

Back-to-School

SEW-ALONG



JANOME

Reliability by Design

CLASSIC
Sewing
FOR EVERYDAY & SPECIAL OCCASIONS

LESSON 1:
Supplies,
Pattern Preparation
and Cutting

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SUPPLIES

2¼ yards of plaid fabric (56/60" wide) This includes ¼ yard extra for matching plaids.
½ yard of white fabric (43/45" or 56/60" wide)
2½ yards of red pre-made baby piping or 2¾ yards of baby piping cord and a 13½" x 30" block of red fabric
½ yard of baby interfacing (56/60" wide)
Three ¼" red buttons (optional for front)
Eight ⅝" red or grey buttons (Seven for size 4) for back closure
Construction threads to blend with fabrics
Lightweight tear-away stabilizer, such as Sulky Tear Easy
Terrial Magic (preferred) or spray starch
Small rotary cutter
Ten Sisters piping trimming ruler
Sewline Styla temporary fabric marker
Sewline glue pen
Hot Hemmer or Hot Ruler
Blue Line Eraser (optional)
SimFlex sewing gauge (optional)
Open-toe foot
Mini piping or zipper foot

Extra Machine Embroidery Supplies

40wt. embroidery thread in red, green and grey (or other colors to match your fabrics). Sample used Sulky 40wt. rayon embroidery thread in 561 Lipstick, 1177 Avocado and 1325 Whisper Gray
Embroidery bobbin thread
Sticky tear-away stabilizer, such as Sulky Sticky+ or Floriani Perfect Stick
5x7 or similar machine embroidery hoop. For the Janome Continental M17, I used the RE20d hoop. This allowed me to complete both collar embroideries in one hooping and all of the bodice embroideries in a second hooping for my size 4 dress.

Supply Notes

Fabric/trim kits and optional notions add-ons are available from thesewingcollection.com.
Plaid fabric and red and white broadcloth fabrics are from Fabric Finders, Inc.

PATTERN NOTES

Finished Garment Measurements

Size	4	6	8
Center Back Length	26"	28 ⁷ / ₈ "	32 ⁷ / ₈ "
Chest	26"	27 ¹ / ₂ "	30 ¹ / ₂ "

Body Measurements:

Size	4	6	8
Chest	22 ¹ / ₂ "	24"	27"
Shoulder Width	10 ³ / ₈ "	11 ¹ / ₈ "	11 ³ / ₄ "

PATTERN PREPARATION

1. Print and tape the pattern pieces together following the instructions on the pattern.
2. Trace your chosen size onto pattern tracing paper or tissue paper. When choosing your pattern material, ensure that you will be able to see the pattern of the plaid through it. Trace the front yoke as a full pattern by tracing the pattern piece, folding the paper on the fold line and cutting out a full pattern. If matching fabric prints, such as a plaid or stripe, also trace the lower front skirt as a full pattern.

CUTTING

From the plaid, cut the following:

See below for information about matching plaids prior to cutting your pieces.

- Two Center Backs
- Two Side Backs
- Two Side Fronts
- One Lower Front Skirt
- Four Sleeves
- Two Sashes, 3" x 22"
- One Neck Facing on the bias, 1⁵/₈" x 16" (this could also be cut from white fabric)

From the white fabric, cut the following:

- One block, 14" x 18" for the front yoke
- One Yoke Front for the lining
- Four blocks, 12" x 6" for the collars

From the red fabric, cut enough 1½" bias strips to create the following piping strips:

- One strip 32" for the yoke
- Two strips 17" for the collars
- Two strips 13" for the sleeves

From the baby interfacing, cut the following:

- One 12" x 14" rectangle for the front yoke
- Two 6" x 12" rectangles for the collars
- Two strips 1" x 36" for the back plackets

Lesson 1: Supplies, Pattern Preparation and Cutting

SEWING INFORMATION

1. All seams are sewn using a $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance, unless otherwise noted.
2. Finish all seams using a 3-thread narrow overlock on a serger or trim seam allowance to $\frac{1}{4}$ " and zigzag by sewing machine.

MATCHING PLAIDS WHILE CUTTING

1. Cut all pieces one at a time. Do not cut any pieces on the fold.
2. It is best to use a small rotary cutter rather than scissors to cut out all pieces so that you do not distort the plaid as you cut. I used an 18mm rotary cutter:
3. Start with the center backs and move around the dress from center back to center front. Cut the sleeves last.
4. Transfer all pattern markings, excluding the grainline, to all cut pieces as you go.

CUTTING THE CENTER BACKS

1. On a single layer of fabric, align the fold line of the back placket precisely along a vertical line of the plaid. Align the bottom of the pattern at the hem opposite the placket with a horizontal line on the plaid to make it easier to align the rest of the pattern pieces. Pin the pattern in place well.
2. Cut one center back. Use that center back to cut the second center back.
3. Turn the center back over on top of the single layer of fabric so that you are cutting an opposing center back. Align the plaid pattern of the first center back exactly with the plaid pattern on the single layer of fabric (photo 1).
4. Pin well and cut out the second center back. If you've aligned the plaids precisely, it will not be easy to see the cut edges of the first center back. You will need really good lighting.

CUTTING THE SIDE BACKS

1. To cut the side backs, align the hem edge on the side that will be attached to the center back with the same horizontal line of the plaid. This is easiest if you have the center back lying next to the pattern piece exactly matched to the plaid (photo 2).
 2. Align the grainline line on the pattern precisely with a vertical line of the plaid (photo 3).
 3. You can double check your placement by placing the center back on top of the side back pattern as if you were going to sew the two pieces together. The plaid should be an exact match on the skirt portion of each piece (see photo 5).
- NOTE: Because this dress is constructed using princess seams, the plaid patterns will not match at the top of the center and side backs.*
4. Pin the pattern in place well and cut the first side back.
 5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 of Cutting the Center Backs to cut the second side back.



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CUTTING THE SIDE FRONTS

1. To cut the side fronts, align the hem edge on the side that will be attached to the side back with the same horizontal line of the plaid. This is easiest if you have the side back lying next to the pattern piece exactly matched to the plaid (photo 4). It may be easier to match the plaid at the point of the hem fold rather than at the lower cut edge.
2. Align the grainline line on the pattern precisely with a vertical line of the plaid.
3. You can double check your placement by placing the side back on top of the side front pattern as if you were going to sew the two pieces together: The plaid should be an exact match on the skirt portion of each piece (photo 5).
4. Pin the pattern in place well and cut the first side back.
5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 of *Cutting the Center Backs* to cut the second side back.

CUTTING THE LOWER FRONT SKIRT

1. To cut the lower front skirt, align the hem edge on the side that will be attached to the side front with the same horizontal line of the plaid. This is easiest if you have the side front lying next to the pattern piece exactly matched to the plaid.
2. Align the opposite hem edge to the same horizontal line of the plaid and align the center front precisely parallel to a vertical line.
3. Pin the pattern in place well and cut the lower front skirt.

CUTTING THE SLEEVES

1. Align the front armhole edge of the sleeve pattern on the same plaid lines as the bottom of the armhole on the side front.
2. Pin the pattern in place well and cut one sleeve.
3. Flip the sleeve over and align the plaid just as with the other pieces. Cut the second sleeve.
4. Use both sleeves to cut the sleeve linings, aligning the plaids exactly.

CUTTING THE SASHES

Cut two rectangles 3" x 22" following the lines of the plaid. I didn't try to match the plaid pattern with the sides. If you wish to do so, cut the sashes right before you need them.

CUTTING THE NECK BIAS FACING

There is no need to match plaids with any other piece as this needs to be cut on the bias and it will not show when the finished garment is worn. It can also be cut from the white fabric if desired.

