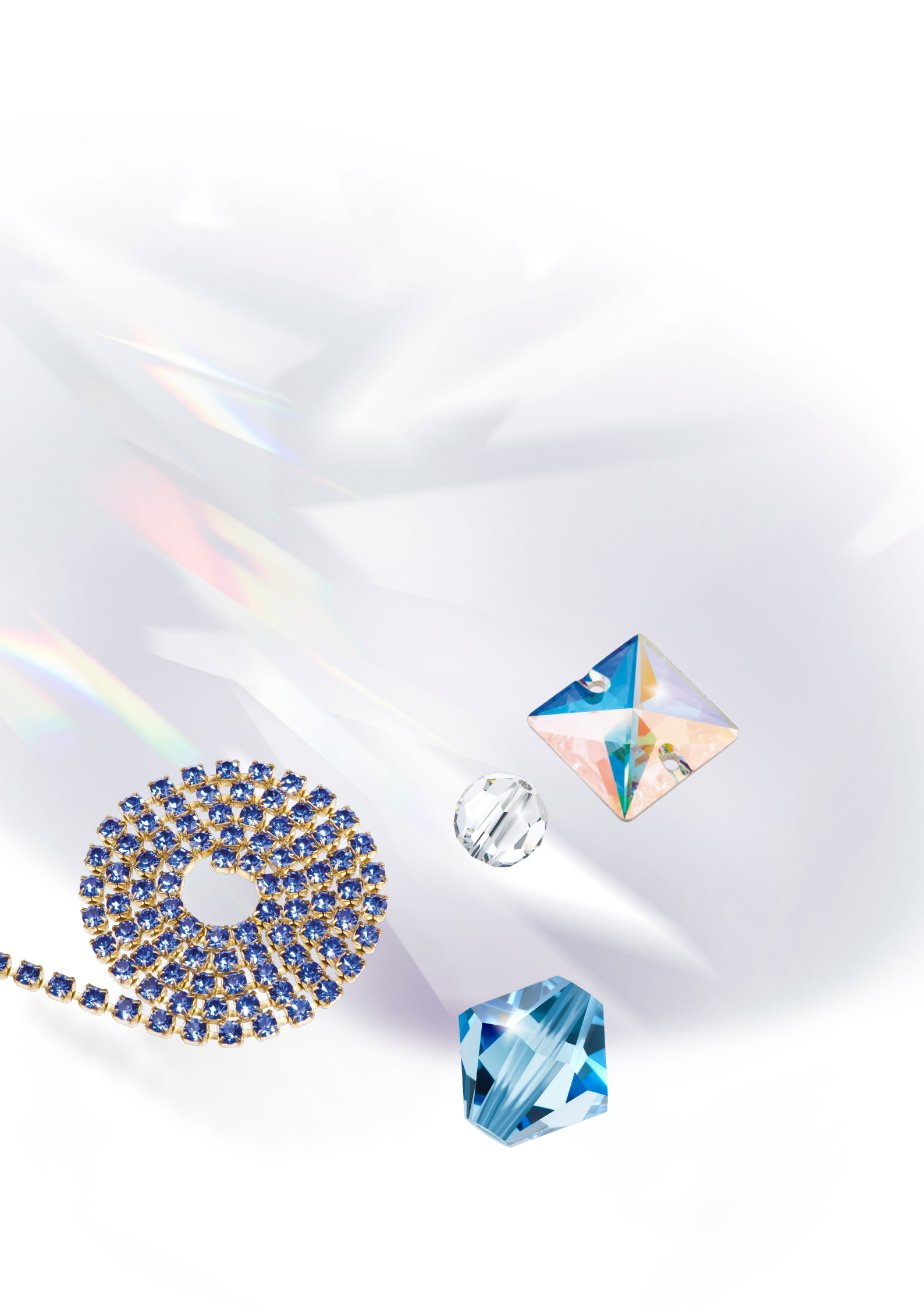


# SEWING AND HAND APPLICATION

APPLICATION MANUAL





# Sewing and hand application

Preciosa Crystal Components offer a wide range of various products ideal for sewing and embroidery. Thanks to a rich choice of shapes, sizes, settings and applications, Preciosa crystals can be used in mass apparel and accessories production, designer’s studios and Do-It-Yourself activities. Stones can be easily applied with industrial sewing or embroidery machines or household sewing machines and are also suitable for various manual applications.

## PRODUCT OVERVIEW

	COMPONENTS	SEWING	HAND APPLICATION
<b>Flat Back Stones</b>	Sew-on Stones	✓	✓
<b>Beads and Pendants</b>	Beads	✓	✓
	Pendants	✓	✓
<b>Nacre Pearls</b>	Nacre Pearls	✓	✓
	Cup Chains	✓	✓
<b>Fashion and Fashion Jewellery Components</b>	Plastic Bandings	✓	✓
	Metal Bandings	✓	✓
	Stones in Settings	✓	✓

## MACHINES, TOOLS AND AIDS

Use the following machines, tools and aids for sewing Preciosa components:

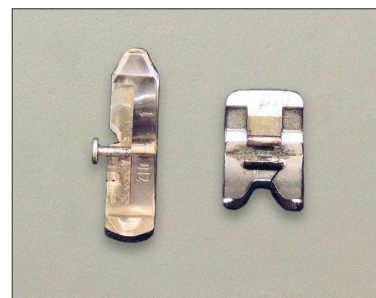
- Household sewing machine with common stitch types (straight, zigzag, button sewing programme).
- Industrial sewing machine.
- Sewing machine accessories – presser feet, needles, threads.
- Goggles.



Household sewing machine



Industrial sewing machine



Different types of presser feet

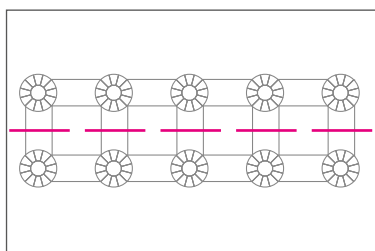
# Sewing – basic rules

## **CHOICE OF THE RIGHT THREAD**

Synthetic threads of 50 – 60 Nm strength are the most suitable for sewing Preciosa stones. The threads are abrasion resistant and products with these threads are sufficiently resistant against any damage. Cotton threads are not suitable as their abrasion resistivity is lower.

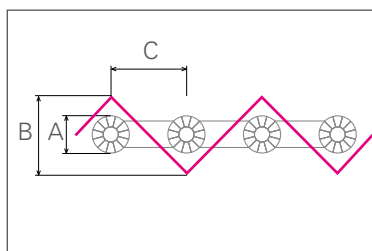
## **CHOICE OF THE STITCH TYPE**

A wide range of stitches can be used for sewing Preciosa stones, beads and applications:



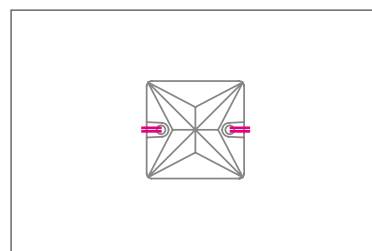
### **Straight stitch**

*The stitch length should be selected according to the space between the cups so that the stitch fits into the space.*



### **Zigzag stitch**

*The length and width of the stitch has to be adjusted to the applied element. The stitch width (B) should be by 0,5 mm – 1 mm broader on both sides than is the applied crystal element (A). The stitch length (C) should be equal to ca. 2/3 of the stitch width. It might be necessary to reduce the tension of the upper thread sometimes.*

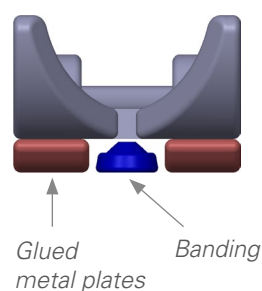
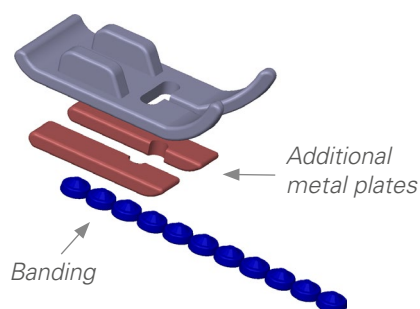


### **Button sewing programme**

*Sew-on stones can be easily applied using a button sewing programme. A correct stitch width must be chosen. Proceed according to the sewing machine manual.*

## **ADAPTED PRESSER FOOT**

A standard presser foot of the household sewing machine can be adapted for an easier sewing on of plastic bandings. Take two small metal plates and fix one on the left side and one on the right side of the presser foot with an epoxy glue. The resulting gap should be equal to the banding width.



## TYPES OF MACHINE APPLICATION OF CRYSTAL COMPONENTS

APPLICATION		MACHINE	TOOL	PROGRAMME	NOTE
<b>Sew-on stones</b>		Sewing machine	Button foot	Programme for button sewing without the feed function	Switch off the lower feed, adjust the stitch width to the product
<b>Plastic Bandings</b>	Basic (one row)	Sewing machine	Adapted standard presser foot	Zigzag stitch	Adjust the stitch width to the product
			Zipper foot	Straight stitch	Net edges
	Basic (multiple rows)	Sewing machine	Standard presser foot	Straight stitch, Zigzag stitch	Adjust the stitch width to the product
			Zipper foot	Straight stitch	Net edges
	Fishnet	Sewing machine	Adapted standard presser foot	Straight stitch	
Decorative	Sewing machine	Zipper foot	Straight stitch	Net edges	
<b>Metal Bandings</b>		Sewing machine	Standard presser foot	Straight stitch	
			Zipper foot	Straight stitch	Net edges
<b>Cup Chains</b>		Sewing machine	Adapted standard presser foot	Zigzag stitch	Adjust the stitch width to the product

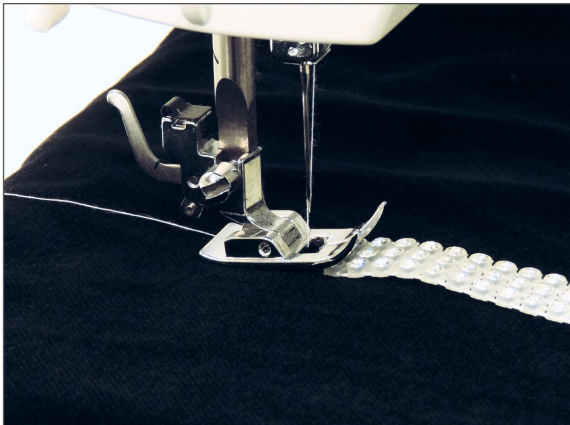
# Application with a sewing machine

Choosing the right thread (strength ca. 50 – 60 Nm) and needle (strength ca. 80 Nm) is particularly important for sewing on applications. A right tension of the upper and lower thread has to be set on the sewing machine. The fabric must be smoothly stretched and the upper and lower thread should run easily and smoothly.

Tests with the material chosen for the application should be carried out before beginning the production.

It is important to set the sewing machine to the correct hole pitch and stitch length and width before sewing on crystal stones. This prevents the stones from being damaged during sewing on and reduces the risk of an injury.

When sewing high multi-row bandings, problems with the sewing machine feed caused by an inclined presser foot can occur. Use a height compensating pad to avoid this. Place it beneath the presser foot so that the presser foot is parallel to the material which then feeds through smoothly.



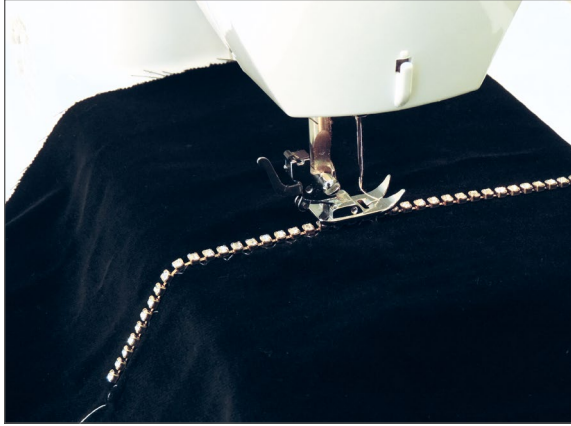
Inclined presser foot can cause problems with sewing machine feed of the base material.



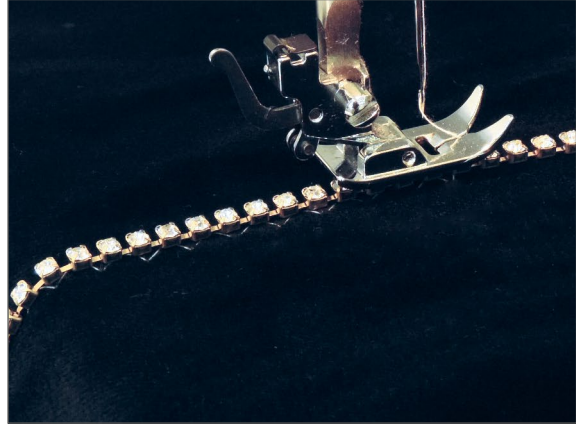
The presser foot lies flat due to the height compensator.



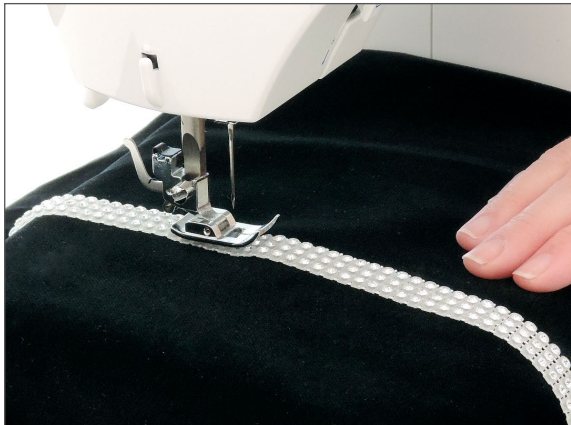
Application of crystals with the lower feed switched off.



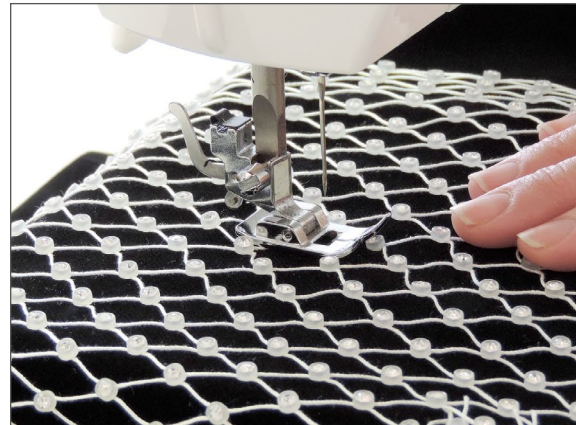
Application of one-row banding or a cup chain (zigzag stitch).



Detail of a zigzag stitch.



Multi-row banding and similar products are sewed on between the rows of stones.



Use a narrow „zipper“ foot when appropriate due to the applied product.

# Hand application

All Preciosa products listed in the overview at the beginning of this chapter can be also used in hand applications. Extensive choice of various products offer endless possibilities for creation of your own design; the only limits are your fantasy and wishes.



You can find your inspiration on:

[www.facebook.com/preciosa.inspirations](https://www.facebook.com/preciosa.inspirations)

[www.preciosa-ornela.com/projects](http://www.preciosa-ornela.com/projects)



**Note:**

Crystal beads larger than 6 mm have to be fixed either by knotting or threaded on a suitable wire.



# Important advice and information

## ***POSSIBLE PROBLEMS, THEIR CAUSES AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

<b>PROBLEM</b>	<b>CAUSE</b>
The product or fabric does not feed through correctly.	<b>1, 2, 3</b>
The sewing machine misses stitches.	<b>4, 5, 6, 7</b>
The thread tears.	<b>4, 6, 8, 9</b>
The needle brakes.	<b>10, 11, 12, 13</b>
The stones fall from the cups.	<b>14</b>

<b>CAUSE</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>
<b>1</b> The foot pressure is too low.	Increase the foot pressure according to the instructions.
<b>2</b> There is dust between the feeder teeth.	Clean the teeth.
<b>3</b> The upper feed is faulty.	Replace the upper feed.
<b>4</b> The needle is bent or damaged.	Replace the needle.
<b>5</b> The needle is not fitted correctly.	Push it right up into the needle holder.
<b>6</b> The machine is wrongly threaded.	Re-thread the machine.
<b>7</b> The thread tension is incorrect.	Check the thread tension.
<b>8</b> There are knots on the tread or it is too thin.	Check the thread for faults and change it if necessary.
<b>9</b> The components forming stitches can be damaged.	Have the sewing machine checked by a specialist.
<b>10</b> The wrong needle was used.	Choose a needle of correct size for the base material.
<b>11</b> The bobbin is not fitted correctly.	Check the bobbin.
<b>12</b> The needle is too thick and gets stuck in the product.	Use a thinner needle.
<b>13</b> The needle hits the stone.	Sew more slowly and feed the product through the machine more carefully.
<b>14</b> The needle damages the cup.	Check the stitch length and the needle thickness.

# GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

## FASHION JEWELLERY STONES

## FLAT BACK STONES

Stones with coatings  
— use only gentle  
wash cycle (30 °C).



Turn inside out, choose a gentle wash cycle and use mild laundry detergent. To protect the crystals as much as possible, the use of a soft wash bag is recommended.

Round  
Stones,  
Channel

Fancy  
Stones,  
Ball

No Hotfix  
Stones

Hotfix  
Stones

Sew-on  
Stones



Turn inside out and use mild laundry detergent.



Do not wash!



Chlorine bleach may be used.



Do not use chlorine bleach!



Turn inside out and dry at reduced temperature.



Do not tumble dry!



Iron inside out using a silk/polyester viscose setting. Ironing the textile inside out and using a pressing cloth is recommended.



Iron inside out using a wool setting.



Do not iron! Do not iron directly over the crystals.



The textile can be gently dry-cleaned using perchlorethylene. Turn inside out.



The textile can be gently dry-cleaned using hydrocarbon.



The textile will withstand gentle professional wet cleaning. Turn inside out.



The textile may not be dry-cleaned.

To protect the crystals as much  
as possible, the use of a soft  
wash bag is recommended.

**BEADS AND  
PENDANTS**

**NACRE  
PEARLS**

**FASHION AND FASHION  
JEWELLERY COMPONENTS**

Beads

Pendants

Cup Chains

Plastic  
Bandings

Metal  
Bandings

Rondelles  
and Balls

Fancy  
Rondelles

Stones in  
Settings

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