

love Sewing

The UK's No.1 sewing mag



**SEWING BEE'S
ESME YOUNG**

On her career
in fashion

GET SET
for spring

16 great garments
to take you into
the sunshine!



Sizes
4-26

Quick & stylish
JERSEY SKIRTS



It's got pockets!
DAY DRESS



Sizes
8-20

Skill boosting
BLOUSE



**Expert tips
from**

Tilly, Elisalex,
Alison Smith MBE
and more

ISSUE 79 UK £7.99 AU\$18.99 CAD \$21.50

Inspire
Imagine
Create

9 772054 832029 79 >

www.lovsewingmag.co.uk

baby lock

Acclaim & Victory

Easy to use overlockers with that certain extra.



Jet-Air™ Threading System
Quick and easy threading of the loopers – press the lever and the air transports the threads into the loopers

The HIGHLIGHT of the Acclaim RevolutionAir™- Threading System
Self threading Loopers AND Needles

Automatic thread delivery system – ATD system for optimum sewing results on different fabrics and no tensions

2-stage presser foot height with up to 8 mm – Sew heavy or multilayer fabrics without problems



Welcome

... to issue 79
of *Love Sewing*

Spring is finally here! As much as I love roaring fires, snuggly jumpers and cosy makes, there's nothing like the first signs of light, warmth and the promise of summery sewing.



Meet the TEAM



Ruth

EDITOR

Ruth loves sewing and words and hopes to inspire your creativity in every issue. For more sewing antics, see her Instagram account [grinlowsews](#)



Lorna

DEPUTY EDITOR

Lorna has buckets of enthusiasm for dress-making, embroidery and making magazines. She's excited to see your makes so remember to send them to letters@lovesewingmag.co.uk



Nicola

DESIGNER

Nicola is passionate about design and has a sharp eye for detail. She loves creating new illustrations and takes her inspiration from her hometown of Manchester. See more on her Instagram [calico_create](#)



Fiona Hesford's Dolores tunic on page 40

We may only be in the foothills of the season, but this issue's lovely selection of McCall's tea dresses will get you in the mood for sunshine. Our Threadcount pattern features a duo of easy-to-sew and effortlessly stylish jersey skirts – you can go full circle, drapey 70s or turn it into a dress using our masterclass on page 23.

From our indie designers, we have a chic smock top, an on-trend denim button-down skirt, and a stunning Frida Kahlo-print jersey dress: perfect transitional pieces.

If you're feeling like a little spring cleaning, Elisalex de Castro Peake has just the ticket with tips for organising your sewing space on page 44; from conquering an exploding fabric stash to managing muddled-up machine needles, she has you covered!

We've masterclasses galore in this issue: Claire-Louise Hardie gives the lowdown on interfacing on page 30; Alison Smith MBE

guides you towards perfect pintucks (page 63) and Wendy Gardiner susses out spring jackets on page 81.

I'm honoured to be taking over from Amy as Editor of *Love Sewing* and I am in awe of the amazing job she has done sharing knowledge, creativity and inspiration with readers far and wide in every issue.

As always, keep sending us your makes! And if you have any suggestions for topics or sewing folk you'd love to see interviewed, please email us – letters@lovesewingmag.co.uk We can't wait to hear from you!

Happy sewing!
Ruth



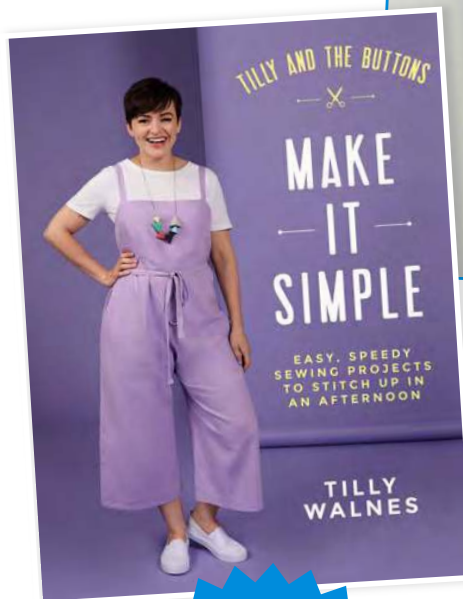
Spring skirt on page 20

Inside this ISSUE

REGULARS AND FEATURES

- 3** Welcome
- 6** Love Sewing Loves
- 9** In the good books
- 10** Stitcher's story with embroidery artist Olga Prinku
- 17** Machine review
- 18** Shop of the month
- 22** Reader review: Threadcount 2003
- 23** Masterclass: Threadcount skirt hack
- 24** Behind the seams with Esme Young
- 28** **SUBSCRIBE TODAY**
- 30** *Thrifty Stitcher* with **Claire-Louise Hardie**
- 34** Pattern picks - 20% off patterns at Jaycotts
- 36** Efficient sewing with Tilly Walnes
- 38** Fabric focus - save 15% on fabric at Sew Me Sunshine
- 44** *The Dressmaker's Diary* with **Elisalex de Castro Peake**
- 50** Sewing workshops
- 52** Readers' makes
- 59** DISCOUNTS AND GIVEAWAYS
- 63** *Couture sewing techniques* with **Alison Smith MBE**
- 66** PATTERN READING BASICS AND FITTING ESSENTIALS
- 76** 15 minutes with Sew Hayley Jane
- 81** *Skill building* with **Wendy Gardiner**
- 84** Masterclass: eyelet lace

4 dresses to
sew tonight!



FREE Tilly and The Buttons's book when you subscribe to *Love Sewing* – see page 28 for further info

- 89** History of the Romanian blouse
- 92** READER OFFER
- 96** Coming next issue
- 98** This month I'm making



PROJECTS

- 14** **Your McCall's pattern**
4-in-1 gorgeous dresses
- 20** **Your Threadcount pattern**
Dynamic skirt duo
- 40** Dolores tunic dress
- 49** Perfect plant pot
- 55** Penelope top
- 71** Kiss and make-up bag
- 79** Daffodil wall hanging
- 86** Denim days skirt
- 95** Floral fix table runner

Find us online

www.love sewingmag.co.uk



search lovesewingmag

20



Two styles
to try!



86



79



71



49



76



Editorial

Deputy Managing Editor Ruth Brown
Deputy Editor Lorna Malkin
Chief Sub-Editor Kayleigh Hooton
Senior Sub-Editor Chantelle Salkeld
Junior Sub-Editor Harry McArthur
Lead Designer Nicola Vernon-Smith
Photographer Renata Stonyte
Covermount & Packaging Designer Beth Coe
Hair & make-up Nina Rochford, Yasmin Schwitzer,
Lou Rothwell, Diane Flanagan
Contributors Claire-Louise Hardie,
Alison Smith MBE, Elisalex de Castro Peake,
Wendy Gardiner

Advertising

Advertising enquiries Noun Sarkissian
noun.sarkissian@practical
publishing.co.uk
Stocking enquiries Stacey Oldman
stacey.oldman@practicalpublishing.co.uk

Publishing

Associate Publisher Softcrafts Kate Heppell
Group Buying & Licensing Controller Lucy Pedder
Group Business Development Manager
Chris Cooke
Head of Product Carol Jones
Head of Publishing Ruth Walker
Strategy & Insights Director Dave Cusick
Managing Director Danny Bowler
Group Managing Director
Robin Wilkinson

Distribution

Newtrade Seymour Distribution Ltd
Tel: 0844 826 0613

Contact

Practical Publishing International Ltd,
Suite G2 Vitality House,
217 Wellington Road South,
Stockport SK2 6NG
info@practicalpublishing.co.uk
www.practicalpublishing.co.uk
Tel: 0844 561 1202
Fax: 0161 474 6961

Subscription Enquiries
Tel: 0161 327 0441
practicalpublishing@subscription.co.uk

Love Sewing is published by Practical Publishing
International Ltd ISSN 2054-832X

All material © Practical Publishing International Ltd. The style and mark of Love Sewing is used under licence from Practical Publishing International Holdings Ltd. No material in whole or in part may be reproduced, stored or transmitted in any form whatsoever without the prior written consent of Practical Publishing International Ltd. The publisher welcomes contributions from readers. All such contributions and submissions to the magazine are sent to and accepted by the publisher on the basis of a non-exclusive transferable worldwide licence unless otherwise agreed in writing prior to first publication. Such submissions are also subject to being used, reproduced, modified, published, edited, translated, distributed and displayed in any media or medium, or any form, format or forum now known or hereafter developed, for any purpose, in perpetuity.

Stock images provided by Shutterstock Inc

PRACTICAL
PUBLISHING
INTERNATIONAL

CONTRIBUTORS



Fiona Hesford

Fiona is the creative mind behind Sewgirl, a range of retro-inspired patterns and kits for adults and children. Why not make her gorgeous Milly dress on page 30? Visit Fiona's shop at www.sewgirl.co.uk to see the full range on offer and find upcoming workshops.



Hayley Howells

Hayley created SewHayleyJane to bring you the best sewing supplies straight to your doorstep. It's happy post! We think you'll love her gorgeous range of sewing subscription boxes. You can learn more on page 76 and visit www.sewhayleyjane.com for a closer look.



Tilly Walnes

Sewing superstar Tilly is the founder of sewing pattern and fabric brand Tilly and The Buttons. Tilly has just released her third book! Read Tilly's top tips for efficient sewing on page 36 and turn to page 28 for your free copy of *Make it Simple*.



Olga Prinku

If you haven't discovered Olga's stunning botanical embroidery make sure you check out our interview on page 10. We discuss turning your passion into a business and finding your niche.

love Sewing loves...

The patterns, people, fabric and finds getting us sewing this month

STRAIGHT UP



For a stylish alternative to your go-to jeans, try the Simplicity 8956 on for size. These skill-boosting, straight-leg trousers feature shapely pleats, a gorgeous waistband tie and those all-essential side pockets! Experiment with different fabric types to suit the season, including lightweight denim, linen and twill.

The pattern includes two trouser styles and two additional skirts – perfect if you fancy upgrading your workwear wardrobe or simply want smart items you can reach for every day.

Sizes: UK 4-20

Printed pattern: £10 from www.sewdirect.com



Cute as a button

Complete your handmade outfits with a range of colourful buttons. We're stocking up on these pretty embellishments by Australian brand each to own. Available in a range of designs and sizes these handmade beauties are the perfect addition to outfits and accessories. Prices start from £9.75 per pack from www.clothandcandy.co.uk



Totes amaze

Create unique accessories by trying your hand at the traditional Japanese running stitch called Sashiko. Sew Easy has released two new Sashiko kits which allow you to tap into this on-trend design and make a pretty tote bag or embellished apron. Perfect for beginners and experienced stitchers alike, the kits come with full instructions and all the templates you need to get started. RRP £21, Sew Easy products are available nationwide from craft, haberdashery and sewing suppliers. For stockist information email – groves@stockistenquiries.co.uk



Neat as a pin

Sewing Bee season is approaching and with that even more inspiration to get sewing! This quirky pincushion is designed by Yorkshire based potter Katch Skinner and Grace of independent sewing store, Beyond Measure. It depicts *Sewing Bee* judge Esme Young and is stuffed with lanolin-coated wool to keep your pins smooth – we think Esme would approve.

Priced at £24, see more designs at www.shopbeyondmeasure.co.uk



Stacey's CORNER



Stacey

Stacey Chapman is a renowned textile artist and free-motion embroidery expert. Every month, she will be sharing useful tips and tricks to help you achieve sewing success.

See more from Stacey at www.artseacraftsea.com

Spring clean

Do you ever get stuck? Despite monumental effort, do you find yourself at a stitchless standstill? After a week unenthusiastically manoeuvring materials and thread, waiting for the magic to imbue me, nothing is happening except an imaginary ticking clock looming over my head. Sometimes, when nothing works, I recalibrate.

Whilst my overstimulated brain crashes in a heap, I've decided to keep my hands moving, slowly and usefully with a studio spring clean. I started by gently twirling ribbon around my fingers, colour co-ordinating it in document pocket dividers with Velcro sticky dots cut in half at the top to secure the ribbon in place. Tidying away thread reels back into their colour-coded boxes. Now, my fabric mountain, rolling the cloth into tight rolls, secured with paper rings. Each satisfying and useful.

My exhibition work may be frozen but whilst my mind and body rests and rejuvenates, keeping my hands occupied is soothing. I already feel calmer, safe in the knowledge that by doing this, I am making space for my creative flow to fill my cup again, as soon as it is ready.



Tick all the right boxes

LET'S MAKE PLANS



Are you one of those people who gets so excited about all the new patterns and fabric you can sew that you often lose track of where you're up to? We hear you. Cue the brand-new *My Handmade Wardrobe Dressmaker's Planner* from the team behind *Crafty Sew and So*. It features heaps of sewing and style advice as well as dedicated project pages and a handy stash tracker section, the perfect recipe for efficient crafting. Priced at £12 from www.craftysewandso.com

LIFE IN COLOUR

Who can resist cosy, knitted fabric that works a treat with a range of patterns? These new additions to Croft Mill's impressive jersey range are 100% cotton and available in a range of dreamy colours including Royal Blue and Coral Pink. Priced at £5.50 per metre from www.croftmill.co.uk



Label of love



There's little that can compare to the satisfying feeling you get when wearing your handmade garment, better yet when someone compliments you on it. These limited-edition metallic labels by Kylie and the Machine are the perfect finishing touch to any make. The multipack includes eight labels, so whether you want to re-affirm your garment is "Bespoke" or "Made with Love" you can sew on a feel-good tag in no time. Priced at £5.50 from www.1stforfabrics.co.uk

PECKING ORDER

Some days call for a relaxing hand-sewing session and the kits available at Hawthorn Handmade are the perfect antidote to a busy day. The team has just announced the addition of six new designs to its popular embroidery range. Additions include Scurrying Squirrels on a beautiful burnt orange background, Lazy Lizards on Lime Green and Wrens in amongst ivy on Forest Green. Each kit is priced at £19.50, find out more www.hawthornhandmade.com



Win on
PAGE 61!

IT TAKES TWO

Say hello to new Scottish pattern design house Homer + Howells. Co-founded by former Topshop Garment Technologist Nicola Homer and Creative Pattern Cutter Susan Howells, the dynamic duo is creating modern sewing patterns with sustainability in mind. The first two releases include a mid-length, pleated dress dubbed Cissy, and Jenny, a utilitarian skirt in two lengths. Both are available in UK sizes 6-24 and priced at £14. Find out more at www.homerandhowells.com

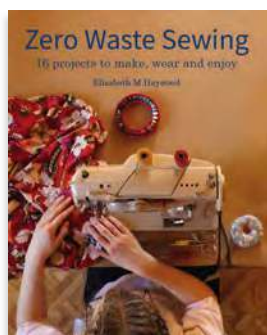


Studio days



If you're lucky enough to own a baby lock machine, this ingenious workstation is sure to take your sewing up a notch. The baby lock Studio is specially designed to support baby lock models offering plenty of storage, an extra-large workspace, integrated magnetic tool trays, a recess for the knee lift and much more. RRP £1,595. Available exclusively from baby lock dealers. See more products at www.babylock.co.uk

BOOK OF THE MONTH



Zero Waste Sewing

by Elizabeth M Heywood
Cooatalaa Press, £24.99



Liz

Hi Liz! How are you today? What's on your sewing table at the minute?

Hi, I'm doing great. Thanks for having me. I'm currently

making a zero-waste outfit to wear to a book talk, trying to be my own best advertising!

Can you tell us about your new book and what inspired you to write it?

Zero Waste Sewing is a clothes-making book with every project designed to use 100% of the fabric, with no scraps or waste. The pattern pieces are designed to fit together like a giant jigsaw puzzle, with no spaces in between. There's a variety of different clothes in this book, hopefully something for every size and body shape.

IN THE GOOD BOOKS

Our pick of this month's new sewing and dressmaking books

Four years ago I heard about zero-waste pattern cutting and immediately clicked with it, and this book is my own exploration. Zero-waste pattern cutting has two great benefits; making fashion more sustainable (approximately 15% of the fabric used for a garment is wasted) and encouraging us to be creative and think outside the box. This can lead to innovative silhouettes and details that might not be discovered otherwise, leading to more interesting clothes.

Who is the book aimed at?

If you're sewing yourself a slow wardrobe, wanting to try a zero-waste sewing pattern or just looking for a new sewing adventure, then this book is for you. Most of the outfits will fit any size and the rest will fit most sizes.

What is your favourite project in the book and why?

It's a wrap-around coat cut from a blanket. I bought the blanket some years ago from a thrift shop and always wanted to make a coat from it. It was a case of the right fabric meeting the right pattern, and everybody loves when that happens!



What are your top tips for reducing waste in sewing?

Here are three: buy thread on cardboard spools instead of plastic, if possible. Buy notions loose or by the metre instead of pre-packaged. When cutting out, to minimise waste, one large scrap of fabric is more useful than lots of small ones.

Finally, do you have any exciting plans coming up that you'd like to share?

The big excitement is *Zero Waste Sewing* being released. Please pop by my website (www.lizhaywood.com.au) to see more and for weekly blog posts on all things sewing and fashion.

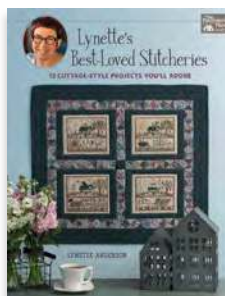
IN THE BAG

Complete your outfit with a handmade accessory, this beginner's guide to bag-making will show your how. Abrams Books, £11.99, available 24th March.



SEWN WITH LOVE

World renowned textile expert, Lynette shares her favourite small projects showcasing her signature style. Martingale & Company, £27.99, available now.



ON THE MEND

Prolong the life of your most-loved items with this handy resource for mending clothing and household objects. Tuttle Publishing, £12.99, available 17th March.



OLGA PRINKU

Celebrated for her intricate embroidery designs, we speak to designer and maker Olga Prinku about finding your niche and developing your brand



Olga

Hi Olga! How are you? Can you tell us what you are working on at the moment?

I'm very well, thank you! At the moment I'm working on a typographical hoop, like the one in the photo in a large wooden frame, with dried flowers embroidered on tulle in the shape of a letter. I'm trying to create more of a repeat pattern inside the letter form, which means going bigger in size.

How did your interest in embroidery start and have you always been crafty?

I've loved making and experimenting for as long as I can remember. I took various courses in things like bookbinding and letterpress printing when I was at university, and workshops in jewellery making and upholstery. I know it might sound strange, but I got into floral embroidery through knitting and then wreath making. I started knitting Christmas stockings after taking some time off from my graphic design career. I was selling them on Etsy and Not on the High Street and to promote them I created an Instagram account. I was playing a lot with styling the stockings using Christmas wreaths and that kind of took off on a path of its own. I really enjoyed the wreath-making side of my knitted business and people really enjoyed seeing those in my gallery. I started experimenting with new ideas inspired by the wreaths, and posting pictures of those instead. That's how the idea of floral embroidery came about.



Can you tell us about your floral embroidery technique and where you find inspiration for your designs?

I call it flowers on tulle, but a lot of people refer to it as botanical embroidery. I keep thinking I need a good name for it. It was a garden sieve in fact that started it. I poked some foliage through the mesh to keep it in place which later evolved with the sieve being replaced by the embroidery hoop with tulle fabric stretched inside and the flowers woven into the net. I get my inspiration mostly from local walks in nature – I'm lucky to live in a beautiful part of the world, North Yorkshire, which has a lot of varied landscapes to explore and forage throughout the seasons.

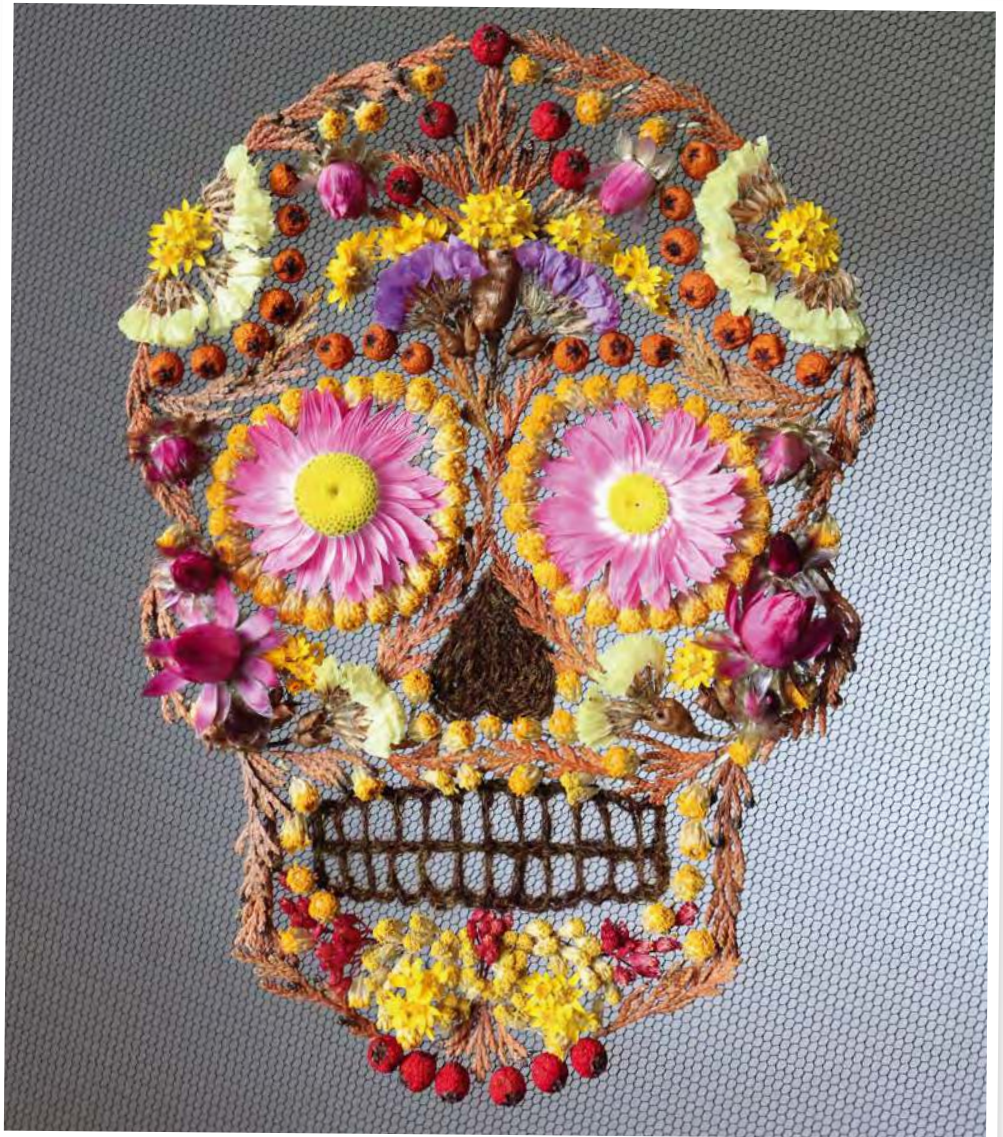


I've loved making and experimenting for as long as I can remember



What has been your favourite project to work on so far?

I'm quite attached to my last piece I made of grass birds and flowers on an A1 frame. I call it 'The Prairie' as a lot of it is made using a variety of grass and the focus is on texture. It was one of my first experiments using a rectangular canvas rather than a hoop and also the largest-scale work to date. I have been drawn to birds as they link my work to the more traditional tapestries especially when combined with flowers and swooping branches and they provide more of an opportunity for storytelling. I really enjoyed the challenge of having to think about what materials could work in each part of the picture. I was especially happy with the idea that I could use feather grass for the bird's feathers.





You've worked with some well-known brands, is there anyone you would love to work with and what would you create?

I would love to work with one of the big fashion houses to create a dress woven with real flowers. It would be a very self-indulgent and ethereal project of course. Flowers are so delicate, you could wear the dress only once – but it would be amazing to see it on the catwalk! I've often wondered if I could create a design that can be repeated as a pattern and then reproduced for use as wallpaper. That would be quite a fantastic project. Imagine being surrounded by dry flowers all around in your home on your walls. I think it could be quite therapeutic.

What advice would you give to someone looking to turn their craft into a business?

Probably not to do anything I've done! To focus on one thing, find your niche and put all your creative energy behind it. To be patient as there's no such thing as overnight success. I always have a nagging feeling that I could have made better decisions in terms of developing the business side of things, and that I've spent too much time indulging

my urge to experiment instead. However, I also feel like we live in a world where things are changing so quickly and people are looking for something new and exciting all the time that it's hard to be sure what business models will pay off, so perhaps it does make sense to experiment there too.

What is your favourite embroidery technique and why is this?

I must admit I'm no expert in embroidery or know a lot about the multitude of amazing techniques and stitches available. But I am exploring more in this field for inspiration and drawing parallels with what can be achieved with flowers on tulle. After a variety of experiments I recently found a plant that works well for couching, and I'm enjoying exploring the possibilities this offers to achieve more complex and well-defined shapes as well as doing abstract and geometrical shapes.

Finally, do you have any exciting plans that you'd like to share?

I'm currently working on a couple of collaborations that I'd love to share but they're at too early a stage. All I can say is one of them is for a well-known brand and the other aimed more at the craft

market. I'm also hoping to bring a new digital tutorial for the Spanish speaking community. Another exciting project that I'm hoping to make happen later this year is my first multi-day residential workshop retreat – I'm developing plans with two lovely ladies who own a beautiful villa in Tuscany. I'll post details on my website as soon as it's confirmed!

FIND OUT MORE

Ogla Prinku is a designer and maker with a focus on flowers on tulle embroidery. Her work has been featured in multiple publications around the world and she has created pieces with brands including Anthropologie and Swarovski. Discover more at www.prinku.com or on her Instagram [olgaprinku](https://www.instagram.com/olgaprinku)

Meet our Fashion Mate

The **Singer 3333, 3337 and 3342 Fashion Mates** include:

- * Up to 32 Built-In Stitches
- * 1-Step & 4-Step Buttonholes
- * Built-in needle threader
- * Top drop-in bobbin
- * STAYBRIGHT™ LED Light
- * Adjustable Stitch Length
- * Heavy Duty Metal Frame
- * Free arm * On-board storage
- * A range of free accessories

PRICES FROM
£169



SINGER

The world's favourite sewing machine

Winner of Great British Sewing Bee 2019, Juliet Uzor, is our new fashion mate.

She's creating exciting projects on her Singer machine for you to try. For Juliet's suit visit www.singerco.co.uk/projects



@singersewinguk

www.singerco.co.uk

Use your

McCALL'S

PATTERN

Time for TEA

Step into spring with a selection of sweet tea dresses to take you from cool crisp mornings through to balmy late-summer nights





Ruth says...

Finished garment measurements are printed on the pattern tissue. Grade between sizes if necessary for the perfect fit!



Subscribe today to get a
McCALL PATTERN COMPANY DESIGN IN YOUR SIZE WITH EVERY ISSUE!

See page 28 for details

VIEW D

This gorgeous crêpe drapes beautifully, accentuating the soft gathers on the sleeve and bustline

We used

Medium weight crêpe de chine, £7.50 per metre
www.samanthalaridgestudio.com

ELEGANT ELASTIC

Be sure to try on your dress before you sew your elastic together and trim the ends – you can then adjust the fit so it feels comfortable before finishing



VIEW B

A lightweight rayon is perfect for the elasticated gathers on the neckline and sleeves of this dress

We used

Sonata Rayon Red Pastoral Crescendo, Art Gallery Fabrics, visit www.hantexonline.co.uk for stockists

MACHINE REVIEW

With more than 100 years in the business, Brother has become a market leading provider of innovative sewing machines. Browse the full range at www.sewingcraft.brother.eu/en

Best for

BEGINNERS

Model: Innov-is A150

Favourite feature: Built-in lettering

Price: £499

Ambitious beginners eager to progress their skills will find lots of appealing features in the Innov-is A150. This computerised machine includes 150 built-in stitches and four lettering styles, as well as 10 styles of one-step automatic buttonholes. Create professional finishes with the twin-needle setting and enjoy a quick and easy set up thanks to the quick set, top loading bobbin and auto-trim button. We've no doubt you'll be whipping up professional-looking garments in no time!



Best for

FASHION LOVERS

Model: Brother Innov-is 55 Fashion Edition

Favourite feature: Advanced needle threading

Price: £449



Hands up if you love adding unique finishes to your garments that accentuate your style and personality? The Brother Innov-is 55 Fashion Edition is built with fashion-forward sewists in mind, boasting 80 built-in stitches including decorative designs, monograms and letters. You can create your own stitch patterns, too! Sewists will appreciate a quick and easy set up with the help of the automatic needle threader, top loading bobbin and drop feed system. You can enjoy free-arm stitching for larger projects and the handy needle up/down function ensures precision and speed.

Best for

ADVANCED SEWING

Model: NV1300

Favourite feature: Knee lift

Price: £899

Looking for a machine that will help bring the garments of your dreams to life? The NV1300 is built with extra-special sewing projects in mind, offering 182 customisable built-in stitches, 10 styles of one-step buttonholes and five styles of lettering. You'll love the limitless capabilities of this model; the innovative Square Feed Drive System ensures that all fabric passes smoothly through the machine and it automatically adjusts the thread tension as you sew. The ergonomic design makes the largest of tasks a breeze; the knee lift allows you to manipulate the presser foot and stitches can be easily secured with the nifty lockstitch button. If you want a sewing machine that can deliver expert quality makes, this one's for you.



MATERIAL MOVES

Scarborough

With a wide range of fabric, haberdashery and workshops, Material Moves is a haven for crafters. We find out more from owner Carol Eves



Carol

Hi Carol! How are you and what are you up to at the shop today?

I'm very well, thank you. My morning began with meditation, a walk in the park with my dogs and a swim before one of my dressmaking classes started. It was a lovely class for a small group of ladies on a new beginner's course.

Tell us a bit about how you came to own your own shop

I started teaching dressmaking in 2012 and taught at various venues. I wanted to bring all my classes under one roof and had an idea that a fabric shop would be an ideal development for my business as a response to the difficulty my learners were having in finding materials for their projects locally. In 2014, I found this lovely property to run my classes from and two years later I began building my stock of materials. I now have a lovely range of high-quality fabric



for dressmaking, patterns, including some from indie designers, beautiful trimmings, and all the tools and equipment needed for dressmaking.

Which sewing machine would you recommend for a beginner, or an experienced sewist?

For a beginner I would recommend Husqvarna Viking Emerald 118 because it has more simplified features without compromising on the variety of stitch options. For more experienced sewists I would recommend a digital machine, such as the Husqvarna Viking Jade 20 or the Opal 690Q, as they offer a much wider variety of stitches for more advanced techniques and creative stitching.

Have you had any particularly memorable moments in store?

I love the start of new courses when strangers come together and over time, friendships form between them. A special memory I have is of a teenage girl who designed and made her own unique prom dress in my classes. It was lovely to receive photographs from her mum showing how fabulous she looked and how proud of herself she was.

What sets you apart from other shops?

I feel that I've created a special place here at Material Moves, I provide a relaxed atmosphere and a warm welcome. More recently, I have incorporated some mindfulness techniques into the classes to help my customers leave their busy lives outside and enjoy a few hours of uninterrupted creativity. Poppy and Rosie, my two English springer spaniels, like to give everyone a warm welcome too.



Is there anything new or exciting coming up that you'd like to tell our readers about?

I'm developing some exciting new projects with offers of some intensive courses and retreats for niche groups. I will be offering more long weekend workshops and I'm planning a summer school in August. I have a new programme of day workshops and details can be found on my Facebook page Material Moves, and I'm also in the process of developing a new website.

Scarborough is such a beautiful place to visit so people can spend a lovely relaxing break, go fabric shopping and learn some new sewing skills too. Sewing by the sea! What's not to love?

Visit us!

MATERIAL MOVES

21 Gladstone Rd
Scarborough
YO12 7BQ

01723 377289

www.materialmoves.co.uk

Amazing A-Series



A150

With our effortless, one touch needle threader and improved feed for smooth powerful even sewing.

The A-Series will make light work of all fabrics from lightweight to heavy without complicated adjustments or settings to worry about. Allowing you to enjoy fuss free sewing!



A16



A50



A80



Use your
threadcount
PATTERN

Dynamic **DUO**

Two beautifully simple but elegant jersey skirts make perfect transitional pieces for this season



VIEW A

This light floral jersey is just the right weight for a flirty circle skirt

We used:

Blooms Field Fresh from Floralish by Katarina Roccella, visit www.hantexonline.co.uk for stockists



VIEW B

This below-the-knee version hangs beautifully in a silky lightweight ponte

We used

This fabric was from Girl Charlee UK, which has sadly ceased trading. For similar fabric near you, take a look at our Shop Local listings on page 73



Reader Review

Threadcount 2003

Our new Editor Ruth takes this issue's Threadcount pattern for a spin



I have to confess to a serious advantage as reader reviewer: when I was considering what to make

with this month's Threadcount pattern, I was able to swivel my chair round, pick a ready-made sample from the clothes rail behind my desk, and have a real-life swoosh and twirl before making my decision.

My sewing time has reduced of late, so I'm conscious of making garments that I will get maximum wear from. I was immediately taken by the drape of the longer skirt, but with a serious dearth of spring-friendly dresses in my wardrobe, I knew it was time for a hack.

I have a soft spot for Boden's jersey dresses, and have previously made an 'homage-hack', turning McCall's 6886 into an A-line dress with pockets. I decided to do something similar, this time adding a favourite top pattern to the lovely flowy skirt.

At the final count, this dress is a mash-up of no less than four different patterns (and a healthy dose of ad-libbing). The top is a Tilly and the Buttons Freya with a Tessuti Fabrics Mandy Boat Tee neckline (affectionately

known on Instagram as a Frandy). The skirt is the Threadcount below-knee version minus the waistband and with the front pockets from a vintage pattern I've had for donkey's years.

The beauty of this hack is that you can use any pattern piece your heart desires, so long as they're tapered to fit at the adjoining seams.

The fabric – a gorgeously soft jersey from www.minerva.com – was a joy to work with. The colours made my heart sing and as soon as I put it on I had that lovely warm feeling you only get with a 'me made'.

The beautiful drape of the Threadcount skirt worked perfectly with this hack, and the pockets give it that all important slouchy comfort factor without adding bulk to the hip-line. Win-win!

If you're interested in trying this skirt-to-dress hack, take a look at page 23 for more details and some useful tips on how to get your dream frock!



In issue 80
Lynn Young reviews
McCalls 6654



Say hello to Ruth on Instagram at [grinlowsews](https://www.instagram.com/grinlowsews)

MASTERCLASS

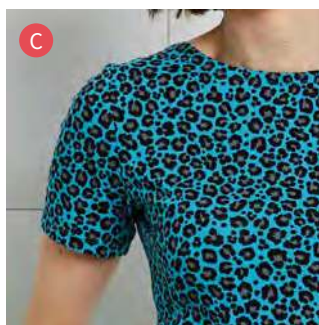
THREADCOUNT

SKIRT HACK

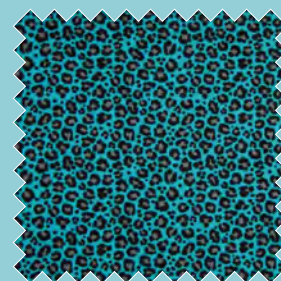
The duo of skirts in this issue's Threadcount pattern are too good to limit to your bottom half! Set the skirt free with this super-simple pattern mashup

You don't have to use the same patterns I used to create my reader review dress. You can choose any stretch jersey pattern that you love to make (and wear!) that has a fitted silhouette.

- 1 Assemble your chosen top. You could use a jersey dress pattern if you like the top half (McCall's 6886, 7531 or 7967 are great options); simply cut the pattern piece at the waist notch and add a seam allowance ready to join to the skirt pieces.
- 2 Ensure your top tapers sufficiently at the waist to match the skirt's waistline, so side seams will line up. Take your top in at the sides if necessary to ensure a good fit.
- 3 Now, create some pockets. In-seam pockets are the quickest option, but can add bulk at the hips. I went for front pockets using a vintage pattern, but the Tilly and the Buttons Stella joggers (from her book *Stretch*) are a nice easy option with clear instructions.
- 4 Cut out the back and front skirt pieces. The back will remain unaltered. The front will be cut at either side to accommodate the front pocket openings. The easiest way to do this is to lay your front pocket facing over the top of your skirt pieces on either side and snip away the excess fabric above the pocket opening. (See Pic A.)
- 5 Interface along the WS edge of the pocket facing piece as shown in Pic A. This creates a robust pocket opening.
- 6 Sew your pocket pieces together according to your pattern instructions. Under-stitch pocket facing to seam allowance. Sew front and back pieces together RST (for inseam pockets you will do the entire pocket and side seams in one go). Press. (See Pic B.)
- 7 You can finish all your seams and hems at this stage ready for the finale! (See Pic C.)
- 8 Once the skirt with pockets is assembled, join the two together. Place the top upside down and right side out inside the skirt wrong side out so that right sides are facing. Pin the skirt and top together at the waistline, ensuring side seams match and everything lines up neatly at the waistline. Sew together using an overlocker, zigzag or stretch stitch to ensure a strong seam.
- 9 Turn your dress the right way out and voila! Your very own fit and flare jersey dress with pockets. Once you learn how to hack this pattern your options are quite literally limitless. Have fun with it and be sure to send in your makes to inspire us!



Why not TRY?



Cotton jersey knit fabric in turquoise, £15.99 per metre www.minerva.com



Vintage floral jersey, £7.25 per metre www.fabricguys.com



Tweet Tweet jersey, £9.98 per metre www.materialgirlaura.co.uk



Lottie Tencel Modal Jersey, £15 per metre www.sewmesunshine.co.uk

Getting swanky with **ESME YOUNG**

Acclaimed designer and Great British Sewing Bee judge Esme Young looks back at some of her most iconic fashion moments



Esme today, reflecting on a fantastic fashion journey

If you were lucky enough to attend the Stitch Festival in London at the end of March, you will have been awestruck at the wonderful exhibition of iconic 1970s fashion designs and film outfits by acclaimed fashion designer Esme Young. Perhaps best known for being a judge on *The Great British Sewing Bee*, Esme has led a fascinating career in fashion. From Swanky Modes to Bridget Jones' bunny ears, *Love Sewing* investigates...

Esme's esteemed fashion career started in the early 1970s when she and three friends (Judy Dewsbury, Melanie Langer and Will Walters) set up shop in Camden. Swanky Modes was a cutting-edge fashion emporium, groundbreaking in ethos and design. Esme says: "We couldn't find what we wanted in the shops so we decided to design what we wanted to wear. It turned out that other women wanted to wear them too."

Throughout, team Swanky experimented with new and challenging materials. In 1977 Swanky Modes designed its first 'proper' collection using nylon Lycra, a fabric previously used only for swimwear and sportswear. Like many a *Sewing Bee* contestant forced through their paces with a vintage machine and a swathe of sports-grade scuba, Esme and co had to find a way to sew together the fabric without the help of a professional four-thread overlocker –



at the time specialist equipment used by big swimwear companies, not small businesses, let alone home sewists.

“We had to develop a technique to sew the Lycra using more basic equipment,” Esme recalls. The resultant Graffiti collection, with its brightly-coloured high-contrast body conscious silhouettes, met with critical acclaim: the Padlock dress (now in the Museum of London’s permanent collection, pictured below) was worn by none other than Grace Jones. The collection was a success in practical terms: “These garments from 40 years ago can still be worn, and stretch just as they should.”

The success of Graffiti was hotly followed by the Tyre Track collection in 1978. Also using nylon Lycra, Swanky Modes demonstrated a unique approach to pattern cutting with the groundbreaking Amorphous Dress (pictured below, right). This stunning creation was cut in a single piece of fabric, with a shoulder seam and a

dart. Now housed in the V&A’s permanent collection, the dress took on a life of its own – worn by Cher and appearing in the films *An American Werewolf in London* and *Crocodile Dundee*.

Pushing the frontier further with materials and techniques, the Tyre Track collection also featured the Flasher Dress (pictured below, left), made in a combination of leather and Lycra. Esme says: “We mastered sewing stretch fabric, but having made the designs on paper we then had to overcome the challenge of sewing together stretch and non-stretch materials – no easy feat.”

It’s no surprise, given this experimental and creative approach, Esme began to create costumes for films. “I started working on adverts and films because of Swanky Modes,” she recalls. “Stylists would come into the shop and I would make outfits for them.” Through her colleague Rachael Fleming, whom she worked with at Swanky Modes in the 1980s, Esme would go on to

“

These garments from 40 years ago can still be worn, and stretch just as they should

”



The Flasher Dress, from the Tyre Crack Collection, 1978



Padlock Dress. Photograph by Jake Wynter and Willie Christie

“

Take risks and move out of your comfort zone. By doing this, you'll learn a lot. I'm still learning

”

create some of the most iconic costumes in modern British film history. Esme says: “When she (Rachael) started working in films she asked me to make outfits for the films she was working on. On *Trainspotting* I made Dale Winton's suit, shirt and tie all from pink Lurex. I also made the dress for his assistant who was played by Rachael herself. The dress was inspired by the Flasher Dress from 1978 (see page 25), and was made from lycra and sequins.”

One of Esme's favourite film costumes is Renee Zellweger's iconic Bunny outfit, which she made for the 2001 film *Bridget Jones's Diary*. Esme also made Zellweger's pyjamas for *Bridget Jones's Baby* (2016). Esme recounts: “When I was doing some fittings with Renee Zellweger she told



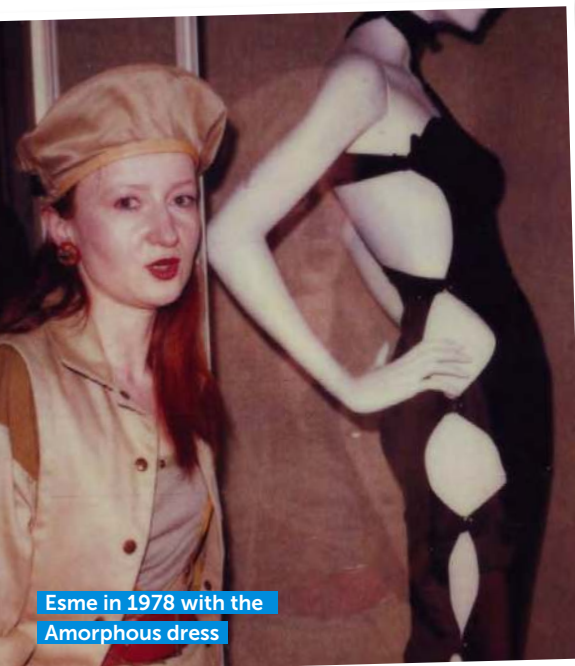
Amorphous dress, from the Tyre Track Collection, 1978

me she had seen me in *The Great British Sewing Bee*.” Great news travels far!

As well as creating costumes for the films *28 Days Later*, *Saint-Ex*, and *The Two Faces of January*, Esme has worked with cult designer Ashish Gupta, renowned for his use of signature sequins and embellishment, since 2000. “I taught Ashish when he was doing his MA at Central St Martin's and I cut his final collection. That was in 2000 and I have been working with him ever since.”

Indeed, Esme is not only an iconic designer, pattern and costume maker and beloved television judge, but she is also a Senior Lecturer in fashion at Central St Martins. To young people looking to make a career in fashion or costume today, Esme says: “I know it sounds corny but believe in yourself. Don't be arrogant, be open to opportunities, take risks and move out of your comfort zone. By doing this, you'll learn a lot. I'm still learning.”

And, of course, the exciting thing is that we all get to learn with Esme when it's *Sewing Bee* season; we can't wait to see her back on our screens injecting style, sass and substance into every episode very soon...



Esme in 1978 with the Amorphous dress



Flap top and trousers, Fingerprint collection, 1979. Photograph by Robyn Beeche

McCall's®

Patterns for the
Modern Maker



sewdirect.com

JOIN LOVE SEWING TODAY!



The
McCall
Pattern
Company

Exclusive designs from
The McCall Pattern Company
with every issue

Love Sewing is packed with tips, tricks and clever ideas to keep you inspired month after month. Every issue includes a stunning paper pattern from The McCall Pattern Company, the best tutorials from industry experts plus exciting projects and inspiring articles.

Whether you're making unique garments, chic homeware and accessories, or fun embroidery projects, Love Sewing is the perfect addition to your sewing room.

10 REASONS TO SUBSCRIBE:

- 1 **SAVE** money on every issue
- 2 **FREE** delivery direct to your door
- 3 **NEVER** miss an issue
- 4 **BE THE FIRST** to read *Love Sewing*
- 5 **Great** pattern worth over £8 from The McCall Pattern company with every issue
- 6 Exclusive promise to offer **BRANDED PATTERNS** in the widest size range
- 7 The **BEST** tutorials and projects from industry experts including Wendy Gardiner and Alison Smith MBE
- 8 **BUILD** your ultimate pattern collection
- 9 **NEVER** be short of sewing inspiration again
- 10 **SPREAD THE COST** by Direct Debit or credit/debit card



How to pay:

**£23.77 EVERY
3 MONTHS*
SAVE 15%**



BEST OPTION

**£95.99 FOR
14 ISSUES**



*UK offer only. Minimum subscription term is 12 months, we reserve the right to request the gift is returned, should the subscription be cancelled early. Subscription starts with the next available issue. We reserve the right to send an alternative gift should the Tilly and the Buttons book become unavailable. For overseas rates and other payment methods please visit: www.moremags.com/subscriptions. Hurry this offer expires 16/04/2020.

FREE

**COPY OF TILLY
AND THE BUTTONS:
MAKE IT SIMPLE
WHEN YOU SUBSCRIBE
TO LOVE SEWING!***

*Brand-new
book*

TILLY AND THE BUTTONS

— ✂ —
**MAKE
IT
SIMPLE**

EASY, SPEEDY
SEWING PROJECTS
TO STITCH UP IN
AN AFTERNOON

TILLY
WALNES

*Includes 6
full-scale
dressmaking
patterns*

How to order:

Online: www.practicalsubs.com/5573

Call: **0161 327 0441** (QUOTE CODE: **PLSE0320**)

Hurry, offer expires 16/04/2020



THRIFTY STITCHER

Claire-Louise Hardie shows you how to work magic with woven and non-woven interfacing

If you make your own clothes, then you'll have been instructed to use interfacing at some point in time. However, not all interfacing is created equally!

Ever ordered something online, or asked for it in your local shop and discovered that your fabric and interfacing weren't a match? Just like fabric, interfacing is created in different qualities and weights. Interfacing, or fusible as it's known in the fashion industry, is available in thousands of different types. Luckily, there's not as much choice available to the domestic home sewist.

There are two main types of interfacing: woven (including knits) and non-woven. Both types are available as iron-on (fusible) or sew-in (non-fusible) versions.

WHAT'S THE MAIN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO?

Woven interfacing has been created much like fabric with warp and weft threads woven together. It looks and behaves like fabric. Fusible wovens have a rough/bumpy side which has been primed with fusible glue.

Non-woven interfacing consists of compressed fibres. The result is a product very similar to paper without the malleable quality of fabric. It looks and behaves like paper. Again, for fusible versions, one side is primed with fusible glue.



Always read the manufacturer's instructions as not all interfacings are created equally

PROS AND CONS FOR EACH

If you've never noticed that there were two very different types, you may be thinking: but why do we need two?

Woven pros

- Moves and drapes in the same way as your fabric
- Fusible version is easy to fuse, and easy to remove if you mess up
- Less wrinkles and dimples

Woven cons

- Can be more costly than a non-woven and availability is limited
- Typically only available in a few weights/thicknesses

Non-woven pros

- Usually available in lots of weights and thicknesses
- Often less expensive than the woven versions
- Very widely available as it is useful for craft as well as dressmaking

Non-woven cons

- Fusibles can wrinkle or dimple, especially on curvy parts of your project
- May drastically change the look and feel of your fabric
- Tears more easily than the woven version

My choice of interfacing when dressmaking is woven as it moves like fabric. However, matching your interfacing to your project can prove difficult if you don't have access to a shop with a wide range. Fortunately, shopping online means you can buy a wider selection than what's available in your local craft shop.

As a general rule, interfacing should be the same weight (or lighter) than your fabric. There are exceptions, like waistbands or collars, where you need a slightly heavier interfacing to hold the shape, but it's best to layer in these areas or go up only a little in weight. I've seen plenty of collars and plackets that have been ruined when too heavy an interfacing has been fused and turned them into rigid cardboard.

MY GO-TO INTERFACING WEIGHTS

Fine cotton fusible ECC2o

This crisp, lightweight, woven interfacing is perfect to add a crisp edge to the front of shirts, and can be layered on collar



Superfine fusible is ideal for lightweight fabric

bands to create a nice weight that isn't too papery. Available from the English Couture Company.

www.englishcouture.co.uk

Bosal Envy silk

This super-fine fusible is described as a non-woven but is in fact a knit. It's perfect for really light, delicate fabric that requires a little stabilisation without added rigidity. I like this on polyesters, viscose or any fabric with drape and a little stretch. Available from Rosa Rhodes.



P115 canvas interfacing

This fusible canvas is perfect for speed or production tailoring when making jackets or coats. There's also a sew-in version available too. I rarely tailor or use pad stitching anymore, so this is a brilliant halfway option when short on time. Available at William Gee.



Bosal 8-way stretch tricot

This is a useful interfacing for block fusing coats or jackets, especially if the cloth is a loose weave. It's also really good as an all-purpose interfacing for stable knits like Ponte Roma or sweatshirt fabric, as well as non-stretch medium-weight fabric.



A slightly heavier interfacing helps a waistband hold its shape

ABOUT CLAIRE-LOUISE

Claire-Louise is an author, pattern designer, teacher and costumer.

We recommend Claire-Louise's online course
www.learntosewwithapro.com/ultimate-beginners

Claire-Louise's book, *The Great British Sewing Bee: Fashion With Fabric*, accompanied the third series of the show and is priced at £20 from www.quadrille.co.uk



Prym waist-shaper interfacing

This product makes amazing waistbands. The perforations allow you to fold back seam allowances without creating a lot of bulk or having to fiddle around measuring. Available at John Lewis.

of jacket pieces or cuffs to give a crisp edge Available at Jaycotts.



When using fusible interfacing you must read the manufacturer's instructions, which are often printed on the selvedge if not bought in a packet. Different interfacings need different timings of heat, and some need dry heat whilst others need steam as well as heat.

One of the tips I share with my students is to place a scrap of paper on top of the ironing board, as well as over the piece being interfaced. This protects both the ironing board from glue, and the interfacing itself from the iron. Lighter products can quickly melt against your iron, which means wasting your interfacing and having to clean the iron: both are big time wasters.

Vilene iron-on bias tape

This is a great option for stabilising necklines or hems on stretch fabric. Available from Minerva Crafts.

Prym seam tape interfacing

This is a really useful product for stabilising edges, and as it's pre-cut to a narrow strip, it's very easy to use. I place this on shoulder seams, around the edges



Claire-Louise says

Place paper between your ironing board and fabric, and between your fabric, and iron to prevent melting lightweight interfacings and ruining your ironing board!

Crafter's TV



John Scott's SEWING WORLD

John Scott joins
Crafter's Companion
to launch a four-hour weekly
sewing special on TV shopping
channel Crafter's TV!

LAUNCHING
3rd March
at 8am!

Bringing you all the **latest products**
exciting **demonstrations** and **special live offers.**

“A feel-good place to celebrate all things sewing and quilting”

John Scott

Start watching today at
www.crafterscompanion.co.uk/crafterstv

Crafter's Companion

PATTERN PICKS

Spring FORWARD

Refresh your wardrobe with these seasonal staples from Jaycotts



Wear the trousers

These easy-to-sew, cropped trousers are an absolute must for your spring wardrobe. They form part of Simplicity's 8299 pattern which boasts two styles of easy-to-wear trousers and three skirts in different lengths. Priced at £9.50 in UK sizes 6-22.



Return of the mac

Come rain or shine, you won't want to be without a trusty mac this season. The Simplicity 8302 pattern includes a classic unlined coat along with a dress or tunic and slim trousers – the perfect kickstarter for your capsule wardrobe! Priced at £9.50 in UK sizes 10-18.

SAVE 20% on full-priced patterns at Jaycotts until 23rd April, 2020 using the code **LOVE2020**. With an extensive range of patterns, haberdashery and sewing machines, you'll find tonnes of supplies at www.jaycotts.co.uk
Shipping costs still apply



Jump to it!

Combine style and comfort with Butterick's 6224 jumpsuit. Perfect for balmy days, this loose-fitting garment creates shape with an elasticated waist and bust darts. Choose from a midi, three-quarter or full-leg length and opt for breathable fabrics including challis, rayon or linen. Priced at £9.50 in UK sizes 18-32.

Shift your thinking

This easy-to-wear Butterick 6525 tunic dress boasts a loose fit with front and back insets to give shape and flatter a range of figures. Boost your skills by creating those all-important side pockets and stylish dolman sleeves. Priced at £9.50 in sizes XS-XXL.



SAVE 20%
on patterns at Jaycotts with the code LOVE2020



That's a wrap!

A vintage-inspired dress with a contemporary twist, the 1940s Wrap Dress by Sew Over It is a timeless staple with season-spanning appeal. The pattern includes two sleeve and skirt lengths with an elegant front collar, pretty shoulder pleats and a hidden button or press-stud closure. Priced at £15 in UK sizes 8-20.



Rock the smock

Tilly and the Buttons has a knack for creating beginner-friendly patterns that look super stylish and are sure to bag you plenty of compliments. The Indigo pattern ticks all the boxes for a modern and versatile smock, offering two styles that can be sewn as a top or dress. If you're looking for a quick project with no fiddly fastenings to contend with, this one's a winner. Priced at £12.50 in UK sizes 6-24.



Tilly

Learn with TILLY

To celebrate the launch of her new book, Make it Simple, we sat down with Tilly Walnes to glean some of her top tips for efficient sewing



Chain stitching

Sewing a seam may seem like a simple task but, when you break it down, quite a few micro-steps are involved: checking the needle is threaded, pulling the threads behind the needle, lowering the presser foot onto the fabric, finding the foot pedal, starting stitching, stopping stitching, raising the presser foot, pulling out the fabric, finding your scissors and trimming the thread. Then starting the process all over again with the next seam...

Chain stitching can save time by sewing a few seams at once and stitching continuously from one piece to the next. Once you've sewn one seam, back-tack if you need to, but don't raise the presser foot or cut the thread. Position your next piece in front of the needle, leaving just a small gap, and sew straight onto it. Keep going with as many pieces as you have ready to sew. When you've finished, pull out the pieces and snip the thread to separate them. Once you get into the rhythm of chain stitching you'll feel like a speed-sewing master.

Bundling projects

Have you fallen in love with your first Tabitha T-shirt and bought fabric to make three more? Take a tip from the garment industry and sew them all at the same time. Spend one evening cutting out each version of the pattern, then bundle up all the pieces for each one, together with the thread and other notions, and put them in a project bag. Sew all the shoulders, then all the neckbands, then the sleeves, and so on. Or combine with the batching tasks method (see opposite) for super-duper efficiency! If you have a sharp rotary cutter or heavy-duty tailor's

“

Productivity experts will tell you to batch task your emails, meetings and paperwork to avoid wasting physical and mental energy transitioning between each type of task, and the same principle applies here

”

shears, you can even try stack cutting two or three versions in one go. Lay out some tracing paper or brown paper on your cutting mat, to stabilise the bottom layer, then carefully lay out each piece of fabric, one on top of the other. The weight of the layers should hold the bottom layers in place – but stack cutting is definitely easier on fabric that isn't too stretchy or slippery. I'd highly recommend you make at least one version of the project on its own, before sewing multiple versions. That way, you can check you're happy with the fit and master any techniques that are new to you. And another good time-saving tip

when bundling projects is to choose fabric in similar colours so you don't have to change the thread!

Batching tasks

If you follow most sewing-pattern instructions word for word – pinning a seam, stitching it, trimming the seam allowances, finishing them and pressing, before moving on to the next seam – you'll be spending quite a bit of time moving between your cutting space, sewing machine, overlocker (serger) and ironing board, pulling out tools and putting them away. An energy-saving method I use all the time is to do as much of one type of task or using one type of tool as I can before moving on to the next type of task or tool. I'll clear a space and start by pinning as many seams as I can, only stopping when one of those seams needs stitching so it can be attached to something else. Then I'll sit down at my machine and sew as many seams as I can before one needs to be trimmed. Then I'll get my scissors out and... you get the idea. Like a one-woman mini assembly line, if you will.

Productivity experts will tell you to batch task your emails, meetings and paperwork to avoid wasting physical and mental energy transitioning between each type of task, and the same principle applies here. I love this method so much that I've included a 'Shortcut Steps' section after the instructions for each main project, outlining how I'd approach batching tasks for the patterns in the book.



When should you not batch-task your sewing? As mentioned, you'll need to stitch, trim, finish or press a seam before crossing it with another. Avoid pinning too many bits to one piece of fabric before sewing them on, as the pins may fall out while you're sewing another part. If you are new to dressmaking and want to get your head round how each part comes together, stick with the regular instructions. If you find you get more satisfaction from completing one part of the project before moving on to the next – say, finishing the bodice before starting on the sleeves – then do that.



Claim your free copy of *Make it Simple* on **PAGE 28!**

FIND OUT MORE

Tilly and the Buttons create fun, user-friendly sewing patterns, fabric and dressmaking books. *Tilly and the Buttons: Make it Simple* by Tilly Walnes (Quadrille, £25) is on sale now! Photography © Ellie Smith & Jane Looker

Browse the full product range and find more tips and techniques at www.tillyandthebuttons.com

FABRIC FOCUS



FRILL Seeker

Top up your fabric stash using your exclusive discount!



SAVE
15%

on fabric at Sew Me
Sunshine using the code
LOVESEWING15

Fabric shopping

- ① Cotton and Steel Dress Shop Moons Orchid jersey, £11 per half metre ② Atelier Brunette Posie Blue viscose doobby, £8.50 per half metre ③ Dashwood Studio Flowers cotton needlecord, £8 per half metre ④ Teal Ponte di Roma, £4 per half metre ⑤ Ruby Star Society Lindley Lawns Persimmon cotton lawn, £7.50 per half metre ⑥ Robert Kaufman Mustard Yellow Ventana cotton twill, £7.25 per half metre

*Use the code LOVESEWING15 to save 15% on fabric before 23rd April, 2020 at www.sewmesunshine.co.uk
Shipping costs still apply.



THIS MONTH'S
Top Picks

Spring is almost here and we've got some beautiful fabrics just in time for our favourite season! It's all about florals at TFG this month! Head over and check out our new arrivals!

15% Off
Every Item Online
Use Code:
LOVE15

 <p>Cotton Linen Available in 6 colours Only £6.99 / metre</p>	<p>Tropical Linen Available in 12 designs Only £9.79 / metre</p> 	 <p>Printed Chiffon Available in 25 designs Only £5.99 / metre</p>	<p>Premium Rayon Available in 30 designs Only £4.85 / metre</p> 
 <p>Knitted Jersey Available in 18 colours Only £4.99 / metre</p>	<p>Digital Print Satin Available in 16 designs Only £6.79 / metre</p> 	 <p>Polyester Dupion Available in 30 colours Only £6.99 / metre</p>	<p>Floral Peachskin Available in 6 designs Only £7.00 / metre</p> 

www.FabricGuys.com












*Winner British Sewing Awards 2019
*Excellent Customer service
*Established Family Business
*Sustainable and Organic Dress Fabrics / Sewing Patterns

Best Eco-Friendly Product
Eco Linen Range



Visit our website today - Free Postage over £40
www.dragonflyfabrics.co.uk Tel 01892 - 731087



NÄHSCHOTTE

sew nice ltd.

Haberdashery

SINCE 2011



Sew Nice owner, Matthew, has **25 years of experience** dealing with **customers all over Europe**, and passionately believes in providing great **customer service and quality products**.

Our range includes all kinds of zips (including: jacket zips, continuous zips of various strengths in over 70 colours, closed-end zips, lace zips, invisible zips) and buttons in over 500 designs. Alongside haberdashery, we have started to sell scrapbooking supplies from *Die Cut Maniac*.


Gummiapan coming soon!

Take a look at our new website
www.sewnice.de

Use code **LS35** to receive a **35% discount**
on all haberdashery.

Naehschotte



NähSchotte

The long and **SHORT** *of it*

Worn short with skinny jeans or longer as a dress, the Dolores Tunic is your go-to jersey pattern featuring grown on sleeves, pockets and turn-back cuffs

Project **FIONA HESFORD** Sewgirl



Shopping list

Frida print jersey, £16 per metre
www.fabricsgalore.co.uk

SIZE GUIDE

Sizing	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
Bust	81cm	86cm	91cm	97cm	102cm	107cm	112cm
Waist	64cm	69cm	74cm	79cm	84cm	89cm	94cm
Hips	89cm	94cm	99cm	104cm	109cm	114cm	119cm

FINISHED GARMENT MEASUREMENTS

Sizing	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
Approx finished length (cm)	84cm	86cm	88cm	90cm	92cm	94cm	96cm
Finished hip measurement	121cm	126cm	131cm	136cm	141cm	146cm	151cm

MATERIALS & TOOLS

- 2-2.2m of 150cm-wide double jersey or terry back jersey
- 20cm stretch fusible lightweight interfacing
- templates downloaded from www.love sewingmag.co.uk

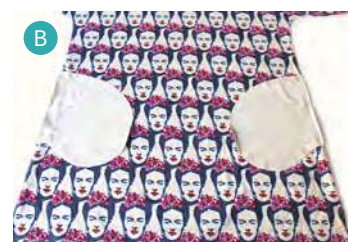
Pattern is not suitable for 115cm-wide fabric
 Use layout as a guide to cutting
 Since jersey doesn't tend to fray, edges can be left unfinished
 Use a jersey needle (80)

HOW TO MAKE

- 1 Interface reverse of neck facing pieces. (See Pic A.)
- 2 Pin one pocket piece RST

NOTES

Seam allowance 1cm



pieces. (See Pic B.)

3 Press the pocket away from the body, press the seam allowances towards the pocket. Top-stitch (lengthen stitch to 2.8mm) on the pocket RS. Repeat for all pocket pieces on front and back. (See Pic C.)

4 With the RST, pin then sew the front to back at the shoulder seams. Finish the seam allowances together, press them towards the back. Top-stitch.

Neck facings

5 With the RST pin then sew together the neck facing pieces at the short sides to make a ring. Press the seam allowances flat open. Finish the outer raw edge only of the neck facing piece.

6 Pin the facing to the neck with the RST, aligning the side cross seams. Hand-tack stitch. Sew all around. Trim the seam

at each side edge of the front, aligning the straight edges with the pocket position notches. Sew. Repeat for the back piece and the other two pocket



G

8 With the RST, pin then sew the front to the back at the side edges and all around the pocket. Press.

H**Cuff**

9 Press one of the cuff pieces in half, matching the short sides with the RST. Pin, sew. Press the seam allowances flat open. Repeat for the other cuff. (See Pic F.)

10 Fold each cuff in half, aligning the raw long edges with the WST. Finish the raw edges together.

11 Pin one cuff piece at the finished edge to the sleeve raw edge WS. Sew. Fold the cuff over to the RS (approximately 3cm). Press. Repeat for the other cuff piece. (See Pic G.)

12 Make a single fold 2cm hem at tunic lower edge. (See Pic H.)

allowance to 5mm all around. (See Pic D.)

7 Press the neck facing upwards then fold over the WS. Pin, then hand-tack stitch to hold in position. On the WS, stitch 4cm from the neck edge all around. Remove all tacking. (See Pic E.)



TREND PATTERNS



*Dressmaking
Patterns Keeping
You Up To Date
With Catwalk
Trends*

Use Code LOVESEW at checkout
to get 10% OFF

www.trendpatterns.co.uk



Chrysalis FABRICS

Sign up now to receive over 250
swatches in 4 seasonal Collections
plus access to our full range of
premium quality dress fabrics.

Our emphasis is on beautiful
wools, cottons, linens and silks
plus top quality easy-care mixes.

An annual subscription is just £18 (£22 if overseas).
Call Diana on 07748 530 318 or visit
www.chrysalisfabrics.co.uk



MINERVACRAFTS

The UK's largest Fabric, Sewing Pattern
and Haberdashery Online Retailer!

Winner of Best Online Retailer in the British Sew Awards

Follow the Minerva Crafts Blogger Network
for Daily Sewing Inspiration #MCBN

Special Offer for Love Sewing Readers!
10% Off Knit Fabrics. Limited time only. 1 use per customer. Cannot be
used in conjunction with any other offer. Exclusions may apply.

Coupon: KNITLS10



SEWING CLASSES & FABRIC

WWW.SEWCREATIVESTUDIOS.NET

39 STAMFORD NEW ROAD, ALTRINCHAM, CHESHIRE, WA14 1EB





With Elisalex

The Dressmaker's **DIARY**

In this issue, Elisalex gives her top tips for spring cleaning and reorganising your sewing space

Despite what I used to claim when I was a teenager – that having a messy room helped me to know where everything was (on the floor) – I understand now that a messy space equals a messy mind. Especially when it comes to sewing!

I don't know about you (although I think I do), but nothing turns me off more than walking into my sewing room when it looks like a piñata full of crafting paraphernalia has been freshly exploded. Nothing kills my sewjo like trying to find the perfect fabric in my stash for a new pattern I can't wait to sew up, only to realise that my fabric stash is actually a pit of hell that just got barfed up by a black hole. Nothing puts a spanner in the works like spending half an hour digging around dusty boxes!

When my sewing room is clean, when my fabric stash is categorised and my notions are organised and accessible, that's when my inspiration can truly run free. It may feel like a drag at first, but once you get stuck in, spring cleaning and reorganising your sewing space is the biggest boost your sewjo can get.

Before we get ahead of ourselves and plunge



Elisalex showcases the magazine board method

Top tip!

A thoughtful system that works for you will result in fewer spring cleans

blindly into the chaos, it's important to consider how your newly organised space will function. A thoughtful system that works for you will result in fewer spring cleans and more satisfying sewing time. Here are some of my favourite methods and tips for organising your sewing space.

FABRIC

I always start with my fabric. The way I see it, there's nothing quite like a good Marie Kondo sesh to sort your stash: find some space, dump ALL your fabric into a big pile and get ready to be ruthless! General rule of thumb here: pick up one piece of fabric from the pile at a time, ask yourself if you still love it or have plans for it, and if you don't – toss it in a bag ready to donate or sell. If it still sparks joy, then it stays!

In order to attain maximum efficiency with minimum effort, document what you're keeping as you sort. By this I mean

measure how many metres you have, check the width and take a photo or cut a little swatch. There are a number of apps out there now dedicated to keeping track of your fabric stash: Try Cora, Sew Organized, Star Stash Fabric, or Sew Buddy. Most of them operate in a similar way; you upload a smartphone snap of the fabric, and input details like yardage, width, fibre, origin, whether or not it has been pre-washed, that sort of thing. If you update your app as you sort, you'll save yourself a lot of hassle later on.

If you'd rather go down the analogue route, then I suggest you start a swatch journal. Cut a little swatch from your fabric, stick or staple it into your journal and list all the essential info. You could even leave a little space for a photo or

sketch to fill in later when you've finished sewing with it!



After you've measured and uploaded a piece of fabric, fold it and put it away. I recommend the magazine board method. This involves folding your fabric around a sturdy piece of card that enables you to display your fabric like books on a shelf. No mess, no floppy fabric rolls, no crunched-up scraps hidden at the back. Make sure you buy acid-free card (so it doesn't damage the fabric). Head to www.truebias.com/2019/07/stash-organization.html to learn more.

I would suggest categorising your fabric by fibre, and displaying them by colour. If you decide to opt out of the fabric tracker apps/swatch book idea, you could make a note of how much you have of each particular fabric and pin that to the visible spine of the folded fabric instead.



Elisalex's spec sheet for pattern storage

SEWING PATTERNS

By now, seeing that gorgeous fabric stash so stunningly sorted, you're probably feeling super chuffed with yourself and extra motivated to keep going! Next, we hit up the patterns...

If you're anything like me you'll have a pretty unruly collection of patterns that seem to be strewn about the place in various forms and incarnations – boxes of dusty vintage patterns, long rolls of uncut copyshop files, and ringbinders filled with PDFs ready to explode. The solution? A couple of years ago I settled on A4 envelopes and haven't looked back. An incredibly simple solution, but one that provides clear, uniform and accessible pattern storage. All the pattern pieces go inside the envelope, including the instructions and original packaging in the case of a paper pattern. This a great way to preserve your precious vintage patterns without the need for plastic sleeves as well.

A pegboard is a maker's best friend:
Elisalex's sewing space



On the outside I designed a spec sheet to tell me what pattern it is, what size has been cut and any alterations that have been made (pictured on page 45). I even added a little croquis to allow me to include a line drawing of the pattern inside. I store these envelopes upright in boxes on a shelf, categorised by garment type. A quick flick through is all I ever need to find the pattern I'm after. Like the fabric stash apps, you could also take your pattern inventory to the next level with a similar app, allowing you to access your stash when out and about buying fabric.

NOTIONS

In order to establish a creative space that is both inspirational and functional, everything needs to have a place that is accessible and logical for you. Once your fabric and patterns have been

sorted and organised, it can be easy to lose momentum and dismiss the smaller elements that make up your sewing space. But when you think about the fact that it is precisely these smaller elements (tape measure, pins, sewing machine needles, seam gauge and spools of thread) that you probably use more than anything, it makes sense that the organisation of these notions should be given just as much thought and attention as the (albeit more exciting) fabric and patterns.

A pegboard is a maker's best friend: space saving, infinitely rearrangeable, and deliciously satisfying to look at, a pegboard will allow you to store and display almost all your sewing essentials (as well as decorative touches) in one neat wall-hanging place. I have mine

hung above my sewing table so it's always within reach.

Everything looks appealing when displayed in rainbow colours, and spools of thread are no exception! Instead of keeping them hidden in a box that you're constantly having to rummage through to find the right colour, I display mine like candy on an inexpensive wooden spool rack I found on eBay.

Machine needles deserve a paragraph all to themselves. While they're still fresh in their boxes, a little bucket on my pegboard has always felt sufficient. But what about when you're constantly switching between needles as you switch between projects, and you can't find the original box the needle came from, and then you don't know whether or not the needles in the



Portia Laurie's genius machine needle holder



boxes have in fact been previously used and are no longer fresh or sharp enough?

Enter Portia Lawrie and her genius ways! Portia designed a felt sewing machine needle-hanging holder, much like an Advent calendar, that has pouches to display the various needle boxes so you can find them by type and size. And because the whole thing is made of felt, you can replace the partially used needles (ones that still have life in them but aren't super fresh and therefore unsuitable for delicate makes) directly in the pouch that holds the box. Perfection.

WIPS

The last thing to mention, before you stand back and admire the dazzling beauty of your newly organised space, is the issue of WIPs (works in progress). You can have the most functional, efficient and tidy sewing space in the world, but if you have no place to keep your unfinished makes, then I'm sorry to say it's all been for nothing. WIPs are a sewing room's worst enemy; dismembered creatures from the deep floating around and mocking you as you scroll through your electronic fabric stash.

When WIPs don't have a home, they end up draped over your ironing board, folded

in increasingly scrappy piles on your cutting table or stuffed behind your sewing machine. However, I have a solution (one that I clearly need to put into practice by the looks of the mocking WIPs staring back at me now from various corners of my studio...).

Clear, stackable boxes: at the end of a sewing sesh, in goes the unfinished project, neatly folded, along with pattern pieces, zipper, buttons, thread and whatever other notions relevant to that make. Then get a piece of masking tape, label the box and put it away, ready to be taken out and resumed next time. I'd recommend having no more than three available WIP boxes to put you off starting something new while you still have things to finish.

RULES OF THUMB

A deep clean and organisational overhaul such as this will result in a sewing space that is not only functional and inspiring, but also one that enables you to keep things ticking over efficiently, without falling into chaos after every make. To finish, here are my three rules of thumb:

- Always pre-wash fabric the second it comes into your possession and put it away, cataloguing and folding it as

described previously.

- Keep a ringbinder folder with those A4 plastic sleeves to keep magazine projects, tear out the pages you want to keep and recycle the rest so as not to wind up with stacks of magazines.
- Keep a box to store your 'precious' scraps – fabric you loved that you didn't have enough leftovers to make anything significant; these could eventually be made into a beautiful quilt.

ABOUT ELISALEX

Elisalex is the head of design and co-founder of By Hand London, an independent pattern company. It produces gorgeously designed, high-quality patterns that are available as PDF downloads through the site www.byhandlondon.com

Sewing
for pleasure

co-located with

Fashion & Embroidery **THE CREATIVE CRAFT SHOW**

19 - 22 March, Birmingham NEC

SAVE £2 WITH EARLY BIRD TICKETS

Learn stitching techniques at The Sewing Stage

Join sewing celebs from The Great British Sewing Bee

Be wowed by our catwalk shows

Buy tickets online at www.ichfevents.co.uk or call **01425 277 988**

Terms and conditions apply. Offer available until 5pm Monday 16 March 2020.

LOUBODU FABRICS

DRESS FABRICS
HABERDASHERY & WORKSHOPS

NEW SEWING STUDIO NOW OPEN

FIND US AT BLACKMINSTER BUSINESS PARK, WR11 7RE
SHOP NOW AT LOUBODUFABRICS.COM

SECOND STAR FABRIC

original and unique
GOTS organic cotton jersey
only available at
secondstarfabric.co.uk

[f](#) [p](#) [i](#) [s](#) secondstarfabric

Perfect

PLANT POT

Beautify your plant pots with this elegant fabric cover

Project **SUE PLEWS**

Top tip

Simplify cutting out with a Gemini Multi-Function Die-Cutting Machine. Visit www.crafterscompanion.co.uk for more details

SAVE 25% on the Gemini die-cutting machine at Crafter's Companion. Turn to page 60 for details

MATERIALS:

- 0.5m main (outer) fabric
- 0.5m lining (inner) fabric
- 0.5m fusible fleece or wadding

CUTTING:

We made this project using the Gemini machine and Multifunction 3-in-1 dies, but you could make by hand by cutting your own oblong panel and circle to your desired dimensions

NOTES:

Seam allowances are all 0.5cm (¼")

HOW TO MAKE:

- 1 Using your die-cutting machine, cut one circle and one panel from the main (outer) fabric and one circle and one panel from lining (inner) fabric.
- 2 Join the short sides of the lining panel to form a tube, leaving a gap of 4" in the seam for turning. Press seam open.
- 3 Fuse the fleece to the wrong side of the outer panel. As before, join short sides and press seam open. If your print is directional decide which is the top and mark this.
- 4 Fuse fleece to the wrong side of the outer bottom panel. Fold the circle in half and make a crease to mark the centre line. Fold again so you have markings for four quarters.
- 5 Take the outer tube and press in half along the unsewn edge and then in half again so you have four quarters. Matching the fold marks in the fabric pin the bottom panel to the lower edge of the tube (cut from main fabric). Stitch seam and press. Repeat with the lining panel and base.
- 6 Take the bag made from the

main fabric and turn through so the right side is on the outside.

- 7 Place the bag made from the main fabric inside the bag made from the lining fabric and match seams. Pin raw edges RST. Stitch.
- 8 Pull the main bag through the gap in the lining.
- 9 Roll the top edge of the bag between your fingers to get the seam on the top for a neat finish. Press. Top-stitch ¼" from the edge.
- 10 Join up the turning gap either by hand or machine and you're done!

SEWING workshops

Book yourself into one of this month's top workshops and expand your sewing horizons



KOALA KREATIONS

Bristol

Koala Kreations is an independent fabric and haberdashery shop in the town of Chipping Sodbury that stocks quality dress and quilting fabric. It hosts a variety of workshops for beginners to improvers aiming to inspire and get creative with all ages.

01454 322698

www.koalakreations.co.uk

4TH APRIL

Sewing with stretch, children's jogger pants

The perfect workshop to learn how to sew with stretchy fabric. You will be taught everything you need to know about stretch fabric and you will get to put your new knowledge to the test and create your own child's garment with expert guidance.

Cost: £35

7TH, 8TH, 14TH, 15TH APRIL

Half term kids' sewing club

Children aged 8-16 years are welcome to get creative and learn to love sewing in a fun and creative environment. In each session you will create a different sewing project and learn new skills. Everything's included!

Cost: £25 per session



18TH APRIL

Jelly roll quilt

A fabulous beginners day class to create a beautiful lap quilt with a jelly roll. You will learn many new techniques that will be useful in many quilting projects.

Cost: £5



23RD MAY

Overlocking for beginners at Bamber Sewing Machines

If you are already competent with your sewing machine and are looking for a new technical challenge, don't limit your sewing skills! Take things one step further and surprise yourself by unravelling the secrets behind sewing with an overlocker!

Cost: £37.50

20TH JUNE

Develop your sewing skills at Bamber Sewing Machines

Get ready for a whole day of sewing, building your portfolio of sewing skills and gaining the confidence to tackle any sewing project. Learn how to tackle zips head on, cut and join bias strips to make your very own piping and bias binding and how to use some very clever sewing accessories including a twin needle to sew a hem and much more!

Cost: £77.50

8TH AUGUST

Clothing alterations at Bamber Sewing Machines

Fed up of paying someone else to take up your clothes? You'll discover the secrets of how to take perfect measurements, use common and specialist machine stitches and pick up some tricks of the trade from our seasoned alterations professional Sam Moylan.

Cost: £32.50



MINISTRY OF CRAFT Manchester

Ministry of Craft runs a variety of workshops led by expert tutors in venues across Manchester, which include Cass Art, Manchester Craft and Design Centre and the Craft Café in Chorlton. Check the website for additional dates for workshops.

07740 860390

info@ministryofcraft.co.uk

www.ministryofcraft.co.uk



SEW AND FABRIC

Cornwall

Sew and Fabric is a small, friendly, family-run fabric, wool and haberdashery shop, offering sewing machine servicing and workshops. It sells quilting and dressmaking fabric, King Cole and Stylecraft wool and haberdashery.

01726 75385

www.sewandfabric.co.uk

10TH APRIL

Leggings Workshop

Make a pair of leggings with your overlocker, bring your fabric and overlocker along with matching thread, pattern is provided.

Cost: £25

25TH APRIL

Overlocker Basics

Learn how to thread your overlocker and how to use it. You will need to bring your overlocker, four different colour thread and some scraps of fabric that you intend to use with it.

Cost: £25

18TH JULY

Christmas Holly

Come along and make a Holly Door Hanger. Bring your sewing machine and fabric will be provided.

Cost: £35

24TH JULY

Christmas Pudding Doorstop

Come along and make a Christmas Pudding Doorstop. Bring your sewing machine and fabric will be provided.

Cost: £35



SEW CREATIVE

Hampshire

Sew Creative stocks a wonderful range of fabric for quilting, dressmaking and home crafting, as well as Janome and Brother sewing machines, notions and craft kits. You will always find something new and inspirational at Sew Creative – a textile heaven!

01730 858020

www.sewcreative.org.uk

4TH APRIL

Quilt in a Day

Learn the importance of precise seam allowances in this first step in to quilting. You will leave with the basic skills of quilting and a lovely finished small quilt.

Cost: £75

25TH APRIL

Tokyo Top

Learn some lovely dressmaking skills with this workshop inspired by the Japanese Style. Studio pattern included.

Cost: £60

16TH MAY

Tilly and the Buttons Dressmaking Day

Choose your Tilly and The Buttons pattern and an expert tutor will guide you all the way – the course fee includes the pattern for you to use time and time again.

Cost: £78

6TH JUNE

Sewing with Stretch

Learn how to get great results from sewing with stretch fabric using an ordinary sewing machine. The included pattern suits all shapes and sizes and has a variety of options including neckline, length and sleeves.

Cost: £65



READERS' MAKES

Send us your snaps!

OUR STAR MAKE WILL RECEIVE A

£25

FABRIC BUNDLE FROM MINERVA CRAFTS!



Get in touch

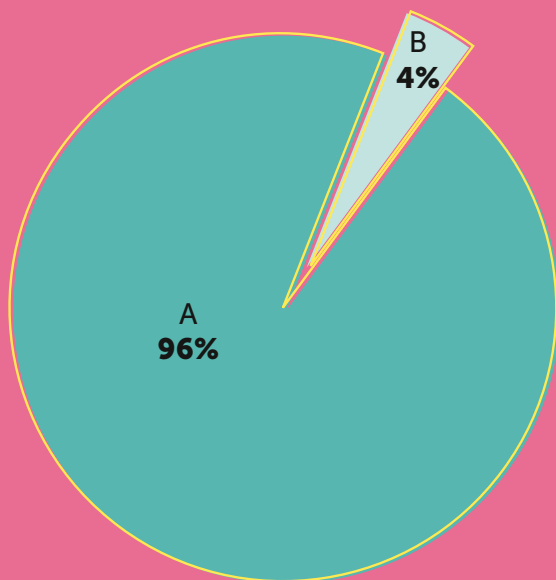
letters@lovesewingmag.co.uk

Lorna asked you on Facebook...

Will you be watching The Great British Sewing Bee this year?

A: Yes

B: No



Star make

Katrina

"I made this coat from boiled wool using Butterick pattern 6497 that I got with the magazine a few years ago. I lined it with cream satin lining. I am so pleased with it. It's very warm and it feels smart. I've worn it twice and had lots of compliments."



Samantha

We love Samantha's version of the McCall's 6884 pattern that was included exclusively with issue 45.



Laura

How gorgeous is this fabric Laura has chosen for her Threadcount sweater? Great job, Laura!



Samantha

Samantha used the Butterick 5898 pattern from issue 67 to make this stunning dress and we love it!

You said...

Denise: "Loved re-watching it at Christmas, Joe Lycett is great as the presenter."

Hilary: "Didn't realise there was another series coming but will definitely be watching it."

Nellie: "Looking forward to it!"

Jane: "Can't wait."

CLOTHSPOT

OUR FABRICS | YOUR FASHION



clothspot.co.uk



01775 640996

New arrivals every Friday!



CROFT MILL



DRESS & CRAFT FABRICS

From the Original Mail Order Fabric Company

10% OFF DENIM FABRICS FOR LOVE SEWING READERS
LIMITED TIME ONLY. 1 USE PER CUSTOMER AND
CANNOT BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANY OTHER OFFER.
CODE: LOVEDENIM

WWW.CROFTMILL.CO.UK
01282 859281
MAIL ORDER CATALOGUE ON REQUEST



Jaycotts

EST. 1920

YOUR FIRST CALL FOR

Sewing Supplies

Free
catalogue
Call: 01244 394099
or go online
jaycotts.co.uk

JAYCOTTS
UNIT D2, CHESTER TRADE PARK
off BUMPERS LANE,
CHESTER, CH1 4LT

Why is the Bake Off star obsessed with quilting? |

EXCLUSIVE MEL GIEDROYC INTERVIEW



QuiltNow

Britain's No.1 guide to fabric & patchwork

SPRING ISSUE 75

19

MUST-MAKE PATTERNS



RAINBOW QUILTING WITH PAULA STEEL



STEP-BY-STEP IDEAS FOR YOUR RULER!

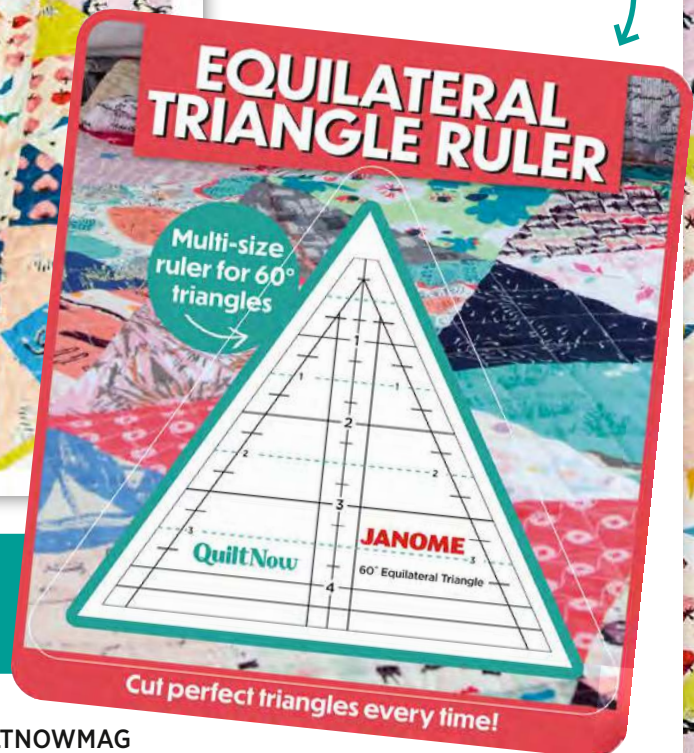
Begin this bold Ruby Star Society quilt tonight!



ON SALE NOW!

- ❖ **TOP TIPS** for fussy-cutting fabric
- ❖ Explore colour with **STUART HILLARD**
- ❖ **STASH-BUSTING** patchwork projects

Plus



Discover **15 project ideas** for your ruler

QN WWW.QUILTNOW.CO.UK

f /QUILTNOW

p /QUILTNOWMAG

@QUILTNOWMAG

Q QUILTNOW

Order your copy today at www.moremags.com

moremags.com

ALL your favourite craft magazines and more!



We love
STYLE

GATHER

yourself

Meet Penelope: a loose-fitting round-neck boxy top with gathered elasticated sleeves

Project **FIONA HESFORD** Sewgirl



Shopping list

Hand block-printed artisan cotton fabric,
£12 per metre www.slubbedprints.co.uk

SIZING:

Sizing	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
Bust	81cm	86cm	91cm	97cm	102cm	107cm	112cm
Waist	64cm	69cm	74cm	79cm	84cm	89cm	94cm
Hip	89cm	94cm	99cm	104cm	109cm	114cm	119cm
Finished length	58cm	59cm	60cm	61cm	62cm	63cm	64cm

MATERIALS & TOOLS:

- 1.5m of 112cm-wide or 1.2m of 150cm-wide fabric
- 1m of soft elastic (40mm wide)
- 20cm fusible lightweight interfacing
- one small button (10-15mm) or self-cover button
- a blunt ended needle, a safety pin & a poking tool
- templates downloaded from www.lovesewingmag.co.uk

NOTES

Seam allowance is 1cm. Finish raw edges with an overlocker or zigzag stitch

HOW TO MAKE:

1 First up, make your rouleau loop. Cut a 3x10cm strip on

the diagonal grain of the fabric. Fold in half, aligning long edges RST. Sew a 1cm seam leaving long thread ends. Tie thread ends to a blunt ended needle, pass into tube and out other end pulling gently so fabric turns inside out. Press.

2 Finish straight centre back raw edges. Sew back pieces together leaving the back neck opening top section unstitched. Press seam allowances flat open. (See Pic A.)

3 Insert the rouleau loop on the LHS with loop facing inwards. Adjust to fit your button.

Machine-tack within the seam allowance to secure. (See Pic B.)

4 Stay-stitch the neck edge on the front and back.

5 Insert darts on the front piece.

6 With RST, pin then sew the front to back at the shoulder edges. Finish the raw edges. Press the seam allowances towards the back. Top-stitch.

7 Iron interfacing to the WS of the neck facing pieces. Join the front and back neck facings at the short edges with the RST. Press the seam allowances open. Finish the outer raw edge only.

8 With the RST, pin the facing piece to the neck edge. Hand-tack. Sew. Trim the corners and nick curved edges of the seam allowance with small Vs and trim any excess

from the Rouleau ends. (See Pic C.)

9 Sew the facing short edges to the back opening side edges each side. (See Pic D.)

10 Fold the neck facing to the WS. Push out corners and align fold to seamline. Press.

11 Pin the facing in position all around. Hand-tack stitch. On the reverse side, top-stitch 5mm from the outside edge of the neck facing all around. Press.

12 Finish the raw side edges of the front and back. With the RST, pin then sew the front to back at the side edges with a 1.5cm seam allowance, leaving 12cm open at the lower edge each side for the side slits. Press the seam allowance open.

13 With the RST, pin the sleeve together at the side raw edges. Finish the raw edges, press. Repeat for the other sleeve.

14 Cut your elastic into two pieces using the measurement guidelines in the table below.

15 With the RST, pin one elastic channel at the short side edges





to make a ring. Finish the longer edge.

16 With the RST, pin the raw unfinished side to the sleeve edge matching up the side seams. Sew all around. (See Pic E.) Press the seam allowance

open, then fold over and press to the WS. Pin then stitch 5mm from the edge all around, leaving approximately a 3cm opening for the elastic. (See Pic F.)

17 Feed the elastic into the channel and join together with a 1cm overlap. Ease up the gathers so they are even. Sew up the opening. (See Pic G.)

18 With the RST, pin the sleeve head into the armhole, aligning the back sections and the side seams. Sew. Finish the seam allowances together. Press.

19 Make a 2cm hem at the lower edge of the front and back. Fold back the side slit seam allowance, pin and top stitch on the RS all around the side slit opening. (See Pic H.)

20 Sew on your button on the back of the neck opening opposite loop to finish.



£ pound a metre
fabrics found, from only a pound

the uk's largest
fabric **pound shop**



£1 fabric



denim fabric



upholstery fabric



jersey & stretch



cotton fabric



corduroy fabric



...and plenty more



www.poundametre.com

 
@poundametre

Trustpilot




DRESSMAKING & CRAFT FABRICS,
HABERDASHERY & CRAFT REQUIREMENTS
SEWING MACHINES REPAIRS & SALES

Authorised dealer for:
JANOME, BROTHER, BABYLOCK, SILVER, ELNA, SINGER,
JUKI, ALFA & FRISTER+ROSSMANN.



15A, Blyburgate, Beccles, Suffolk NR34 9TB
01502 714234



Rutland Sewing
Unit 1a Rutland Village,
Ashwell Road, Oakham,
Rutland LE15 7QN
Tel 01572 756468
www.rutlandsewing.co.uk

Ample free parking
Very close to Picturesque
Rutland Water
Coffee shop on site
Classes and Workshops
Also Training for Sewing
machines, Pfaff embroidery
machines and Premier Plus
Software & all makes of
Overlockers



Open Tuesday to Saturday
9am – 5pm
Sunday 10am – 4pm
Closed Mondays



 **PFAFF**  **JANOME** 

DISCOUNTS & giveaways

Pretty sewing goodies, patterns, tools and the chance to win some gorgeous fabric from your favourite suppliers

WIN

*a bundle of Aurifil
Color Builders!*

We have an incredible bundle of 12 brand-new Color Builder thread packs from Aurifil to give away to one lucky reader! The Color Builders represent a capsule of 12 curated mini collections inspired by (and named after) Italy's most vibrant and colorful destinations. Each collection contains three large spools of 50wt thread – a warm, a medium, and a dark – within the location's primary colour palette. Find out more at www.aurifil.com/color-builders

Worth
£270!



*Turn over for many more
discounts & prizes*

WIN A HABERDASHERY BUNDLE!

Replenish your sewing armoury by entering this competition to win all these sewing goodies! The bundle includes a gorgeous, gold Milward scissor gift set with 21.5cm dressmaking shears, embroidery scissors, thimble and pins, a sweet daffodil felt kit, an on-trend Sashiko apron kit and a handy sewing themed mug! Products are available nationwide from haberdashery, knitting and craft stockists. For stockist information email – groves@stockistenquiries.co.uk



WIN A BUNDLE OF LOTIL PRODUCTS

As sewists, it's good to look after our hands and keep them moisturised, that's why we're delighted to be offering three readers a bundle of products from skincare brand Lotil. The Love Sewing team tested these products and can attest to the lovely scent and long-lasting dewy mitts. Each winner will receive a tub of multi-purpose cream and a lovely SPF30 lip balm. See more products from Lotil at www.weldricks.co.uk



Exclusive discounts

SAVE 20% on patterns at Jaycotts. See page 34 for details.

SAVE 15% on fabric at Sew Me Sunshine. See page 38 for details.

SAVE 25% on the Gemini Die-Cutting machine at Crafter's Companion using the code LOVE25. (RRP £179.99) Offer valid until 23rd April, 2020. Visit www.crafterscompanion.co.uk

WIN a year's worth of patterns!



Worth over **£500!**

You heard it right, folks! We're giving one lucky reader a year's worth of patterns, that's 52 gorgeous makes for you to add to your handmade wardrobe.

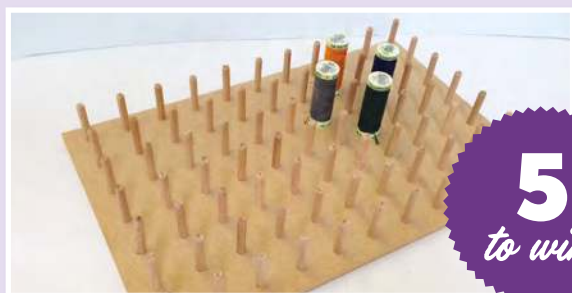
The bundle of goodies will include on-trend patterns from Simple Sew, Butterick and McCalls covering core sizes 8-24. See more sewing products at www.sewdirect.com

WIN a *Fittingly Sew* programme with Soft Byte!

We've teamed up with textile software company Soft Byte to offer one lucky reader access to its *Fittingly Sew* programme package! This clever computer-aided pattern-drafting software is ideal for those eager to bring their creations to life and draft their own templates. Features of the software include placing darts, tucks and pleats, specifying seam allowances on individual seams and the placement of pieces on straight of grain, on bias, or on the fold. You can even use the programme to create your own fabric designs. For more information, visit www.softbyte.co.uk/fittinglysew.htm



WIN A THREAD RACK FROM STORAGE4CRAFTS!



5
to win!

Keep your thread spools organised with this nifty thread organiser from Storage4Crafts. We have five of these sturdy MDF thread racks to give away which can hold up to 77 thread spools and boast adjustable wooden dowels to accommodate a range of thread sizes. See more fantastic products at www.storage4crafts.co.uk

WIN an embroidery kit

We've teamed up with Hawthorn Handmade to offer five lucky readers a modern embroidery kit from its Bright collection. Each lucky winner will receive all the equipment they need to sew this charming 'wrens amongst the ivy' design, the perfect decoration to add to your home or give as a lovely gift (RRP £19.50). Plus, sign up to the Hawthorn Handmade newsletter and receive 15% off your first order! See more gorgeous designs at www.hawthornhandmade.com



5
to win!



WIN a class with *Stitch Sisters!*

Love Sewing has teamed up with friendly teaching duo Nikki and Rachel (aka the Stitch Sisters) to offer two lucky readers access to its 'Companion to Shirt Making' online class! Sew along with this friendly pair as they teach you all the technical skills needed to sew this sophisticated wardrobe staple. Winners can access 60 video lessons totalling over six hours of tuition as many times as they like! Find out more about the fantastic classes on offer at www.thestitchsisters.co.uk



HOW TO ENTER

For a chance to win any of this issue's giveaways, enter your details and tick the products you would like to win, at www.love sewingmag.co.uk/category/competitions

We promise we'll always keep your data safe and will never share it with or sell it to other companies for marketing purposes. Our full privacy policy is available at www.practicalpublishing.co.uk/privacy

Closing date: 23rd April 2020. The competition is operated by Practical Publishing International Ltd. For full terms and conditions, see www.practicalpublishing.co.uk/competitions

EMPRESS MILLS



Threads · Needles · Pins · Scissors · Fasteners
Accessories · Piping Cord · Shoulder pads
Tape Measures · Fabrics · Interlinings · Zips

Tel: 01282 863181

SHOP ONLINE AT:
www.empressmills.co.uk
THREADS · FABRICS · VILENES · NEWS

Est. 1927

FABRICS FOR ALL



THE PLACE TO FIND BEAUTIFUL FABRICS - IN STORE AND ONLINE! FABRICS FOR DRESSMAKING, CRAFT AND QUILTING.



www.fabricsforall.co.uk
Unit 11, Armley Link Trading Estate,
Armley Road, Leeds, LS12 2Q
Tues-Sat: 10am - 5pm
Sun: 10am - 3pm



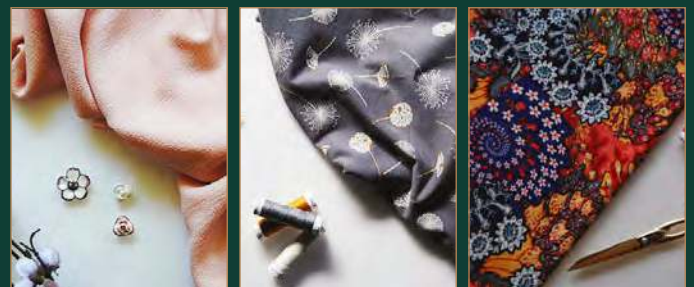
ESTD



2019

FELICITY FABRICS

LUXURY IS HANDMADE



New fabrics available now!

www.felicityfabrics.co.uk
hello@felicityfabrics.co.uk

ASK THE
EXPERTS

Perfect pintucks

*Alison Smith MBE shows us how
to create this decorative effect*



In this issue, I am looking at stitching pintucks. A pintuck is formed by pressing a crease in the fabric and stitching parallel to the fold. The size of the pintuck is determined by how far from the fold the machine stitch is sewn. Pintucks can be stitched very close together, so that they touch when pressed to one side, or they can have spaces between them.

Why pintucks? Pintucks can be used for a decorative effect, maybe on the front of a shirt – they are often found on men's dress shirts – or they may be stitched around the hem of a child's dress. If you are thinking of adding pintucks to a garment, make the pintucks prior to cutting out, as they shrink the fabric considerably.

MARKING PINTUCKS ON THE FABRIC

There are several ways you can mark pintucks. If they are on a paper pattern you will need to mark with tailor tacks prior to removing the pattern piece.



The tailor tacks can then be replaced with a line of chalk or tacking stitches. Just make sure the chalk will come off! I tend not to use the marking pens as it's easy to set these permanently with the iron.



However, if you are making tucks in your fabric prior to cutting out the pattern piece, I press a fold in the pattern piece, stitch, and then use a seam gauge to press in the next tuck.



STITCHING THE TUCKS

How close to the fold you sew will be stated in your sewing instructions if you are following a commercial pattern. If you are

pintucking a piece of fabric prior to cutting out, then you can decide how narrow or fat you make your tuck. The easiest way to get consistency in stitching is to use your machine foot as your guide and move the needle position.

Once sewn, the tucks are usually pressed to one side, this would be toward the side for vertical tucks or if you are making hem tucks press them towards the hem.



MAKING WAVY TUCKS

A great wavy effect can be made with tucks. Make a series of tucks. When it comes to pressing them, press a section in one direction and place a row of stitching across them to secure, then press the tucks the opposite way and secure with a row of stitching across them. Repeat. This creates a beautiful wavy effect.



TWIN NEEDLE

Pintucks can also be made with the twin needle. Twin needles are available with different spacing between them. Thread your machine with two threads – these could be contrasting colours or matching colours. Machine rows of straight

stitches, side by side, to create small ridges in the fabric.



OVERLOCKER

Did you know you can create pintucks on an overlocker? Set your overlocker up for rolled hem and drop the blade. You will need to refer to your manual for these settings. Press a fold in the fabric and place the fold under the foot and wrap the edge with the rolled hem stitch. Repeat.



I do hope you try some of these techniques.

Until next month, happy sewing!

ABOUT ALISON SMITH

Awarded an MBE for her services to dressmaking, Alison is an industry expert in classic couture and a published author. Alison has her own shop and line of patterns. You can also learn with her at one of her exclusive workshops. Find out more on her site www.schoolofsewing.co.uk

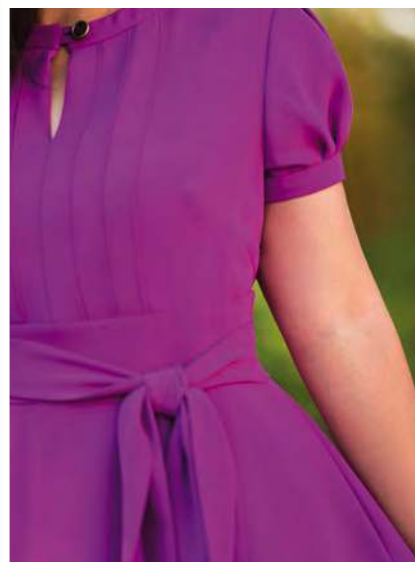
Practise your pintucks!

Enhance your garments with pretty pintuck details



DEER & DOE AUBÉPINE DRESS, SIZES 34-36

Show off your skills with the Aubépine Dress by French pattern house Deer & Doe. The flattering empire-waist is embellished with beautiful rows of pintucks, which run across the front bodice and sleeves and inverted box pleats on the skirt add to the relaxed feel; all skill-boosting details which work a treat in lightweight fabrics such as cotton lawn or viscose. The pattern gives the option of either short or elbow-length sleeves, which make this dress both functional and aesthetically pleasing!



ITCH TO STITCH GIVERNY DRESS, UK 8-22

Up the elegance of your day dress repertoire with the vintage inspired Giverny Dress by Itch to Stitch. The pattern includes pretty pintucks on the front which sit atop a high-waisted, flared skirt and optional sash. The pattern includes in-seam pockets making it both super stylish and practical.



CALLAHAN TROUSERS BY SEAMWORK, UK SIZES 4-30

These high-waisted Callahan trousers by Seamwork include statement pintucks running the length of the trouser. Darts on the front and back give the pattern a more feminine feel and there's also shaped patch pockets and a fly zip to really boost your skills.

HELENA DRESS BY SEW ME SOMETHING, UK SIZES 8-22

For a relaxed and easy-to-wear day dress, the Helena pattern by Sew Me Something is a great option. The simple, shift dress style is beautifully enhanced by curved yoke anchors and pintuck detailing on the front and button fastenings on the turned-up sleeves. The Helena dress works a treat with a range of fabric including double gauze, cotton and linen.





Claire-Louise Hardie

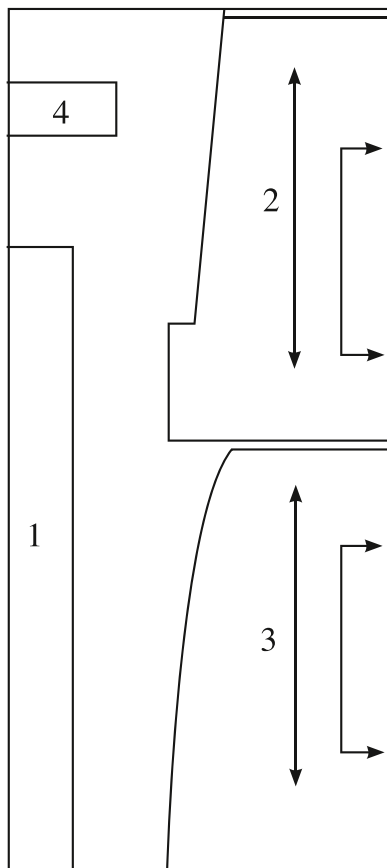
Shows you how to...

READ A PATTERN



PATTERN CUTTING LINE

Each line relates to a different size for the garment. There can be up to 10 sizes on a pattern sheet so you can either follow a single cutting line throughout or blend carefully between sizes to achieve a better fit.



LAYOUT DIAGRAMS

These explain how to lay each piece onto the fabric to ensure that all of the pieces will fit on the fabric quantity suggested on the envelope. Remember to follow along with the correct view and size. Don't forget to take care with directional prints; you wouldn't want a floral-print top with all the flowers upside down.



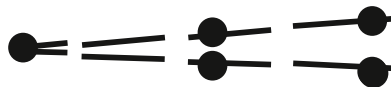
GRAINLINE

The arrow on the pattern piece must be 'on grain' with the threads of the fabric so that it can hang, move and stretch correctly. The grainline must always be parallel to the selvedge (the self-finished edges) of the fabric.



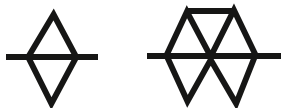
PLACE ON FOLD LINE

This edge of the pattern piece is to be placed on the fold of your fabric, making it easy to cut out a mirror image at the same time.



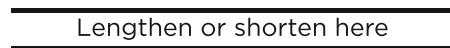
DARTS

Parts of the fabric to be folded for shaping, usually located at the bust, waist and neck.



NOTCHES

Make a tiny snip or chalk mark at each notch location, within the seam allowance. These marks are used to match pieces together before sewing.



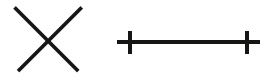
LENGTHEN OR SHORTEN LINE

This indicates exactly where to shorten or lengthen the pattern piece or garment to make changes for improved fit.



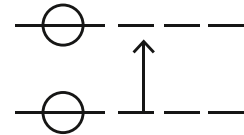
CIRCLE DOTS

These marks indicate construction details, such as zipper position, pleating, or the end-of-stitching line, as set out in the instructions. Some pattern companies will use triangles or squares in place of circle dots.



BUTTON & BUTTONHOLE PLACEMENT

The placement for a button is marked with an X. The placement for a buttonhole is marked with an edged line.



TUCKS/PLEATS

Transfer any tuck lines marked on the pattern pieces to the RS (right side) of the garment. Follow directional arrows where given.

ABBREVIATIONS

SA (SEAM ALLOWANCE)

Every project you sew has a set seam allowance. This is the distance between where you sew and the raw edge of the fabric – essentially an invisible line around each pattern piece. These lines are occasionally included on vintage patterns. You must sew at the seam allowance in order for the pieces to line up correctly. Most commonly this is 1.5cm, but check your instructions in case smaller allowances are being used. Sewing machines have marks for the seam allowance to the right side of the presser foot.

RS (RIGHT SIDE AKA FABRIC FRONT)

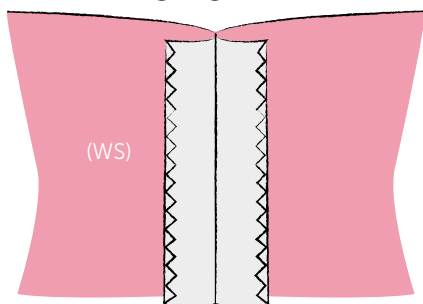
Instructions for placing right sides of fabric together will be written as RST.

WS (WRONG SIDE AKA FABRIC BACK)

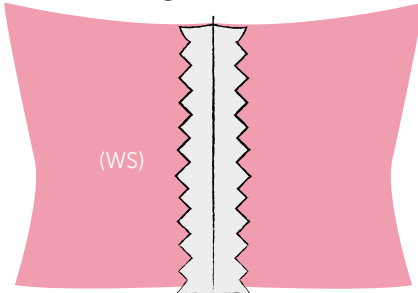
Instructions for fusing interfacing to the wrong side of fabric will be written as WST.

ESSENTIAL STITCH SETTINGS

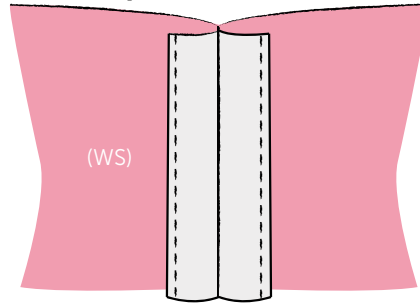
Zigzag finish



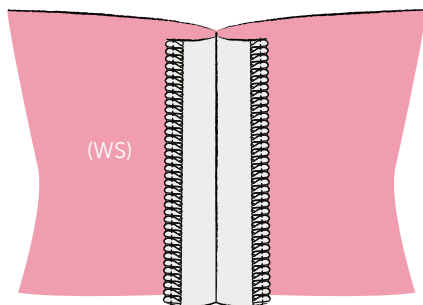
Pinking shears finish



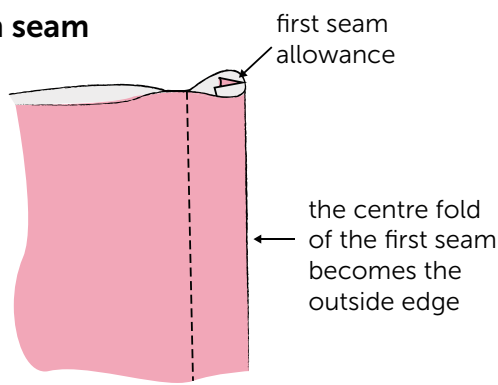
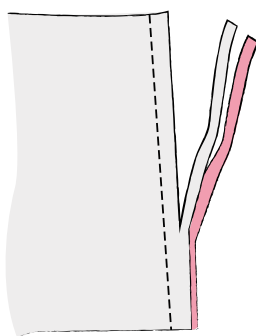
Topstitched finish



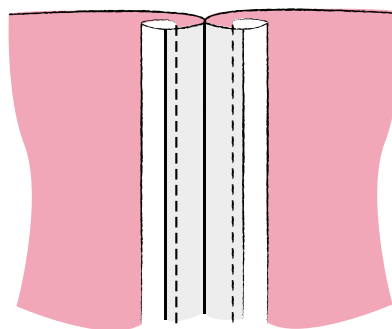
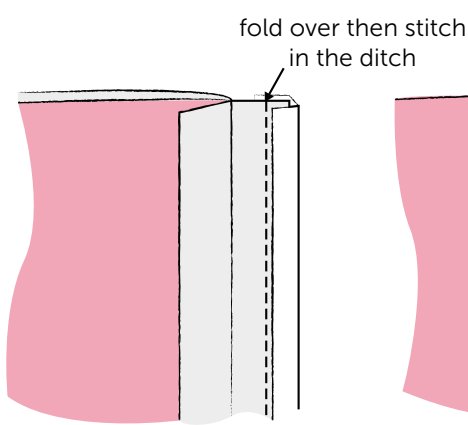
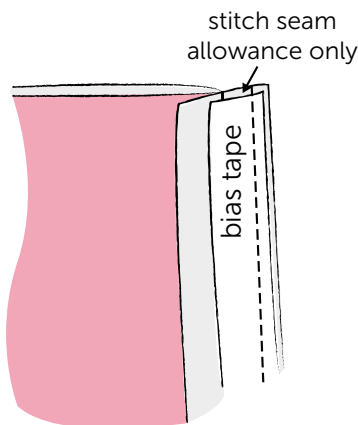
Overlocker finish



French seam



Hong Kong finish



Straight Stitch

≡≡≡≡≡≡
Triple Stretch Stitch

~~~~~  
Zigzag Stitch

≡≡≡≡≡≡  
Triple Zigzag Stitch

~~~~~  
Elastic Stitch

//////
Slant Pin Stitch

//////
Slant Overlock Stitch

~~~~~  
Stretch Zigzag Stitch

~~~~~  
Blind Hem Stitch

~~~~~  
Stretch Blind Hem Stitch

~~~~~  
Shell Tuck Stitch

~~~~~  
Elastic Shell Tuck Stitch

XXXXXX  
Fagoting Stitch

XXXXXX  
Honeycomb Stitch

TTTTT  
Blanket Stitch

TTTTT  
Ladder Stitch

~~~~~  
Elastic Overlock Stitch

~~~~~  
Double Overlock Stitch

~~~~~  
Double Action Stitch

~~~~~  
Feather Stitch

~~~~~  
Scallop Stitch

~~~~~  
Tree Stitch

~~~~~  
Bridging Stitch

|||||||
Buttonhole

|||||||
Keyhole Buttonhole

ACHIEVE THE PERFECT FIT

BUST ADJUSTMENTS

First, you need to work out how much additional space you require around the bust or what you'd like to remove. Here is a helpful chart to work out the amount:

	Small bust example	Full bust example
Full bust measurement	33"	38"
High bust measurement	32"	35"
Difference	1"	3"
Adjustment	½" SBA = half the difference	1½" FBA = half the difference

FULL BUST ADJUSTMENT (FIGS A-D)

- 1 Lay the tissue pattern against yourself to establish where your bust point is. Mark onto the pattern with a cross.
- 2 Using a ruler and pencil, draw a vertical line from the marked point to the hem. Make sure the line is parallel to the grainline on the pattern.
- 3 From this line, draw a second line up towards the armhole, hitting the lower third of the armhole. Together, these lines are called Line 1.
- 4 Draw a second line horizontally through the middle of the bust dart, meeting Line 1 at the bust point.
- 5 Draw a third horizontal line a little above the hem between Line 1 and the centre front of the pattern.
- 6 Cut along Line 1 from the hem to the armhole, making sure not to cut all the way through the armhole. Leave a hinge so you can pivot the paper. The point of the dart has now swung away from its original position.
- 7 Cut through the line in the middle of the dart, again leave a little hinge at the tip of the dart so you can pivot.
- 8 Line up the cut edges of Line 1 so they've been spread apart by the amount of your FBA. The edges should be parallel.

You'll notice that your dart has now spread apart too and become bigger.

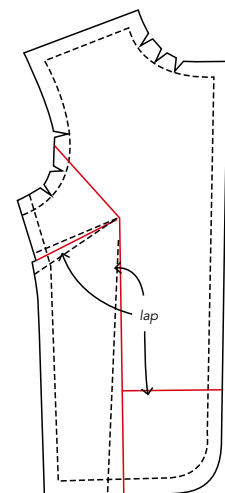
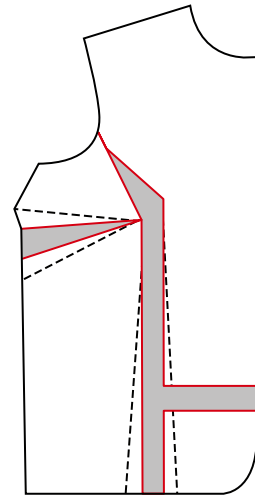
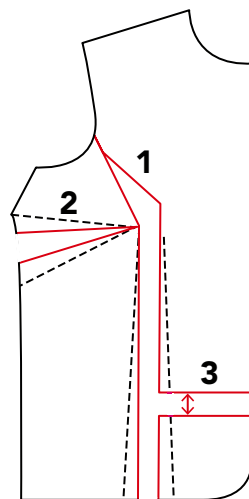
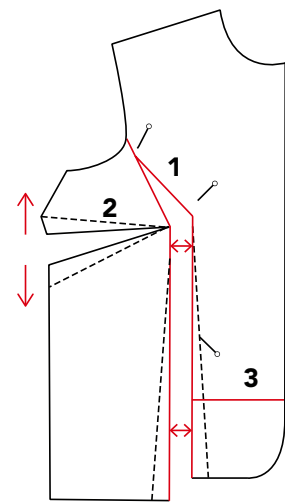
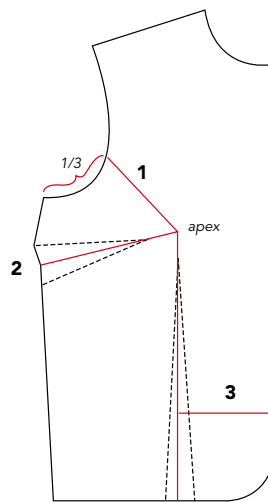
- 9 The lower edge of your hem no longer meets at the bottom, as the side that has been adjusted is now longer. Cut the third line you drew and spread apart until your hem is level.

- 10 Fill in the spaces created with tracing paper and stick into place.

SMALL BUST ADJUSTMENT (FIG E)

- 1 Draw in the lines as per an FBA adjustment. This is essentially the same process in reverse.
- 2 Swing the darted side of the pattern across the other side by the desired SBA amount.
- 3 The lower edge of the hem no longer meets at the bottom, as the side that has

been adjusted is now shorter. Cut the third line you drew and overlap until your hem is level.

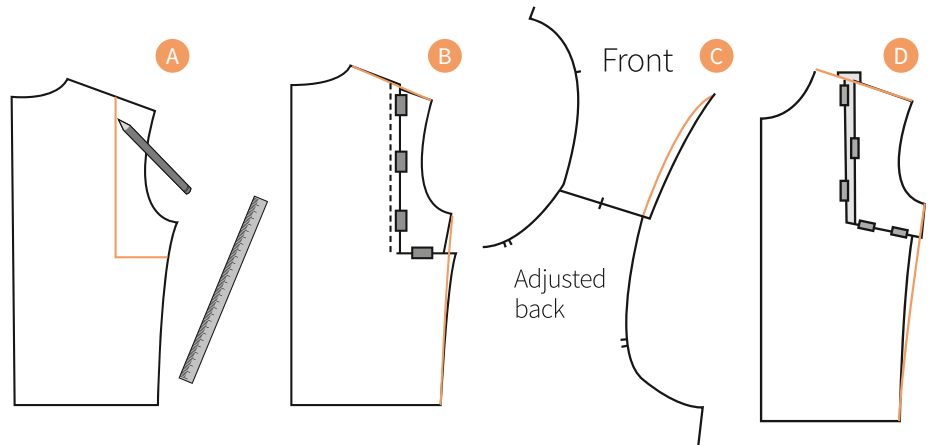


BACK ADJUSTMENTS

Some patterns will come with an adjustment line for a narrow or broad back drawn on. If your pattern doesn't, you can easily do this yourself.

NARROW BACK (FIGS A-C)

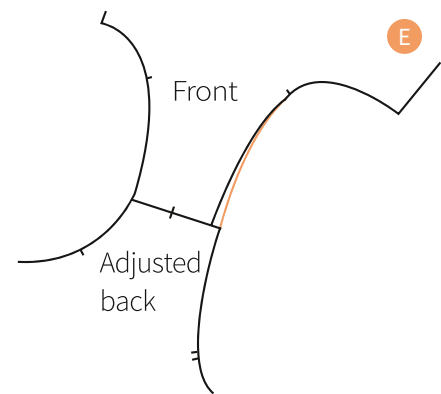
- 1 Draw a vertical line down from the shoulder, 3cm from the armhole, to just below the bottom of the armhole. Draw a second line at a right angle from this point.
- 2 Cut along the two lines, and slide the armhole side overlapping the paper. Stick in place. A small ¼" adjustment is often enough. Play around with this amount as you develop your fitting skills.
- 3 Use a ruler and pencil to true up and re-draw the side seam and shoulder seam. Because we have only adjusted the upper back, the fit should remain the same around the waist. (See the orange lines on Fig B.)
- 4 You'll now need to make the front shoulder width a little shorter. Line up the notches on the shoulder ensuring the neckline is lined up. The front width will be a little longer than the newly adjusted back. Draw a new, narrower line from the back around the front, trimming a little of the front armhole away. Don't forget to make sure your new curved line is smooth at the shoulder.



BROAD BACK ADJUSTMENT (FIGS D AND E)

- 1 Start in the same way as a narrow back adjustment drawing the two lines and cutting along them.
- 2 Instead of overlapping the cut pattern pieces, spread them. As before there are no hard and fast rules, but with a broad back a ¼-½" adjustment is about right. Fill in the space with some tracing paper and stick together.
- 3 Use a ruler and a pencil to true up and re-draw the side seam and shoulder seam. (See the orange lines on Fig D.)
- 4 This time you'll need to make the front shoulder a little longer. As with the narrow adjustment, line up the shoulder seams,

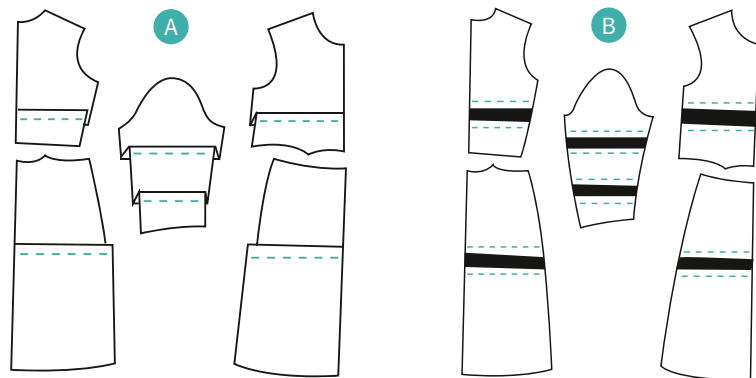
ensuring the neckline is aligned. Draw a curved line from the back shoulder down towards the front armhole, adding a sliver to the front shoulder and armhole. Check that you've drawn a smooth line over the shoulder.



ADJUSTING FOR HEIGHT

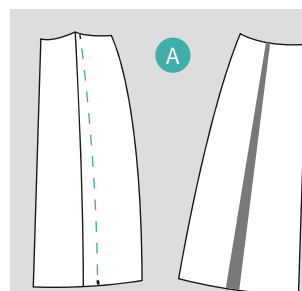
SHORTEN A PATTERN (FIG A)

Working at 90° to the grain, make corresponding tucks across the front and back bodice, at bust and below armhole. Make corresponding tucks across the front and back of skirt below the hips. For sleeves, shorten above and below the elbow, avoiding the sleeve head curve.



LENGTHEN A PATTERN (FIG B)

Working at 90° to the grain, cut across the front and back bodice, at bust and below armhole. Cut across the front and back of skirt below the hips. For sleeves, cut above and below the elbow, avoiding the sleeve head curve. Spread the pattern pieces as required and fill the spaces with scrap paper.



BELOW THE HIP ADJUSTMENTS (FIG A)

To decrease the width, make a graduated tuck from the waist to the hem, tapering to nothing at the waist, indicated by the dotted line.

To increase the width, cut the pattern piece through the waist to the hem, place over scrap paper and spread to the required size.

The Old Stables
17-23 Poplar Road
Kings Heath
Birmingham B14 7AA
T: 0121 443 5555
E: info@franknutt.co.uk



Three ways to buy - online  by telephone  or visit the shop 

Lots of honest, helpful and friendly advice.

Around 100 sewing machines and overlockers on show, ready for demonstration.

We stock Babylock, Bernina, Bernette, Brother, Elna, Husqvarna, Janome, Juki, Pfaff and Singer machines.

Creative free-machine embroidery workshops with Claire Muir.

We have an extensive range of Horn cabinets and chairs on display.

We also do machine accessories, software, dress forms and workshops.

Free customer car park.

Find us on YouTube- **Frank Nutt Sewing Machines**

www.franknutt.co.uk



TAKE PART IN OUR
**QUILT & EMBROIDERY
COMPETITION!**

THIS YEAR'S SPECIAL THEME
*Bringing literature alive
with stitching*

See the full class list at
www.quiltandstitchvillage.com
Closing date for entries: 29th February 2020

 **REFRESHMENTS**
in the Racecourse Cafes

 **PICNIC AREAS**

 **FREE PARKING**

 **DISABLED ACCESS**
to all areas

**TICKETS
ON SALE
NOW**

British
Quilt & Stitch
Village

Join us for the **8th annual
British Quilt & Stitch Village!**

A fun day out and a chance to stock
up on all your crafting materials
from our trade stands.

 **TRADERS**

 **EXHIBITS**

 **DEMOS**

 **WORKSHOPS**

Get Creative TAKE PART IN OUR **WORKSHOPS**
Limited spaces so be sure to book early!

Tilly's Slow Stitch Café
sit in comfort and quietly stitch whilst having a cuppa

<p>Bright Eyes Carole Halme</p> <p>Colour, Fabric & Texture Lindsay Fellows</p> <p>Flip 'n' Stitch Flying Geese Bookmark Rachel Warren</p> <p>Folded Fabric Flowers Alison Stothard</p> <p>Hexagami Sewing Accessories Alison Stothard</p>	<p>Introduction to Crewelwork Rosie McKellar</p> <p>Lavender Bag in Pulled Thread Work Cathy Reavy</p> <p>Moongazing Hare Mary Taylor</p> <p>Recycled Fabric Buckwheat Pillows Louise Claire</p> <p>Snowdrop Pincushion Rosie McKellar</p>
---	---

Workshops individually priced. Check website for more details.

www.quiltandstitchvillage.com

BOOK YOUR ADVANCE TICKETS NOW

Deadline for advance booking sales:
Sunday 12th April 2020

Adults:	£7
Group booking (12+):	£5 each
Children's Ticket (< 16):	£4

KISS

& make-up bag

Brighten up your day with this easy-to-sew
two-tone make-up bag

Project **DEBBIE VON-GRABLER CROZIER**



MATERIALS & TOOLS:

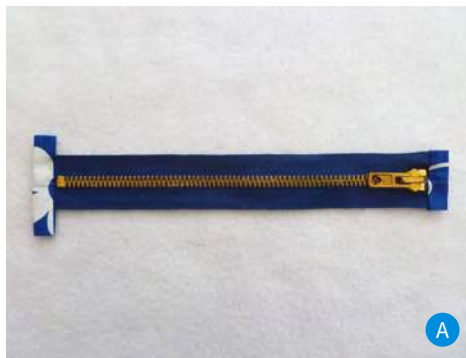
- FQ yellow canvas
- FQ blue floral lining
- FQ denim
- FQ Vlieseline H630 fusible wadding
- 20cm metal zip
- black #8 Perle cotton
- leather scrap for label & zip pull
- stamp
- Jet Black Ranger Archival Ink
- co-ordinating thread for top-stitching
- holepunch
- template downloaded from www.lovesewingmag.co.uk

NOTES:

Seam allowances are all 0.5cm unless otherwise stated

HOW TO MAKE:

- 1 Prepare the zip by sewing the end tapes together to stabilise them and trimming the end tape at 1cm. Repeat for the other end. Cut two 4x6cm pieces of lining fabric and bind the ends of the zip. (See Pic A.)
- 2 Trim the lining end pieces to the same width as the zipper tape.
- 3 Cut two 14x30cm pieces of yellow canvas and two 10x30cm pieces of denim. Attach a piece of denim to the bottom of the yellow canvas and interface each with H630 on the wrong side. Top-stitch



each side of the join. (See Pic B.)

4 Find the horizontal line on the template and match it to the join in the fabric. Cut out the front and back bag pieces. (See Pic C.)

5 Stamp your motif onto a scrap of leather using black ink and sew it into position above the join, in the middle of what will become the front of the bag. (See Pic D.)

6 Cut two pieces of lining using the whole bag template.

7 Make a zip sandwich with a piece of lining, the zip and a piece of outer. (See Pic E.) Pin and sew along the zipper. Flip the two pieces over and press. Top-stitch along to keep the lining down. To ensure a professional finish, only top-stitch between the outer edges of the lining at either

end of the zipper. (See Pic F.) Repeat for the other side.

8 Cut the darts into the bottom panel now of both the outer and the lining. (See Pic G.) Sew. (See Pic H.)

9 Bring the lining right sides together and the outer right sides together and sew all the way around, leaving a small turning gap in the base of the lining. Sew quite close to the ends of the zip but try not to squeeze it – a zipper foot helps.

10 Turn out through the gap and close it. Stuff the lining into the pouch.

11 Cut a scrap of leather about 0.5cm wide x 15cm long and thread through the zip pull. Punch a small hole and secure it with black Perle cotton. (See Pic I.) Enjoy your bag!



SHOP LOCAL DIRECTORY

AYRSHIRE

Allison's Craft Emporium

Excellent Range of Craft Cottons
Dressmaking fabrics
Buttons Ribbons Lace
Haberdashery Wool

21 Lainshaw Street
Stewarton Ayrshire KA3 5BY.

01560 429 312

allisonscraftemporium@outlook.com
www.allisonscraftemporium.com

BEVERLEY



Sewing supplies & fabrics all under one roof! North Bar Fabrics in Cherry Burton is one of the leading fabric stockists in the area. Visit our store today and you will find exactly what you are looking for.

Bernina and Janome stockists

The Courtyard, Burton Mount,
Off Malton Road, Cherry Burton,
Beverley, HU17 7RA
info@northbarfabrics.co.uk
Call: 01964 551 955

BRISTOL

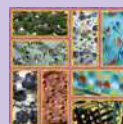


Visit us in store or online to see our range of Dress Fabrics, Patchwork Fabrics from Makower, Moda, Riley Blake and many more, plus knitting yarn and haberdashery.

19 Badminton Road
Downend
Bristol BS16 6BB

Tel. 0117 329 3857

www.fabrics-plus.co.uk
info@fabrics-plus.co.uk



BRISTOL

Designer cute and quirky fabrics for the creative sewer and dressmaker. Independent sewing patterns, haberdashery, stretch lace & knicker elastic. Sewing workshops, lessons, alterations and repairs.

www.flo-jo-fabrics.co.uk
36b Gloucester Road, Bristol, BS7 8AR

BRISTOL

Fabric Haberdashery Gifts

Dress Fabrics Quilting Fabrics Craft Fabrics

Jersey, Viscose, French Terry, Fleece, Cotton, Denims, Activewear, Softshell, Cork, Faux Leather, Cotton Poplins, Carduroy, Laminates, Oil Cloth, Canvas

Shop online and in store

www.koalacreations.co.uk
info@koalacreations.co.uk
Lianne 07895 272361

Hatherell's Yard, Clipping Sodbury, Bristol, BS3768A

BRISTOL

Like Sew Amazing
Specialising in quality dressmaking fabrics. Darning workshops for all levels.

Find us online at likesewamazing.com

204 NORTH STREET BRISTOL BS3 1JF

BURTON UPON TRENT

Debbys Patch Haberdashery, Fabric and sewing supplies.
A must visit for all sewing enthusiasts, new starters and professionals. Stockists of Simplicity, Prym, Clover, Hemline, Trimits, Mettler, Quilt as you go, Tilda, Bonfanti, Mouline, Mrs H, a wide range of fabrics, Rolldove Studio and Made by Debby.

Open Tuesday - Saturday 10 - 4
Plenty of parking and refreshments available on site

Unit 5, Craythorne Farm, Craythorne Road, Stretton, Burton upon Trent, DE13 0AZ
07917 728 701

www.debbyspatch.co.uk

CAMBRIDGE

Sew Knit Craft

Sew Knit Craft is friendly, family run, local craft shop situated in the centre of Cambridge. Whether you're looking to take up a new hobby or replenish your craft supplies we're here to help. We stock a wide range of sewing machines, wool, fabric and threads, knitting and crochet tools, haberdashery and craft room furniture.

58 King Street, Cambridge CB1 1LN
01223 350691
www.sewnitcraft.co.uk

CHEPSTOW

17 Moor Street,
Chepstow,
NP16 5DB

01291 627 056

An abundance of haberdashery awaits you. Fabrics, patterns, gutterman threads, DMC embroidery threads, gorgeous ribbons and buttons and more... alterations and curtain making tool!

CHESHIRE

All Fabrics

Top quality designer quilting and dress fabrics.
Available in friendly store and on line.

61, Grosvenor Street,
Stalybridge, Cheshire, SK15 2JN
0161 487 8236
www.all-fabrics.co.uk

CHORLEY

172 Spendmore Lane, Coppull, Chorley,
Lancashire PR7 5BX
Tel: 01257 794468
www.stickyfingerscrafts.co.uk

Just 10 minutes from
M6 Junction 27

Open Tuesday - Saturday
10.00am to 4.00pm

wide range of 100% cotton
patchwork fabrics, waddings,
threads and notions,
Janome sewing machine accessories
Regular workshops

CLITHEROAE

Patches and Buttons
Stocked to the Ceiling!

20% off fabrics - March and April

www.patchesandbuttons.co.uk

25 Moor Lane, Clitheroe,
01200 423089
Tue - Sat 10.00-4.00

DERBYSHIRE

The Sewing Barn stock a range of beautiful high quality fabrics, Lewis & Irene, Michael Miller, Riley Blake etc. Sewing accessories and books. A variety of sewing workshops are listed on our website. A warm, helpful, friendly welcome guaranteed. Plenty of free parking!

Home Farm Studios, Nr, Ashbourne,
Derbyshire, DE6 3AY
01335 360211
carol@the-sewingbarn.co.uk
www.the-sewingbarn.co.uk

DORSET

SEW JESSALLI
SEWING SCHOOL & SHOP
Workshops, Clubs and Classes for all ages in Blandford, Dorset.
WWW.JESSALLI.COM

DUMFRIES

Romy's Sewing Rooms

For all your haberdashery needs. Sewing classes for all ages and abilities.

180 Irish Street, Dumfries, DG1 2NU
01387250867
romyssewingrooms@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/Romyssewingrooms

ESSEX

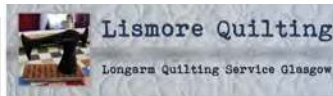
And Sew On Fabrics
Fabrics, Haberdashery, Pre-Cuts, Books, Patterns, Panels

Tuesday - Saturday 10-5 Sunday 10.30-4

Unit 12 Blake House Craft Centre,
Blake End, Rayne, Essex, CM77 6SH
01376 346 532
www.andsewonfabrics.com
info@andsewonfabrics.com

SHOP LOCAL DIRECTORY

GLASGOW



You Piece it, I'll Quilt It

Traditional or Modern I'll have the perfect pattern to complete your quilt.



Contact Mairi for more information
07747691197

lismorequilting@outlook.com
www.lismorequilting.com

GLOUCESTERSHIRE



Fabric, Wools and Haberdashery
Buttons, Ribbons and Patterns
Weekly Make Space Group
39 Parsonage Street
Dursley, Glos, GL11 5RG
www.inchesfabrics.co.uk

HALIFAX



The Fabbadashery
Fabulous Fabrics, Beautiful
Buttons and Truly Scrumptious
Trimmings.
Craft Workshops Every Week!

hello@thefabbadashery.com
www.thefabbadashery.com
01422 647574

10-12 Clare Road, Halifax, HX1 2HX

HAMPSHIRE



- Haberdashery
- Workshops

The Stables,
The Vine,
High Street,
Stockbridge,
Hampshire,
SO20 6HF

hello@bobbinsewingschool.com
www.bobbinsewingschool.co.uk

HAMPSHIRE



SEW BUSY

Stockists of Michael Miller, Riley Blake, Makower, Stof, Tilda, Robert Kaufmann, Dashwood and others. Buttons, haberdashery, patterns, unique gifts and craft workshops.

Unit 18c The Hart Centre,
Fleet Road, Fleet GU51 3LA
Tel: 01252 444220
www.sew-busy.co.uk

HAMPSHIRE



Release your Creativity

Fine Fabrics
Workshops
Sewing Machines
Haberdashery

Tel: 01730 858 020
Web: sewcreative.org.uk
Petersfield, GU32 3EW

HARROGATE

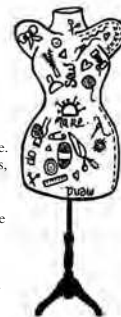
Fine Fabrics of Harrogate

is an independent fabric shop on the outskirts of the beautiful spa town of Harrogate in North Yorkshire. We specialise in linens, wools, cotton lawns and silks, we like to use

local suppliers where possible and are known for our customer service.

We offer weekly sewing classes for all abilities call or check the new website.

www.finefabricsofharrogate.co.uk
finefabricsofharrogate@gmail.com



LEICESTERSHIRE



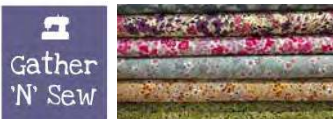
Rutland Sewing
Rutland Garden Centre
Ashwell Road, Oakham, LE15 7QN

01572 756468

rutlandsewing.co.uk

Free parking. Well stocked with patchwork and quilting fabrics and accessories, dress fabrics, patterns, classes and workshops. Open seven days a week. Café on site

LINCOLNSHIRE



A gathering place for friends, fabric and inspiration

Fabrics . Haberdashery . Sewing classes

Gorgeous dressmaking and patchwork fabrics available in store and online

Unit 8, Crown Walk, Bourne, Lincs
PE10 9NE
01778 420464
www.gathernsew.co.uk

LINCOLNSHIRE



Quality fabrics for quilting, dress making, and various textile crafts.

We sell patterns from Vogue, Simplicity and Butterick, and a colourful selection of felting fibres.

12 Corn Market, Louth,
Lincolnshire, LN11 9PY
Email: owlsfabrics@btinternet.com
Tel: 01507 - 600774

LISKEARD

.PAINTERS.



We stock fabric from Moda, Stoff, Lewis & Irene, Makower, Kaffe Fassett, and Free Spirit with threads from Gutermann, Mettler, Madeira and Marathon. We have Jacquard dyes and paints, Pebeo and lampshade kits. Felting supplies, haberdashery, children's crafts, Woodware and Hunkydory papercrafts. Art materials from Winsor & Newton, Liquitex and Faber Castell.

7 Fore Street, Liskeard, PL14 3JA
01579 347 237
www.craft-box.com
painters@craft-box.com

LONDON



Let us teach you the Art of Sewing.

With a variety of Bespoke Tailoring, Pattern Cutting and Garment Making courses, we can help tailor your sewing future

Telephone 07399249471

Facebook SKB Tailoring and Training Centre

Email skbtailoring@gmail.com
We make learning easy

NORFOLK



We are a "one-stop" patchwork and quilting shop in the Norfolk Broads selling a wide range of fabrics, wadding and notions; we have a varied programme of workshops and classes, too. We have a long-arm quilter that customers can hire out, once a training session has been completed.



Tunstead Road, Hoveton, Norwich, Norfolk,
NR12 8QU
01603 781665
www.broadlypatchwork.co.uk

NORFOLK



Visit us for:

Dressmaking fabrics

Haberdashery

Simplicity, Burda, New Look, Tilly and the Buttons patterns in stock

Ribbons, lace and trimmings

Sewing, craft classes and dressmaking workshops

Clothing alterations

Bespoke garment making up service

[@sewingroomdownhammarket](https://www.facebook.com/sewingroomdownhammarket)

NORTHWICH



The Sew Easy Sewing Shop

Need haberdashery in Northwich? Look no further than Sew Easy! We've a huge selection of fabric, needlecraft, sewing machines, patterns, and haberdashery products.

80 Witton Street, Northwich,
Cheshire, CW9 5AE

07952709910

www.seweasysewingshop.co.uk

NORTH DEVON



11-12 George Arcade, South Molton,
Devon,

EX36 3AB, 01769 574071

Patchwork and quilting supplies.

Classes and workshops.

Open 9am - 5pm Monday to Saturday

www.stepbystep-quilts.co.uk

SHOP LOCAL DIRECTORY

NORTH YORKSHIRE



www.levencrafts.co.uk

We stock a huge range of patchwork and quilting fabrics, notions, waddings and haberdashery.

We also stock embroidery supplies: Drops and Berge de France yarns.

We run patchwork and dressmaking workshops, knitting and crochet tuition. Friendly, helpful service always guaranteed.

7-8 Chaloner Mews, Gulsborough, TS14 6SA
info@levencrafts.co.uk



NORTH YORKSHIRE



THE ABBOTSTONE HOUSE COLLECTION

Based in the heart of the beautiful Yorkshire Dales, we are proud to stock Liberty and other quality fabrics, plus sewing accessories, patterns etc.

Visit us in Hawes, DL8 3QR or online at www.abbotstonehouse.com



PRESTON



Welcome to my lovely craft emporium! We have lots of crafty goodies for sale however support, inspiration and the service with a smile are free!

Open 9.00am - 5.30pm
Monday to Saturday

68 Berry Lane, Longridge,
Preston, PR3 3WH
01772 780 883
www.itsofsewcrafty.com

SCARBOROUGH



Dressmaking fabrics and Haberdashery
Husqvarna Viking sewing machines.

21 Gladstone Road, Scarborough, YO12 7BQ
www.materialmoves.co.uk
01723 377 289

SCOTLAND

Pembertons OF STIRLING

We sell and service a wide range of sewing machines plus accessories and parts. We also have a fantastic range of dress and craft fabrics and sell Simplicity & New Look patterns.

Our Haberdashery department has everything from buttons to bows. Please ask if you are looking for something special.

www.psmc.co.uk
01786 462993

21-25 Friars Street, Stirling, FK8 1HA

SHEFFIELD

Happy Hare

An independent, family-run sewing store in Sheffield.

We stock a wide range of fabrics, including Craft Cotton Company, Kaffe Fassett and Tula Pink, as well as a good range of reasonable priced budget cottons.

We also offer classes in a variety of crafts, from patchwork to dressmaking, printing on fabric to needle felting.



1a Arundel Road,
Sheffield,
S35 2RB

0114 245 5996
handmadehappyhare@yahoo.co.uk

www.handmadehappyhare.com

SHROPSHIRE



A warm welcome and a friendly smile are guaranteed when you shop with us! We stock fabulous fabrics, yarns, and haberdashery, and offer a variety of workshops for all abilities.

24 St Mary's Street, Newport,
Shropshire, TF10 7AB
01952 814 962
zigzags@hotmail.co.uk
www.zigzagsonline.co.uk

SOUTHAMPTON



Fabulous fabrics for patchwork, dressmaking & crafts.

2 Purlieu Court, Beaulieu Road
Dibden Purlieu, Southampton
Hampshire SO45 4PX

Tel: 02381 783386
Monday - Friday 9-5pm
Saturday 9-4pm
www.newforestfabrics.co.uk

SOUTH WALES

J & B Sewing Machine Co Ltd



* Workshops & Classes * Coffee mornings * Brother, Bernina, Janome, Baby Lock, Elna, Bernette sewing machines * Training Courses * Fabrics * Grace Quilting Machines & Frames *

Curlew Close
Queensway Meadows
Newport NP19 4SY
01633 284646

www.jbsewing.com

Gripoly Mills
Sloper Road
Cardiff CF11 8AA
02922 402418

ST AUSTELL



1 Biddicks Court,
St Austell, PL25 5EW
Tel: 01726 75385

Email: sewandfabric@yahoo.co.uk

Find us on Facebook

STAFFORDSHIRE

THE LORNA KNIGHT SEWING ACADEMY

- Haberdashery
- Sewing machines
- Classes & workshops

Bradnop, nr Leek, ST13 7NX
07970 345628 / 01538 371682
www.lornaknight.com



STAFFORDSHIRE

The Sewcial Studio
80 Watling Street, Wilnecote,
Tamworth, Staffs, B77 5BJ

Offering a warm friendly welcome, supplying quality fabrics for dressmaking and quilting. Weekly sewing sessions
Weekend workshops
Elna/Janome stockist
Machine servicing and repairs
Bespoke commissions undertaken
thesewcialstudio.co.uk

TEWKESBURY



Silks & velvet
Natural, printed
& dyed (over 60 colours)

Small quantities at
Wholesale prices
(min. 1/2m)

www.beckfordsilk.co.uk

01386 881507

Nr. Tewkesbury, Glos. GL20 7AU

love
Sewing
THE UK'S NO.1 SEWING MAGAZINE

To advertise please contact Nune on
0161 474 6997
or email nune.sarkissian@practicalpublishing.co.uk



Hayley

Sew Hayley

JANE

We speak to the founder of Sew Hayley Jane about turning your passion into a business and experimenting with your style



Hi Hayley! How are you? Can you tell us what's on your sewing table at the moment?

I'm really well thank you, last week was super busy getting the February boxes packed up and shipped so this week will be all about getting them photographed for the blog and filmed for YouTube, as well as beginning research for next month.

In February I sent out one of the new Tilly and the Buttons jersey fabrics so I'm working on an Agnes/Monetta dress using that at the moment that I can't wait to get finished and start wearing.

I've got so many things I want to get sewn up at the moment, I just need to find the time!

How did you first discover sewing and what made you decide to start the business?

My mum used to sew a lot for my sister and me when we were kids and my nan did a lot of sewing as well so I've always known at least how to thread up a sewing machine. I took textiles at school as a GCSE but was put off after a disastrous project involving very cheap stretch velvet with no clue about grainlines.

I picked it up again a few years later when I became interested in vintage fashion and wanted to create my own vintage outfits. Again, not having much of a clue about fabric types I made a very adventurous princess seam, sweetheart neckline dress with inserted sleeves in a very stiff quilting cotton. Although it didn't get a lot of wear I was so proud of it and I caught the bug.

Then *The Great British Sewing Bee* started and with the take-off of blogging I began reading and sewing more and fell in love.

Each box contains beautifully curated items centred around a specific theme

I was inspired by some of the female-led business blogs I had discovered and, coupled with my previous experiences of choosing the wrong fabric, I wanted to help others who might not know where to start or who felt overwhelmed when walking into a fabric shop.

Can you tell us a bit more about SewHayleyJane?

SewHayleyJane is a monthly subscription service. Every month I put together three different-sized boxes (Mini, Classic and Luxury) that are centred around a theme. The boxes are a total surprise for my customers so it's always exciting (and slightly nerve-racking) when the boxes start arriving and everyone posts about them on social media.

“
I wanted to help others who might not know where to start or who felt overwhelmed when walking into a fabric shop
”

Each box contains a length of dressmaking fabric, a selection of fat quarters, various haberdashery supplies and often a gift from another independent business. I love collaborating with other businesses to create something unique for my customers, like an illustration or a pin.

The fun challenge comes in trying to curate everything to fit a theme. Some recent ones have been “Crafternoon Tea”, “Pyjama Party” “Sew Retro” and “Over The Rainbow”.

What is one of your favourite boxes that you've curated and why is this?

This is such a hard question, it's like trying to choose a favourite child! I loved working



on the Palm Springs box last July which was in collaboration with The Fold Line. The team chose the theme and then we worked together to choose all the goodies that went inside which included a super-cute matchstick motel print from Jacqueline Colley. It was so much fun to work with them and I'd love to do more collaborations. In all honesty, every new box becomes my favourite.

Has your own style changed since starting SewHayleyJane?

I feel like I'm going through a bit of a style transition at the moment actually. I never thought I could pull off a jumpsuit and then in December I gave the Zadie jumpsuit from Paper Theory Patterns a go and totally loved it. The fabric was a silver metallic viscose that I sent in the boxes that month and I felt so glamorous in it. I'm now





looking at dungarees, pinafore dresses and trousers with a whole new interest.

With a toddler to chase after, my day-to-day outfit is usually jeans and a jersey top so I'd love to switch this up a little bit now but still make things that I'm going to be comfortable crawling around the floor pretending to be a tiger in!

What do you love most about running your own business and how do you find the right work/life balance?

I love being my own boss and having creative control over what I get to put out there in the world. I've learned so much in the past few years and grown in confidence by forcing myself to do things like starting a YouTube channel and go to events. The thing I love



the most is my customers. I get the loveliest messages and emails that are so personal from people telling me what they've made. The best thing is when they tell me the fabric was something they never would have chosen for themselves but they used it and ended up loving it!

I only work three days a week in my studio when my little girl is taken care of so I make sure to make the most of that time so that when I'm with her on the other days I'm not thinking about way too much! I also use nap times when possible but I'm terrible at working in the evenings. I'm most productive in the morning so after Mia is in bed and we've eaten dinner I'm usually close to falling asleep myself.

What advice would you give to someone looking to turn their passion for sewing into a business?

I would say figure out which part of sewing it is that you are passionate about. I knew I would hate to make garments for other people so working as a custom seamstress was never going to be right for me. But maybe you love making things for other people. Or maybe you love seeing someone learn a new skill and so teaching could be right for you. Perhaps you find fabric shopping to be a separate hobby from the actual sewing and would love to start your own shop. Once you've figured out where your passion lies do lots of research and hone your social media and marketing skills. There are some great resources available online.

Finally, are there any teasers you can reveal about upcoming boxes?

I've got a few ideas up my sleeve for the next few months but need to do some more research. I'd love to create a box for sewing outerwear but need to find a fabric that would fit inside the boxes – always a big challenge and a lesson that I learnt very early on! I'm also intrigued by sewing activewear but I'm unsure whether it would appeal to the majority of my customers or not. I'd also love to do more collaborations both with other businesses and even my customers. I ran a competition last year to "design a box" and had such a great response from it so it would be great to do that again.



Follow Hayley's sewing journey on Instagram at [sewhayleyjane](https://www.instagram.com/sewhayleyjane)

FIND OUT MORE

Hayley is the founder of SewHayleyJane; a monthly sewing subscription service offering sewists specially curated boxes with beautiful fabric and craft products. Find out more about the different subscription options available by visiting www.sewhayleyjane.com

First in **BLOOM**

Brighten up any room with this beautiful beaded daffodil wall hanging

Project **CHLOE REDFERN**

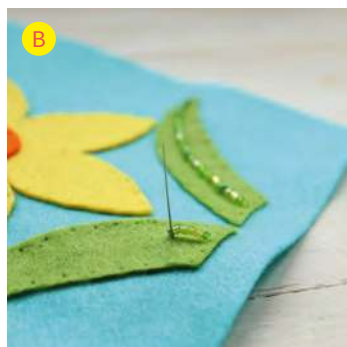
MATERIALS & TOOLS:

- orange, yellow & green felt scraps
- 16.5cm-square blue felt for background
- 19.5cm-square yellow felt for backing
- 14x3cm scrap felt for hanging sleeve
- orange, yellow & green thread or DMC floss
- thread for 'quilting'
- orange, yellow green & blue size 10 or 11 seed beads (SB)
- bugle beads (BB) or larger beads for flower centre (optional)
- beading thread/invisible thread (optional)
- size 10 embroidery needle
- 15cm-long pencil or fine pen to mark pattern shapes on felt
- 15cm length wooden dowel
- 30cm twine/strong string
- templates downloaded from www.lovesewingmag.co.uk

HOW TO MAKE:

- 1 Using templates and felt, cut out the orange centre, two green leaves, two yellow petals. Arrange pieces on blue felt square as shown. The petals will need to overlap and the centre ends will be covered with orange centre. Tack in place.
- 2 Using colours to match felt, and one strand of thread, make small stitches around the edge of each of the felt pieces to secure. Remove tacking stitches. (See Pic A.)
- 3 Thread your needle with one strand. Bring it up at the point you wish to start a beaded line, and thread on six beads. Push gently to end of the thread, take the needle back down through the felt at the end of the row of beads. To continue the row, bring your needle back





up through the felt between the last two beads of the last group you stitched on, thread it through the last bead, and then thread on another row of six beads. (See Pic B.)

4 Complete each row one at a time. Stitch curved rows up the sides of the petals and along the sides of the leaves as one row each. Don't try to bead around sharp corners. (See Pic C.)

5 For the 3D centre, bring your needle up through the felt just inside the edge of the central orange shape, and thread on five SB alternating with short 3mm bugle beads: SB, BB, SB, BB, SB, BB, SB, BB, SB. Take your needle back down through the felt at the point it came up and pull to form a loop with the beads. Continue working loops in this way around the edge of the centre. (See Pic D.)

6 Stitch a bead in the centre and eight BB as shown. (See Pic E.)

7 Take the larger yellow piece of felt and place it behind the blue background piece. Ensure the yellow felt protrudes at the edges evenly and tack together.

8 Make rows of tiny stitches going back and forth across the blue background. (See Pic F.)

9 Remove tacking stitches. To create the border, fold the

yellow felt over the edges of the blue square, starting with the top and bottom edge, holding down and making small stitches next to the edge to secure.

Afterwards, cut a small square out of each corner to allow side borders to be folded over neatly, and repeat. (See Pic G.)

10 When all borders are stitched down, work another row of small stitches around the outside to neaten edges.

11 Use invisible thread to stitch blue beads scattered across the background of the wall hanging, then stitch a row of yellow beads along each border.

12 Leave the wall hanging unbacked or attach a piece of felt the same size as the front around the edge using whip stitch.

13 To add a hanger take the 14x3cm scrap felt for the hanging sleeve. Place this onto the back of your panel 1cm from the top and whip-stitch along each of the long edges, ensuring they penetrate only the back layer of the quilt and not the front.

14 Tie one end of your ribbon/twine to your dowel. You may wish to add a dab of glue to this to make sure it doesn't slip off when the quilt is being handled. (See Pic H.)



Marie Curie is collecting for the Great Daffodil appeal this spring. Visit www.mariecurie.co.uk for details



ABOUT WENDY GARDINER

As well as being Brand Ambassador for The McCall Pattern Company, Wendy is a published author and sewing teacher. Find her online courses at www.craftsy.com

Joy

WITH JACKETS

Wendy Gardiner, Brand Ambassador for The McCall Pattern Company, shares her top tips for sewing jackets with success

Making a jacket will take a little longer than a simple dress, top or trousers, but it is well worth it to get a great fit and totally unique garment that will last for years. Jackets can be simple, unlined, collarless edge-to-edge garments, or be a multi-pieced, fitted jacket with notched collars and revers, welt pockets with piped edges and all sorts in between. Whichever type you make, follow these general tips every time.

SIZING

Jackets are usually designed to wear over dresses or tops so will have extra ease allowance. To check which size to make, as usual, take your bust, waist and hip measurement. If you are over a C cup, also take your high bust measurement (straight across the back and around the front above the bust). Compare the high bust with bust measurements. If it is over an 8cm difference, choose your jacket by your high bust measurement and then make a full bust adjustment to the pattern. This will ensure it fits better across the shoulders, back and chest.

Also check the finished garment measurements found on the back of the pattern envelope and/or the tissue pieces. Compare these against the body measurements to see how much ease has been allowed.

Many jackets will also include shoulder pads in the 'notions'. These will help provide a crisp, straight shoulder silhouette. The pattern has been designed to include them so will be wider on the shoulders than a jacket without them. If you don't intend to use shoulder pads, you will need to make a narrow back/front adjustment to the tissue to reduce the shoulder length.



A unisex jacket great for him or her!

This version is lined with notched collar and back slits (McCall 7818)

LININGS AND INTERLININGS

Many jackets are lined to give extra body, support in key areas and to help them hang properly. Some are also interlined – an additional layer sandwiched between the main fabric and lining. Interlinings are often sewn with the main fabric as one, adding stability and body to the main fabric. Add an interlining when working with loosely woven fabric or a lightweight fabric that you need to bulk up to suit the design.

Interlinings are cut from the same pattern pieces as the main fabric, excluding facings, collars and cuffs. Transfer pattern markings to the right side of the interlining and then place interlining to fabric, wrong sides together. Baste layers together around edges, through darts etc. then construct garment in the usual manner, treating the two layers as one.

Linings will cover seams and interfacings as well as providing additional support to the jacket and help make it easier to slip on and off. They can be made from any lightweight fabric, although most are constructed from lining fabric, which is usually nylon or silk – it just needs to be compatible with the main fabric in terms of laundering.

Loose linings usually use the same pattern pieces as the garment, excluding facings, waistbands, collars and cuffs. If your pattern is for an unlined jacket, you can add a lining yourself using these same pattern pieces. They are stitched together in the same manner as the garment before being attached to garment, usually at neck and waist before facings are applied.

TOP TIPS

To allow for wearing ease, reduce dart size in the back of jacket lining and then take a pleat at centre of neck edge to provide the extra fullness. Alternatively, rather than cut two back pieces joined with a centre back seam, cut the lining on the fold which makes it 3cm wider. Take a pleat in the centre neck edge of the lining to take out the excess 3cm (as you have no centre back seam). This provides ease of movement in the lining fabric.

SEAMS

Welt and double welt seams

Welt seams are particularly suitable for heavyweight fabric. The seam is formed

Top tip
Cut undercollar section so it is 1-2mm smaller than the upper collar section which will help the seam roll slightly to the underside when turned through



Lined, collarless jacket (Butterick 6579)

with two rows of straight stitching, the first a regular seam with right sides together, the second to catch seam allowance.

Having stitched the seam, grade the seam allowances, which reduces bulk, by trimming the underseam allowance to 6mm. Press both seam allowances to one side, with the narrow one underneath. Then, working from the right side, sew again 6-13mm from seam, catching the untrimmed seam allowance in the stitching (at the same time, this will encase the trimmed seam allowance). A double welt seam has another row of stitching close to the seamline.

Flat fell

Used on sportswear and simple reversible garments, this seam neatens the seam allowances, with the seam allowances on the right side of the fabric. As with French seams, stitch a regular seam with the wrong sides together then press seam allowances together to one side. Trim the underseam allowance to 3mm. Tuck under the raw edge of the upper seam allowance and press in place (if preferred baste in place), then stitch close to fold from the right side.

Hong Kong (bound) seams

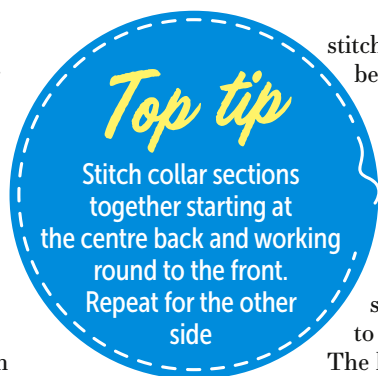
These are often used in tailored garments, particularly if the inside might be visible. The seams are stitched as usual, then seam allowances pressed open. Wrap each raw edge with bias binding or special tricot seam binding tape that folds in two, encasing the raw edges.

COLLARS

Collars generally have three layers, an upper collar, interfacing and undercollar. Sometimes there may be a facing also. For a neat, crisp collar, attach interfacing to the upper collar section. As when interfacing facing, trim seam allowances on fusible interfacings before attaching or trim sew-ins close to stitching.

Choose an interfacing that is lighter in weight than the fabric as the adhesive may make it appear stiffer. Cut the interfacing on the straight grain even if using a non-woven interfacing as the incorrect grain will cause the collar to twist.

Ensure sharp corners on pointed collars, by reducing stitch length just before and after each corner and take one stitch diagonally across the point. Trim interfacing diagonally at corners within stitching line. Press a



stitched collar on both sides before turning through.

Prepare the neck edge of the garment by stay-stitching curved areas. The neck edge will also require clipping and notching so it can be played out to accommodate the collar.

The bigger the difference between neck curve and collar curve, the more clips needed.

HEMMING

Jackets will usually have a fairly deep hem allowance of between 2.5-6cm which helps the garment hang straight and true. A curved hem will require easing.

While a blind hem is virtually invisible and therefore perfect for medium and heavyweight fabric, a taped hem gives a neat finish on unlined jackets using bias binding, ribbon or lace edging. A couture finish can be achieved with a tailored hem by adding a strip of interfacing within the hem allowance and adding weights in front corners or a hem chain stitched into the fold of the seam allowance.

For leather and suede hems reduce hem allowance and use fusible hemming web to avoid stitching, or simply cut the hem at the hemline and leave unfinished.

For the lining hem, turn up so that the fold sits just over the stitched hem edge of the garment. Keeping the garment free, tuck raw edge of lining to inside and then machine-stitch.



Make your own faux-leather jacket with McCall 8012



Check the description – a loose-fitting jacket will have plenty of ease and be bigger (McCall 8010)



This loose-fitting easy-lined jacket is a breeze to sew (Butterick 6509)

McCall's 7948, UK
sizes 6-22, £10.50,
www.sewdirect.com



MASTERCLASS AMAZING LACE

We've rounded up
the expert advice
you'll need for
sewing lace fabric
with success

Lace comes in a range of dramatic colours and styles and is a firm favourite for creating a really special garment. Follow our top tips for great results

KNOW YOUR LACE

Lace varies tremendously in price and quality, from £10 per metre to over £300! The lace you choose will depend on what you are making. Let's look at the main types of lace:

1. Chantilly lace

A heavily-corded lace on tulle, often beaded with an ornate edge. Used in bridalwear, primarily in white, ivory and black.

2. Alençon lace

An all-over lace, with the design incorporated into a tulle background. Available in a variety of colours, and with or without a decorative border, this is an easy lace to work with.

3. Guipure lace

A heavily-embroidered fabric with no tulle backing, but open spaces. Also available in a range of colours.

CHOICES

When it comes to picking your project, it's best to choose simple shapes and use the border as the finished edge of the garment. However, if you are making an A-line or circular skirt, the lace border edge has to be cut off carefully and then stitched back in place when the garment has been completed. Lace often requires cutting in a single layer as the pattern needs to be centred on the pattern pieces for the most pleasing finish. Make sure you avoid large lace motifs on the bust or bottom!

LOOK SHARP

Using specialist pins and needles is advised. Use new fine pins as well as needles as both can easily snag delicate fabric if blunt. (Glass-headed or flower-headed pins are great as they are more easily seen on lace fabric.) Use a machine needle size 60-75 (9-11) Sharps or Universal and a stitch length of 1.8mm-2mm for seams.

WHICH SEAM?

Sometimes, the goal is to match the lace design at the seams, for instance on the centre front or back seams, so that it looks like one continuous piece. The best way to do this is to cut one side out on the single layer, then position that piece on top of a large expanse of fabric, matching the motifs perfectly. Use the position of this piece as a guide for positioning the mirrored piece, overlapping any seam allowances. Just remember to remove the original piece before you start cutting!

LET'S FACE IT

Rather than using standard interfacing for collars, cuffs and buttonhole areas, provide the needed support and stability by using a sheer organza or one or two layers of fashion fabric as the interfacing.

SEW WRONG

If it is difficult to tell the right from the wrong side of the fabric, mark one side as 'wrong' with a small piece of masking tape so that you always put pieces together correctly. The masking tape can be written on with helpful notes too, for instance a side front and side back of a princess-seam pattern look identical!

CLEVER CONSTRUCTION

This will reduce bulk. We recommend mounting the fabric onto a base for ease of construction such as silk dupion or silk satin so these two types of fabric can be treated as one and no special seam treatments are required. A dart in lace can be made in exactly the same way as a dart in fabric. If you are making a dart in the lace only, make the dart in the normal way, then stitch again 3mm away and trim off the surplus fabric, then press as normal. If you are making the dart with mounted fabric, tack or baste around the open dart for stability, before beginning construction.

Why not TRY?



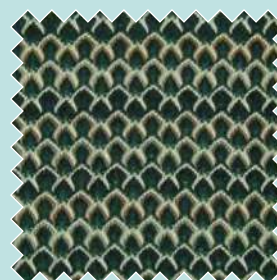
A Lace Collection – Royal Shield, £16 per metre, www.croftmill.co.uk



Lady McElroy stretch lace, £11.99 per metre, www.minervacrafts.com



Corded lace, £12.99, www.whitelodgefabric.com



Scallop lacy knit, £14 per metre, www.fabricgodmother.co.uk

We love
STYLE

Denim days **SKIRT**

Perfect your
topstitching skills with
this on-trend button-
down denim skirt

Project **CLAIRE GARSIDE**
Simple Sew Patterns



MASTERCLASS TOP-STITCHING

This classic denim skirt offers the perfect opportunity to up your top-stitching game. Here are our five top tips:

- 1 Create the illusion of flat-felled seams: top-stitch on the outside, along each section of skirt, first close to the seam, and then 3-4mm along from the first line of stitching.
- 2 Experiment with colour: Mustard topstitching is a classic choice, but fuchsia, red and Emerald Green all 'pop' when top-stitched onto classic blue denim.
- 3 Stay on point: denim needles should be your first choice. You can also get denim twin needles for perfectly distanced parallel stitching. Twin needles come in a number of widths, so experiment to find your favourite.
- 4 Don't bother with topstitching thread in your bobbin: it's likely to disagree with your machine. Instead use normal thread in your bobbin and keep the thicker stuff for the spool.
- 5 For the neatest edge-stitching imaginable, use a chalk pen or pencil to mark your intended trajectory and your blind hem foot to ensure an even distance from your seam/edge.

MATERIALS & TOOLS:

- 1.5m of 150cm (60"-wide) or 112cm (45"-wide) medium weight woven fabric such as cotton, denim & corduroy
- 8 1.5cm-diameter buttons
- co-ordinating thread
- templates downloaded from www.lovesewingmag.co.uk

NOTES:

Use a 1.5cm seam allowance unless otherwise instructed

HOW TO MAKE:

- 1 With RST and matching hip notches, attach one front skirt

to its corresponding front side skirt piece. Press the seams open. (See Pic A.)

- 2 With RST sew the front side skirt to the corresponding back side skirt along the side seam. Press the seams open.

Press the seams open. (See Pic B.)

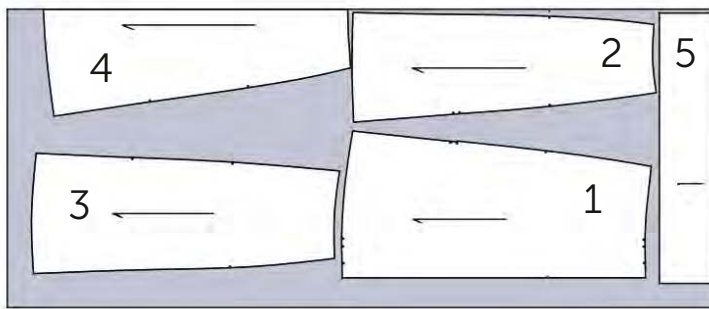
- 3 Continue around the skirt until all panels are attached, pressing seams open as you go. (See Pic C.)

- 4 Fold the skirt front along the first fold line and press. Fold over again at second fold line and press. Baste closed or top-stitch along the length of the placket if desired. (See Pic D.)

LAYPLAN:

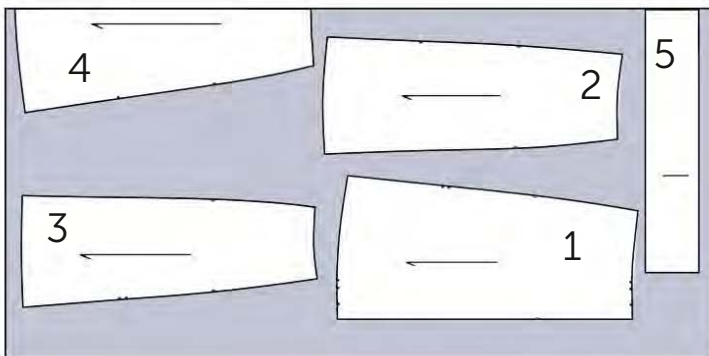
45" wide

FOLD



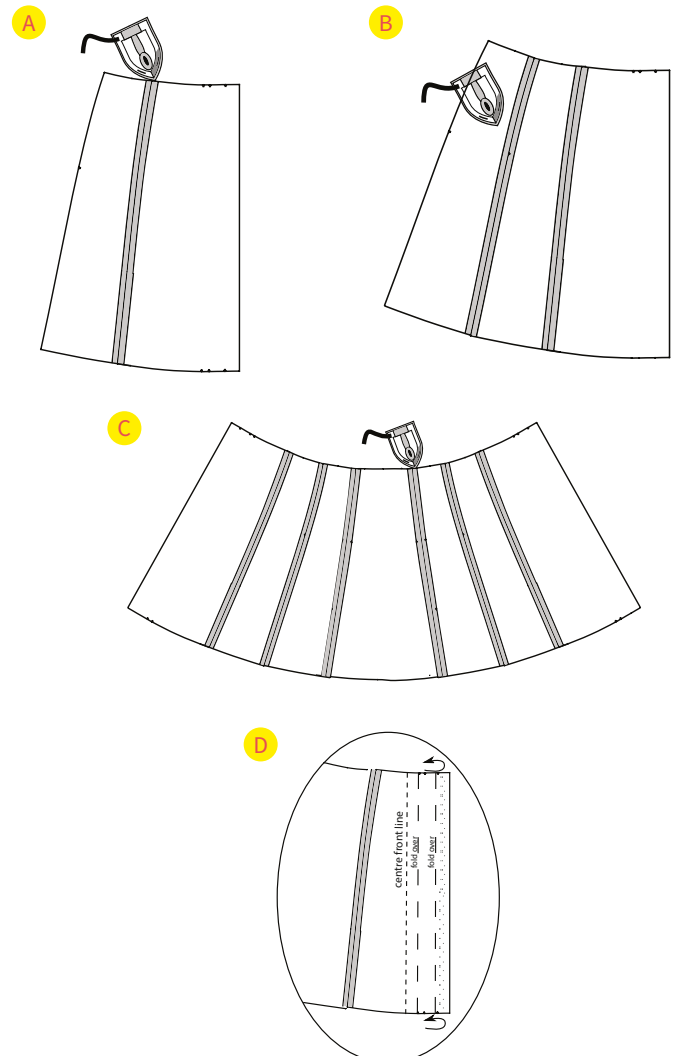
60" wide

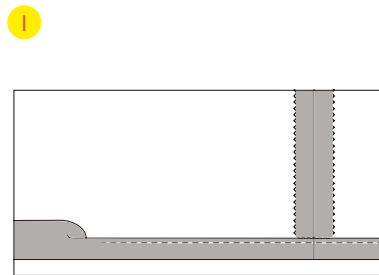
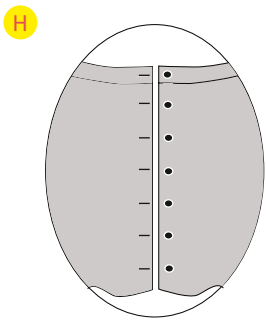
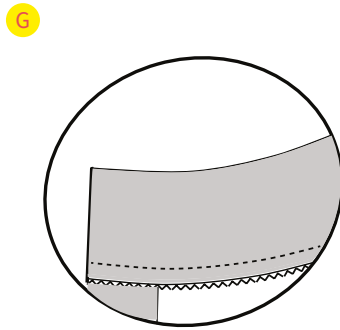
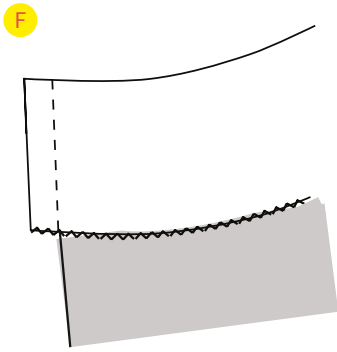
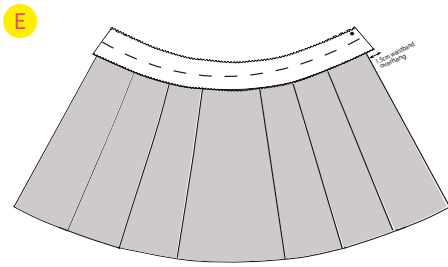
FOLD



SIZING:

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS	BUST	WAIST	HIPS
6	32"	24"	34"
8	33"	26"	36"
10	35"	28"	38"
12	37"	30"	40"
14	39"	32"	42"
16	40"	34"	44"
18	42"	36"	46"
20	44"	38"	48"





5 Fold the waistband with WST and press to form a crease, then unfold. With RST pin one raw edge of your waistband to the upper edge of the skirt. Start at the centre back and end with 1.5cm of waistband hanging over the centre fronts. Sew in place. (See Pic E.)

6 Press the seam upwards, then fold the waistband in half so its right sides are together, sandwiching the skirt between. Sew the short edges of the waistband, being careful not to catch the body of the skirt in your stitching line. (See Pic F.)

7 Turn the waistband through to the RS again and press. On the RS of the skirt sew along the waistband seam, catching the reverse of the waistband as you go (this is called stitching in the ditch). (See Pic G.)

8 Sew the buttonholes on the right-hand side front skirt, following the placement markings. Then sew the buttons in the corresponding positions on the left-hand side. (See Pic H.)

9 Hem the skirt by turning up the hem by 2cm, turning the hem under by 1cm, press, and stitch in place then stitch all the way around to finish. (See Pic I.)

Top tip!

If you don't have an overlocker, finish the raw edges with a narrow zigzag stitch to prevent fraying





A brief history of
**THE ROMANIAN
BLOUSE**

The traditional Romanian blouse is both a symbol of cultural identity and a source of inspiration for fashion designers around the world. We discover the rich history woven into this intriguing garment



The traditional 'ie' is made from cotton, hemp, silk or flax

different and can take weeks to complete. Traditionally, cloth is woven on a handloom and motifs are delicately stitched with colourful thread.

The Romanian blouse is typically worn by women and features detailed motifs representing different elements of their identity. In rural parts of the country, the creation and meaning of each garment has remained relatively

social status, wealth or particular events in their life. For instance, in mountainous areas earthy colours including reds, greys and browns are popular, while those living nearer the sea would wear blouses embroidered with blues and silvers. Many also feature ancient symbols representing faith, wisdom, life and love.

These emblematic motifs and colours are passed down from generation to generation, weaving the wearer's story and family history into the materials they wear. For older generations, this form of sartorial identification is particularly significant; many women choose to be buried in their authentic blouse in the hope that the colours and patterns depicted would enable them to be recognised by loved ones in the afterlife.

Despite initially being referred to as a peasant's blouse the ie has become a symbol of national heritage celebrated and worn by every echelon of society. Famous artists

Our clothes are much more than material possessions. For centuries, our sartorial choices have not only been influenced by practicality (that dress is no match for today's breezy weather) but also a commodity that reflects our cultural identity. While many forms of traditional dress are reserved for special occasions, or typically worn in the countries where they're created, others have infiltrated universal fashion trends, tipping the scales between traditional costume and aesthetic reimaginings. One such garment that is ubiquitous as both an on-trend fashion piece and symbol of folkloric dress is the Romanian blouse.

unchanged. Thought to date back as early as the Neolithic period the ie was initially worn as a festive garment and referred to as a peasant's blouse. Every colour, pattern and symbol embroidered onto the garment carries a unique meaning for the wearer. In the traditional ie the patterns, fabric and cut can be linked back to a particular region and also represent the wearer's age,



Every colour, pattern and symbol embroidered onto the garment carries a unique meaning for the wearer



Commonly referred to as 'ie' or 'ia', etymologists remain divided on the exact translation of the blouse's attributed abbreviations but many believe the meanings stem from the Latin words tunicae liniae (a straight tunic) or linum (flax). The traditional blouse features large sleeves, an open neck and is entirely handmade using cotton, hemp, silk or flax. Each dexterously woven blouse is



Blouses are woven on a handloom and can take weeks to complete



Romania's annual Sanziene festival celebrates the Universal Day of the Romanian Blouse



and royal figures have both honoured the rich history embodied by the ie and admired its intricate design. One such figure who helped broaden the blouse's appeal was Queen Marie of Romania. Born into the British Royal family, she was later betrothed to and married King Ferdinand I of Romania in 1893. Along with her daughters, Queen Marie celebrated and wore the traditional blouse as a way of visually embracing and respecting Romanian culture and heritage. Her decision to wear the ie at formal occasions was a conduit for the wider recognition of the design beyond the rural villages where it was created, bolstering its appeal as a piece of national identity and beauty.

The blouse would subsequently be the focal point of one of the most widely recognised paintings by the French painter Henri Matisse. After his friend, the Romanian painter Theodor Pallady, gifted him a selection of Romanian shirts, Matisse felt so inspired by their beauty that he created paintings and sketches depicting the traditional blouse. Of all his reimaginings, his most famous was a vibrant oil canvas painting which he completed in 1940 and called *La Blouse Roumaine*. The piece is displayed at Musée National d'Art Moderne in Paris.

As Matisse was inspired by these pieces of authentic clothing, his artwork would in turn be the source of inspiration for the reinvention of the ie by national and

international fashion designers. In 1981, 40 years after Matisse's paintings were completed, French designer Yves Saint Laurent presented his version of the traditional blouse in his fall collection, a platform that would mark the debut of the garment as a universally fashionable item. He later endorsed the Romanian blouse further in 1999 when he dedicated and entitled his entire autumn-winter collection to *La Blouse Roumaine*.

“
The juxtaposition of the blouse as a piece of cultural identity and a curated fashion item is a subject which inevitably sparks controversy
 ”

Many designers followed suit, believing their designs to be a contribution to Romanian culture and historical preservation. A version by Tom Ford featuring traditional black embroidery

graced the cover of *American Vogue* in 2012, while other prolific designers including Oscar de la Renta and Jean Paul Gaultier also promoted the traditional design in their collections.

The juxtaposition of the blouse as a piece of cultural identity and a curated fashion item is a subject which inevitably sparks controversy. The misappropriation of the traditional Romanian design has prompted groups to speak out against large fashion houses seemingly mimicking the design and therefore depriving local artisans of due recognition. Preserving the folkloric associations and cultural identity characterised by the Romanian blouse is the purpose behind one online community group aptly called *La Blouse Roumaine*. In 2018, the group took to Twitter to address fashion house Dior after it released a garment imitating a traditional Romanian garment. Using the hashtag #givecredit the group asked Dior to recognise and give credit to Romanian dressmakers.

As a way of promoting the traditional ie, people are encouraged to wear their blouse at the *Sânziene* festival on 24th June, also known as *The Universal Romanian Blouse Day*. The annual celebration has been adopted in over 100 cities across the world, uniting Romanian people and celebrating the heritage, stories and cultural importance of the Romanian blouse.

**LIMITED
EDITION**

Order by 20TH APRIL 2020 for Box 11
EXPAND YOUR COLLECTION!

**BOX 10
DESIGNERS**

📷 thoresbycottage

📷 littleduckcrochet

📷 beardieandblondie
crafts



SAVE 25%

Join for as little as
£14.99 per box,
including delivery*

Don't miss out, join today...

Online: www.crochetsociety.co.uk

THE CROCHET SOCIETY WANTS YOU!



By *Bella Coco* Crochet

LOVE THIS BOX? Subscribe & save today!

Why subscribe?

Crochet luxury delivered
direct to your
door each month

Exclusive crochet goodies worth
over £30 inside every box

Get access to video tutorials
to help you every step of the way

Exclusive projects from
top designers

Learn new crochet techniques
and discover beautiful yarn

Make stunning projects

**Subscribe every 12 months and
SAVE 25% on every box**

Easy to pay – spread the cost
with continuous credit/debit
card payments

*Based on a 12-month UK subscription. See www.crochetsociety.co.uk for overseas rates.

Call: 0161 327 0441

(Quote code: OCSY0419)



Rooftop Fabrics are proud to offer an every expanding range of fabrics, including: Plush, Cottons, and other specialist items.

Tel: 01420 260036
Email: website@rooftopfabrics.com



www.rooftopfabrics.com

Pennine Outdoor Fabrics Ltd

SPECIALIST FABRICS & HABERDASHERY

Water Resistant
Breathable • Fleece
& Technical
Fabrics for Bags
Awnings • Clothing
Covers & Tents etc.



Wide range of
Buckles • Webbing
Cord & Accessories
Seam Sealants
Waterproofing Products
Patterns & Zips

sales@pennineoutdoor.co.uk • 015242 63377

www.pennineoutdoor.co.uk

Caffle Crafts 01934 838327

..STOP PRESS...STOP PRESS..

Jane and Family at Caffle Crafts are now open Tuesday-Saturday 10-4

Family run Brother embroidery and sewing machine sales with extensive and exclusive after sales support.

2 Miles from J21 M5
BS24 6SE

www.cafflecrafts.co.uk
tina@caffle.co.uk

Stockists of huge range of patchwork fabrics and tools, use code QN1000 for 10% off your first order!

www.pelennapatchworks.co.uk
01639 898444

Sewing Subscription Boxes

Delivered monthly to your door

Beautifully curated boxes full of dreamy dressmaking and craft fabrics, haberdashery supplies and unique sewing gifts

www.sewhayleyjane.com

From **£20** a month

We are an independent online fabric store and stockists of quality quilting fabrics from brands such as Art Gallery Fabrics, Timeless Treasures, Craft Cotton Company, Makower and many more.

www.cornflowercrafts.co.uk
www.facebook.com/cornflowercraftscouk
Instagram: cornflowercraftscouk

Temptations Craft Boutique

An Aladdin's cave full of fabrics including Cotton Poplins, Linens, Wool Tweeds & Polyesters
100% Cottons for Patchwork and Quilting
Knitting yarn and haberdashery
Courses and workshops
Agents for Brother Sewing Machines

Visit our shop or buy safely online
31 Main Street, Bentham, North Yorkshire, LA2 7HQ
Tel: 015242 61868
www.temptationsbentham.co.uk
For shop opening times please see our website

love Sewing

THE UK'S NO.1 SEWING MAGAZINE

To advertise please contact
Noune on 0161 474 6997
or email noune.sarkissian@practicalpublishing.co.uk

Floral fix

TABLE RUNNER

Enjoy the summer all year round with this tropical table runner

Project **KATY JONES**

Shopping list

All fabric used is from the Fruity Friends collection by Makower UK. Discover the range at www.makoweruk.com

MATERIALS & TOOLS:

- 0.25m flamingos
- 0.25m stripe fabric
- 0.25m floral fabric
- 62x18" piece lightweight quilt wadding
- 62x18" piece backing fabric

CUTTING:

- cut 10 4" squares from flamingo fabric
- cut 18 4" squares from stripe fabric
- cut 26 4" squares from floral fabric

NOTES:

Finished size: 58x14"

Use a ¼" seam allowance throughout unless otherwise stated

HOW TO MAKE:

- 1 Refer to the full photo of the finished runner and lay out your squares in the same order.
- 2 Once laid out, stack and label each row and sew the rows together in order, placing them back in row order as you go.
- 3 Sew the rows together in order, referring to the finished runner photo.
- 4 Once all the rows are sewn together, press. Lay the patchwork onto the wadding

and pin well using quilter's safety pins or a basting spray. Quilt following the seams in a grid.

- 5 Trim off the excess wadding carefully. Lay the quilted runner face down onto the backing fabric. Pin around the perimeter.
- 6 **Note:** Using safety pins at this stage makes things easier: you won't get stabbed by pins!
- 7 Leave a hand's width gap for turning on one of the end edges and sew around the perimeter of the runner. Back-stitch at the start and end of the stitching.
- 8 Carefully trim the backing



Top tip!
Labelling your rows will help keep the fabric in the right direction, and ensure none of your flamingos or stripes are upside down

fabric off and clip the corners to help make the edges pointy. Turn through the opening and poke the corners out with a turning tool. This step may need some wiggling and easing. Once turned through, press with a hot iron and steam to help the runner lay flat.

- 9 Sew the opening closed and top-stitch around the edge of the runner with a ⅛" seam allowance.

Next month in
love
Sewing
THE UK'S NO.1 SEWING MAGAZINE

Sizes
6-22

2 TREATS

FOR YOU

worth over £20



McCall's 6654

9 stylish skirts

Threadcount 2004

Stylish shift dresses

Inspiring articles, projects
and guides:

- ♥ *Sewing Bee's Juliet* on sewing with Ankara wax
- ♥ *Trouser tips* for perfect palazzo pants
- ♥ *Make your own pattern weights*
- ♥ *Linen dungarees step-by-step guide*
- ♥ *Slamdunk sewing with scuba*

Plus much more!

See
page 28
for our
subscriber
offer



ISSUE 80 ON SALE 16TH APR 2020

SUPER SKIRTS

Sizes 6-22



SEWING BEE...
Exciting news ahoy!



DREAMY DUNGERS
Linen dungarees



SEWING ROOM
Accessories

*Expert guidance from **Wendy Gardiner** • Clever tutorials from **Elisalex de Castro Peake**
Couture masterclass with **Alison Smith MBE** • Top techniques from **Claire-Louise Hardie***



This month I'm making

MONETA DRESS

This month, Hita shares her super stylish version of the Moneta dress by Collette Patterns. Follow her at www.saturdaynightstitch.com

At the moment I am going through a dark floral phase and I'm loving it! This viscose jersey from Minerva is a stretch-jersey with an array of blossoming flowers that caught my eye.

The print is quite big and on this occasion I did not pattern match. I would say that if you wanted to pattern match across the seams then it would be a great idea to buy at least an extra yard more than the recommended fabric yardage on your sewing pattern.

The quality is outstanding. The viscose jersey has a lovely drape that feels quite smooth to the touch. It is a dual stretch jersey that can be stretched both ways but has more stretch across the fabric i.e. on the cross grain.

The Moneta dress by Colette Patterns was one of the first knit dresses that I sewed up with knits. Since that fledgling day in 2014, I now have nine Moneta dresses!

The Moneta pattern comes in three versions. All three versions have a gently curved, wide neckline, a fitted bodice that nips in at the waist, and a shirred skirt that adds volume. The best part is that it has in-seam pockets. I love and need pockets on my garments.



Viscose jersey knit fabric, £14.99 per metre, www.minervacrafts.com

I sewed Version 2 with the short sleeves. I cut out a size small with a broad shoulder adjustment of 1½". This is a normal adjustment for me on Colette patterns. The sizing and fit are just right for the pictures that you see on the Colette site.

My pattern is a PDF one, which I had no problem putting together. This pattern has been around for a while now so there are many inspiration images you can look at for ideas. I sewed a neckband on the neck to finish it. This was an experiment that paid off in my opinion. It doesn't look as neat and perfect but that's okay. The print hides that imperfection well.

It is a comfortable and stylish dress to wear. I love the swishy hem that is especially delightful with heels. A win!

Until next time lovely people –

Hila



Hila says...

It is a comfortable and stylish dress to wear. I love the swishy hem that is especially delightful with heels



THE MINERVA BLOGGER NETWORK

The Minerva Blogger Network is a collection of amazing sewing and craft bloggers from across the world. Every month each blogger creates a unique kit from the thousands of gorgeous fabric and notions available at Minerva Crafts. They wow us with their makes every month by blogging a project made with their kit on the network. There are new projects going live daily to inspire and educate sewists of all levels and abilities. Each blogger's unique kit is available to buy at www.minervacrafts.com

store
away

watersmeet edition

Designed and manufactured in the UK. The Storeaway Watersmeet Edition is designed with sewing in mind. It features:

Large work area for fabric

Over 40 quality storage containers

Integrated daylight twin LED lighting

Integrated thread rack storage

Sewing machine/Overlocker Storage

Folds to a compact storage cupboard



Beadboard Oak finish

Ready to make your crafting life easier and tidy all your crafting supplies away?

1. Check the Storeaway Watersmeet Edition will fit - It measures 188cm high, 95cm wide and 65cm deep when closed, 188cm high, 189cm wide and 155cm deep when open with desks in use.

2. Choose the finish you require



3. Choose the door style you require - Beadboard, Raised Panel or Plain

4. Visit our website www.storage4crafts.co.uk or call us on 0800 048 8606 to order

5. Your unit will arrive in approx. 6 weeks - With our white glove service we will deliver, assemble your unit in the room of your choice and remove all the packaging.

Order now from Love Sewing and use discount code **LOVE77** to **SAVE £520** off the regular price of the Storeaway Watersmeet Edition
Regular Price £2,370 - Love Sewing price £1,850



Raised Panel,
Natural Oak finish

visit us online at www.storage4crafts.co.uk or call us free on **0800 048 8606**

Prices correct at 1st January 2020 - Prices quoted include the Storeaway Watersmeet Edition, Storage containers, white glove delivery & assembly service in your home and VAT.

White glove assembly service available to mainland UK only - This item can be delivered flatpacked to offshore UK and throughout Europe please enquire for prices



M200QDC



AT2000D



230DC

The world's leading sewing machine manufacturer since 1921

JANOME
janome.co.uk