

◆◆◆◆ Frequently Asked Questions About Pounce Pads: ◆◆◆◆

1. What is the difference between the Quilt Pounces with Chalk and the Ultimate Quilt Pounce?

The Quilt Pounces with either the white or blue chalk powders mark your quilt top well. After sewing, the markings are removed by brushing or washing the quilt. The Ultimate Pounce Powder which is sold with the Ultimate Quilt Pounce is a white powder, a type of tailor's chalk that irons off with a steam or dry iron.

2. How long does the chalk last?

The Quilt Pounce comes with 2 oz. of Ultimate Pounce Powder. It should fill your Quilt Pounce about 4 times. In a large quilt show where we are constantly demonstrating how to transfer a stencil for 2 or 3 days we will have to refill the pad two or three times. That is a lot of quilt marking!

3. I can't see my lines, what's wrong?

A Quilt Pounce is a very simple device. If you can't see the lines there really is only one possible reason. The pad you're using is not completely primed. When you first fill your Quilt Pounce with the Ultimate Pounce Powder it is necessary to "prime" the pad. To do this, fill the pad as full as you can, replace the center cap and set the pad into the bottom tray. Tap the pad into the palm of your hand to get the powder flowing through the layers that make it up and the outer terrycloth. This is not exactly a gentle process. If you can't see your lines, you've been too gentle. It may take up to 100 taps to really get it primed and ready to transfer your stencils. Once it is primed a periodic tap in the palm of your hand (with the bottom tray on) will keep it working nicely. If you're putting a stencil pattern onto a quilt that's stretched into the rolls of a longarm machine you may want to use something to support it from underneath. The Pounce Pad works best when used on a hard surface.

4. Am I supposed to "pounce" the pad onto the stencil?

No! I have heard numerous times when I demo the Quilt Pounce and stencils, "mine doesn't work like that!". I ask to see how they use their Quilt Pounce and every time the complaining quilter will make tiny repetitive taps across the stencil. This will yield very unsatisfactory results - not to mention wasting chalk and creating a lot of dusting for yourself! The way to "pounce" the pad is by making one firm tap and then without picking it up again rubbing the pad for about the next 4 inches then repeating the process. It's not an exact science, if you understand that you need to get the powder out of the pad and then rub what comes out into your fabric you will find a way that suits you. There shouldn't be a cloud of chalk rising from transferring a stencil!

5. How do I stop my chalk lines from disappearing?

Although it's adhesion is already really great, sometimes, depending on our fabric, the chalk wants to disappear before we're ready to have it gone. Some fabrics require nothing be done and the chalk grips the fibers and adheres well. Other fabrics are not so cooperative. To solve this problem there is an easy solution - ordinary hair spray. After you transfer your stencil just spray a coat of hair spray over it from about 8 inches away. Spray enough to wet it but not too much to where the moisture soaks the lines away. Use an aerosol spray as opposed to a pump and the less expensive the better. Spraying over it with hairspray doesn't effect how it irons off at all.

6. Can I wash off the Ultimate Pounce Powder?

Yes! Ironing it off is the easiest way to remove it but by no means the only way. Sometimes when you're using a poly batting or metallic thread you may not want to iron it away. It will come off easily with a damp cloth. It also brushes off. It will iron off from the back if you have delicate appliqué you may not want to iron over.

7. Is there any particular way I should store the Quilt Pounce when I'm not using it?

You may want to store it in its tray upside down. This keeps the powder from settling in the pad and over-saturating it.

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