AUSSEW Along

Couture Cardigan Jacket - Part 6

Lining seams

By now you will have worked out you cannot sew the lining seams by machine. You guessed it - time to do some hand-sewing. There are two methods of sewing these seams. Both will be explained here. You can choose the one you prefer or use a combination of both.

Before you begin, trim the seam allowances of the fashion fabric for all stitched seams to about 1 inch (2.5 cm) wide. The wider seam allowances means the garment will drape better.

METHOD ONE

1. Fold the lining seam allowance under. Match the folded edge to the jacket seamline and pin in place.

2. Baste the folded edge, taking care not to stitch it to the jacket seam allowance.

3. Fold under the remaining seam allowance in the same manner. The two folded edges are butted together. Baste the folded edge, as per Step 2.

4. Slipstitch the two folded edges together, using thread that matches the lining.

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METHOD TWO

This method is a lapped seam.

1. Smooth one lining piece over the jacket seam allownace. In this illustration, the jacket front lining is smoothed over the seam that attaches the jacket front to the side front. Trim the lining if necessary.

Sew the lining to the seam allowance with running stitches. Here a contrasting thead has been used so you can see it more easily. You will use a thread that matches your lining.

2. Turn under the remaining seam allowance. Match the folded edge to the jacket seamline and pin in place. Use fell stitches to sew the lining in place.

Choose your preferred method and stitch the following lining seams:

- Jacket front to jacket side front
- Jacket centre back seam
- Jacket side to jacket back

IMPORTANT Be careful to avoid stitching the lining to the jacket seam allowance at the hemline and also at armscye edges. Further along the seam it is OK if the stitches catch the seam allowance

Now join the two assembled front pieces to the assembled jacket back and side pieces. Finish the corresponding lining seams.

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