

Dopamine Sewing: Self-Draft Your Dress and Embrace Imperfections

Description

Romy top hacked into a dress made with FS All-purpose Tangelo Fs Signature

When I saw this eye-popping Tangelo linen on Kelsey, it was love at first sight. My dopamine levels skyrocketed. Bright, bold, and unapologetic- this fabric screamed, â??Sew Me!â?• I planned on making the Romy Top from Tessuti Fabrics into a dress with itty bitty straps, square necklines, and a chic straight-lined skirt.

I am not much of a toile-r in this season of sewing- itâ??s been too busy to work through adjustments or drafting. But, I needed to do this linen justice. I quickly worked through the bodice adjustments and dived into my first simple dress by extending the hemline and adding a front slit for mobility.



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Something wasnâ??t right. The dress feltâ?¦plain. Not that plain is bad! It just didnâ??t live up to the gorgeous color and soft texture of the linen that I would eventually use.

Back to the drawing board.

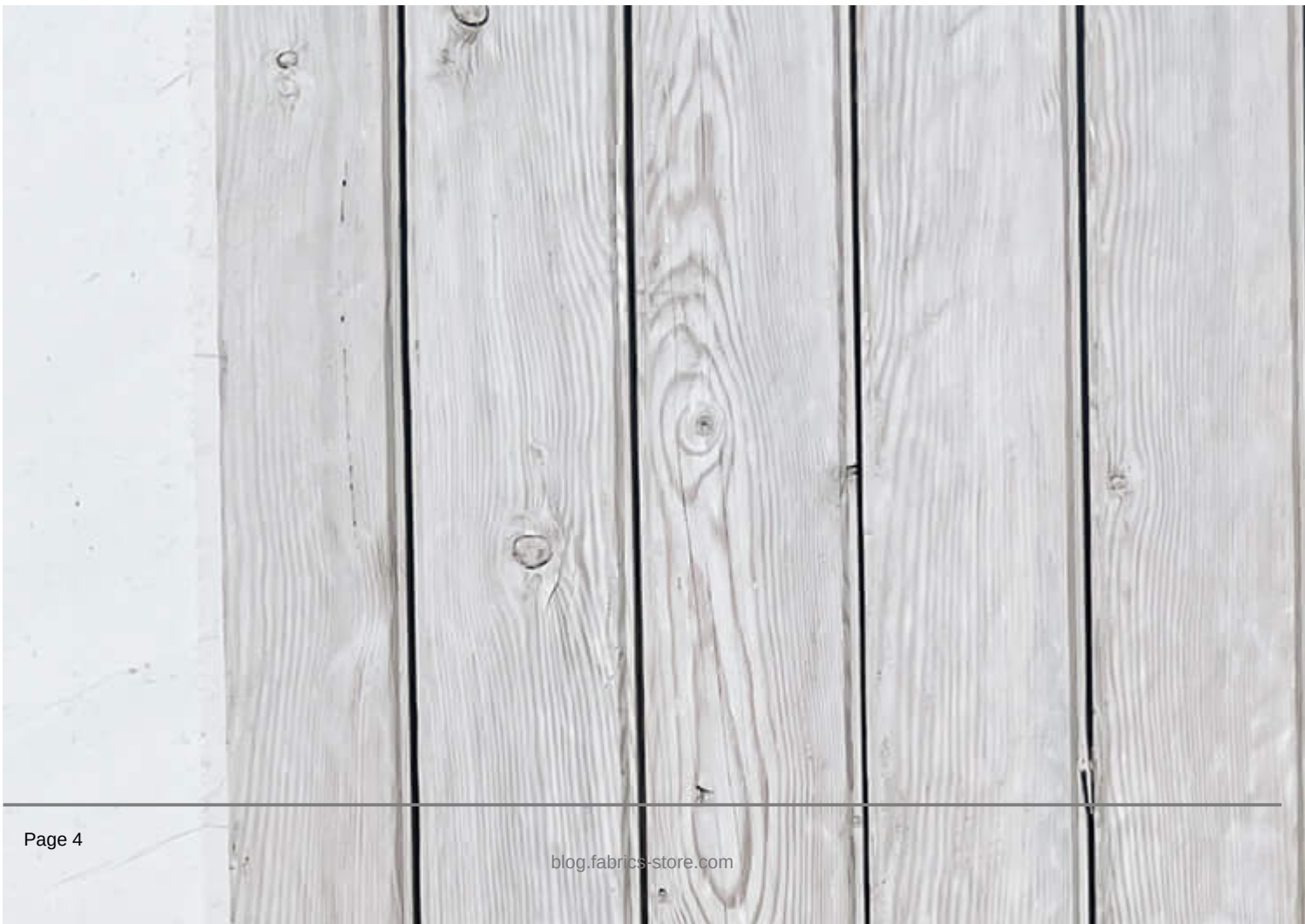
I have been an artist for most of my life and have always kept a sketchbook. Sewing is no different! I use my sketchbook for mini drawings and to track my projects, sizing, modifications- everything I can to help me stay organized.



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I sketched variations of the skirt and looked to several friends for advice, to solidify a foundation to support the bold Tangelo colored linen. After five toiles, I worked out the design, construction, and teeny adjustments needed. The final dress has a curved waist seam, front middle slit and two skirt panels- a straight hem and a full panel of 1â?• knife pleats (using this tutorial from FS). I could already see myself strutting down the street and causing a mini fashion revolution with my sartorial genius. (Itâ??s not called aspirational sewing for nothing!)

The all-purpose 5.3 oz linen from FS is my favorite to use. There are so many color options, and its weight is versatile for pants, blouses and dresses! After pre-washing, I had my fresh rotary blade, sharpened chalk, and new machine needles to start working! The transfer of my vision to the linen felt controlled (granted, I had made 5 versions prior, so a little muscle memory helped). The pleats stayed crisp in the linen and I was on cloud nine seeing them come together.



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Dopamine sewing is a rollercoaster â?? with both highs and lows. Emphasis on the lows. I once again, got a little caught up in my frenzy and skipped the interfacing. We all know the ending to this storyâ?¦When I tried on the dress, it was like the seams grew before my eyes. *(Insert crying emoji here.)*

However, I couldnâ??t let a few extra centimeters get in the way- I had a photoshoot to go to!! I ultimately turned the dress around and wore the back as the front. Genius, right?

I constantly need to embrace the imperfections and roll with the punches. Sure, I may have forgotten to reinforce my fabric, and my dress might have ended up 1-2 sizes too big, but that didnâ??t stop me from owning it (luckily, I know a gal who can alter it *wink*).

If you find yourself in a sewing pickle, remember to laugh it off, flip it around, and embrace the adventure and share your stories!

CATEGORY

1. COMMUNITY
2. DOPAMINE SEWING

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