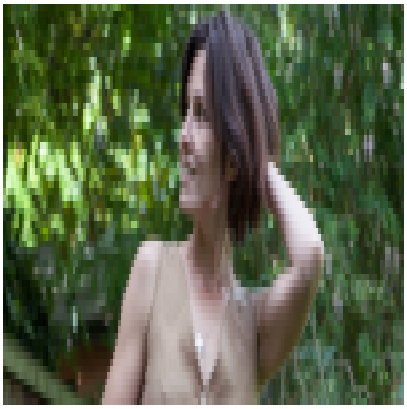


Reversible Button-Down Dress Tutorial

Description



This comfy summer dress is cut from our beautiful medium weight GINGER Softened linen and features contrasting buttons for a touch of originality and two side pockets for comfort. The fit is relaxed with some extra space around the hips and below-the-knee length. But the coolest thing about this dress is that the front and the back are reversible and it can be worn two ways: as a simple round neck or a button-down V-neck.

Materials



2 yards of IL019 GINGER Softened

Matching sewing thread, fusible interfacing (medium weight), 9-10 small buttons

Tools



Pattern paper, scissors, fabric marker, pins, ruler, fusible interfacing, seam ripper, chalk, needle, buttonhole foot, 12mm bias tape maker, sewing machine

Time

4-5 hours

Difficulty

Intermediate

Pattern

You can access the dress pattern by following this link HERE and the printable pocket pattern can be found HERE. Remember to add seam allowances as indicated in the pattern.

Note that youâ??ll also need to cut three 1â?³ (2.5 cm) large strips of fabric on the bias in order to make the bias tape for the neckline and the armholes. For detailed instructions on how to cut your bias tape please follow this tutorial.

The diagram shows the pattern for US size 6-8 (UK size 10-12). If you need help grading your pattern, please follow this tutorial.

Steps

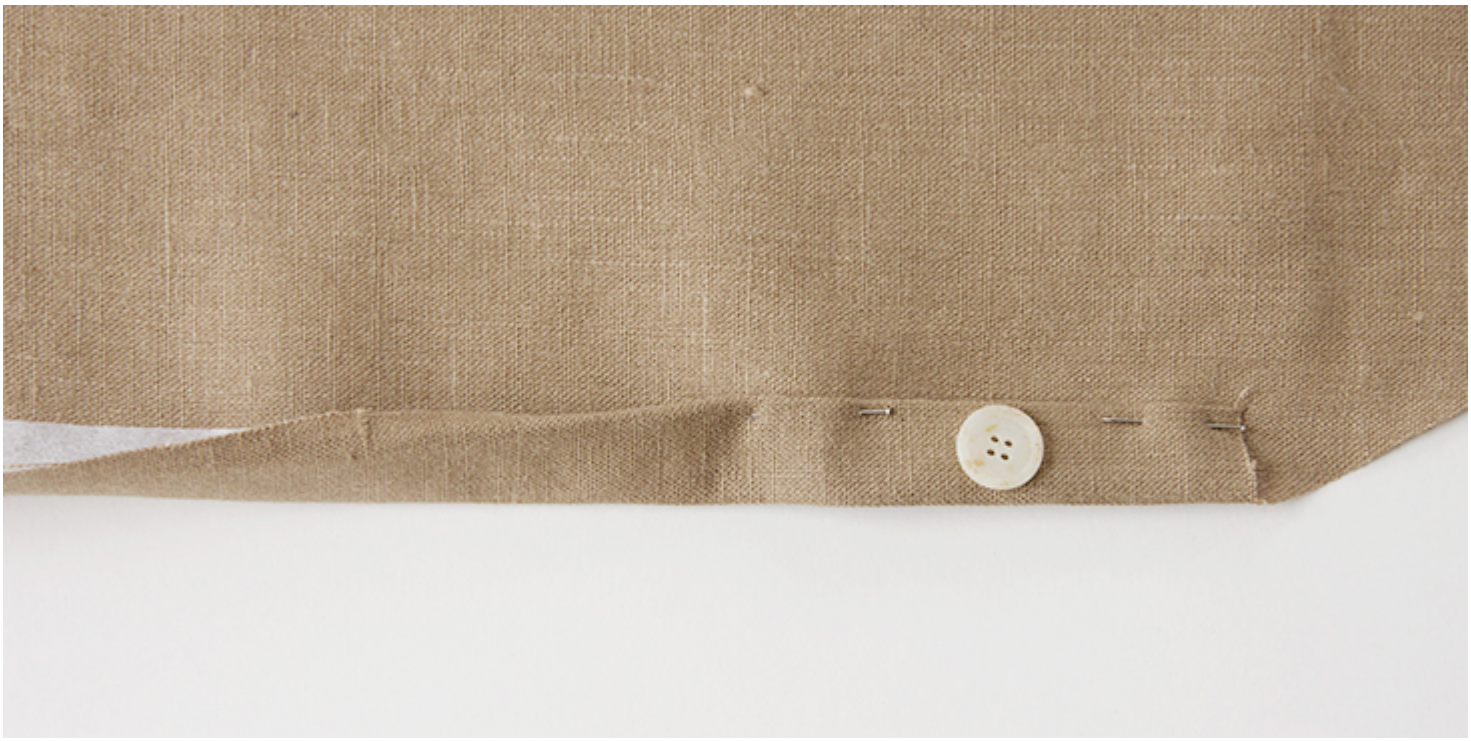
Note: Prewash your fabric and tumble dry it until it is still slightly moist. Iron the fabric so it is easier to work with.

1. Letâ??s start with the button bands. First, youâ??ll need to apply fusible interfacing (1.5â?³ wide x length of the front opening) to the wrong sides of your V-neck pieces.



2. Then fold the interfaced edges 3/8â?• (1 cm) to the wrong side and press. Take one of your buttons and use it as a guide to determine the width of the

second fold (it should be slightly wider than the button). Press again and pin.



3. Stitch the band as close to the inner edge as possible (remember to backstitch at both ends). Press the finished button bands to ensure the fabric sits flat.



4. Pin your shoulder seams right sides together and sew (remember to backstitch at the beginning and end).





5. Serge or zigzag two raw edges together to prevent the fabric from fraying.



6. Press the seams flat folding the serged/zigzagged edge towards the V-neck panels.



7. Make your bias tape following our detailed tutorial HERE. Youâ??ll need 3 strips of bias tape: one for the neckline and two for the armholes.

8. Working from the right side, pin the bias tape around the entire neck opening right sides together.



9. Stitch around the neckline in the inner crease of the binding.



10. Turn the dress inside out and press the binding away from the dress.

11. Turn the binding to the other side of the neckline. Press and pin it in place encasing all the raw edges in the binding. As for the ends, trim the corner seam allowance and tuck it in and under the band to create a neat diagonal fold.



12. Stitch the band in place as closely to the inner edge as possible.



Now itâ??s time to sew and attach the side pockets.

13. Pin the pocket panels right sides together to create two side pockets.



14. Stitch along the pinned edge but leave 3/8â?³Â• (1 cm) on both ends unstitched. That will make it easier to pin the pockets onto the bodice panels.



15. Serge or zigzag outside the stitched line leaving both ends untouched.

16. Try your dress on and decide where you want your pockets to sit. Make a mark with a piece of chalk or a pin. Measure the distance from the armhole to the mark and use it for the other pocket/panel. Make a new mark on the other side.

17. With the wrong side of the V-neck panel facing you and the pocketâ??s wrong sides facing outwards, take the top pocket panel and match it to the mark youâ??ve made. Pin the top pocket panel to the dress panel making sure the bottom panel of the pocket is not caught. Repeat for the second pocket. Make sure your pockets are facing the right way: the rounded edge should be looking down towards the bottom edge of your dress.



18. Sew the pinned edges together (only the pocket) at a 3/8 in (1cm) seam allowance backstitching at both ends.





19. Serge or zigzag the two raw edges together a little past the pocket opening.



20. Pin the side seams of the dress right sides together. When you come to the pocket, pin the other pocket panel to the other dress panel.



21. Stitch the second pocket panel to the bodice and serge/zigzag the seam allowances together.



22. Now sew the side seams together up to the pocket opening and then from the other end of the opening down to the bottom hem of the dress.

Remember to backstitch. Zigzag/serge the edges together.



23. Press the seam flat folding the serged/zigzagged edge towards the V-neck panel and carefully pressing the pocket seams to create two neat folds.



24. Following the same steps as for the neckline, attach the bias tape to the armholes. The only difference is that youâ??ll need to sew two ends of the bias tape together to create a continuous piece of bias band to the exact armhole opening.





Hereâ??s what your finished armholes should look like:



25. Finish the bottom hem by folding the fabric twice (3/8â?³Â• to 1/2â?³) to the wrong side. Make sure both V-neck panels are aligned. Press and pin.



26. Stitch as close to the inner edge as possible. Give the entire hem a good press.



27. The last steps are to sew buttonholes and attach the buttons. Start by making your buttonholes following this tutorial HERE. The number and the spacing are really up to you. If you want your buttons closer, just leave smaller gaps between them. We decided to space our buttons 2,5â?³Â• (6 cm) apart.



28. Overlap theV-neck panels and place a pin into the center of each buttonhole. This is where youâ??ll need to attach the button. Hereâ??s a very easy tutorial on how to attach the buttons.



Give your dress a good press and youâ??re done! Now you have a versatile dress that is great for every day wear!

If you prefer to have something lighter or cosier looking for the summer months, you can also check out our lighter linen selection and the brighter colors!

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