



OPEN BACK TOP - CRAFTING

Created by Anna Erneborg

Sew a light and playful summer top that's perfect for warm days. This easygoing design ties together at the back with straps in a contrasting color—adding both function and a bold design detail. Decorate the front with sea-inspired heat transfer vinyl designs and the result will be uniquely yours. The project includes cut files for the top in size Small to XLarge.

CATEGORY:

- Sewing
- Crafting

SKILL LEVEL:

- Intermediate

MACHINE:

- Sewing Machine
- Serger (optional)
- Singer MOMENTO Craft Cutting Machine

TOOLS/ACCESSORIES:

- SINGER MOMENTO Fabric Grip Mat 24" x 24" and Rotary Blade
- SINGER MOMENTO Heat Removable Fabric Pen
- SINGER MOMENTO Standard Grip Mat and Basic Blade
- Brayer
- Iron and Ironing Board
- Ruler
- Chopstick

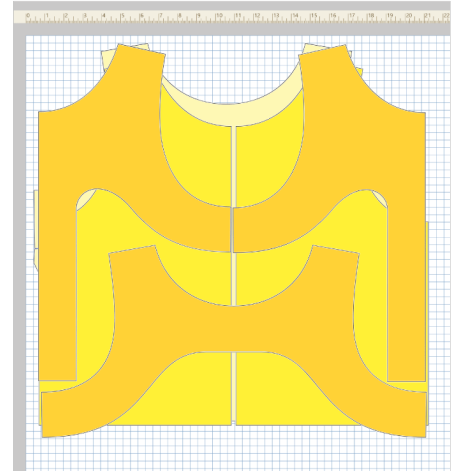
MATERIALS:

- Cotton or Linnen Fabric 1yd, 60" wide (90 cm, 150 cm wide)
- Contrasting Color Fabric for Tie Straps Two pieces 5" x 24" (12cm x 60cm) each
- Fusible Lightweight Interfacing
- Thread
- Heat Transfer Vinyl



Open the Project

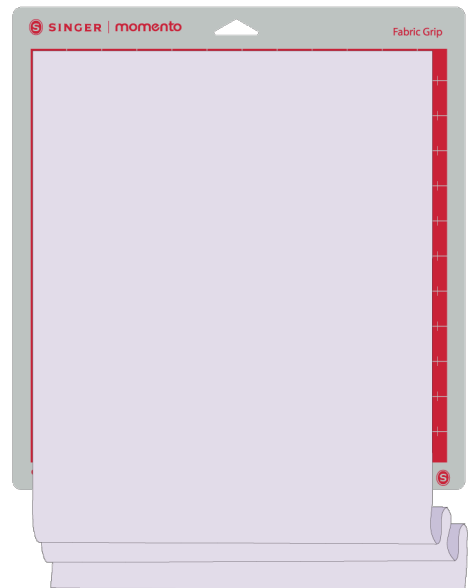
Step 1: From CREATIVATE Crafting Software, open the cut file in your desired size and send to Machine.



Prepare the Material

Step 2: Prepare your fabric by cutting it 24" x 24" so it fits on the mat.

Tip: To save fabric, cut the fabric 24" wide allow the excess length to hang off the bottom edge of the mat. After cutting the first pieces, reposition the fabric toward the top of the mat to continue cutting additional pieces.



Cut the Material

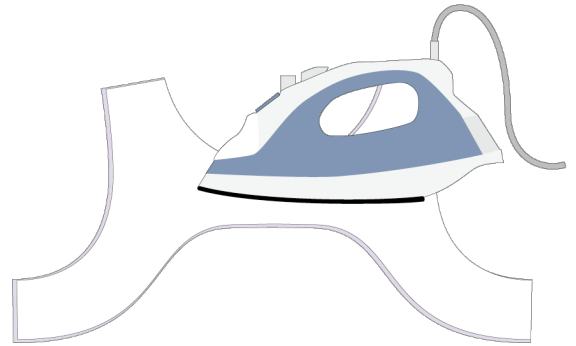
Step 3: Place the fabric wrong side up on your Fabric Grip Mat. Use a brayer to firmly adhere the fabric to the mat, smoothing out any wrinkles or air bubbles. Go to the Output menu and select Send to Machine. Follow the on-screen prompts to draw and cut the material with your crafting machine.





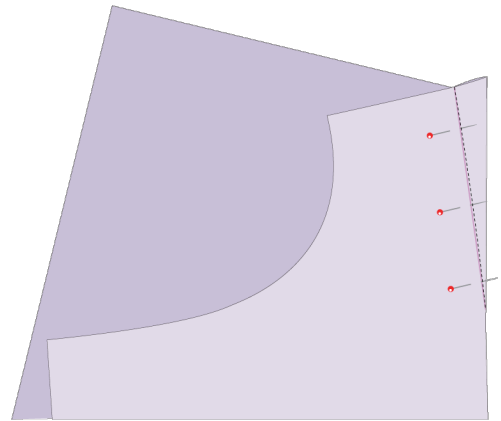
Apply the Interfacing

Step 4: Apply the fusible interfacing to the wrong side of the facing pieces, following the manufacturer's instructions.



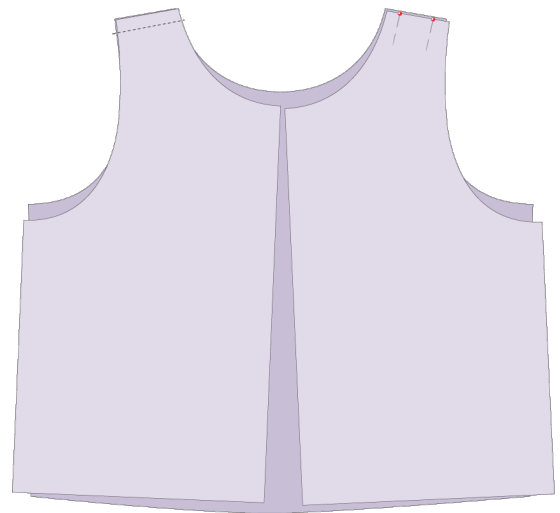
Sew the Darts

Step 5: Start sewing each dart at the wide end. Backstitch to secure, then sew toward the point. Press the darts downward.



Sew the Shoulder Seams

Step 6: Place the front and back pieces right sides together. Pin the shoulder seams (seam #1) and stitch using a $\frac{3}{8}$ " (1 cm) seam allowance. Press the seams open. Repeat this step for the interfacing shoulder seams (seam #2).

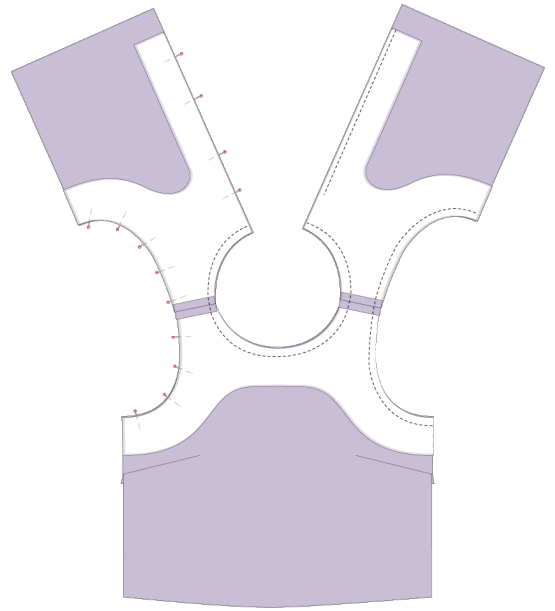




Sew the Interfacing

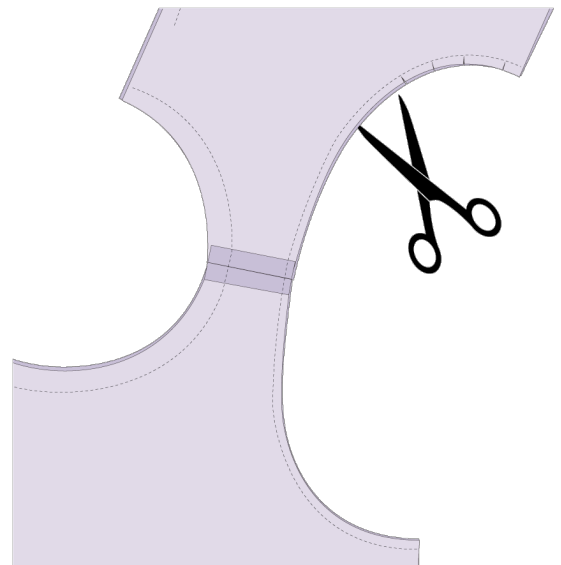
Step 7: Place the interfacing on the top front and back, aligning all edges and matching the shoulder seams.

Pin in place. Sew around the neckline and armholes, leaving a 2" (5 cm) opening at the top of the back placket interfacing.



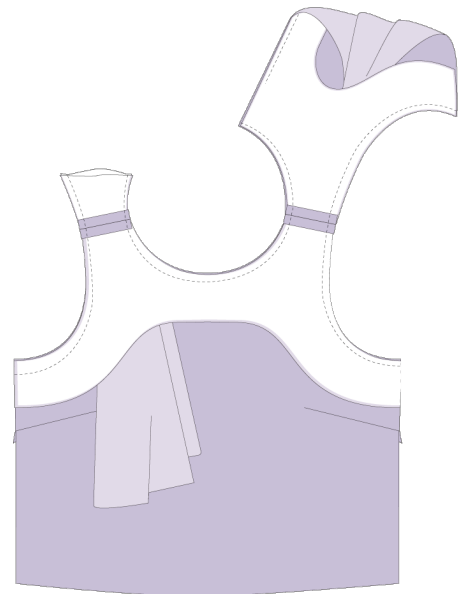
Trim the Seams

Step 8: Trim the seam allowances down to ¼" (6 mm) and clip the curves.



Turn the Right Side Out

Step 9: Carefully pull the back pieces through the shoulders to turn the garment right side out. This can be tricky due to the narrow shoulder width—take your time.

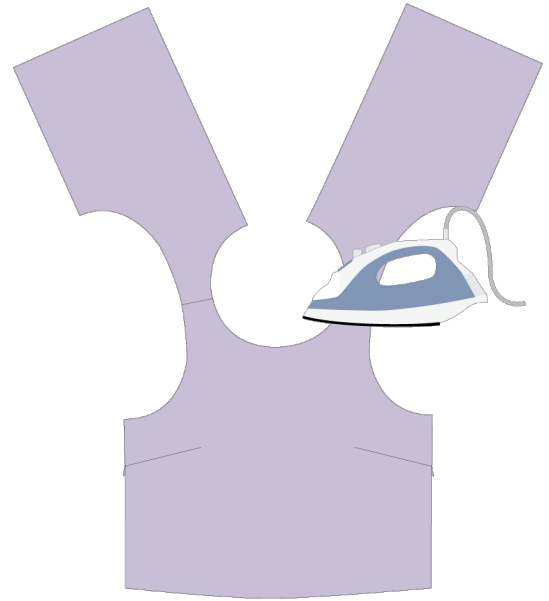




Press the Seams

Step 10: Press all seams flat.

Tip: To prevent the interfacing from showing on the right side of the garment, understitch along the neckline as far as you can comfortably reach.



Sew the Side Seams

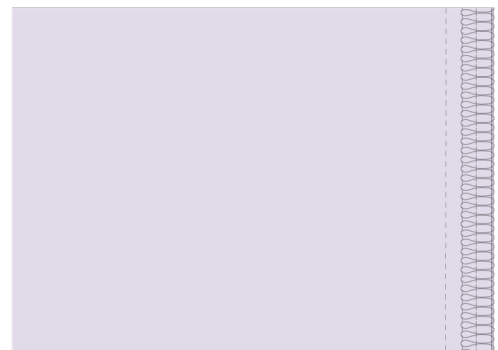
Step 11: Pin the front and back pieces together at the side seams (seam #3), matching the interfacing seams.

Stitch using a $3/8$ " (1 cm) seam allowance.



Finish The Seams

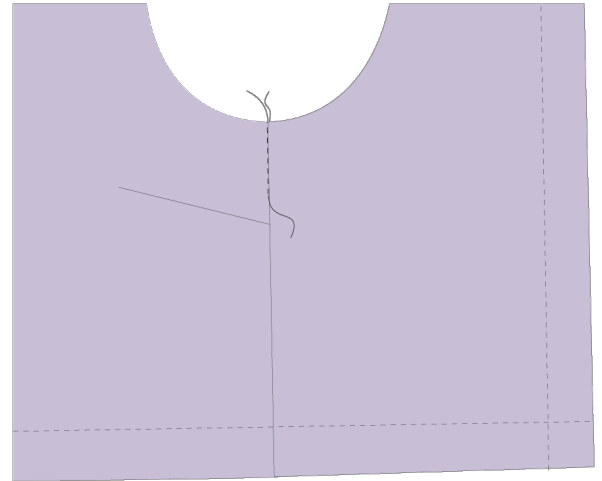
Step 12: Finish the raw edges of the side seams and the interfacing edges using a serger or a zigzag stitch on your sewing machine. Press the side seams toward the back of the garment.





Secure the Armhole Facing

Step 13: From the right side of the garment, stitch in the ditch at the side seams to secure the armhole facing in place.



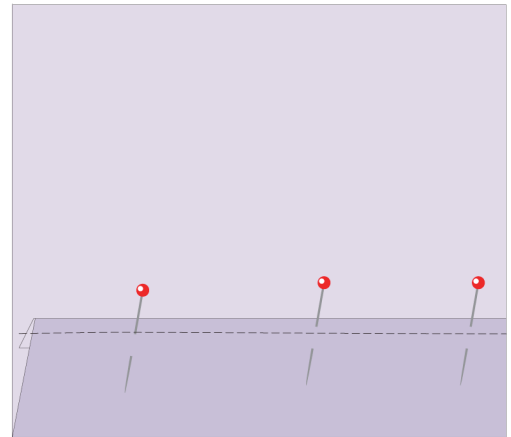
Hem the Bottom Edge

Step 14: Create a double-fold hem at the bottom of the top.

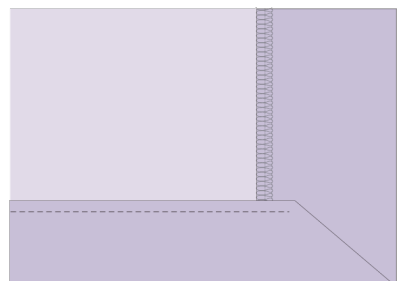
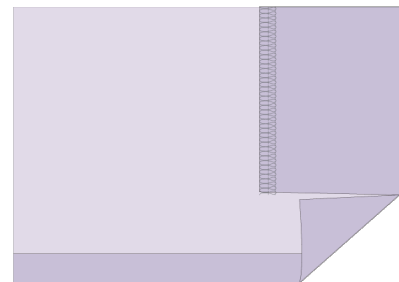
Fold the fabric toward the wrong side by $\frac{3}{8}$ " (1 cm) and press, using a ruler to keep the fold even.

Fold again toward the wrong side by $1\frac{1}{4}$ " (3 cm). Press and pin in place.

Sew close to the inner folded edge to secure the hem.



Tip: Where the hem meets the back interfacing/placket, fold the hem diagonally to create a neat, mitered corner.





Cut the Tie Straps

Step 15: Make the tie straps from matching or contrasting fabric. Cut two fabric pieces measuring 5" x 24" (12x 60 cm) each.

Tip: Make the straps from different fabric pieces sewn together into one long strip then trimmed down to the right size.



Sew the Straps

Step 16: Fold each strip in half lengthwise, right sides together.

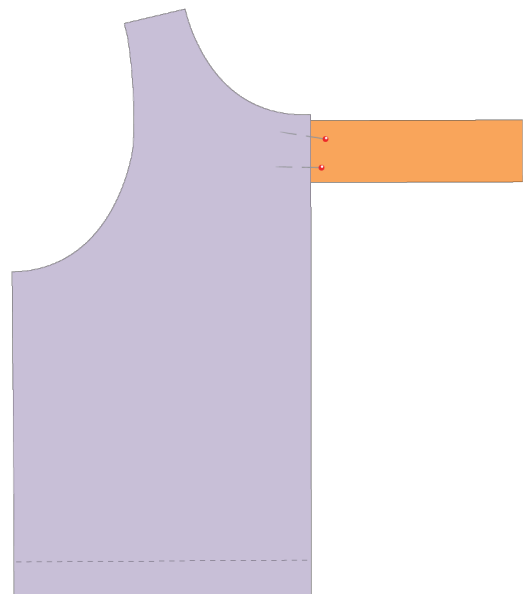
Sew along one long edge and one short end. Turn right side out and press. A chopstick or turning tool can help.



Optional: Topstitch close to the edge for a clean, finished look.

Attach the Straps

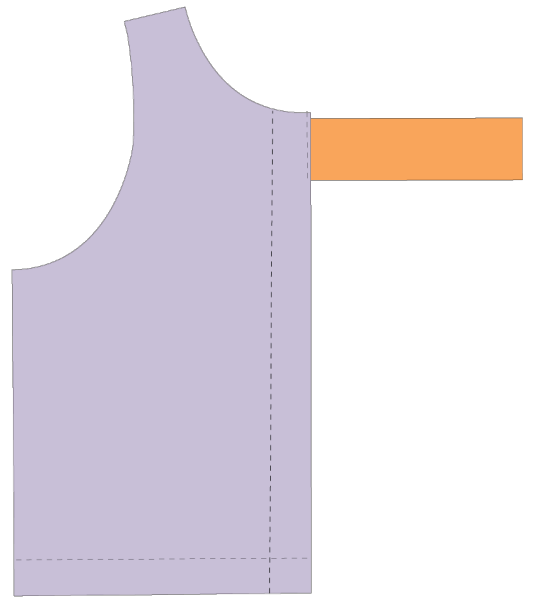
Step 17: Insert the raw ends of the straps into the opening at the top of the back placket. Secure them by sewing from the inside, or topstitch from the right side to close the opening.





Stitch the Back Placket

Step 18: Stitch down the back placket to secure the interfacing in place.



Apply HTV Design

Step 19: Add a sea-inspired motif to your top using heat transfer vinyl (HTV).

[Learn more about applying heat transfer vinyl here.](#)

