

Make your own multi-purpose spray to:

- Baste quilts
- Stiffen fabric for cutting with a digital cutter
- Stiffen fabric for hand appliqué shapes
- Use to "glue baste" binding down

It's easy and economical. Let's learn how!



Do you hate basting your quilt sandwich with pins before you quilt it?

Do you want to find a substitute for fabric stiffener to prepare fabric for a digital cutter?

Are you looking for a starch substitute to stiffen fabrics for hand appliqué?

I have the solution for you: Multi-Purpose Quilt Spray.

Save money and avoid allergic reactions by making this easy and economical spray right at home.

This simple spray can be made with a few common household items.

Gather up your ingredients and let's get started!

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INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup (8 oz./250 ml) rubbing alcohol (isopropyl alcohol) or vodka (the cheap kind – you won't be drinking this!)
- 3 cups (24 oz./ 750 ml) water (divided into 2 cups (16 oz./500 ml) and 1 cup (8 oz./250 ml)
- 3 tablespoons (Tbsp.) (45 ml) all-purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon (tsp.) (2 ml) salt

OTHER ITEMS

- Pot
- Whisk
- Measuring cup
- Teaspoon and tablespoon measuring spoons
- Jar with lid or other container with lid that will seal tightly
- Funnel (optional, but very handy)
- Empty spray bottle (large)
- Stove

Once you've got all of your ingredients and tools ready, you are ready to make the spray!

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DIRECTIONS

- Put ½ tsp. (2 ml) salt and 2 cups (16 oz./500 ml) of water into the pot and heat on high element on stove until it boils.
- While that is heating up, put 3 Tbsp. (45 ml) of flour into a container and add 1 cup (8 oz./250 ml) of cold water. Tighten the lid and shake, shake, shake until the flour is dissolved. This is a bit like making quilt gravy thickener!

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- Pour the flour/water mixture into the salt/water mixture on the stove and whisk them all together. Reduce heat to a rolling boil.
- Continue cooking the mixture until it thickens and becomes gooey (yes, that is a technical term).
- Remove the pot from the stove and allow it to cool to room temperature. Note: the mixture will thicken more upon cooling.
- Add 1 cup (8 oz./250 ml) of rubbing alcohol or vodka to the mixture in the pot and stir well.
- Pour the mixture into the spray bottle using the funnel. Any excess mixture can be stored in a tightly sealed jar.
- Put the sprayer back into the spray bottle and repeat the shake, shake, shake again.
- Pat yourself on the back 'cause you just made your own multipurpose quilt spray!

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TIPS

- If you don't intend to use the spray soon, store it in a tightly closed jar, rather than in the spray container.
- Shake the spray well before using.
- Spray the fabric first and iron it until dry before applying fusible webbing or fusible interfacing.
- Wash your project after completion to remove the spray.
- Discard unused spray after 3 months or sooner if it becomes mouldy.
- Always test this or any other spray product on your fabric first to be sure it doesn't leave marks.
- Always protect your work surface before spraying fabric.
- Not recommended for use on minkee or other non-cotton fabrics.
- Use parchment paper between the sprayed fabric and your iron to prevent build up on your iron.
- There will be a medicinal smell if you used rubbing alcohol to make the quilt spray.
- If you used vodka to make the quilt spray, you can add several drops of essential oil to create a pleasant scent.

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USES

- To baste quilts, spray the wrong side of the quilt backing fabric and the wrong side of the quilt top and sandwich as usual. Press together. No need to use pins or hand baste.
- To stiffen fabric, spray fabric before cutting and iron until dry. Repeat until fabric attains desired stiffness. Precise and accurate cuts will result, both for appliqué shapes cut on a digital cutter and those that will be used for hand appliqué. Perfect for creating circles and hexagons!
- To help with quilt binding, spray the binding after it's been stitched to the quilt and iron it towards the quilt top – it will hold and make it easier to hand stitch the binding down. No more pins or clips!

Please note that results are not guaranteed to be the same as those experienced by the creator of this information. This information is for educational and entertainment purposes only.

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I hope you'll find the Multi-Purpose Quilt Spray to be helpful in creating your special projects.

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If you have any questions, please send them to: kjh@chatterboxquilts.com



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