How to Power Through Doubt and Make Yourself a Pair of Self-Drafted Airy- Crisp Poplin Skirt-Pants

Description

Self-Drafted Skirt-Pants made with FS Optic White Poplin Cotton

As a pre-teen, I would cut out images from fashion magazines and create new outfits in a notebook. I made sure they were complete looks; shoes, accessories, you name it. Glowing, I would brag about how I could make better outfits than the fashion editors did.

Fashion evolved into painting, then into graphic design, which brings me to where I am now- garment sewing. Sewing allowed me to tap into my pre-teen excitement and start to play paper dolls, but this time IRL.

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I wouldnâ??t call myself a fashion designer, but having â??studiedâ?• fashion (looked at it, surrounded myself with it, felt it, etc) I think that I have an eye for some things, specifically structure and form.

I talked briefly about self-drafting a dress this summer (ICYMI, you can read about it here!). I told myself I was not going to journey into â??designerâ?•, but I would lie if I didnâ??t find it thrilling when my creative brain CLICKED.

I have been sewing with mostly cotton poplin this season. It is crisp, and easy to sew. It is also the perfect companion to structure and form. Ohâ?¦and pants exploration, so I gathered my White Cotton Poplin to make pants that had volume and drape- like a skirtâ?¦but pantsâ?¦.equally inspired by structure and juxtapositions of sporty details on classic styles- I decided to self-draft myself.

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Insane? A bit.

Where would I start? I have never done this before! What if I mess up? What if this is stupid? At a ~~certain~~ **many** points, I felt defeated in my lack of knowledge. I have sewn a lot, but rarely starting from nothing.

I brainstormed with basics: a front and back crotch curve that fit me. A preferred rise measurement and inseam length. And lots of fabric.

Luckily, I had a crotch curve that I had created from multiple pattern modifications that I used as a template for most of my pants- so I started there. I sketched on my preferred rise (plus about 1â?• extra, just in case), and this is where I absolutely took a risk: I guessed at the width of each of my pant panels and drew a side seam.

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When I say â??sketchedâ?• and â??drewâ?• I am referring to taking my chalk pencil and drawing directly onto the white poplin.

Like many artists- the first line is the hardest. The amount of time I spent avoiding that first chalk line was hours wastedâ?¦if I had just taken the risk to go for itâ?¦

Cutting out the fabric made it real. But it took the scariest bit away. From there, my pattern knowledge kicked in and I was able to sew up the seams, add a waistband, and cut my elastic cording to a length that I guessed. Thank you to friends who helped me work through random construction details, like my double toggles and attaching the cording to my pants!

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The journey to â??hereâ?•, to my skirt-pants. Culottes. Cropped palazzos. Whatever you want to call them. The journey was very short in comparison to how much I stalled.

Gosh. I wish I had more to tell you but my word count is up. Here are my self-drafted, rationale-defying skirt-pants in a white cotton poplin.

CATEGORY

1. COMMUNITY
2. FABRIC REVIEWS

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