

Off the CUFF

A classic button-down shirt is a wonderful addition to any wardrobe and a great way to stretch your skills

Project **LAUREN ELBERT**
Sadi & Sam



Shopping list

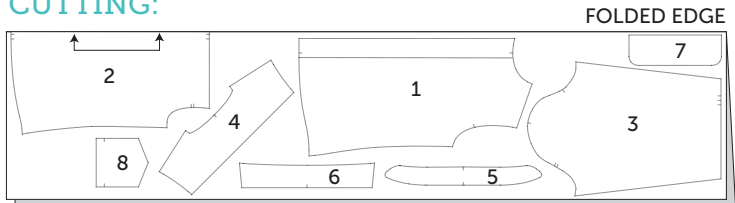
Baby pink and navy spot shirting,
£5 per metre www.fabworks.co.uk



SIZING:

	BUST	WAIST	HIPS
XS	33-34"	25-26"	35-36"
S	35-36"	27-28"	37-38"
M	37-38"	29-30"	39-40"
L	39½-41"	31½-33"	41½-43"
XL	43-45"	35-37"	45-47"

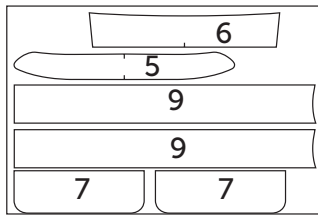
CUTTING:



45"-wide fabric

Interfacing

NOT FOLDED



HOW TO MAKE:

- 1 Begin by stay-stitching the neckline ½" from the edge on both the front shirt and yoke pattern pieces.
- 2 Trim back the button area interfacing by ⅛" and fuse to the WS of the front shirt pieces.
- 3 Using the top and bottom notches as a guide, fold under the left front shirt piece. Press. Fold again, using the raw edge as a guide. (See Pic A.) Press. Sew ¼" from the folded edge. Unfold the front edge, and on the RS of the fabric press the tuck away from the front. (See Pic B.)
- 4 Turn under the seam allowance of the right front shirt piece by ¼" and press.
- 5 Using the top and bottom notches as a guide, fold your piece to the WS. Press.
- 6 Top-stitch ⅛" away from the folded seam allowance edge. Press the front flat.
- 7 Fold each set of notches together near the centre back line. Sew ¼" away from the

MATERIALS & TOOLS:

- 2.7m 45"-wide or 2m 60"-wide fabric
- 1m fusible interfacing in similar weight to main fabric
- co-ordinating thread
- 1m ¾"-wide bias tape
- 9 ½" buttons
- templates downloaded from www.lovesewingmag.co.uk

NOTES:

If you are making a stripe or plaid version, you may need up to an extra metre of fabric
Seam allowance ⅝" unless otherwise stated



notch edge. Press both tucks toward the centre back.

8 Sandwich the upper edge of the back shirt between the two yoke pieces. Make sure the centre back folds stay pressed toward centre back. Sew then trim down the seam allowance to $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Flip the yokes up and press. Top-stitch along the seam.

9 Pin the front bodices to the outer yoke at the shoulder seams. Roll the shirt front and back into a tube that sits between the two yoke pieces, so the inner yoke can be matched to the previously pinned shoulder seams. (See Pic B.) Sew through all three layers. Turn everything RS out and press. Top-stitch along the yoke shoulder seam.

10 Match the side seams WST and sew to begin the flat-felled seams. Trim the seam allowance nearest the back bodice down to $\frac{1}{8}$ " and press over. Fold the raw edge of the other seam allowance over $\frac{1}{4}$ " and cover the shorter seam allowance. (See masterclass, right.) Top-stitch in place.

11 You will need about 15" of $\frac{3}{4}$ "-wide single-fold bias tape for each sleeve placket. Cut along the placket line of both sleeves. On the WS of the sleeve, open the slash so it is semi flat. Pin the bias (WS up) along the edge of the slash.

12 Sew along the fold, when at the apex you will need to reposition the bias edge to be $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the edge (for ease).

13 Turn the bias over to cover the seam allowance. Pin then sew in place.

14 At the apex of the placket there will be a part of the

fabric strip that sticks out; sew this together at an angle on the inside of the sleeve. (See Pic D.)

15 Create flat-felled seams for the sleeves as per the shirt side seams.

16 The notches to one side of the sleeve hem indicate a tuck, which should be folded toward the back of the sleeve and pinned but not stitched.

17 Fuse interfacing to the WS of one pair of cuffs. Match an interfaced cuff to a non-interfaced cuff and sew along the three outer edges. Trim the seam allowance to $\frac{1}{8}$ ". Turn the cuff RS out and then press.

18 Line up the side of the cuff without interfacing to the RS of the sleeve, having the cuff edges end at each side of the placket opening. Adjust the tuck if needed. Pin and sew in place. (See Pic E.)

19 Flip the sleeve RS out and press the sleeve allowance down into the cuff. On the other cuff edge, press the seam allowance under $\frac{5}{8}$ " and cover the stitching line. Stitch in the ditch on the RS of the cuff, catching the other folded cuff edge underneath. Edge-stitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " around.

20 Sew a buttonhole $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the edge centred on your cuff. Measure in $\frac{3}{4}$ " on the other side of the cuff and stitch on the button. Sew gathering stitches at the sleeve cap. Place the sleeve inside your shirt RST and match the notches, gathering to fit. Pin then sew in place. Trim the seam to $\frac{1}{8}$ " and press towards the body. On the RS, edge stitch $\frac{1}{16}$ " from

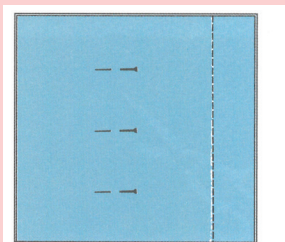


MASTERCLASS FLAT-FELLED SEAMS

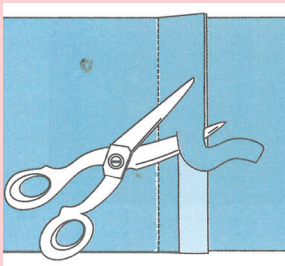
Flat-felled seams are wonderfully robust so your garment will last longer and have a decorative top-stitched finish

1 It's best to first work out which side you want to press the seam over to, as you may not want all the seams to point in the same direction. Generally in dressmaking the seam would point towards the back bodice, or leg if making jeans.

2 Sew your seam with wrong sides together and the standard seam allowance.

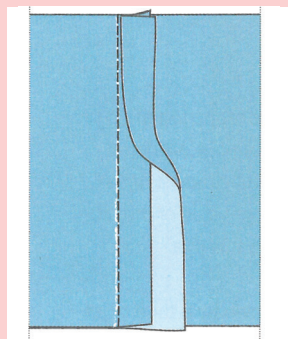


3 If pressing over to the right, trim the right side of your seam allowance by half to 0.7mm.

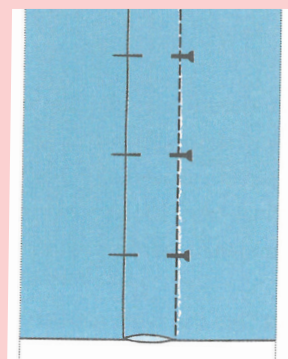


4 Press both seam allowances in half so they meet in the middle along the seam line. This may be fiddly with your smaller side of the allowance.

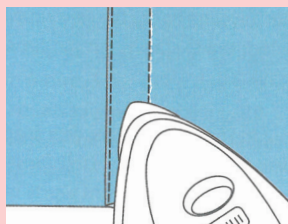
5 Then press over the left hand seam allowance so it covers the right-hand allowance.



6 You can now pin and top-stitch close to the edge, enclosing the seam allowances neatly.



7 Press the seam to finish.



the sleeve seam catching the allowance underneath.

21 Fuse interfacing to the WS of one collar piece. Match the collar pieces RST and sew the outer edges. Your seam allowance here is $\frac{3}{8}$ ".

Trim the seam allowance to $\frac{1}{8}$ ", then turn collar RS out and press. Top-stitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the edge.

22 Fuse interfacing to the WS of one collar stand piece.

Sandwich the assembled collar between the two stands, lining up the centre back notches. (See Pic F.)

23 Stitch along the upper edge of the stand through all layers. Your seam allowance here is $\frac{3}{8}$ ". Trim the seam allowance to $\frac{1}{8}$ ", then turn RS out and press.

24 Trim the neckline of the front shirt pieces by $\frac{1}{4}$ " so that your neckline seam allowance is $\frac{3}{8}$ ".

25 Match the interfaced stand to the WS of the neckline and pin. Stitch along the neckline edge and reduce the seam allowance to $\frac{1}{8}$ ". Press the seam allowance into the collar stand and fold the

other collar stand seam allowance under. The outer stand will now cover the stitching line.

26 Top-stitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the edge around collar stand and press flat. (See Pic G.)

27 Fold under the top pocket edge $\frac{1}{4}$ ", then fold again 1" and pin then press. Top-stitch along the folded seam allowance edge on the pocket. Press in the remaining seam

allowance edges. Line up the pocket on the left side of the front until it's in the desired location. Pin in place. (See Pic H.)

28 Top-stitch $\frac{1}{16}$ " away from the edge around the perimeter of the pocket. At the top corners, sew in $\frac{1}{4}$ " then sew back to the seam line at an angle to secure. Press flat.

29 Turn up a $\frac{1}{4}$ " hem and then another $\frac{3}{8}$ ". Pin then sew in place. Press again.

30 Using a buttonhole foot, sew buttonholes $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the edge on the left front. Position buttons accordingly on the right front to finish.

Top tip
Interfacing should be the same weight or lighter than your fabric and should not be noticeable in the final garment

