

Tips on Sewing on Vinyl

1. Don't fold your vinyl, roll it up.
2. Sew with a larger size needle, a 90/14. Anything smaller creates a tear strip if you have to rip out.
3. Use a longer stitch, such as 3.0 mm.
4. Use a non-stick presser foot, it is plastic.
5. If you don't have a plastic presser foot, you can use your walking foot or put scotch tape on the bottom of your presser foot.
6. Usual sewing thread is okay unless sewing on a heavier fabric. Nylon is great, as is 100% Polyester Thread.
7. If your vinyl is not flat, here is what you can try:
 - Hover your iron over the top of the wrinkled vinyl to get it to soften flat; do not touch the vinyl it may melt.
 - Hang the vinyl in the warm sunshine, than lay flat.
 - Use a hair dryer to put heat on the vinyl to make it lay flat.
8. Use a rotary cutter, not scissors, it gives a smoother cut.
9. Don't make mistakes, think carefully before you stitch. If you have to rip out you will have permanent holes in the vinyl.
10. Do not use pins on the vinyl, it makes permanent holes. Use fabric clips, paper clips or painters tape to hold in place.
11. If the vinyl isn't feeding through your machine, use tissue paper; on the side giving you trouble or on both sides.
12. Backstitching is not suitable for vinyl.
13. When marking vinyl, use chalk, a marking pen will make indents in the vinyl.
14. Vinyl coated fabric is stronger than just vinyl; the fabric gives a layer of strength.
15. Lastly, experiment on a scrap before you start.

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