

# Cuddle Tips

by Randa Parrish

There has been a lot of bad mouthing in regard to sewing with Minkee, it was slippery and hard to sew because of the stretch. I am glad to say an alternative has been created to make your sewing not only easy but fast! The Shannon Fabric Company came out with a fabric called Cuddle, it looks like Minkee but doesn't have nearly the stretch of Minkee. In addition to a better product, we have discovered several tips to make it easier to sew and we want to share them with you.

#1 Take the entire box or bag and put it in the dryer. Once in the dryer open the box, remove the rubber bands from the strips. Take out the box and leave just the strips. (I know, it sounds crazy for me to mention the box but I did get a call regarding just that!) Put a wet wash cloth into the dryer along with the strips and dry for about ten minutes. When you get it out the lint should be in the filter and your strips clean. This simple trick will save you time from cleaning your sewing area from Cuddle lint.

#2 Sew the strips in pairs all going one way, then sew the pairs to each other sewing the opposite way. See the diagram on the back.

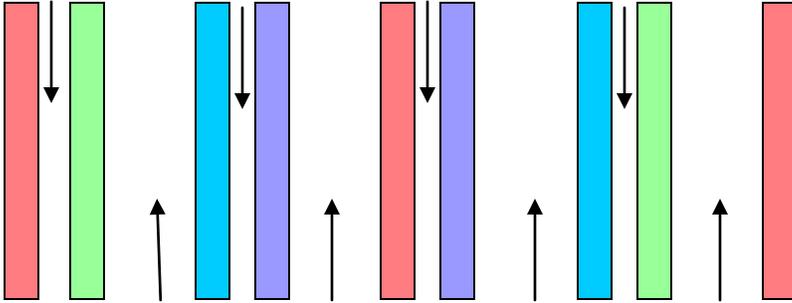
#3 When sewing the strips together use a basting spray **lightly** on each of the seams (a little bit of spray goes a long, long way). We prefer Web Bond (my favorite) or ORMD. When you use one of these you don't have to pin the row. Once the quilt is totally finished you may want to wash it to get rid of any spray residue. Don't be concerned with the washing, Cuddle washes beautifully. See diagram on the back.

#4 We do not do the method suggested in the Cuddle instructions for sew and flip, we prefer to sew the top and then have it quilted. We do this for two reasons, first of all we like to use batting in our Cuddle quilts. This isn't necessary but it just seems to give a feel that we like. We have Cuddle kits done both ways to help you decide which way you want to do it. Secondly, we like a more finished look that quilting gives, sew and flip just doesn't look as nice since only the seams are stitched.

#5 Once it is quilted, curve the corners with the curved corner ruler. We love this ruler, it is perfect for curves for so many things but particularly for this quilt. We use the large curve for the full size throw kits and the middle size curve for the baby kits.

#6 There are two ways to do your binding, a 2" binding or a 3" binding. The two inch binding would be a single fold, sewn to the back and then brought to the front and stitched with a raw edge. We prefer to do a 3" binding, sewn on top and then hand stitched to the back. Carefully measure your binding fabric to make sure you have enough before you start cutting the binding strips if you want the wider binding. Most of the kits only have enough fabric for a 2" binding.

## Stitching Direction



Lay paper 1" away from the edge when spraying with Web Bond to avoid overspray.  
Remember to SPRAY VERY LIGHTLY!

