

Sweet Rain Jacket

by KATRIN VORBECK

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Remember, when working with laminates or oilcloth, pin only in the seam allowance.



DOWNLOAD THE FULL-SIZE
PATTERN FOR THIS PROJECT
AT SEWDAILY.COM

FABRIC

Exterior: laminated cotton or oilcloth. Allow extra fabric to match checks/plaids/pattern. (shown: green laminated cotton with pink dots)

	45"	60"
XS	3¼	2¾
S	3¼	2¾
M	3½	2¾
L	3¾	2¾
XL	4	2¾

Lining: cotton or polyester. (shown: pink cotton fabric with white dots) Includes yardage for cutting the bias strips in Step 4. Reduce yardage by ¼ yard if using ready-made piping.

	45"
XS	3
S	3
M	3¼
L	3¼
XL	3¼

OTHER SUPPLIES

- Downloadable pattern pieces
 - Front Bodice (A)
 - Lower Front (B)
 - Back Bodice (C)
 - Lower Back (D)
 - Sleeve (E)
 - Cuff (F)
 - Hood (G)
 - Front Lining (H)
 - Back Lining (I)
 - Hood Lining (J)
 - Back Neck Facing (K)
 - Front Facing (L)
 - Hood Facing (M)
- Six snaps, ¾" diameter
- Sewing thread to match fabric and/or to contrast fabric, depending on your taste. Sample uses both.
- 2¾ yd ⅛" piping cord to make the piping OR 2¾ yd ready-made piping
- Tailor's chalk or fabric marker
- Scissors or rotary cutter
- *Optional:* Walking foot for your sewing machine (helpful with laminates)

SIZE CHART

	Bust	Waist	Hip
XS	31½"	24-25"	34½-35½"
S	34½"	26-27"	36½-37½"
M	38"	28-29½"	38½-40"
L	41"	31-32½"	41½-43"
XL	44"	34½-36½"	45-47"
Shown in size Small			

NOTES

- All seam allowances are ⅝" unless otherwise noted.
- RST = right sides together
- Hem allowance is 2" for the exterior pieces and 1½" for the lining.
- Pressing is mandatory. When pressing the exterior seams, always use a pressing cloth or a piece of cotton fabric to cover the whole area you want to press or your laminated fabric will melt to your iron. Test the settings for your iron on a scrap first to be on the safe side.



The inverted box pleat adds comfort and style.

- Laminated cotton/oilcloth can be tricky to sew. Once stitched, a hole remains in the fabric. Think twice before you sew so you won't have to rip out seams.
- A muslin is mandatory to check the fit. You won't have fun doing alterations on the actual raincoat.
- Be sure to use a new, sharp needle. I found that microtex (70/10 or 80/12) needles work well.
- Pretreat the fabrics as the finished garment will be cleaned (wash/dry/iron or dry clean) to avoid shrinkage after the garment is sewn.
- For explanations of terms and techniques, see Sewing Basics on SewDaily.com.

CUT THE FABRIC

1 Download and print out the pattern. Pin pattern pieces to fabrics as shown in the cutting layout, transferring all pattern markings to the fabrics. Use clips or pin only within the seam allowance on all laminates to avoid creating permanent pinholes.

- 2** From the main fabric (oilcloth or laminate), cut on the straight of grain:
- two each (one main, one reversed) of A, B, E, G, L, and M
 - cut on fold, one each C, D, and K
 - cut four (two main, two reversed) of Cuff (F)





The lining is topstitched to the front facing so that it will lie flat.

- 3 From lining, cut on the straight of grain:
 - two pieces of each (one main, one reversed) of E, H, and J
 - cut on fold, one of piece I
- 4 Cut 3 yd of 1½" bias strips for piping from the lining fabric.

SEW THE LINING

- 5 With RST, stitch the side seams of Front Lining (H) to the Back Lining (F). Press seam allowances open.
- 6 Serge or zigzag lower edge of lining. Press hem allowance towards wrong side of fabric, creating a single-fold hem. Sew in place.
- 7 Press inverted box pleats towards center back, according to pattern markings. **(figure 1)** If your lining fabric doesn't hold pleats well, topstitch the pleats about ⅛" from the fold. Baste across pleat at notch to prevent it from opening.
- 8 With RST, sew Back Neck Facing (K) to Back Lining. Clip seam allowances and trim to ¼" to ½". Press seam toward facing. Understitch to stabilize seam allowances. [See Sewing Basics on SewDaily.com.]
- 9 With RST, sew Front Facing (L) to matching Front Lining (H) pieces. If the facing is a bit too long, just stop sewing about ⅛" away from the end of the lining. Clip seam allowances in curved

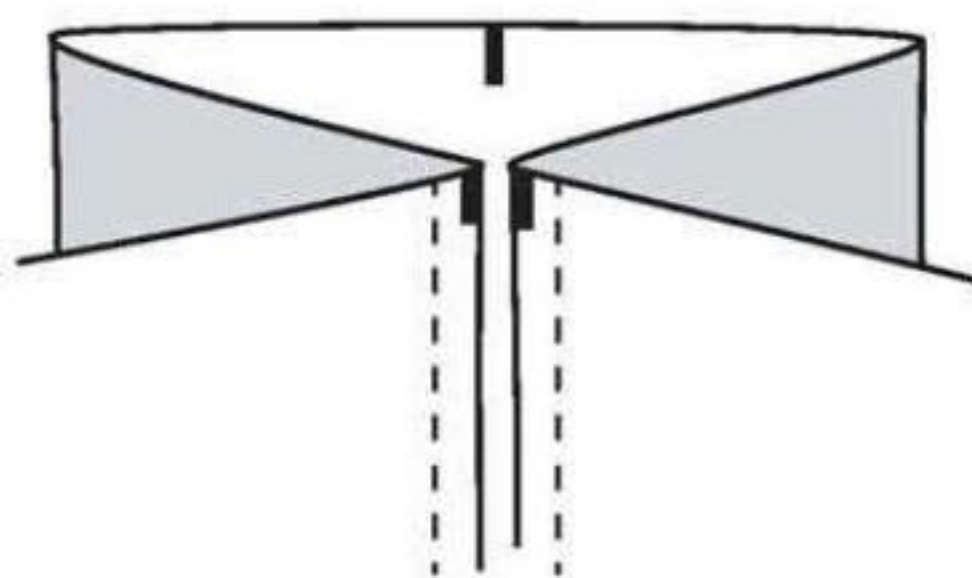


figure 1

bust area and press towards facing. Understitch to fix seam allowances in place, ending at the notch on the facing.

- 10 With RST, stitch shoulder seams. Press seam allowances open.
- 11 With RST, sew Cuff (F) to Sleeve Lining (E). (The cuff is the exterior fabric and acts as a cuff facing.) Press seam allowances towards facing. Understitch.
- 12 Sew Sleeve seam from underarm to end of Cuff Facing. Press seam allowances open.
- 13 With RST, pin sleeves to lining body, matching shoulder seam, side seams, and notches. Sew sleeve lining to lining body. Clip seam allowances. Turn sleeves inside out and press seam allowances towards sleeves.
- 14 To the right hand facing (when worn), sew on the male side of the snaps, according to Snap Placement Template.
- 15 Stitch back seam of Hood Lining (J). Clip seam allowances and press toward one side. Trim seam allowances to ⅜". Topstitch ⅛" from seamline.
- 16 With RST, stitch top seam of Hood Facing (M). With RST, sew Hood Facing to Hood Lining. Clip seam allowances and press towards facing. Understitch around facing to hold seam allowances in place.

SEW THE EXTERIOR

- 17 With RST, stitch the back seam of exterior Hood (G). Clip seam allowances and press toward one side (the opposite direction of the lining seam allowances). Topstitch ⅛" along back seam to hold it in place.
- 18 With RST, slide Hood Lining into exterior Hood. Align front seams and stitch. Clip seam allowances, and turn



Trim the piping at the seam line to reduce bulk.

hood right side out. Fold lining into exterior and press carefully along front edge. Topstitch.

TIP: If your exterior fabric is very thick, you may want to trim the hood lining around neckline so the lining fits snugly into the hood. Machine baste neckline along neckline seam to prevent layers from shifting. Set hood aside for now.

- 19 With RST, stitch side seams and shoulder seams of upper coat pieces (A and C). Press seam allowances open. Put upper body aside.

MAKE THE PIPING

- 20 With wrong sides together, fold and lightly press piping strips in half lengthwise. Insert the piping cord snugly into the fold of the bias strip.
- 21 Using a piping or zipper foot, sew as close to the cord as possible, enclosing the cord in the strip. Use thread that matches the piping and a longer stitch length.

ADD THE CUFFS + SLEEVES

- 22 With RST and raw edges aligned, baste piping to seam allowance of exterior cuffs where they will meet the sleeve. To reduce bulk in the seams, trim piping cord at both ends about ⅝". Take care not to trim too much.
- 23 With RST, sew Cuffs to Sleeves. Press sleeve allowances towards sleeve and topstitch in place. Stitch sleeve seams. Press open.
- 24 With RST, sew sleeves to upper Front Bodice, aligning seam lines and notches. Sew carefully, as ripping will

leave permanent holes in the material. Clip seam allowances and press towards sleeves. Set upper body aside.

TIP: If you have to rip, it's better to rip and restitch a few inches rather than ripping out the entire seam.

FINISH COAT EXTERIOR

25 With RST, stitch side seams on lower exterior body. Press seam allowances open.

26 Press hemline up towards wrong side to create a single-fold hem. Topstitch to keep hemline in place, beginning and ending at the side seams. **NOTE:** The rest of the hemline will be topstitched in place later, when the facing is attached. It's easier to complete the hem this way. If you do not want the topstitching to be interrupted at the side seam, you could also begin and end the topstitching at the front topstitching lines, but this will make attaching the facing very tricky and attention will be drawn to this area. No one will notice the interruption at the side seam. As laminated fabric doesn't fray, the edge can be left unfinished. If you would like a more finished look, bias bind the raw lower edge first.

27 Fold box pleat towards center back, according to marks. Topstitch folds as you did for the lining so they will stay creased. Baste fold on seam allowance.

28 With RST and aligning raw edges, baste piping to lower exterior body where it will meet the upper body. Again pull out and trim piping cord at both ends to reduce bulk in the seam.

29 With RST, sew upper body to lower body, aligning side seams, notches, and center back.

Clip curved area and press seam allowance towards upper body. Depending on your fabric, you might want to reduce bulk by clipping the edges of the side seam allowances and the box pleat or by cutting back the seam allowance of the piping. Topstitch to hold seam allowances in place.

ASSEMBLE THE COAT

30 Machine baste the hood to exterior coat, aligning raw edges around

neckline. Align notches, shoulder seams, and center back.

31 With RST, pin or baste exterior coat to lining coat. The hood will be between the layers. Pin or baste on the seam allowances only, so no holes will be created on your exterior fabric.

Sew lining to exterior by starting at the lower edge of the front, work up front, around neckline, and down the other front again. Pivot at the corners. Press seam allowances along fronts open.

32 Take one lining sleeve and the corresponding exterior sleeve. Follow the sleeve seam from underarm to cuffs. Pin the cuffs together, RST and aligning the sleeve seams. Stitch seams.

TIP: If you're having difficulty with this, try the following: Turn coat right side out and pull the lining sleeves into the exterior sleeves, just as if everything was already finished. Align sleeve seams and place a pin to keep it in place. Turn everything inside out again. The pin now will show you how to align cuffs. Pin around cuff and stitch seam.

33 Fold remaining exterior hem and facing hem up and lightly press in place. With hemline folded up, finish the topstitching between facing and lining (from Step 9). From the right exterior side, topstitch hem in place, beginning at the side seams and ending at the facing's edge.

34 Turn coat right side out through hem. Carefully press around front, neckline, and cuff edges. Topstitch around back neckline and cuffs.

35 Topstitch along topstitch line on both fronts, interrupting the topstitching in the piping area.

36 Check snap placement on left exterior side (when worn) and sew on the other half of the snaps.

Wait for some rain, get outside and have fun wearing your new raincoat!

KATRIN VORBECK is a passionate sewer and knitter. It's the small details and the simple design features that she loves most. She also admits to being a fiberholic, bookworm, picture-taker, mother, and wife with too little time. Visit her blog at its new location: frauvaublogspot.com.

Rain Cloud Crossbody Tote

by SARAH MINSHALL

{from page 58}



Linen, cotton, and wool combine to create a texture-rich tote.

FABRIC

- $\frac{3}{8}$ yd of linen for the Body
- $\frac{1}{2}$ yd of coordinating cotton print for Lining, Pockets, and Handle
- For appliqué
 - Seven 1" × 1½" various blue quilting cotton scraps for Raindrops
 - One 3½" × 2" yellow quilting cotton for Lightning Bolt
 - One 5" square of gray wool felt for Cloud

OTHER SUPPLIES

- Templates and placement diagram, supplied on insert
 - Raindrops (A)
 - Lightning Bolt (B)
 - Cloud (C)
- $\frac{1}{2}$ yd fusible fleece
- $\frac{1}{2}$ yd heavyweight fusible interfacing
- 10" × 10" fusible web

