



LEARN & CREATE

with Baby Lock



EASY THROW-ON TOP



Quickly serge a cute new knit top you can throw on to run some errands or wear to dinner!

Created by: *Stephanie Struckmann*, [Totally Stitchin'](#) Blogger

Skill Level: Beginner

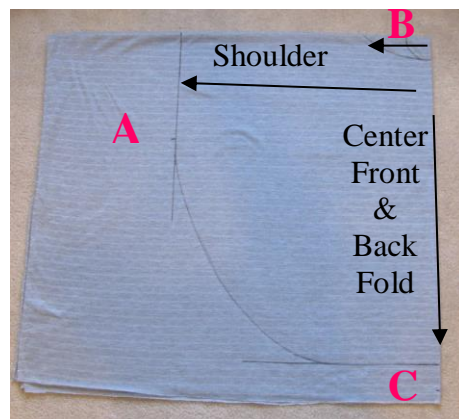
Supplies:

- Baby Lock® serger
- Baby Lock® sewing machine
- 3 Spools Madeira® Aerolock serger thread to match fabrics
- Madeira® Aerofil all-purpose sewing thread to match fabrics
- 60" Wide lightweight knit (see step 1 for how much yardage)
- T-shirt (to take measurements from)

Instructions:

1. To find out how much fabric you need, stretch your arms straight out to the side (to form the letter "T") and have someone measure you from elbow to elbow. That will be the width of the shirt and the amount of fabric you'll need if you are cutting the shirt width parallel with the lengthwise grain of

- the fabric. (However, if you are cutting with the width because of a directional fabric, you'll need about 60" of fabric).
2. Fold your fabric widthwise (selvage to selvage). Then, fold it again lengthwise (raw edge to raw edge). Your fabric should be folded into fourths at this point.
 3. Take that elbow-to-elbow length + 1" and divide that number by 2. Take that measurement and measure from the center fold out to that measurement and draw a line at a 90° angle from the shoulder seam (see line "A" in the image below).
 4. For the neckline, measure the width of the neck opening on a store-bought T-shirt. Take half of that measurement and draw a little fourth circle from the center out (this just gives you something to start with). Shape your neckline as desired(see line "B"). Start small; you can always cut larger.
 5. Then, measure on your body from your neckline to where you'd want the hem to lay. Draw a line on your fabric 90° from the center front/back fold where you want the hem (see line "C"). Mark it longer than you measured; you can always shorten. Then, connect the 2 lines with a curve. You have to estimate where you stop and start your curve, but you can alter it in the next step.

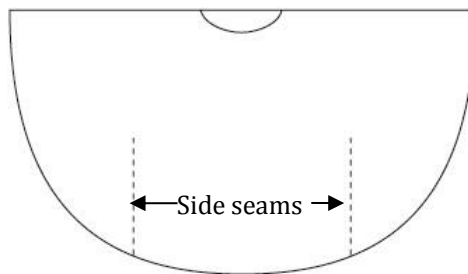


6. Cut out the neckline and hemline. Gently, try on your top (try not to stretch out the neck). Decide if you need to taper or shape it. You can pin where your side seams would be to get a better idea of the drape (see step 7). You can also alter the neckline to how you desire. (I ended up changing the front neckline to a V-shape. In this case, you'd open the blouse and cut on the fold, only on the front side of the neckline.) The diagram below gives you an idea about where the side seams will be after stitching (in step 7).



There was too much drape here when tried on.

7. Once you have your shape figured out, thread your serger and set it for a 3-thread narrow rolled hem with a .75 stitch length and a pretty narrow width. Serge around the entire outer oval to finish this edge. If this is new for you, practice on some extra fabric to get comfortable!
8. Then, set your serger to a 3-thread overlock narrow stitch (but set the width as wide as it will go) and carefully serge your neckline. Open up any tight curves or points as you're serging to catch all edges. Press and/or pin the serged edge under to the inside of the shirt and topstitch down with a smaller knit needle in your sewing machine.
9. Lastly, try it on again and pin where you want your side seams to be and how high. Mark that line, baste a stitch line and adjust the length and location of your side seams as needed. When you find the exact location of the seam you want, stitch it down with a 2.5 stitch length.



For other exciting projects like this one, visit us at www.nationalsergermonth.org, www.babylock.com or www.totallystitchin.net.



©2016 Baby Lock USA. This project may be freely used by individuals for non-commercial purposes. Project instructions may not be sold or distributed without approval from Baby Lock. Baby Lock must be acknowledged as the source of the project instructions through copyright or online link.