

Sewing Secrets

Vogue 8625

Very Easy Very Vogue



What we like: This easy jacket gives you a great opportunity to use a small amount of a spectacular fabric as a permanent, easy-to-wear scarf. If you have one special button, this is also a good pattern for showcasing. The shape of the jacket makes fitting very easy as well. Vogue classifies this jacket as flattering to all figure types.

Timing: Depending on how many fabrics you decide to use, you can make this more or less quickly. Because it is a lined jacket with an interesting attachment of the scarf, plan on spending at least one day, start to finish. The jacket is more complicated than most of the Very Easy Very Vogue series.

Fabric selection: Pick a really special fabric for the scarf and consider lining the back side of the scarf to save on the amount purchased. In the shop sample, we have used a grey/brown cashmere for the scarf and a burgundy charmuese for the underside, as well as for lining the jacket. We ignored the big turned back cuffs, as they tend to pull attention away from our desired focal point of the scarf and button. Besides, who needs the additional bulk at the hipline???? Don't forget a knock-out trim!

Fabric requirements: According to the pattern, the scarf is cut on the crossways of the grain.

If you want to cut the scarf out of a gorgeous fabric on one side and lining on the other, you can cut the scarf on the crossways of the grain, with only $\frac{1}{2}$ yard of fabric, if your fabric is at least 36" wide. In this case, you will need to purchase an extra $\frac{1}{2}$ yard of your lining, also, to cut the other scarf piece. This is the approach used in the shop sample.

If your special fabric for the topside of the scarf is less than 36" wide, then you'll need to purchase one yard. And, be sure to also purchase the additional $\frac{1}{2}$ yard of lining.

Produced by Melissa Dunning (720 480-3682) for Elfriede's Fine Fabrics (303 477-0132)
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If you plan to make both sides of the scarf the same, you can just follow the fabric requirements on the pattern, as they are good. For me, it was a hard choice! Did I want charmuese or cashmere next to my skin??? What a delightful dilemma!

Because the scarf is cut on the crosswise grain, be careful if you have selected a striped fabric for the scarf. Most striped fabrics have the stripe running the long way, parallel to the selvedge. In this case, your scarf will have the stripes running along the short edge of the scarf, rather than around your neck. This might be perfectly wonderful, but you should know ahead of time that this is what you are doing!

If you want the stripes to run around your neck, just purchase a full yard of the scarf fabric and cut it lengthwise, with the grainline on the pattern running on the crossgrain of your fabric.

Fitting: This is a very loose fitting jacket that doesn't require much in the way of alterations or fitting. Choose the size that fits your shoulders and you will be fine. If you don't chose to have the big cuffs, you will need to make sure that you have enough wingspan from wrist to wrist. Given that I have short arms, it was easy just to eliminate the cuffs without any further alterations.

Cutting: I really wanted to eliminate the back seam, using the fold of the fabric instead. But, no way. In the first place, even with short arms, I would have needed a fabric that is in excess of 70" wide. Or, cut it crosswise, which would have made the stripes run differently than I wanted. Also, probably more importantly, the design of the jacket has about a 2" flare at the bottom of the back, almost like a swing coat. To eliminate this design feature would be unconscionable, so I matched my stripes down the back seam instead. Good for my character, I assume!

Also, I really prefer a tuck down the back of the lining of a jacket, so I recommend adding one inch down the back seam of the lining to create that fold.



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