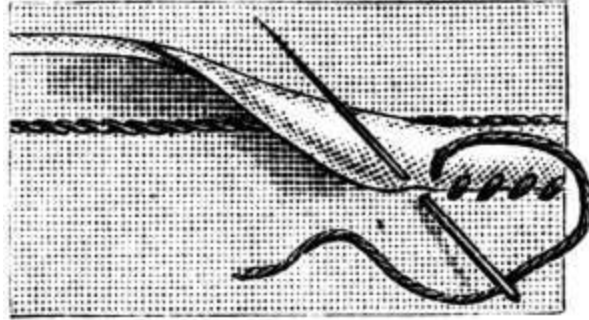


Flat Seam

Lay two edges dead even, stitch twice, and smooth before any bulge sets in.



From *Encyclopedia of Needlework* (de Dillmont, 1886) · public domain

"Tack it even, stitch it twice, smooth it flat."

1

Tack the Edges

Lay your two edges, straight or slanting, exactly even. Tack them together with stitches 2 centimetres long, set 1 to 2 centimetres from the edge.

2

Back-Stitch the Seam

Back-stitch by machine or by hand, following the line of your tacking thread.

3

Trim the Inner Edge

Cut off half of the inner edge.

4

Flatten It First

If you are a beginner, flatten the seam down with your thimble or the handle of your scissors before you begin to hem. The outer and wider edge is apt to get pushed up and bulge over in the sewing, which hides the stitches.

5

Turn and Hem

Turn the outer edge in as you would for a hem and sew it down with hemming stitches, smoothing the seam underneath with your forefinger as you go, to make it lie quite flat.