

Sunbrella® Horizon™ Fabrication Guide



Cutting

Sunbrella Horizon's knit backing allows for easier cutting and sewing while minimizing seam slippage. All that is needed is a sharp pair of shears. Knit backing is unique to Sunbrella Horizon engineered synthetic leather.

Sewing

Thread and Needle Recommendations

Application	Needle Type	Thread Size (TEX)	Needle Size	Thread Type	Stitches/Inch (SPI)
Marine/Outdoor	Round	70	20	Solution-dyed Polyester	6 – 7
Marine/Outdoor	Round	90	20	Solution-dyed Polyester	6 – 7
Marine/Outdoor	Round	90	16 – 20	PTFE	6
Furniture	Round	40 – 70	16 – 20	Nylon	6 – 8

Sewing Notes:

These are recommendations only. Many times, the needle size will vary depending on the type of machine used and the sewer. Keep in mind that if the needle is too large, it may cause moisture to seep through. Work in diagonal stitches without going over the needlework.

Seaming

Seams should be as water-tight as possible to prevent leakage. Using an anti-wick thread, or thread with expansive properties when wet, gives seams waterproof capabilities and reduces seam leakage.

Seam tape is strongly recommended. An acrylic based adhesive tape works well when sewing vinyl to:

- 1) help hold the layers together while sewing, and
- 2) help seal the holes produced from sewing.

Sunbrella Horizon exhibits MD stretch (35% - 50%) and AMD Stretch (25% - 50%). Pattern and seam allowances should be considered.

Other Installation Notes

- Using Steam: If you are comfortable with using steam on vinyl fabrics and want to use steam during your fabrication, we recommend communicating with Sunbrella technical teams to ensure you are using best practices. Steam can be used if you are careful to not get too close to the surface of the fabric with the steamer, generally maintaining approximately 1" space and wipe moisture away immediately. Be careful to not oversteam Sunbrella Horizon or discoloration will occur – in extreme cases permanently. We DO NOT recommend the use of steam on Sunbrella Horizon for consumers and non-professionals with little to no experience in fabricating with upholstery.
- The product and any substructure should be constructed with proper ventilation to avoid moisture buildup.
- Polyurethane foam, if used, should be new and treated to inhibit fungal growth and pass to pass ASTM G-21 (CFFA - 120), ASTM E1428 and AATCC 147 (CFFA -300) standards.
- Applying polyurethane film may help prevent mildew from forming between Sunbrella Horizon and the foam cushion. It can prevent water from entering the foam.
- Plywood, if used, should be treated to be mildew and rot resistant.

After Sunbrella Horizon is installed on boats...

Use a protective covering when boat is not in use to help keep the product clean and less exposed to the elements. Sunbrella offers exceptional marine grade boat top and cover fabrics.

Provide adequate ventilation to keep moisture at bay, avoiding bacterial growth and other harmful effects.

Avoid storing or leaving wet items on the product to help prevent attracting moisture.