper foot where required as you will mainly be sewing with an untreated surface above and below.
 - You may find using both works best.



3. Next, sew the two pieces right sides together. Press the seam open and attempt to topstitch down either side of the seam. In the picture below, the stitching on the right was done with a regular machine presser foot and no baking paper. The stitching on the left using baking paper and a Teflon foot.



4. If you are still having problems, you can spray the fabric on both sides with a fabric friendly silicone spray such as CRC 808 which is also suitable for spraying canvas, tents etc.



Happy Sewing!! And enjoy your HeatnBond.