

## Lined Sleeveless Top

I showed you how I made a pattern for a sleeveless top in a previous blog post. When I washed the completed top, I didn't like the way the facings needed ironing to make them lay flat again. And I didn't like seeing the exposed seams. So I decided to figure out how to make the top fully lined. To my surprise, not only did the lined top launder better and look better but it felt better to wear! I thought it would be too warm but, perhaps because I used all cotton fabric, it did not feel too warm at all.

One video I watched made all the difference for me in understanding the "burrito" method for sewing a lining into a sleeveless top. It was "Using The BURRITO METHOD To Create a Sleeveless Top" by Ellie and Mac Patterns. It's at [https://youtu.be/1\\_GmlQbijks](https://youtu.be/1_GmlQbijks) I highly recommend you watch this video before trying the burrito technique.

Below are the steps to make a lined sleeveless top.

### Notes:


These instructions assume your top is tunic length. If it is shorter, and you don't need vents for comfort (especially sitting down), then ignore the instructions about creating and finishing vent openings.






The vents are closed but the bottom edge is hemmed but not connected. I find that it falls more nicely that way.





For a large woman's tunic, it takes 2 yards of outer and 2 yards of lining fabric if all are cut on the fold. If you cut the back off the fold and seam it, it takes 1-1/2 yards of outer and 1-1/2 yard of lining fabric. If the fabric is directional, you will need the full 2 yards of each fabric.





If you make the shoulder seams too narrow, you won't be able to pull the fabric through for the burrito method. The shoulders on my pattern are 2-7/8 inches across (finished) and I would not make them any narrower than that.



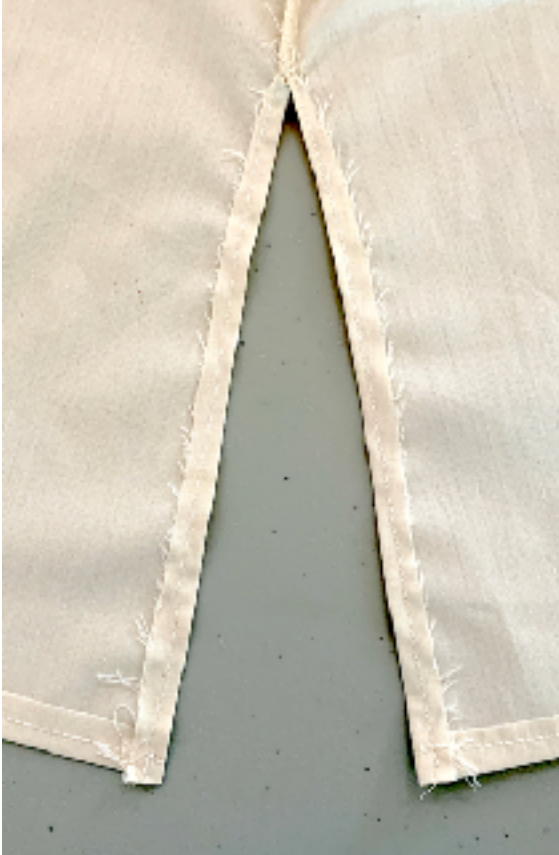
All seams are 1/4 inch unless otherwise noted.


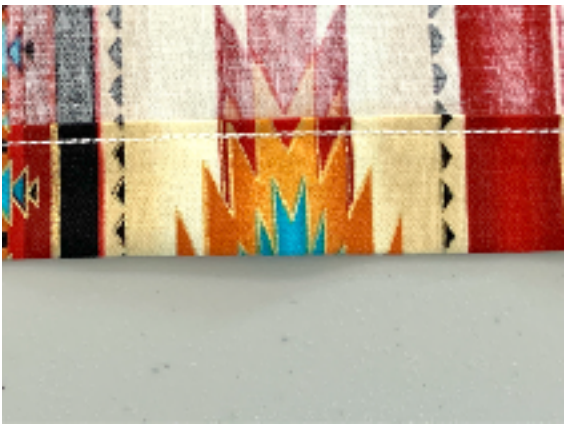

1	Make or buy a pattern, including a front and back piece.	
2	Using test fabric, try making a test top, just one layer.	
3	If alterations are needed, make them.	
4	If needed, create a new pattern with the changes.	
5	Cut front and back from your outer fabric.	
6	Cut front and back from your lining fabric, making it about 1 inch shorter at the bottom seam. This will allow the top to hang well without the lining showing on the bottom.	
7	<p>Sew the front and back shoulder seams, right sides together on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The outer layer</li><li>• The lining layer</li></ul> <p>After you sew the seam, go back over it with overlock or zig zag stitch to make it less likely to unravel with washing.</p>	


8	<p>With right sides together sew around the neck edge of the body and outer.</p> <p>After you sew the seam, go back over it with overlock or zig zag stitch.</p>	
9	<p>Turn right side out and press the neck opening flat.</p>	
10	<p>With right side still out, open out and flatten the entire garment so the armhole seams are lined up on each side.</p>	
11	<p>Pick one side to stitch and roll the other side towards the stitching side.</p>	
12	<p>When you just reach the armhole you plan to stitch, stop rolling and pull the top layer back.</p>	

13	<p>Pull the lining layer back under the bundle.</p>	
14	<p>Line up and pin the armhole edges, right sides together, making sure not to catch the rolled up portion that is resting in the center.</p>	
15	<p>Sew the armhole seam, again making sure you don't catch the rolled up portion.</p> <p>After you sew the seam, go back over it with overlock or zig zag stitch.</p>	
16	<p>Pull the rolled portion out through the shoulder by the newly stitched armhole.</p>	

17	<p>Repeat steps 10 through 16 to sew closed the other armhole. This time you will be rolling up the finished side.</p>	
18	<p>Press both armholes flat.</p>	
19	<p>Open one side up, liner and outer, and then place the other side on top, line and outer. You now have right sides together, liner together and outer together.</p>	
20	<p>Pin and sew the first side seam, <b>stopping</b> 7 inches above the bottom of the lining and 8 inches above the bottom of the outer to prepare for vents. I put a mark where I want to stop sewing.</p> <p>After you sew the seam, go back over it with overlock or zig zag stitch.</p>	

21	Repeat step 20 for the other side seam.	
22	Turn over, press, and then stitch 1/3 inch of the bottom of the front and back lining.	
23	Turn over, press, and then stitch the lining vent openings 1/4 inch.	

24	<p>Turn over, press, and then stitch the lining hem to 1 inch.</p>	
25	<p>Repeat steps 22 through 24 for the outer.</p>	
26	<p>Line up the vent openings on each side and topstitch at 1/8 inch around each opening to hold the layers together.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> The lining will be 1 inch shorter than the outer, as planned, so the two layers will lay nicely and the lining won't show.</p>	

27	Topstitch around the neck and armholes if desired. I like the look and feel with topstitching but it's not essential.	
28	Press your top to get out wrinkles and make everything flat and even.	

You're done! Happy dance! Take a picture!

