

Temporary Seam Holding Applications in Garment Manufacturing

Durafil Water Soluble Thread (WST)

Technical Application Reference Document

1. Introduction

Temporary seam holding is a garment assembly operation where fabric sections are temporarily joined together before permanent stitching is completed.

Temporary seam stabilization is commonly used during garment construction to maintain alignment, control fabric movement, and support stable handling throughout sewing operations.

Unlike permanent seam construction, temporary seam holding is intended to stabilize garment sections during intermediate assembly stages before final sewing and finishing.

Accurate temporary seam holding is important for:

- Seam alignment
- Assembly consistency
- Fabric stability
- Handling control
- Production efficiency

Durafil Water Soluble Thread (WST) can be used as a temporary stitching solution during seam holding operations.

After washing, the temporary stitches dissolve and disappear.

2. Production Challenge

During garment assembly, fabric sections often require temporary stabilization before final sewing operations.

Common production challenges include:

- Movement of fabric sections during sewing
- Shifting of layered fabric assemblies
- Seam distortion during handling
- Instability of lightweight or flexible fabrics
- Maintaining alignment throughout repeated assembly operations

Factories traditionally use temporary stitches to stabilize seam constructions before permanent attachment.

Because garment panels may move independently during production, maintaining seam alignment consistency can become difficult during handling and sewing operations.

3. Traditional Method

In conventional garment production, temporary seam holding is often achieved using:

- Standard sewing thread
- Manual tacking
- Temporary holding stitches

After permanent stitching is completed, operators manually remove the temporary stitches.

4. Limitations of Traditional Temporary Stitching

Manual removal of temporary stitching may create several production issues:

- Additional labour requirement
- Slower finishing operations
- Risk of accidental fabric damage
- Inconsistent removal quality
- Increased handling time

On delicate or appearance-sensitive fabrics, manual stitch removal may increase the risk of:

- Surface damage

- Yarn pulls
- Seam distortion
- Marking
- Accidental cutting of the garment

Repeated handling during stitch removal may also disturb seam alignment and layered fabric positioning.

5. Durafil Water Soluble Thread (WST) Solution

Durafil Water Soluble Thread (WST) provides a temporary stitching solution for seam holding applications.

The thread behaves like a normal sewing thread during assembly operations, holding seam sections in position during garment construction.

During washing, the temporary stitches dissolve and disappear.

This removes the need for manual stitch removal after sewing.

6. Typical Temporary Seam Holding Applications

Durafil Water Soluble Thread (WST) may be used in applications including:

- Temporary joining of garment panels
- Layered fabric seam stabilization
- Seam alignment during assembly
- Lightweight fabric seam holding
- Shaped garment seam positioning
- Temporary stabilization before permanent stitching

The thread may be used wherever temporary seam stabilization is beneficial during production.

7. Operational Benefits

Using Durafil Water Soluble Thread (WST) for temporary seam holding can provide several operational advantages.

Improved Seam Alignment Stability

Temporary stitches help maintain accurate positioning of seam sections during sewing and handling operations.

Reduced Manual Labour

Because the temporary stitches dissolve during washing, manual stitch removal operations can be reduced.

Reduced Risk of Fabric Damage

Because temporary stitches dissolve during washing, the risk associated with manual cutting or pulling of stitches is reduced.

This is particularly beneficial for:

- Lightweight fabrics
- Delicate fabrics
- Layered fabric constructions
- Tightly woven fabrics
- Appearance-sensitive garment areas

Improved Production Flow

Garment assembly can proceed without requiring a separate stitch removal operation after sewing.

Cleaner Garment Finishing

After washing, the temporary stitching disappears, leaving only the permanent seam construction.

8. Garment Types

Temporary seam holding applications using Durafil Water Soluble Thread (WST) may be suitable for:

- Shirts
- Uniforms
- Jackets
- Fashion garments
- Layered garment constructions
- Appearance-sensitive garment assemblies

Production trials are recommended for specific garment constructions.

9. Production Outcome

Using Durafil Water Soluble Thread (WST) in temporary seam holding operations may help garment manufacturers:

- Simplify assembly workflow
- Reduce manual finishing operations
- Improve seam alignment consistency
- Reduce handling complexity
- Improve operational efficiency

10. Related Application Areas

Additional temporary stitching applications may include:

- Collar alignment
 - Cuff positioning
 - Placket stabilization
 - Decorative panel alignment
 - Multi-layer fabric positioning
-

11. Disclaimer

Performance depends on garment construction, washing conditions, and production processes.

Users are responsible for conducting suitability trials under actual production conditions prior to commercial use.

12. Technical Support

Email - info@durafil-group.com