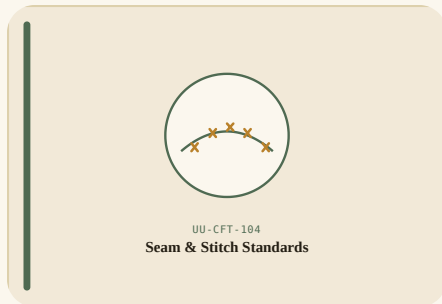


Seam & Stitch Standards: Double-Stitching, Welting, and Placement

A standard checklist for the detail customers judge up close — straight, consistent, properly placed seams.



1. Why seam standards deserve their own checklist

Of everything on a finished piece, seams are what a customer inspects up close — straight lines, consistent tension, clean welting. A written standard, applied the same way on every job, is what keeps that detail consistent across different upholsterers and different jobs.

2. Seam types and where they belong

SEAM TYPE	WHERE IT BELONGS
Plain / butt seam	Low-visibility joins
Welted / corded seam	Standard for cushion edges, panel joins, and arm-to-back seams

SEAM TYPE	WHERE IT BELONGS
Double-stitched / topstitched	Extra durability, or a deliberate tailored look
Blind / hand stitch	Closing cushions after stuffing, skirts, hand-trim work

3. Standard practice for welting

- Use consistent cord size throughout a piece.
- Cut welt fabric on the bias for curves, so it wraps smoothly without puckering.
- Hold a consistent seam allowance along the full run of a welted seam.
- Pattern-match welted seams on patterned fabric the same way panel seams are matched.

4. Stitch tension and length

Test stitch tension and length on a scrap of the actual fabric being used before sewing the real panels — tension that's correct on one weight or weave can pucker or skip on another.

5. Final seam inspection points

- Seam line straight along its full run
- Consistent tension, no visible puckering
- No skipped stitches
- Consistent welt width / seam allowance
- Pattern matched across the seam
- Thread color matched to fabric, or contrasted deliberately — never an unintentional mismatch

Sources

General trade reference reflecting standard upholstery seam and stitch practice. Specific tension and stitch-length settings vary by machine, thread, and fabric — test on scrap before committing to the real panels.

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