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How To Use A Heat Press For Quilting, Embroidery & Fabric

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Reva's Tips: Things Are Heating Up!

If you're anything like me, you love all things creative—quilting, embroidery, garment sewing, [ScanNCut](#) projects—you name it! Lately, I've been having so much fun using the [sublimation printer](#) to create custom gifts like mugs and shirts, and experiment designing my own fabric for sewing projects.

There's always something new and inspiring to try. In most of our creative projects, pressing plays a big role. Whether it's fusing [stabilizers](#), interfacings, or [fusible web](#) for quilting or embroidery, or applying [heat set vinyl](#) and sublimation prints, having the right heat and pressure makes all the difference.

Let's Talk About Pressing

Here are some best practices to consider when pressing during the creative process:

Press vs. Iron Explanation

Press-Don't Iron! Set the iron down onto the fabric placing pressure on the iron. Once in place for the needed amount of time, lift the iron up and place in a new location. Ironing is where you slide the iron back and forth. This moving of the iron doesn't allow the time and heat needed to do its job and may cause the items to shift, providing poor results.

Steam and Iron Settings

Use a Dry Iron: There are times when steam is either not your friend or that it is ineffective on the project. For example in sublimation; applying steam to the transfer paper is simply a waste of the water in your iron and it may hamper a proper transfer. Make sure to read the user instructions for the product that you are working with.

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Ironing Over Steam Holes

Watch Out for Steam Holes: When using a conventional iron, the sole plate provides inconsistent pressure and heat in the areas around the steam holes. It is necessary to repeat the pressing process over the item several times to insure proper heating and pressure.

Reminder About Patience

Give it Time to Do Its Job: Giving your project the proper amount of consistent heat and pressure will make everything turn out better in the long run.



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Why I'm Loving My Heat Press

I am excited about how fast I have been able to get excellent results by using a heat press. A [good all around heat press](#) has a smooth heat surface with no holes and when closed it provides consistent pressure to the fabric (better than I can do by leaning on my iron).

In just a matter of 20 to 60 seconds I have been able to accomplish what would have taken me 3 or 4 minutes. Just a few minutes may not seem like a long time, but we are all very busy and time and efficiency is so important, don't you agree?

Say Hello to the Momento!

If you are curious as to which press I have been currently enjoying, it is the [Momento Smart Press](#). You may have not seen this one before as it is new to us.

What is fantastic about it is that it is so quick to heat up, closes onto the fabric with the touch of a button while providing 100lbs of consistent pressure and it even automatically opens up for you when it is done pressing.

This is a tool that provides its service to so many facets in the sewing room. You will enjoy the results and the time saved.



If you ever need help, we're just a call or visit away - **Call 1(800) 687-5175** to chat with one of our sewing experts.

Happy Sewing! - Reva

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Can I use a steam iron instead of a heat press? 

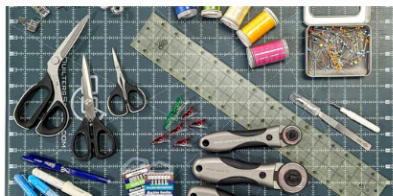
What's the benefit of using a dry iron for creative sewing projects? 

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