

## Sewing Secrets

### Vogue 1246



**What we like:** What a great design! This shirt looks good on everybody! It's fun to make and has good directions. The pieces are unusual, so you need to trust that it will all turn out, but it comes together quickly and easily. The result is dramatic and stylish without being overdone.

**Timing:** As shown, the pattern has no interfacing, very little complication in the collar (particularly in Version A), and easy cuffs, so it does come together more quickly than a traditional shirt.

**Fabric selection:** We made this in a Liberty (Version A) and in a linen (Version B). It is great in both fabrics. It would showcase any fabric. The collars provide an opportunity for playing with multiple fabrics. The button placement on the cuffs is a great showcase for some fancy buttons. The pattern calls for 3/8 inch buttons in Version A, but we sized those up for the shop samples, to good effect. You can make do with a little less fabric than called for if you are willing to forego the bias armhole binding.

**Sizing:** The shirt is loose and easy to fit. The shop samples are made in a size 8, both shortened by 2 inches in the body and 1 inch in the sleeve. Make sure that you have the right measurement across the back & for the sleeve length, and you are good to go. It is quite long, though, so if you are under 5'4", you might want to make it shorter through the body.

**Changes that I made to the pattern:** I added interfacing in the collar and in the front facing, with a clean-finished edge. I deleted the buttonholes on the cuffs, as they would never be used. This allowed me to avoid the recommended wad of fabric behind the button and gives a cleaner appearance overall. I used a French Seam for the sleeve insertion, which is a bit tricky on the curve, but is less bulky, quicker to sew and gives a nicer appearance inside the garment.

**Pattern Errors:** These instructions are well done. I only had two complaints...in Version A step 20 and in Version B step 18, I clipped all the way to the dot, as I couldn't get the cuffs to lay flat otherwise. In Version B, on the cuffs, the button is shown on the front and the buttonhole is on the back. To make it turn out like the picture, I reversed that – button on the back and buttonhole on the front.

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Feel free to join us for Sewing on Sundays, if you would like more support and help!