



Diary Of A Novice Sewist: Patchwork Dress

Description



IL020 SILVER LILAC Softened and striped cotton fabric. Photo: Karoline Frank

Just in time before the summer is over I made my new absolutely favorite summer dress. A few weeks ago I managed to have a whole weekend off. No work, no baby, nothing. Just me – getting up whenever I want, staying up late, watching trash TV and sewing until my machine starts to smoke – metaphorically speaking. All of that with ordered food and voilà – that's my perfect me- time.

So – my fabric was washed, the pattern printed and cut out – I even had some new blades for my roll cutter (who am I??)!



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I started with the stars. I remembered which size I made them the last time for my blouse (which I wrote about [here](#)) and knew that I wanted them to be bigger this time. So I cut the fabric (like butter – I always forget how extremely nice it is to cut with fresh and sharp blades) and sewed the first pieces together. Turns out – adding 5 cm to every quarter doesn't make the stars "a bit" bigger. To be a bit more clear – those were some big a** stars. Not exactly what I was planning to end up with, but I loooooooved them! I ended up changing the whole plan for the dress again. And to be completely honest – I love when my projects develop and grow. To start something and allow yourself to change direction isn't always easy but always feels so liberating to me.



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So let's talk about the process:

My original plan was to sew that extremely gorgeous new pattern by Flora Child. It's her first pattern for adults but she is one of the best go-to for kids pattern wear. The dress is short and has long flowy sleeves with a loose neckline. You can also use the pattern for a blouse. Super cute. (There is even a version for children as well, so HELLO cute Mini-Me outfits!)



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The stars should be unevenly spread across the dress with an uni-colored background. And now you can probably see the problem. How could I spread these stars if one star alone took up nearly the same length as the whole dress? ...yeah... that was not going to work.

So I thought I'll just sew the whole dress out of these big stars. BUT – not so fast. One star wouldn't have been big enough for the whole front/back, two would have been too big and wouldn't have had enough fabric for the sleeves. So I ended up on Pinterest – and that's where I came across a dress I saved last year. It's a dress by [La Reunion](#) and it looks completely different from the dress I ended up sewing. But it's the same vibe and it just inspired me to sew my dress the way I did.



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In the end, I used the top part of the [Chloe Maxi Dress by Makyla Creates](#) and added 4 stars gathered as the skirt. And I'm so proud of how it turned out. I really enjoyed this whole journey and I LOVE the way the dress looks and flows.

So as cheesy as it might sound – don't forget to just go with the flow from time to time!

Bussi Sophie

PS: I used [IL020 CORAL Softened](#) / [IL019 IRIS Softened](#) / [IL020 SILVER LILAC Softened](#). The striped fabric is deadstock and from my stash. It's 100% cotton and not from fabrics-store – but it fit so perfectly with the other colors so I used it.

PPS: All photos are analog by my talented "little" sister Karoline Frank

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