



Brought to you by Joanne Banko www.letsgosew.com

Pick the Perfect Pin!



<u>Quilting Pins</u> with large yellow heads are indispensible. They work in a wide variety of situations. They are strong, accommodate multiple layers, and are easy to pick up and locate on any flooring surface.

<u>Flat Flower Head Pins</u> - I like the quality of Clover brand and I buy them in two styles, regular and super fine. The super-fine style is rather delicate so you'll want to use those for thin layers. Why are these a must have in my pincushion? Three main reasons, they are long, they are strong, and they are very flat. Their flat feature means I can pin layers together, place a rotary ruler on top, and use a rotary cutter to slice through layers accurately and effortlessly. Another bonus you get from this "flat" feature is the fact that these pins don't distort the fabric like large headed pins do. Pins with a large head tend to cause bumps in the fabric layers. Each pin "bump" raises the fabric just a bit and this can end up distorting fabric.









Brought to you by Joanne Banko www.letsgosew.com



Glass Head Fine Pins - I cannot do without these either. For fine woven fabrics there is nothing else that I count on more than silk pins with glass heads. These pins pierce through light to medium weight woven fabrics without snagging. As a bonus, they do not melt if you are ironing a pinned project. Be careful with synthetics though. If you heat up a pin it is possible that the heat could transfer to the synthetic and mar the fabric.



<u>Ball Point Pins</u> -You may have to search a bit for these but they are essential for sewing with knits. My preferred size is Size 17, Extra-fine, with a .5mm shaft. Similar to a stretch or ball point needle, these pins are designed to *push* the fibers aside and prevent damaging the structure of a knit. In simple terms this means they will not poke holes or cause a run.



My final favorite pin is the small but mighty Applique Pin. Look closely at the photo and you'll see the tiny white pins. Appliqué artists love these and so do I! Since appliqués are often made up of small pieces it is important that the pin does it's job but also stays out of the way. Because they are short (only ¾-inch long), they do not "buckle up" the fabric layers and cause distortion. In addition to appliqués, I use them regularly for temporarily securing delicate ribbons and trims.