

# Backing Basics Webinar

## Your Questions with Answers from Bill Garvin

### What Is The Best Backing (Stabilizer) To Use For...:

1. Hi density embroidery patterns?
  - a. Standard 2.5 oz. backing, unless on polyester shirt, then use ActionBack™, my preference is 2 sheets.
2. What kind of backing do you use for a knitted cardigan?
  - a. We recommend a cut-away backing. Keep in mind the design density and the knit fabric thickness.  
<https://www.gunold.com/backing/cut-away-backings/>
3. What is the best backing weight for bridal satin panels with satin stitching?
  - a. For this type of material, design should sew fine with no backing. If minimal, use a tear-away.
  - b. Also, you may have far less puckering with Rayon Thread (Sulky™).
    - i. USA: <https://www.gunold.com/embroidery-threads/sulky-rayon/>
    - ii. Canada: <https://www.gunold.ca/embroidery-threads/sulky-rayon/>
4. What differences in backing should be considered with different types of thread?
  - a. None. All embroidery pulls. It has everything to do with the stability of the material being embroidered.
5. If making patches, what type of backing is good?
  - a. Here is a link to our patch making instructions: <https://www.gunold.com/pro-tips/how-to-make-custom-embroidery-patches/>
6. Does Gunold offer a specific base and stabilizer for patches?
  - a. To finish custom patches, use the Gunold Ultra Solvy™ (80 mil).
    - i. USA: <https://www.gunold.com/solvly/ultra-solvly/>
    - ii. Canada: <https://www.gunold.ca/solvly/ultra-solvly/>
7. For reading pillow, what is best stabilizer on pocket? (Made of quilted cotton.)
  - a. I would suggest either tear-away or Soft N' Sheer™.
    - i. USA: <https://www.gunold.com/backing/performance-backing/soft-n-sheer/>
    - ii. Canada: <https://www.gunold.ca/backing/soft-n-sheer/>
8. What is best stabilizer for embroidered quilts?
  - a. If a heavy quilt, to keep a nice design, I would use either a 2.5 oz. or 3 oz. and keep backing the same size as the quilt square. Stitch all together!

### General Backing Questions:

1. Where do I get ActionBack™?
  - a. Visit our Gunold website!
    - i. USA: <https://www.gunold.com/catalog/sub/performance-backing>
    - ii. Canada: <https://www.gunold.ca/catalog/sub/performance-embroidery-backing-commercial-embroidery-supplies>
2. Does ActionBack™ come in white, black, flesh colors?
  - a. ActionBack™ is currently available in only White and Black.
    - i. USA: <https://www.gunold.com/catalog/items/performance-backing>
    - ii. Canada: <https://www.gunold.ca/catalog/items/performance-embroidery-backing-commercial-embroidery-supplies>
3. Are ActionBack™ and Pro Sports™ backing both cut-away backings?
  - a. Yes, they are both cut-away backings.

4. What is the difference between ActionBack™ and Pro Sports™ backing?
  - a. ActionBack™ is a 3 oz. woven cut-away backing that is highly effective for stabilizing stretchy, slippery garments like performance wear. Helps prevent drifting outlines, puckering and pooching.
  - b. Pro Sports™ is a 2 oz. cut-away backing designed to reduce puckering when embroidering casual low stretch, polyester sport shirts and activewear.
5. Can you use Filmoplast™ on your Polo Shirts rather than a cut-away stabilizer?
  - a. We do not recommend using Filmoplast™ on Polo Shirts, especially if it is a stretchy material. The Filmoplast™ will hold the item in place; however, it is a tear-away, which means there is nothing to stabilize the design post embroidery. REMEMBER: you are not only looking at the “post embroidery” but the life of the garment. Will the shirt look good after several washings and dryings?
6. Do you need backing for your Twilly product?
  - a. There is no right or wrong answer. Twilly™ is a very stable fabric. However, if you are embroidering a high stitch count design, you definitely want to use stabilizer. You also want to take into consideration what type of project you are creating. Patches are a completely different situation. Here is a link for “how To Make Patches”: <https://www.gunold.com/pro-tips/how-to-make-custom-embroidery-patches/>
7. Are you finding that your tear-away washes well? I am concerned with it getting “crunchy”?
  - a. Yes, it will. The more tear-away is washed, the more it comes apart. If unstable material, use a cut-away.
8. Soft N Sheer – Finding that this does shrink when laundering. Wash on cold and hang/lay flat to dry garment. Shrinkage is even worse when drying garment in the dryer. How do you correct for this shrinkage?
  - a. You don’t - we are a wash and wear society. Almost no one irons any more. The best solution is to do as you stated – wash on cold and hang/lay flat to dry. Always use a good cut-away backing!
9. If you use 2 pieces of 2.5 oz. backing, why not use a thicker backing?
  - a. There are a couple reasons to use two pieces of backing.
    - i. There is not a 4oz. or 5oz. backing available.
    - ii. If you are using a specialty backing like ActionBack™ – as Bill stated, you want to turn the second backing to a 45-degree angle. (This covers all stretch angles.)
10. What was the basic rule for backings / stabilizers?
  - a. Use tear-away backings for stable items.
  - b. Use cut-away backings for unstable items.

#### **Mixing Backings:**

1. Do you ever mix backing types?
  - a. You can mix backing types. There is no absolute right or wrong with backings. We make suggestions based on experience. The most important thing is to TEST before embroidering. REMEMBER: you are not only looking at the “post embroidery” but the life of the garment. Will the “high end” shirt look good after several washings and dryings?
2. Would a 2.5 oz. and a 1.5 oz. backing work well together?
  - a. No reason why they wouldn’t work. My choice would be 2 sheets of a 2.5 oz. backing.
3. Does it do any good to use 1 piece of ActionBack™ and 1 piece of cut-away?
  - a. ActionBack™ is for stretchy materials and is a cut-away. I like to use 2 pieces of ActionBack™ with one crossed at a 45-degree angle. If this is a dry fit garment, I will add a piece of cut-away backing in between the two pieces of ActionBack™.

#### **Power Point Slide Presentation:**

1. How do I get a copy of the Power Point Presentation?
  - a. <https://www.gunold.com/fullpanel/uploads/files/Presentation-Backing-Basics.pdf>

## **Samples:**

1. How do I get samples of Gunold products?
  - a. Reach out to our Customer Service Department
    - i. USA: 1-800-432-3781
    - ii. Canada: 1-800-663-6359

## **Misc.:**

1. Do you have a video on the SWF 1501C Embroidery Machine? I ordered the manual but it has nothing for a new embroiderer on how to use the machine.
  - a. Refer to Stitch It International: <https://stitchitintl.com/>
2. Do you have a placement guide for robes?
3. Do you have a webinar for push and pull information?
  - a. At this time, we do not have a webinar or video on Push/Pull but we will add it to our list.
4. Do you have cap backing already cut to size?
  - a. Yes we do! Visit our website for cap backings:
    - i. USA: <https://www.gunold.com/catalog/sub/cap-backing>
    - ii. Canada: <https://www.gunold.ca/catalog/items/cap-backing>
5. Is there a better way to support non-structured hats than with 2 pieces of backing?
  - a. Not really. I always use 2 pieces of cap backing on unstructured hats. My preference is the 3.6 oz. in the size 4" x 16" by Gunold.
    - i. USA: <https://www.gunold.com/item/quick-tear-9802-cap-plus-4-x-16-500-pcs-36-oz-tearaway>
6. Is there a cheat sheet available on your website?
  - a. Not at this time.
7. Name Change: After removing name from a shirt, is there a backing to help hide the old stitching before starting the new stitching?
  - a. No backing will help the top. After removing the stitching and then re-hooping the garment, go to your machine settings. Increase the design size by 5% (this is so small of a change, no one will notice). The increase of your design size should cover the area where your stitches were previously removed.
8. I have a Janome 550E, do you have different precut stabilizers that fit their hoops?
  - a. Gunold carries multiple sizes of precut backings in all varieties. (See link below.) If you do not see what you need, please reach out to our customer services department. Gunold can supply "special order" die cut backing supplies.
    - i. <https://www.gunold.com/backing/>

## Don't forget about Gunold's Free Resources

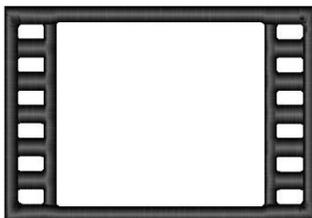
- World class educational videos – How Tos, Tips, and FAQs
  - <https://www.gunold.com/fm/media/>
- Product catalogs, color charts and sample books – available in downloadable or physical formats
  - <https://www.gunold.com/downloadable-catalogs-and-color-cards/>
- Free embroidery designs – A New One Every Month!
  - <https://www.gunold.com/faqs/free-embroidery-designs/>
- Pro Tips – Get tips from the professionals – new tips added every month
  - <https://www.gunold.com/pro-tips/>

## Gunold Digitizing, Art and Color Separation Services



- <https://www.gunolddigitizing.com>
- 50% Off First Order
  - Use Code: GUND-C686E9EB
- 100% Guaranteed
- Free Estimates
- 2 Hour Response Time
- Online Support

### Free Design



- Movie Frame – [Design Download](#)
- Movie Frame – Color Sequence – [PDF Download](#)