

## The Apparel Research Center

Pellon interfacings, webs, and craft materials are manufactured to meet the needs and performance requirements of home sewers and crafters. During manufacturing, products are carefully monitored to conform to rigid Quality Assurance Standards. Scrutiny continues in the Apparel Research Center where sewing experts evaluate the products and develop new techniques to improve the quality of what you make.

### Evaluating Product Performance

An interfacing is tested by combining it with a variety of fashion fabrics. (Fused samples will be prepared using a hand iron, and a variety of fusing times.) Product performance will be evaluated after: fusing, machine washing and drying, and commercial dry cleaning. The technicians look for the same things you do &ndash; surface appearance, shrinkage, bond strength, and how the product feels &mdash;but use sophisticated equipment to measure the results. From these tests, products are accepted or rejected for home use and product specific directions are written.

### New Techniques

Application experts in the Research Center also serve apparel manufacturers around the world. As problem solvers, they meet the challenges of the newest fabrics and finishes, and test new sewing techniques to simplify garment production. While some of their advice is only appropriate for industrial equipment and commercial use, many of their time saving techniques can be used at home. The pro-tips used here and in our product interleaving have all be developed and tested in the Center.