

MAKERS MANUAL #42

Dharma Taylor

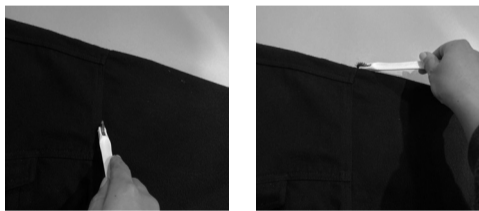


INTRODUCTION

This manual provides an easy way to create a simple wearable collarless-style jacket and is an introduction to garment construction. The purpose of this manual is to gain an understanding of pattern cutting without it feeling overwhelming. You will be joining your pattern pieces together without using a sewing machine. You can be as imaginative as you like in what you use to join your pieces together. Once you have followed these basic steps you can use your pattern pieces to make a jacket out of any material you like! Think about cutting pattern pieces out of an old rug or lino; the possibilities are endless.

STEP 1

Lay out your jacket on a large sheet of paper and using your tracing wheel and/or pencil start tracing the outline onto the paper. Trace the sleeves, the jacket front and jacket back. (When creating pattern pieces you only ever need half of the jacket i.e. 1 sleeve, 1 front, as everything is duplicated and symmetrical).



STEP 2

Now that you have traced around the sleeve, front and back of the jacket – cut your paper or card pattern pieces out.



STEP 3

Lay your pattern pieces onto your material of choice and draw around each pattern piece. Note that your sleeve pattern will be half what you need. For the sleeve, it is important you fold your material in half before cutting, lining the sleeve pattern's straight edge with the material folded edge. Once this has been cut out it will open up into a full sleeve.

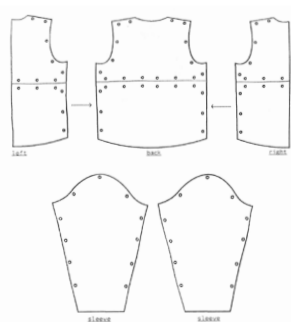
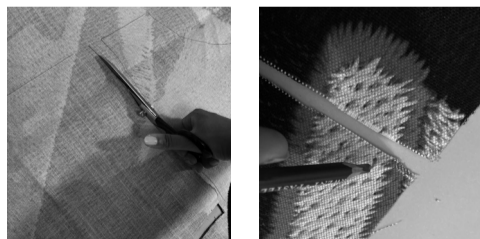
STEP 4

Cut around the outlines you drew onto the material using sharp fabric scissors.



STEP 5

To create your joining holes lay out the jacket pieces and begin marking with a pencil points that are incrementally 5cm apart. Make sure that the points marked at the pattern edges are 2cm, this is the seam allowance. It is important to keep your two sleeve's material folded in half and create your markings on the cut edge, not the folder edge.



STEP 6

Use your Prym hole punch to create holes in your material on the points you marked, making sure each marking matches



LIST OF THINGS

MATERIALS

- Scrap material to make the jacket from (could be an unlikely material such as an old rug, lino or an old duvet cover)
- Large sheet of paper or card to trace to pattern on to
- A basic denim style jacket to trace around the sleeves, and body
- Leather string or rope or anything else to join pattern pieces together (you could even use zip ties)

TOOLS

- Fabric Scissors
- Tracing wheel
- Ruler
- Prym fabric hole punch (alternative tools to Prym fabric hole punch: a regular hole punch will work if it hasn't punched holes in a lot of paper as paper blunts the tool)
- A big/thick needle and thread
- Strong gaffa-tape (you can use different colours) to attach the pattern pieces together

up with your joining pattern piece. You can refer back to the jacket you used to trace as a guide for where each piece will join. Remember to keep the sleeves folded in half and punch through the double layer of folded material as this will save time and create accuracy when closing the seam. Alternatively you can use a hole punch to create holes. You can then experiment with different joining techniques whether that is zip ties or cord.



STEP 7

As soon as all your holes have been created, start using the joining tool of your choice (in this case we're using leather string) to connect the pieces together. Start with connecting the yolk (which is another name for the top half you see on denim jackets) to the bottom half.

STEP 8

Join the side seams of the jacket together using the leather string. It makes it easier to lay the back piece flat in the middle of a large surface with the two front halves either side of the back. Think about these pieces wrapping around a body once joined together.



BIO OF THE DESIGNER

Dharma Taylor is a multidisciplinary designer and maker based in Hertfordshire with roots in menswear and textiles. Her work has changed over time moving from menswear to furniture and large-scale textiles for the home. Her respect for materiality and application is reflected in her cross-disciplinary approach.

FURTHER READING

- Text on Textile, Isabela Ducrot
- Pattern Cutting in Menswear, Gareth Kershaw
- Why Materials Matter, Seetal Solanki

Makers Manual is a collaborative project between exciting makers and STORE STORE. This is a collection of manuals encouraging people to make objects from what is around them. These manuals are both a practical guide to making for beginners and experts, and a journey into the designers' practice. You can share your creations using #makersmanual.

This project is supported by G.F Smith.

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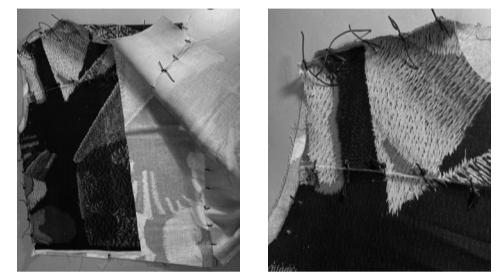
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STEP 9

Turn your jacket around so that the back that has been facing you faces away from you and you see the inside of your jacket.

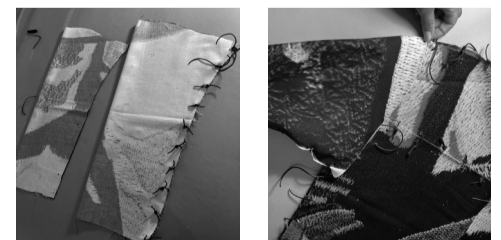
STEP 10

Join the shoulder seams together. You have now created arm holes!



STEP 11

Join your two sleeves to each arm hole noting there is no left or right sleeve (similar to socks). In my case my sleeves were inside to hide the joins, so I am now turning my sleeves the correct way. You may prefer to have the leather string showing on your sleeve seams. When joining sleeve shoulders to arm holes; it helps to start at the top and work your way around the armhole.



STEP 12

For the fastening of the jacket you may want to consider a different joining method, something that can be undone easily. This jacket doesn't include pockets or a collar, but you may want to create a simple pocket bag and pocket flap to include in your piece. When your jacket is complete you can embellish the surface in any way you want to create endless designs.

