

SEWING CENTER

OF WESLEY CHAPEL

LIVE, LAUGH, LOVE AND SEW

MAY 2018

**THE DISCONNECT
BETWEEN MODERN
SEWING AND
MODERN
CLOTHING**



**HUSQVARNA VIKING
EVENT WITH DEB
NORTH
MAY 12TH.**

**BIG SURPRISES
FOR MOM.**

**FREE
SEWING
PROJECTS!**

T-SHIRT MEMORY
QUILT & RING
BEARER PILLOW.

*Happy
May!*

MAY 20

Tuesday

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THE DISCONNECT BETWEEN MODERN SEWING AND MODERN CLOTHING

Have you ever noticed that there is a disconnect between what we wear and what we sew? Why is this?

For instance, why do we wear so much knitwear? T-shirts, sweatshirts, stretchy fabrics galore. It wasn't the case in the past, but today SO much of mainstream fashion is based on knits and stretch. Here is a brain-dump of why I think this might be...

Industrialization

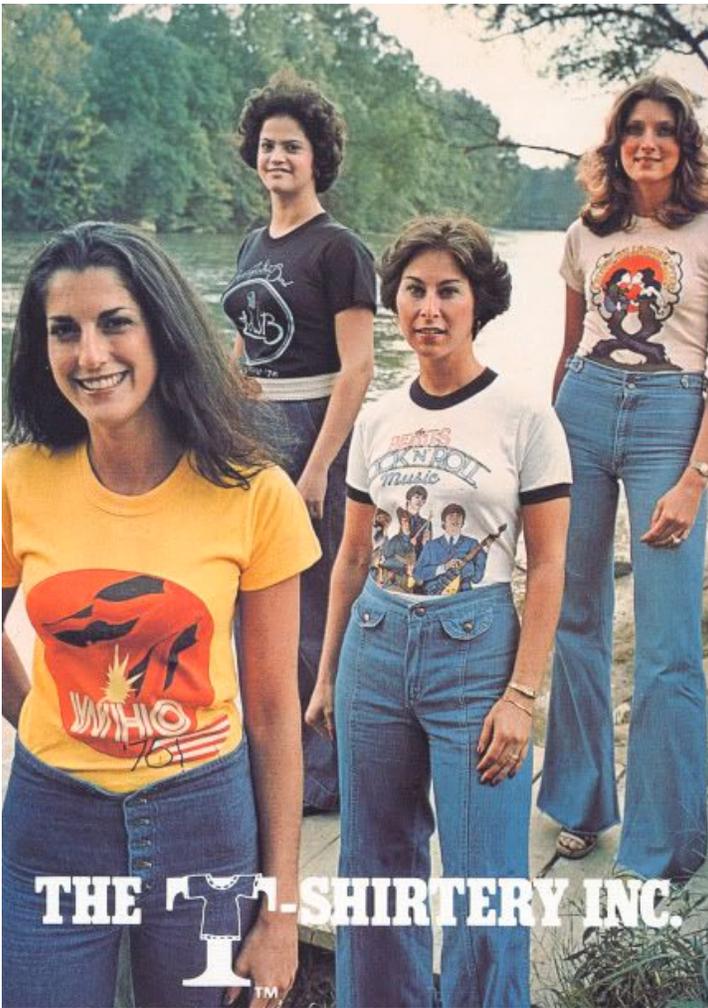
Knits don't need to be accurately patterned or sewn. Minimal seams, fairly straight cutting. Some t-shirts don't even have side seams anymore.

Knits don't need to be patterned to fit well - the fitment is in the stretch. It's as easy as S M L XL +

Invention and widespread use of the washing machine and tumble dryer. Clothes had to stand up to this abuse. Clothing is washed significantly more often and much more harshly today (believe it or not).

Invention of cars and changes in automotive interior design - ever try to get in or drive a car in a full Victorian or Edwardian outfit? Cars have a lot to do with the changes in our clothing over the 20th century, whether it's the disappearance of large hats, the narrowness and length of skirts (or phasing out of skirts completely), or the increasing comfort and stretch factor of all clothing.





Social

We wear fewer items of clothing than ever before, but our clothing is washed significantly more often. No longer do we rely on linen underclothes to keep our outer clothes clean - just sweat on through, then throw it in the washer.

Expectations of clothing - cheap, good, and lasts long enough. Doesn't shrink, doesn't wear too much when washed.

Active lifestyles - stretch equals mobility (right?)

Speed of dressing - who has time to put on all those layers? Who has time for underpinnings, for laces and buttons and hooks, for even doing your hair?

Changing bodies - comfort is king, whether active or not. Nobody wants to be squeezed or pinched (understandably!).

Overly sexualized clothing

Fashion

Defying the laws of physics with Lycra/Elastane, first woven into denim in the late 1970s. In the 1970s, we had hip-huggers but they didn't intentionally display what became known as the "whale tail" at the dawn of the 21st century. (Please note, as well, that 1960s and 1970s non-denim pants were often made out of tricot and bottomweight knits) Circa 2000 ultra-low-rise pants could never stay up without stretch. The waistline moves from the natural waist to the pelvic bone and then below. There's low....then there's LOW.

Overly sexualized clothing - everything has a tight fit. Tight t-shirts, tight pants, for both men and women. Clothes don't hang, they cling. Lycra makes it possible.



Sewing with knits

For the first time since the 1970s, the Big Two (Simplicity and McCall's) are producing a variety of patterns for sewing with knits: entire dedicated sections in the pattern catalog. The problem is that the major fabric stores haven't caught up with this - selection of jersey is small; no ribbing available whatsoever. Why?

Lack of skill/learning in sewing with knits? It *is* totally different.

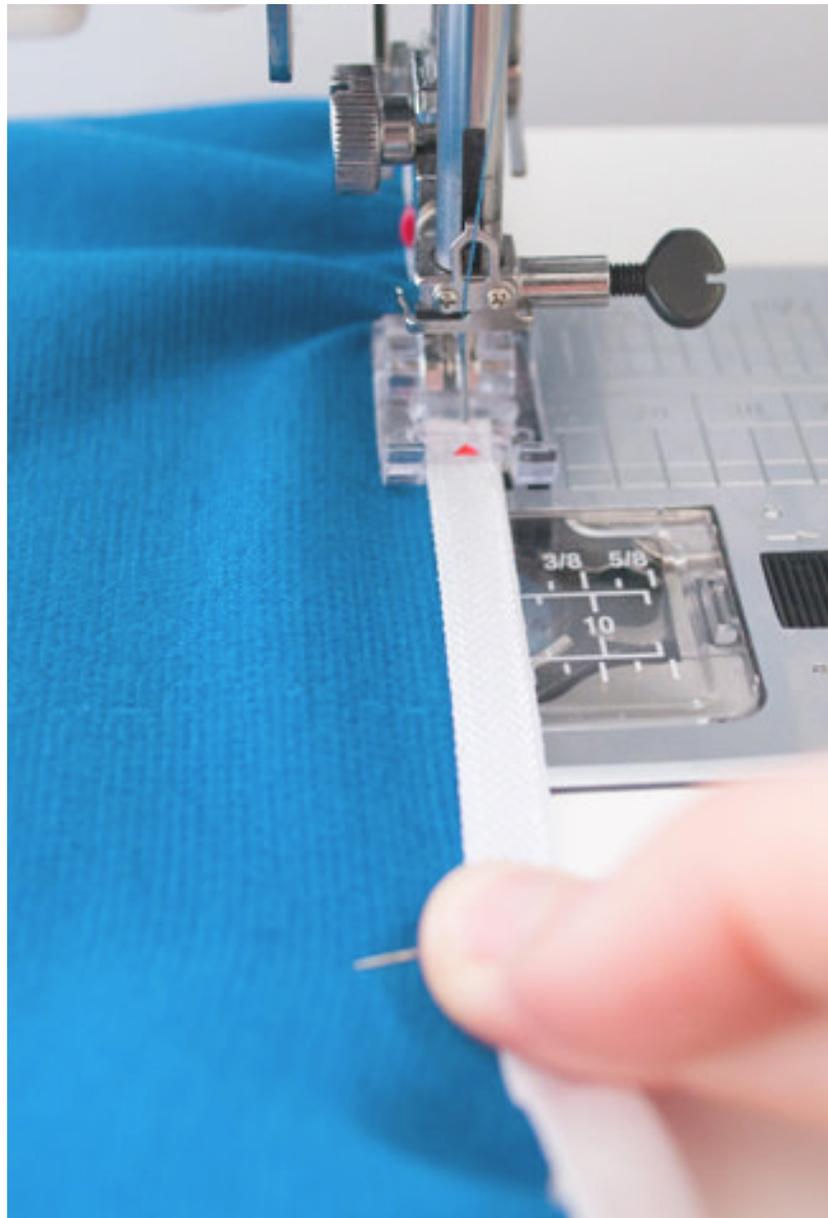
Lack of interest in sewing with knits - cheap t-shirts and sweaters are plentiful, so why bother?

Limited availability/access to knits - a self-perpetuating loop between big fabric chains and pattern companies. If sewists can't get the materials, the patterns won't sell, so will be dropped, and fabric stores won't ever notice a demand for knit fabrics.

Design of modern machines doesn't favor knits - sewing machine arms are short and fat, making it very difficult if not impossible to get a ribbed cuff under the needle.

What do you think? These are just my ideas, but why do you think there is a disconnect between what we sew and what mainstream fashion makes for us to wear?

Source: Lauren Stowell





FOR THE LOVE OF SEWING



FREE SEWING PROJECT

T-SHIRT MEMORY QUILT.

EVERYONE HAS MORE T-SHIRTS THAN THEY KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH. WRAP YOURSELF UP IN YOUR MEMORIES OR GIVE TO YOUR HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE STUDENT AS A GIFT. THIS PROJECT WILL SHOWCASE THE BABY LOCK TRIUMPH SERGER FOR PIECING AND THEN CREATE A WAVE TRIM THAT WILL GIVE THIS QUILT A UNIQUE LOOK.

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MAY 2018

CLASSES AT A GLANCE

Calendar



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Easily open and press seams before or instead of pressing.

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The long edges on the sides are great for turning long seams, both straight and curved, and the sharp edge on the end is a perfect marker.

This is a very handy tool indeed.



Just Take it



One Stitch
at a Time



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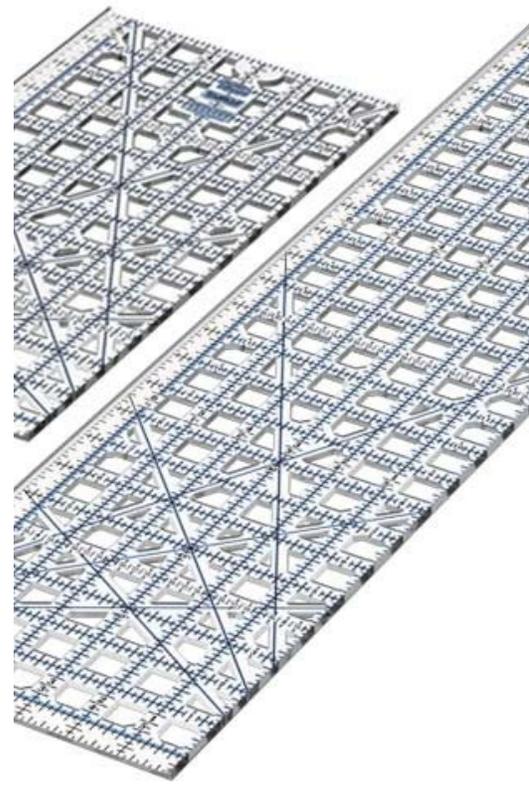
VALID THROUGH MAY 18th. ONLY ONE GIFT CERTIFICATE PER MACHINE PURCHASED.

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TRUECUT PRODUCTS





FOR THE LOVE OF SEWING

BABY LOCK TIP

HOW TO Sewing Timesaver



Here is a great sewing time saver. This little ring holds your wound and unwound bobbins so they are ready and easy to find when you need them. Wind several bobbins before you start a larger project and you will not have to stop to wind a bobbin! Wind a bobbin in several basic colors and you are ready in the event of a needed quick repair too!

CHECK OUT OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER

WE WILL BE GIVING YOU ALL THE DETAILS TO
ATTEND A CHRISTMAS IN JULY EVENT WITH
SUSAN ZELLER.



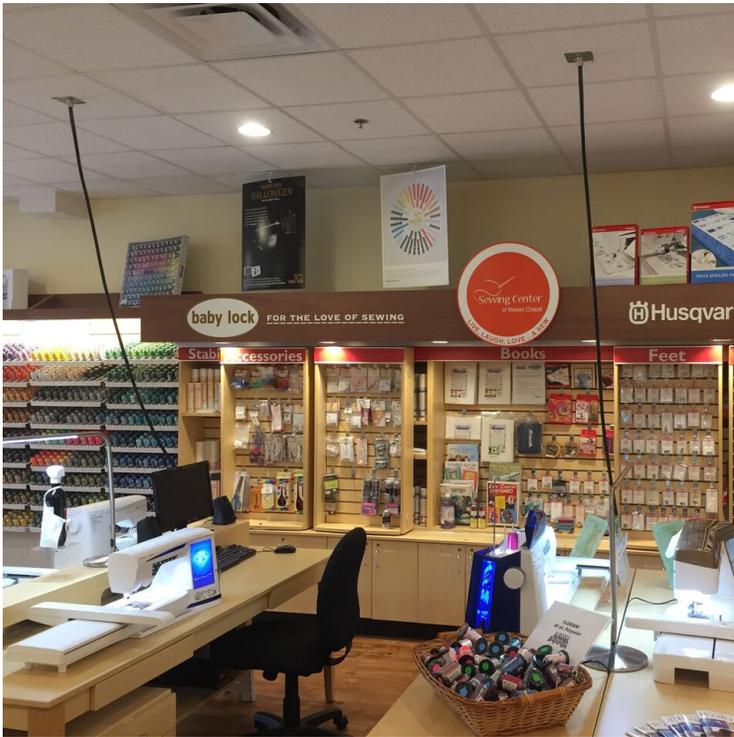
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