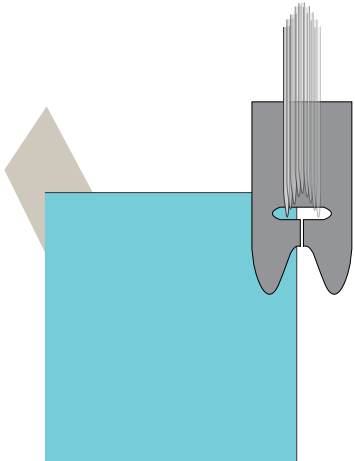
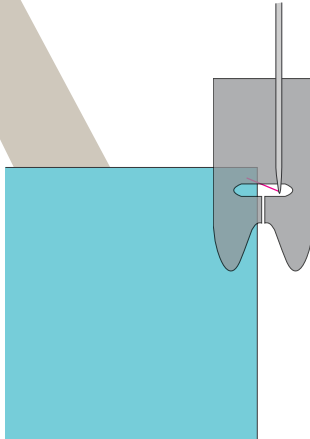


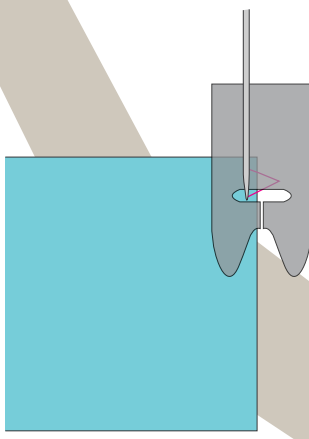
Zig-zag stitch.



The purpose of zig-zag stitching is to prevent the strands of fibre that make up your fabric from unravelling. Some fabrics are built in a way which means they will not fray. These are usually stretchy fabrics. Have a look at the edge of one of your fabric pieces and rub it gently between your thumb and finger. You will probably see some fibre beginning to show their ends. To prevent them from unravelling, you need to bind them into place with zig-zag stitch.



When the sewing machine needle sews zig-zag stitch, it moves from left to right to left to right etc. When you are positioning your fabric on your machine, you need to place it so that the needle hits the fabric when it moves to the left, but hits air when it moves to the right i.e. you only want half of the zig-zag to land on your fabric. This means that instead of just sitting on your fabric, the stitch almost wraps around the edge of your fabric, binding the fibres and preventing any loose ones working themselves free.



Having said this, don't sweat if the odd stitch falls completely on your fabric – the more you sew zig-zag, the more accurate you will become.

