

## How to Make Self-Welting

While ready-made welting is a great timesaver, available in many colors, you may wish to make self-welting by covering cable cord or piping cord with strips of fabric cut on the bias. The cord is available in many sizes. You can choose to use a matching fabric for corded seams or a contrasting fabric to accent your cushions, pillows and slipcovers. In addition to being decorative, welt reinforces seams and helps keep edges straight.

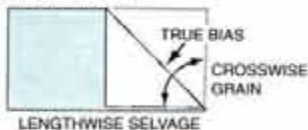
### Cutting bias strips

1. The size of the piping cord plus the seam allowance will determine the width of the bias strip to cut. Use a swatch of your fabric, fold around cord, mark width of strip needed.



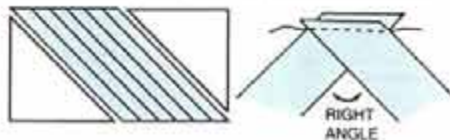
Allow at least 1 1/2" for seam allowance. A larger seam allowance is easier to work with, especially with heavy fabric, fabrics with a nap, or bulky weight piping cords.

2. Fold the crosswise grain of the fabric to the lengthwise selvage. The diagonal fold formed is the true bias.



3. Mark bias strips the width required using pencil or tailors chalk. Cut apart.

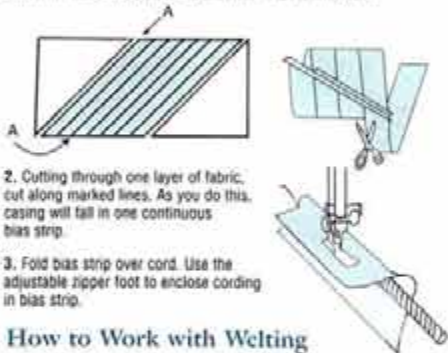
To join bias strips, lay with right sides together as shown and stitch.



## Continuous bias strip

When several yards of welting are needed, you can save time by making a bias tube. After bias strips are marked on fabric, cut away excess corners.

1. Fold selvage edges together, align strip marks, make sure to offset one strip (match A to A) so a continuous strip is formed. Stitch a 'u' seam from one end of tube to the other. Press seam open.

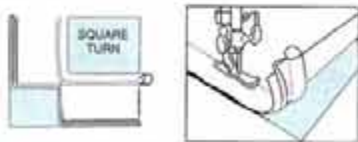


2. Cutting through one layer of fabric, cut along marked lines. As you do this, casing will fall in one continuous bias strip.

3. Fold bias strip over cord. Use the adjustable zipper foot to enclose cording in bias strip.

## How to Work with Welting

1. To enclose welting in seam, attach it first to one seam allowance. Pin or machine baste welting to right side of fabric with the rounded edge of the welting away from the edge. Clip welt seam allowance to ease around corners.



2. Position corresponding piece of fabric so that right sides are together. Pin in position so welting is concealed. Place fabric on the sewing machine with stitched side up, sew along line of stitching. This will give you a straight, tightly welted seam.

## Look for these fine Conso® workroom supplies.

For an alternative to sewing, try Conso's Fuse-A-Trim™ adhesive tape

Conso cords, welting and sewing supplies let you fashionably style pillows, upholstery, slipcovers, cornices and any variety of home decorating projects.

### Snow-White Polyester Cable Cord



Style	Size	Diameter
60209	#30	3/32"
60212	#70	5/32"
60214	#100	7/32"
60215	#150	15/64"
60217	#200	9/32"
60219	#300	3/8"

Conso cable cord is a soft, twisted, 100% polyester, premium quality cording. Use it for draw strings and decorative ties or cover with fabric for welting on clothing, pillows, and decorative items. Washable and quick drying.

### Piping Cord

Style	Size	Diameter
60031	#0	5/32"
60037	#2	8/32"
60043	#4	12/32"
60044	#5	16/32"
60045	#6	22/32"

Conso piping cord is a sturdy, 100% polyester, cording designed to be covered with fabric for welting or piping. Useful for cushions, slip covers and upholstery. Washable and quick drying.

### 600 Covered Welting

Style 602



Ready-to-use welting. 1/4" piping cord covered in cotton herringbone twill fabric. Available in a wide range of colors.

### Fastac®

Style 11963



Nylon mushroom hook and pile fastener. 1/4" wide. White.

### Zippers

Style	Size	Style	Size
50012	12"	50027	27"
50018	18"	50030	30"
50024	24"	50036	36"

Quality brass zippers, long tabs, 1/4" tape, rustproof. Tan color.



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How to decorate with...

## Slipcovers and Cushions



Conso Cable Cord, Piping Cord, Covered Welt and Slipcover Supplies

## How to Make a Slipcover

We have given instructions for slipcovering a wing-back chair. The principle is the same for an arm chair or sofa.

### You will need:

- Slipcover fabric
- Corso Cable Cord or Welt Cord
- Zipper
- Thread
- Ruler and measuring tape
- Shears and small scissors
- Pins and T-pins
- Sewing machine
- Zipper foot

### Four main steps of making a slipcover

#### 1. Blocking Out Fabric Pieces

-cutting fabric sections roughly to size for various sections of furniture.

#### 2. Pinfitting

-pinning fabric pieces together on the sofa or chair before sewing.

#### 3. Trimming

-the sections are trimmed to within a 1/2" of their intended seams.

#### 4. Stitching seams

-on your sewing machine, complete with welt.

### Blocking Out:

Always pin and cut goods on the straight of the grain, up and down from the floor, whether or not a panel starts. Be sure to allow enough fabric; 5" tuck-ins across back of seat, on each side of seat, and where arms join back. Before starting, remove all loose cushions.



#### 1. Inside Back

Fold fabric in half lengthwise. Start 1/2" above back chair edge (A), continue to (B), fold 10" for 5" tuck-in. Continue across seat to 7 1/2" above floor for skirt, 1/2" below bottom edge if skirtless. Cut straight across fabrics.

#### 2. Inside Wing

Cut both sides at once by folding fabric in half lengthwise. Begin 1/2" above wing top (C), continue to 1/2" below where wing joins arm (D).

#### 3. Inside Arm

With fabric flat, begin 1/2" past (E) where arm curve stops. Smooth fabric over arm down to (B), allow 3" tuck-in. Repeat for other arm.

#### 4. Outside Back

Allow 2" overlap on one side for zipper. With fabric folded in half lengthwise, begin 1/2" above back of chair (A), continue down back of chair to 7 1/2" above floor for skirted cover, 1/2" below bottom edge for skirtless cover. Cut straight across fabric.



### 5. Outside Wing

With fabric folded in half lengthwise (and carefully matched to outside arm panel if a definite pattern), start 1/2" above (C) continuing to 1/2" below (E). Front arm panels are cut later while pinning.

### 6. Outside Arm

With fabric flat, begin 1/2" above (E), continuing same distance from floor as outside back. Repeat for other arm.

### Pinfitting

Most slip covers can be pinfitted wrong side out. If you are working with a patterned fabric or an asymmetrical piece of furniture you will want to work with right side out. Before removing pieces to sew, notch them from matching.

In most cases, you start pin basting at the center of the future seam and work toward the ends. As you progress with your pinfitting, trim away excess fabric, most pinned seams will have a 1/2" seam allowance (unless otherwise specified).

Use sharp scissors, and cut 1/2" seam allowances straight and even. This your guide for sewing and inserting the welt or trim of your choice.



#### 1. Pin front and outside back together at (A), allowing 1/2" seam. Fold 5" tuck-in at (B). Smooth fabric over chair seat and front. Fold back excess fabric at sides of seat and inside back. Allow 5" for side tuck-ins along seat and inside back where wings join. Cut away excess. Pin cover to chair to hold it firmly in place as you work.

#### 2. Pin inside to wings to inside back and inside arms, allowing 1/2" seams for welting at (D), where the wings join the arms. Make little tucks in the curved areas to ease fullness, or you can gather a thread.

Clip fabric at (D) where inside wing and inside arm join. Fabric should lie smoothly around curve to where outside wing joins.

#### 3. Smooth fabric over arm and pin to chair to hold firm. Pin inside and outside arm pieces together. Allow for 5" tuck-in at arms.



### 4. With fabric on straight of goods, cut front panel.

Gather arm piece to ease fit (K), make small clips if necessary. Pin arm piece to front panel. Repeat for other side.



### 5. Spring edge

If chair has spring edge that bounces up and down at front edge of chair, avoid pull on fabric this way:

a) Push seat tuck-in down between spring edge and arm. Miter the corner by stitching seat front fabric to tuck-in fabric, from (L) to (M). b) Push inside arm tuck-in down between spring edge and arm. Pin to front arm panels. c) Pin front of chair and arm panels together from the bottom of the spring edge to the bottom of the fabric, (M) to (N).

### Stitching slipcover seams

Unpin the back piece and put it aside to be attached last. Lift the slipcover off the chair, being careful not to loosen the pins. For sewing you can follow the same order as used for pinning: First work on the inside chair pieces, the outside arms and wings, then do the front panels and the spring edge. Unpin one full seam at a time and insert the welting or trimming before continuing to the next seam.

Either a welting or a trim should be inserted at all points where the pieces are pinned together, except at the tuck-in areas. Pin or baste the welting or trim on the right side of one piece of fabric. (See How to Work with Welting.) Place the welting 1" from the cut edge, with the rounded edge of welting away from the edge. Stitch the length of the seam. Bring up the corresponding piece of fabric so that the two right sides are together and pin them into position so that the welting is concealed. Place the fabric on the sewing machine with the stitched side up, and sew along the line of stitching. This will give you a straight seam and trim line.

If you have a skirtless slipcover, turn 1/2" all around the bottom edge. Stitch the welting to the bottom edge so the rounded part shows only on the outside.

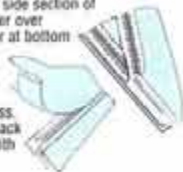
To hold the cover in place, you can add a narrow strip of Fastac® fastener flush with the rounded part of the welting on the wrong side of the bottom edge of the slipcover. Attach a companion strip of Fastac® to the bottom edge of the chair with glue or tacks.

### Attach skirt

Make box pleat or corner kick pleat skirt 7 1/2" in depth. Mark a seam line to attach skirt by chalking the slipcover 7 1/2" from the floor all around the chair. Stitch with 1/2" seam allowance.

### Install zipper

1. **Stitch welting** to right side of fabric on side section of chair where zipper is to go. Place 36" zipper over welting. Start at bottom edge if skirtless or at bottom of skirt if one is used. Stitch zipper, welting and fabric together.



#### 2. On back of chair, turn access 2" wrong side from top to bottom and press. Working with right sides showing, place back piece over unattached zipper side, flush with welting, and pin in place close to welting.

#### 3. Turn to wrong side and stitch zipper in place.

### Chair Cushion

1. Block out cushion top. Lay cushion on top of fabric and use chalk to mark edges and corners.

2. Add 2" seam allowance and cut second piece of fabric identical size for bottom.

3. Measure and cut boxing pieces. For most chairs, you cut boxing strips across width of fabric (from selvage to selvage). Cut 3 strips, each one as wide as the depth of the finished boxing plus 1" for seam allowances. One piece will go across the cushion front and part way around both sides, the other two (each one folded in half lengthwise), together will make the zipper boxing section for the back.



4. Stitch welt to top cushion piece beginning and ending at center back edge, lay welt on right side of top cushion piece. Welt seam allowance should be even with raw edges of cushion seam allowance. Stitch around, clipping welt seam allowance at corners. Repeat for bottom cushion.

5. Install centered zipper in boxing strips. Lay one folded edge so it almost covers zipper teeth, pin, and stitch 1/4" from fold. Repeat for other side. Baste across ends of zipper tapes.

6. Join front boxing strip to zipper boxing strip. Fit to cushion to determine length.

7. Stitch boxing to cushion top. Center zipper in middle back edge, zipper ends should come around corners the same distance. Mark boxing corners and match to cushion bottom.