

FROM THE FOUNDER OF THE #VIKISEWS BRAND



Back in 2016, when I was working on my first set of sewing instructions, I was trying to write them in such a way that even a complete beginner could easily understand and use them to create their very first garment. These instructions laid the foundation for the Vikisews brand, its vision and its mission. I wanted to create modern patterns with the utmost detailed and clear instructions.

Now, with each new collection we are constantly improving our instructions, amending them and adding more relevant details. By the time the final product reaches you, our drafters, correctors, and editors would have spent weeks perfecting every word and every photograph. If you compile a few of our instructions together, you will get a sewing manual that will assist you in sewing all kinds of garments at any difficulty level.

And I would be very happy if these instructions helped you to turn your hobby into a lifelong passion... Enjoy the process! Create your ultimate dream wardrobe! Wear your garments proudly for years to come!

If you have any questions, please contact us at info@vikisews.com - we are always there to help.



LORRAINE PATTERN DESCRIPTION

Lorraine is a close-fitting dress with an accentuated waist. It features tie straps and a waist seam. The front bodice features separate cups with a draped overlay. The shaping on the bodice is achieved with princess seams. The skirt is bias-cut and is slightly flared. The dress fastens with an invisible zipper in the center back seam. Lorraine is mid-calf length.



IMPORTANT!

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You may use Vikisews patterns for commercial use, to sew custom-made garments and/or create fashion collections, on the condition that the patterns are solely used in a manufacturing setting and are not further shared with individuals.

TOTAL EASE ALLOWANCE

	Bust ease	Waistline ease	Hipline ease
cm	4	4.2–5.9	14.7–20
inches	1 5/8	1 5/8–2 3/8	5 3/4–7 7/8

GARMENT LENGTH

Height, cm	Back length from waist down, cm	Height, ft	Back length from waist down, in
1 (154–160)	75.9–77.4	1 (5'1"–5'3")	29 7/8–30 1/2
2 (162–168)	78.9–80.4	2 (5'4"–5'6")	31 1/8–31 5/8
3 (170–176)	82–83.4	3 (5'7"–5'9")	32 1/4–32 7/8
4 (178–184)	85–86.4	4 (5'10"–6'1")	33 1/2–34

SUGGESTED FABRIC

To sew this dress, choose dress-weight fabrics with the following properties:

- medium weight, pliable, soft, non-stretch or low-stretch, opaque
- the fiber content can include natural fibers (silk, cotton, linen), artificial fibers (viscose, tencel), blends (silk + viscose, silk + polyester, cotton + viscose, linen + tencel etc.), and synthetics (polyester, polyester + elastane)
- the following fabrics are recommended: satin, dress-weight viscose, stretch crepe, linen, poplin, sateen, silk.

Attention! We do not recommend very stretchy knit fabrics and lightweight sheer fabrics (chiffon, organza, stretch lace).

The dress in the photos is made of textured cotton. The fabric is medium weight, soft, structured, and has very little stretch. The fiber content is 100% cotton.

TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT

- sewing machine for construction
- overlocker for finishing raw edges. This may be replaced with a stretch overlock stitch or a zigzag stitch on the sewing machine (overlock or zigzag stitch width 2-3 mm, stitch length 2.5 mm)
- invisible zipper foot for the sewing machine.

PATTERN PIECES LIST

1. From main fabric:

- center front bodice – cut 1 on fold
- side front bodice – cut 2
- center back bodice – cut 2
- side back bodice – cut 2
- outer bust cup – cut 2
- inner bust cup top panel – cut 2
- inner bust cup bottom panel – cut 2
- bust cup side panel – cut 4
- back skirt – cut 2
- front skirt – cut 1 (part 1 + part 2)
- back facing – cut 2
- front strap – cut 2
- back strap – cut 2.

Before cutting the fabric, glue the two parts of the front skirt pattern piece together.

IMPORTANT! Don't forget to transfer all pattern markings and notches onto the fabric.

2. From interfacing:

- inner bust cup top panel – cut 2
- inner bust cup bottom panel – cut 2
- side cup – cut 2
- back facing – cut 2.

SEAM ALLOWANCES

All pattern pieces include seam allowances as follows:

- center seam allowances on the center back bodice piece — 1.5 cm (5/8")
- center seam allowances on the back skirt piece — 1.5 cm (5/8")
- all other edges — 1 cm (3/8").

Take this into account when laying out pattern pieces on the fabric.

Important! If the needle leaves visible holes in the fabric (silk, viscose, poplin, etc.), we recommend making a TOILE first in order to check the fit and evaluate possible issues. In this case, there is no need for a fitting, except to check the lengths. We recommend testing on a scrap of fabric first to see whether your material is prone to be marked by needles.

If one of the pieces ends up longer than the other after basting, do not rush to true them by cutting off the excess or stretching the shorter piece. First make sure that the notches are properly matched, lay the pieces on a flat surface and try to re-baste them together. If the pieces still don't match in length because they have stretched or there has been a cutting mistake, you can always true the pieces after the fitting, during the construction of the garment.

After assembling the garment, press it lightly and press the seam allowances either to one side or open.

What to look for during fitting?

The left and right sides of the garment should look the same.

Check the garment balance - the side seams should be vertical, the center front and center back lines positioned correctly.

The garment hem should be parallel to the floor.

Evaluate the fit of the front and back while looking at the person from the side. The front and back should not be riding up or sagging. There should be no horizontal folds at the back, no pulling at the shoulder blade area.

Evaluate the side seams from the front or back. The garment sides should not sag or ride up.

Verify the garment length.

Check for fit issues associated with individual features of the body (for example, an asymmetrical figure with shoulders at different levels, etc.).

Verify the garment volume, there should be enough ease for a comfortable fit.

After the fitting, mark changes symmetrically to both sides of the garment; if needed, baste once more for another fitting.



Place the center front bodice and side front bodice pieces right sides together, align the edges, pin, and then machine-stitch, backstitching at the beginning and end.