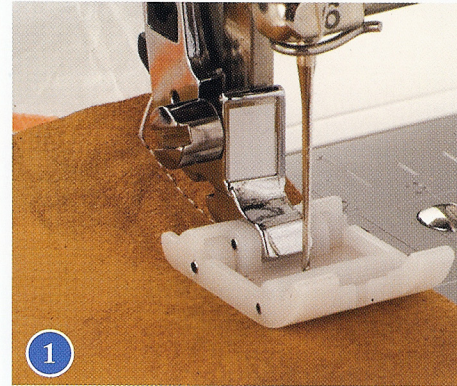


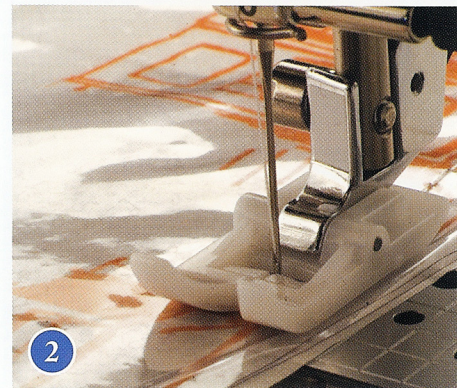
# seams — leather or vinyl

*A seam technique used on special or unique fabrics.*

1. Sewing on leather demands a slightly different technique than normal seaming. Pins should be placed in the seam allowance as they will create holes that can not be removed. Select a leather needle to piece the fabric easily. Use either the Teflon-coated foot or the roller foot depending on which foot moves across the leather the best. Place a piece of tissue paper under the pieces of leather to help it move over the bed of the sewing machine. (#1)



2. After the seam is sewn, open the seam and pound the seam with a rubber mallet to keep the seam open. Apply a thin coat of rubber cement to hold the seam allowances in place.
3. For vinyl, select the foot which works the best. Test to see if a leather needle creates too large of holes—almost like a perforated edge. Place a piece of tissue paper under the vinyl to help it feed over the bed of the machine. (#2)



**Teflon-coated Foot**

or



**Roller Foot**

**Stitch:** Straight

**Width:** Pre-set

**Length:** 3.0-5.0mm

**Tension:** Pre-set

**Fabric, needles, notions required:**

Leather, suede, vinyl or oilcloth; leather or universal needle, size 80/12; all-purpose sewing thread for needle and bobbin; tissue paper; rubber mallet; rubber cement

*Sewing vinyl, leather, suede, or oilcloth can be tricky. It is important to test your stitches on scraps before sewing the final seams since any holes can not be removed from the material like a woven fabric. Test, test, test to avoid any problems later.*

**TIP**

*Tissue paper, talc powder, baby oil, or cornstarch can be used to help the leather or vinyl move across the bed of the sewing machine smoothly without sticking. Choose the substance that will not mark or stain your fabric (e.g. baby oil on leather of suede will not work, but for sewing vinyl it may help a lot.)*