
Simplicity Sewing: Sew a Winter Coat with Deborah Kreiling

Chapter 1 - Sew a Winter Coat

Overview

(lively, cheerful music) - Hi, I'm Deb Kreiling from Simplicity Pattern Company. I've worked at Simplicity for over 35 years, and now, as the Design Development Director, I oversee all of the pattern development, pattern making, and making the photo samples. This class, we're going to work on the Leanne Marshall Simplicity 8262 fit and flared coat. This coat is lined, it's chock-full of great details like princess seams, an angled hemline, two-piece sleeves, and a really beautiful, double large collar that could almost be a hood when the garment is finished. While we go through the coat, we're going to be following pretty much the standard sewing directions on the guide sheet, but I'm going to add some of my favorite tips and techniques and more while we're sewing this great fit and flare coat that can be worn in any season, and really, is a suitable project for any advanced beginner.

Materials

- Let's take a look at everything we're going to need to make this coat. First you're going to need the pattern. It's 8262, Simplicity pattern, and it comes in sizes from four to 12 or from 14 to 22. You're going to need to check your bust measurement, that's the key measurement for when you're making a coat or a jacket or a blouse. You want your bust measurement to match to one of the measurements on the back of the pattern envelope, and then you need to choose your yardage based on the size pattern you're going to need. Your fabric choices for this coat run a broad spectrum. You could make it in a lightweight fabric, you could make it in a medium to sort of a little bit heavier weight coat fabric. But because the coat is so drapery, you don't want to go into a true heavy coat-weight fabric because it's going to make the coat stand out and be very difficult to sew with. I have a few selections here. The top one is actually my sample of what we don't want to use, it's a little too dense and has too much weave in it to be able to use so much fabric. The other fabrics here run the gamut from a lightweight wool, this one's a little bit of a tweed. I have a plaid here which could look really quite beautiful because you have a lot of angles on the seams and you could get a lot of nice chevroning of your fabric. I have a lightweight boiled wool which could be really beautiful, and sort of a brocade. It could also be made in a denim, it could be made in a lightweight linen if you live someplace where you need a lighter-weight coat versus a winter coat. So remember, you want to choose something that's going to wear well, it's an outerwear garment. You don't want something that's gonna fall apart after all your work. And you want something that's gonna be suitable for the climate and for the style lines on the coat. Next you have to have lining. The lining is as important as the coat fabric. You know you're going to be taking the coat on and off, on and off, and you don't want it to wear out. You want to buy a high quality lining or a suitable silky-type fabric that's not going to wear out. I like Bemberg linings, but you can find something, even a lightweight satin. If you want the coat to be a little bit warmer and you're not using too heavy a fabric, you could get a flannel-backed satin lining which really will help add a little bit of insulation. But remember, the weight of the lining has to be compatible, to get along well, with the weight of the coat fabric. Then you need interfacing, and that also will depend on the weight of your coat fabric. Most interfacings now are available as a fusible and for all of the sewing on this coat you certainly can use a fusible interfacing. I'm using a lightweight fusible interfacing that matches well

with the lightweight coat fabric. I needed to purchase two and seven eighths yards of interfacing for the coat, and that's the same for all sizes. But you've got to make sure you buy enough fabric and enough lining fabric to go with your project. Check your size, make sure you're looking in the right column, and buy your fabric according to that amount. You also need a lot of other supplies. You need paper scissors, you need good fabric scissors that you're never going to cut paper with. You need trimmers, mine are a little bit longer, but you need to be able to get into small areas to trim your seam allowances. And then a small pair of snippers to keep by your machine so you can cut your threads. It's best to cut your threads while you're sewing, not at the end. Pins, tape measure, ruler, pattern weights if you don't want to use pins. You're going to need marking tools and depending on where you're marking and what your fabric is, I like a chalk liner, and this is a new friction pen that actually disappears with the heat of your iron. I also always use my Washi tape to mark my seam allowance on my sewing machine so I'm always sewing accurately. I need thread to match my garment. I need a contrast thread for any markings. I will also need the thread to match whatever color my toggles are. I need four toggles and I need one snap. Toggles come in a wide variety, I've got a couple of samples here. And then because they're usually leather and you can't baste them in place, I use a glue stick to hold them in place temporarily until I sew them on. Then a little bit of other tools, I have some pressing tools, a ham and a seam stick. I need hand sewing needles. You always need your seam ripper. And a good sharp machine needle to start your project. Remember, every new project, put a new sewing machine needle in your machine.

Preparing Pattern Pieces

Reviewing the pattern

- Let's get started with the pattern and the instruction sheet. Take them out of the envelope and before you even go to your pattern tissue, make sure you look at the technical drawing because that shows you everything you need to know about the garment. You've got your front view and your back view. It shows you where your seams are. It shows you the seams on the sleeve and the angled hemline. Remember, we're making View A coat which was the longer one. And in the pattern also is a shorter jacket that can be made with patch pockets. The next thing you have to look at is all of these pattern pieces. You will need most of them for the coat. Some of them are just for the lining. And the smaller patch pockets pieces are for View B. So you wanna start looking for pattern pieces number one, all the way up to number 13. That will take you to every piece you need. Your front, your side front, the back, the side back, your pockets, your facings, your sleeves, your collars, and your lining sections. You need to pull all those out of the tissue and once you've chosen your size, you need to cut them along the cutting line for the size or even leaving a little border. Let's talk a little bit about size and ease. You've chosen your size by the bust measurement of your body around the fullest point, but that's not gonna be what the coat measures. The space between your body and the coat is ease. Now remember, this coat is lined, and you're going to be wearing it over another garment. If it's a winter coat, you're gonna wear it over a sweater probably. If it's a lighter weight coat, you're at least gonna have something on between you and the coat. So you need a lot more space than you would need in a fitted top or even a lightweight blazer. This coat in a size 10 finishes at 37 and a half inches. Your body measurement in the size 10 at the bust is 32 and a half inches. That means there's an extra amount of five inches between you and the garment. That's pretty standard for a lined coat. Remember, you don't wanna over fit it. You still need to be

able to get it on and off and move around comfortably. The reason you're going to choose this by your bust measurement is you want the neck and shoulders and all the upper body part to fit well. The rest of it will go along with the appropriate size. Once you've cut out all of your pattern pieces from the tissue, you need to make sure you know how many of each one you have to cut. All the outer pieces will either be cut to a fabric and maybe some interfacing. You have lining pieces. Some of the pattern pieces are cut of fabric and of lining. It will say that on each piece. And then you're ready to get to your cutting layouts. Remember, you need to pretreat any fabric that you're going to be sewing with. Most fabrics have a bit of sizing. Sometimes a little bit store dust. So depending on the type of fabric you have, depends on how you're going to pretreat it. If you're using a lightweight wool, obviously you're not going to be washing it in the washing machine. A good steaming with your iron and make sure it's fully dry before you use it. If you're making the coat out of something washable, go ahead and prewash it and dry it so that when it's sewn, it still can be wash and dried later. Anything that you're using for the lining, you wanna take care of the same way. If it's a washable lining, wash it, steam it. Most interfacing won't need any pretreating. Sometimes if you're nervous, you can dip it in cold water and hang them dry. And then everything will have the opportunity to react really well when you're sewing. Your cutting layouts are going to show you exactly how to place your pieces on the fabric that you purchased. Remember to measure your grain line. Carefully, make sure you're parallel to your selvage so that you can make sure you're on grain for each piece. Especially with this coat because it's very fit and flared. And those angles on the bottom are really critical to be cut on the right grain. We're working with 60 inch fabric so your cutting layouts are pretty straight forward. Folding your fabric in half, making sure you put your right sides together, but if you're working with a narrower fabric and for your lining, you'll really need to pay attention to these special cutting notes on the guide sheet. The instructions on how to do it are referred on the upper right hand corner of the instruction sheet. But I want to demonstrate it because it's a good technique to use in this project and any other project you take up later on. Most of time your fabric will be wide enough to accommodate your pattern pieces with a single fold of your fabric. Folding it each right sides together, matching your selvages. In this case though, if you're using a 45 inch fabric, you may have to cut your fabric in half and turn it around so that any kind of nap or direction is still going in the same direction. So this fabric, I've drawn some trees on my fabric, and you can see they're all going this way. If I was to just fold it in half cross wise matching my selvages and I cut on a double thickness, you would end up with trees going up on the front and down on the other side of the front. You wouldn't want that. Also, any kind of shine, any nap, any other thing, any kind of direction. So what you need to do to accommodate this. This might be a little bit scary but if you follow the cutting layouts and the directions written on the guide sheet, you'll be able to do it. You need to take the full width of the yardage, open it up, fold it in half cross wise so you have selvages on the top and selvages on the bottom. Make sure they're two even pieces. And then you need to cut along that fold, giving yourself two big pieces of fabric. I'm gonna do that here so we can see. So I've folded it. And I'm going to cut the full length because you need to see where your selvages are to match them back when you're done. So now you've got your two sections. And your trees are going up here. And if I follow down, it's going that way. I wanna turn them around. So I'm going to take the top piece. And I'm going to separate it. And then I'm going to turn it around so that when you match your selvages, you've got trees going the same direction on both sides. So this way when you lay out your piece on the double thickness of fabric, your nap, the direction, the corduroy, whatever it is, is all going in the same direction when you finish the garment. Before you cut your pattern pieces of fabric, make sure you've pressed your tissue with a dry iron.

Especially these pieces are very big and they're probably very wrinkled out of the envelope. They need to be as flat as possible, dry ironed definitely, and then get started. You wanna make sure you've cut each piece out of fabric and interfacing where it says to and your lining sections for the front and the back and the sleeves, side front, and side back. You'll see on the pattern instructions that it tells you to turn up an inch on the lower edges of your side front, your side back, and the sleeve pieces that will be cut of lining. The front and the back have their own lining sections and you don't need to do that.

Cutting and marking pattern pieces

- I have a few of my pattern pieces cut out here. I've got the front, and the side back and my pocket. I've cut two side backs, two fronts. I've cut two pocket pieces from my fabric and two pocket pieces from my lining, and I want to walk through the different ways we can put our markings on our pattern pieces. Markings are really important. They guarantee you're matching your piece correctly to the piece that it's going to be sewn to. Different type of markings are single notches, double notches which will generally be on the back portion of the pattern. Double notch on your side back seam. Large dots, which are going to be used for your pocket. Another single notch, and then these large dots which are going to be used for the lower portion of the pocket. Few ways you can transfer. You can take a scissors and make small little snips into a single notch. Don't go too far. You want to not get to your 5/8" seam allowance. You can use your double notch also the same way. Sometimes though it's a little more important for inner markings to use either a marking pen, a pencil, or a tailor's tack. I'm going to demonstrate a tailor's tack and then also using a marking pencil. I've got a hand sewing needle with contrast thread in it, kind of long, and I'm going to make a tailor's tack. Tailor's tacks are good for internal markings where you can't do the clip method, and it might be difficult to get to with any other kind of marking tool, even with a tracing wheel and carbon paper. I need these large dots for my pocket. I'm making a size 10, so I'm going to work with this dot. I'm going to put my needle in through both thicknesses of fabric and just make some wide loopy stitches. And I don't have a knot in my thread, I'm going to leave a tail end. I'm gonna come across, kind of making an asterisk, and leave another loop, and then make sure you're going through both thicknesses and staying in the circle. And don't worry if it gets a little tangled just make sure you keep the loop. And we're gonna do it two more times. You wanna make sure you have enough thread because it's going through both layers of the fabric and you want to have it on that two pieces. So I've made all these loops and now I'm going to take my scissors. I'm gonna cut off my needle thread number one, and then at each loop I'm going to cut it open. And I can cut this one a little shorter. And now you can see, when I, I can pull off my pattern tissue right away, and then I want to make sure I have it on both layers. So I'm going to carefully separate the two layers, 'cause if I do it too hard I'm gonna lose the top one, and then carefully, you only want to cut the threads not your fabric, cut it apart. And now I have a very clear marking on both sides of my fabric and on both pieces of my fabric. This method is a very accurate method. It also is good for when you're using a fabric that is kind of thick, that won't take the application of a marking pen or a pencil or tracing paper and a tracing wheel, and good for really getting your internal markings in the right place. Another way to mark is using a pencil or a fabric marking pen. This pen disappears when you apply heat to it. So I'm going to mark those same large dots that I marked on my side back. This time I'm going to take a pin and put it through the center of the dot, through both thicknesses. Then I can peel back my pattern tissue a little bit and just make a mark where that large dot is, and again on the underside where the pin is coming through. And your marks always go on the wrong side of

your fabric. The nice thing about using the tailor's tack is you get to see your mark from the right side and the wrong side. Sometimes you need to do that in the process of sewing your garment. Make sure you get your markings on every piece using whatever method you've chosen. Snip marking, using a marking pen or a pencil or a tracing wheel, and or tailor's tacks. All of the seams have notches. Many of the seams will have a small dot at the lower edge for the angled hem. You're going to have a large dot near the collar at the neckline. You have small dots on your sleeve and on the armhole, which makes sure your sleeve gets into the right position. And your collar, your collar's going to have center back marking and notches along the neck edge and small dots where it matches to the shoulder seam.

Interfacing

- Two things to keep in mind as you're progressing with your coat. Number one, try to keep your pattern pieces pinned to your tissue for as long as possible. Even after you've put your marking on them, just keep one pin to anchor the two pieces together, especially on this coat, the side front looks a little bit like the side back. You don't want to get them confused. And also, if your fabric is not the same on both sides, then you don't need to worry about this. But some fabrics it's really hard to tell, especially if they're a dark color, the same weave. I like to take a marking pen and just put an X on the wrong side of my fabric. This will make sure that I'm not sewing two left fronts or two right sleeves, and I end up with all the pieces sewn properly together. For this coat, you need to put interfacing on the facings, the front and the back facings, the upper and under collar. The instructions will tell you to do that as you're going along, but I like to get all my interfacing done early on, so this way when I need the piece, it's interfaced already, and I can move quickly. Two ways you can do this. You can interface each piece separately, cutting out the garment piece and the interfacing, and interfacing them, which I'm going to do, or you can cut a block of fabric large enough to accommodate the front facing, the upper collar, the under collar, and the back facing, interface the whole block, and then cut those pieces out. Sometimes it may be more economical to just cut it like the cutting layout, and sometimes it could work to your benefit to do the whole block. It's going to be up to you. I want to interface the back facing, so I've got my pattern piece for the back facing. I've got the garment piece, which is my fabric, and I've marked the wrong side, and I've got my interfacing piece. This is a lightweight, fusible interfacing, and I want to make sure that I use the fusing side against the wrong side of the fabric. I want to quickly press this crease out of my facing piece to make sure that it doesn't wrinkle underneath the interfacing. And then I'm just going to take my interfacing and lay the fusing side down and fuse it according to the instructions that came with your interfacing. Generally there's no steam and a medium heat. It's going to depend on your interfacing. And I'm just going to place the iron over it spot by spot. I'm not going to run the iron back and forth. And then I'm going to just press the other side. Now you can use this as one piece along with your front facing. Both of them need to be interfaced, and one upper collar section, and one under collar section. Then you'll be ready to go as we go along sewing the coat together.

Sewing the Coat

Stay-stitching and pockets

- We're going to get ready to start using your sewing machine, so a couple of things to remember, make sure your bobbins have been wound, you've got a fresh needle. I have my washi tape along

my 5/8 inch seam line. This is the distance between my needle and the edge of my fabric. This way I'm not wiggling and jiggling and I will get a nice, smooth stitch. We'll be sewing with a 5/8 inch seam allowance on most of these pieces and I'm using a medium speed on my machine and my stitch length is 2.5 stitches per inch and I have a regular straight stitch. The first thing we're going to do is stay stitch all of the necklines. Stay stitching is a really important step, it prevents all your curved edges from stretching out, it also stabilizes any edge that you need to clip before or after sewing. I have my front piece and I'm gonna put it under the machine. Stay stitching is done 1/2 inch from your cut edge, so I'm moving a little bit away from my washi tape, I'm lowering my presser foot, I'm lowering my needle, and I'm going to run a nice row of stitching evenly around the neck edge, not stretching. Make sure you're just following the curve, the machine will follow the curve if you gently guide your fabric. And you're going to stay stitch right through your tailor's tack, right to the front edge of your garment. Gonna raise my needle and pick up my presser foot, cut your threads, pull it out and you can see you've got a nice row of stitching 1/2 inch from the cut edge and you need to do this on the other front, on your back neck edge, and on the neck edges of both front facings, and the back neck facing. Remember, stay stitching is done on all your curved edges. It keeps them from getting stretched out and reinforces any place where you have to clip. The next thing we're going to do is apply all those pocket sections to the side front and the side back. Two of them will go to the side back and two of them will go to the side front. We're going to start putting your pockets on. So remember, you cut two pockets from fabric and two pockets from lining. The pocket lining pieces go to the front of your garment, 'cause you're not gonna see them when you're using your pocket wearing your coat. The pocket pieces that have been cut of self fabric go onto the back of the coat. So I have my side front with my pocket of lining pinned to it, I have my side back with my pocket of fabric pinned to it. I need to stitch both of these in a 3/8 inch seam and then I'm going to press them out. The reason they go in a 3/8 inch seam versus 5/8 is so that that seam allowance and that seam is hidden inside the pocket when you're wearing the coat. So I've moved my washi tape to give me a 3/8 inch seam allowance. It pretty much lines up with the edge of my presser foot, but I wanted to make sure. I'm gonna stitch the entire pocket. I'm not stopping and starting anywhere, I'm gonna come here, line it up, lower my needle, and I'm going to back stitch at the bottom and the top just as insurance to make sure the pocket stays in place. It's a stress point, so a really good idea to back stitch. And I'm gonna go all the way to the top of the pocket. Bring my needle up, pull it out, trim my threads. Always a good idea to trim while you're sewing, so later on you don't have threads caught in or a big mess to clean up later on. I'm going to do the same thing to the back pocket. Now I've got both pockets stitched on. So you'll see, I have a bad habit of stitching over my pins. I do it pretty carefully and if I'm sewing a really lightweight fabric I never do it. You can pull your pins out as you stitch. Personal preference. I need to make sure now that I stitch the other pocket lining to the other side front and the other pocket of coat fabric to the side back, and then I'm going to press all those seams toward the pocket and under stitch each one as it shows in the guide sheet. So the seam of that pocket gets pressed toward the pocket. And I'm using a little bit of steam. Your iron temperature depends on your type of fabric. And be careful with your lining fabrics, because sometimes they don't need as much heat as your garment fabric. So that seam is going toward the pocket on all the pieces. So the side backs and both side fronts. And then you're going to under stitch very close to that seam, which holds that seam in place and also acts as a reinforcement for the pocket. I've got it on the machine and I want to put my needle down as close to the edge of the pocket as possible. And under stitch means it's under stitching, so you're not going to see it later on when your garment is finished. And I really don't need to back stitch.

And I'm just gonna guide it and I'm keeping an eye on the needle in this case and making sure I'm staying very close to the stitched pocket seam. We've got a beautifully under stitched pocket. We have three more sections to do, the other side front, and the two side backs, then we'll be ready to move onto start stitching all the major seams of the coat.

Seams and hemlines

- The next thing we're going to do after you've got all your pockets stitched to the side sections is we need to start stitching all of the princess seams. The first one I've got is my side front and my front. I'm going to pin them with right sides together, matching the two notches that go around the curved portion of the princess seam. That's your bust area and that's a very important seam to get nice and flat. I'm going to start by matching the upper notch. You can see, put those two together, and I'm gonna put a pin in. Spill them all over the table, that's fine. And then I wanna come under here and I wanna match these two angles, 'cause the pattern is built so you don't get any weird steps after you've stitched your seam. And I wanna anchor at that point my pin into my seam allowance and you'll see when you stitch your 5/8 inch seam, it's going to come right to this point and facilitate that seam being pressed open very smoothly. And then I'm just going to work the seam all the way down pinning, and the next place I'm gonna come to my second notch, 'cause that's a critical area and I'm gonna put another pin in there. And now I've got this curved edge going to a straighter edge, but you can see, I don't need any clipping. I didn't need to staystitch and I'm going to put one pin in the middle of that section. Continue pinning all the way down to the bottom, making sure to match the small dot at the bottom where I have to pivot when stitching the seam. I'm going on to the machine now. I'm making sure that I move my washi tape back to my 5/8 because the last seams I stitched were the 3/8 for the pocket, and I'm aligning my cut edge right with the edge of my tape, making sure both edges of my fabric are even. I'm going to lower my needle and my presser foot, make sure I'm on the same stitch length, and then I'm gonna start stitching. I'm going to backstitch to reinforce that and then I'm going to stitch the entire seam, making sure to stay even with my washi tape. I am gonna remove my pins as I stitch this seam. Better habit than leaving them in. On a big seam, really important. You don't want any skipped stitches or broken needles or bent pins or holes in your fabric is really the key. And as I come around the curve, I want to go slowly and I want to make sure that I'm not getting any puckers. It is a curved seam going to a straighter edge of the front, and you do have to carefully stitch it. You don't have any ease or clips, but you do want to guide it carefully as you go around it. And, again, I'm gonna take my pins out. That's why I place them with the head out so that they're easy to grab as I'm stitching. You can see I'm getting a little bit of a bubble and I wanna make sure that that doesn't happen. I'm going to lift my presser foot and smooth it all out of the way and take that pin out and get everything nice and flat and there's my second notch and now I'm gonna go all the way down to bottom. I have that small dot that we made the tailor's tack at. That's the pivot point. We're coming up to the small dot and that's where we have the tailor's tack so we need to stitch slowly and get right to the middle, maybe even hand crank it once, and then pick up the presser foot and turn that corner so that your raw edge, again, is aligned with the tape, and you're going to continue stitching all the way to the end. And backstitch to reinforce it and pick up your needle. Cut your thread if your machine has that operation and pull it out. You can see you've done your straight stitching all the way to the pivot point and you've turned and you've created this nice corner which, when we press the seam open, is going to form a beautiful miter at this point. You can now also just pull out the remaining threads from your tailor's tack. You don't need those markings anymore. Pull

them out from one side and the other. You may need to use a pin for the smaller ones. And you just pull them out and it disappears. There you go and no more tailor's tack. See? Then we're gonna go to the ironing board and we're going to clip into this corner, notch out, cut away a little bit of extra fabric so that when you press up the angled hem, it lies nice and flat. I finished stitching my seam and the most important thing to do is press it flat before moving on to any other pressing that you're gonna do. This closes up the holes that the needle made while stitching the seam and gets it ready for the next operation. I'm using a lot of steam here 'cause I'm using a lightweight wool and it really will help my fabric perform nicely. Now I need to press this seam open and I also need to do that clip at the bottom and notch out the fullness. So we're gonna start first by clipping right into the point. Don't clip your stitches, and then I'm gonna make a big triangle, and cut out that part and that part because when I press this hem up to create the angled hemline, I need as little fabric there as possible. So you're gonna use your fingers carefully and press that part open first, and you want it as crisp as possible, so you want to get it back on the stitches for as far as possible, right? Now I'm gonna press the rest of the seam open. To make it easier, I'm gonna start working from the top and I wanna get it going around that curve very nicely and it's easier for me to see here. So using your finger, you want to start here. Make sure you're going right on your stitching, and you see how those angles line up very nicely at the top of that princess seam, and just using your finger as a guide. Don't burn yourself. You're going to start there. I like to press into the curve first a little bit. It helps train that fabric to then want to become open. Oftentimes princess seams are pressed toward the front of the garment. It changes the look on the outside of how the seam falls. Depends on your fabric and depends on the garment. For this coat, I really want this seam pressed open because it's going to give me on the outside a very nice, flat, pressed seam. If I were to press it in one direction, it creates a bit of a ridge, and you really don't like that. So I'm gonna keep going all the way down, opening my seam as I go along. And you're getting to the curve of the waistline area and depending again on your fabric and if you made any size adjustment in the waistline area, you might want to make a few small clips right here, not too far, and that will allow those edges of the fabric to spread open just a little bit more to create a flatter look. And I'm just going all the way down. It's a very long seam, but it's really an important seam. It's the focal point of the garment so you really want to get it pressed open very nicely. I'm getting down close to that corner where I cut out the fullness and it's going to be really important that you get that upper part of the seam allowance pressed nice and flat as well. You're gonna keep your finger in the corner, get it open, and then continue, get the rest of that seam pressed open. And then, you've got them both open. Just put your finger right in that corner and you're going to press it up and now you see you've created that nice point which will become the angled hemline. So you want to make sure you've got them even and just press that one center point. And that's the key to this coat is this whole angled hemline. Very easy, just takes a little bit of effort, so you want to make sure you've notched out the extra fabric in there that you initially pivoted your stitching at the small dot that you marked with your tailor's tack, and now you've got your seam pressed open. I finished that seam and it's all nice and pressed. I'm getting ready for doing the angled hem later on. There are three more princess seams I need to stitch. The other side front to the front and both side backs to the back. I'm gonna do it in exactly the same manner, making sure I match that small dot where I'm going to pivot so I get this perfect angled hem on all four seams. I've got all four of the princess seams stitched and all my angled hemlines are ready to work on later on. They're all clipped, pressed, every single point is created nicely, and the next thing we need to do is stitch the side seams. We need to stitch above and below the pocket and around the pocket, and you're gonna do that the same on both sides. I'm gonna walk you

through the first part right now. I've pinned my entire side seam. I matched my large dots around my pocket opening and now I'm just going to stitch. I put my needle down and my presser foot and make sure you've got your 5/8. Backstitch at the top to reinforce the seam. This is your side seam and you're gonna keep-- I am gonna try to remember to take my pins out. It's a long seam. So I'm going to stitch to the first large dot that I marked, and that is the top of the pocket opening, and I'm gonna make sure to backstitch and reinforce that seam, and come out. Then I'm going to slide it and I'm gonna start stitching at the lower small dot. I'm just gonna drop my needle right in there, lower my presser foot, take out that anchoring pin, and stitch that seam. Then I'm gonna come back and stitch around the pocket. Makes it a little bit easier so you're not trying to stitch around this curve and then back up. So starting there, I backstitched and, again, I've got my 5/8 inch seam allowance, and we're just gonna go all the way down to the lower edge of the coat. There's no pivot point on your side seams, so you're just going to stitch all the way to the lower edge. You can see that this fabric is a little bit fraying and if I wasn't lining this coat, I would wanna make sure that my seams were all finished. A variety of ways, if you have a serger, you could do that. You could overlock them, you could encase them in bias tape, different ways, but since the coat is lined, I really don't have to worry about that. So now I need to stitch around my pocket and I'm going to start at that same large dot, lower my needle right into it, and you're gonna see that my seam allowance does match up. Stitch a few steps forward and, again, backstitch to reinforce. That's a pivot point and it's also a stress point, so you wanna make sure to anchor your stitches well. And then you're just going to guide your presser foot around the curve. You don't have to force it. You don't have to stretch anything. Just keep the edge of the fabric lined up with your washi tape and you'll get your good 5/8 seam allowance. And you see I'm stitching from the front side, so this is my lining pocket. You go slowly around the curve and your machine will really just walk itself around the curve as long as you're guiding your fabric smoothly. You're starting to get a lot of fabric here that you're working now that the coat is getting full, so you wanna make sure that you're always clear, nothing's caught underneath. You don't want to catch maybe the front in the pocket. So now we're just going to come straight across and we don't have to go to that dot. Just pick up and come straight across and you're gonna stop at the stitching. You wanna make sure you don't go past the stitching because then you'd be coming to the outside of the garment. And we're gonna cut it and bring it up. This seam is all stitched and remember you've gotta press your seam flat before you move on to pressing it open, and I wanna get my pocket stitches all nice and pressed and down to the bottom. Get a little steam going. And now we're gonna press this seam open, but to make sure the pocket's gonna go toward the front, we need to clip the back seam allowance only right at the top of the pocket. Remember, don't clip into your stitching. And then right below the pocket, just the back seam allowance. This will make it so the pocket can go toward the front, but the remaining seam can be pressed open. So I need to get this into position to press open and I'm gonna start at the bottom, just opening it with my fingers. Holding down right on my stitching and following along, getting a little steam to get that seam open. You know, some of your fabrics may respond well. The more natural fiber count you have, your seam will open easier. If you have some synthetic in your fiber, it could end up being a little tough to get it open. And now we want the pocket to go toward the front and we want the seam open. So now we're gonna make sure, we're gonna come on the front, we're gonna make sure this is going nice and smoothly, and you're gonna press that edge. That's gonna give you that pocket opening. As you can see, that initial 3/8 inch seam that we used for the pocket is inside, and then this is the understitching, and you're still gonna be clear of where the pocket's gonna fold. So you'll have no stitching showing on the outside of your pocket. And

then we just need to get the upper portion, press that remaining seam open. And it's a good idea especially if you're using woolsens and natural fibers that once you've steamed them, you want to leave them in the same position until they dry basically. 'Cause once you start moving around, if they're still wet, you're gonna lose that edge that you just pressed nicely in there. So we got a little bit of steam. We're gonna pat it down and now we're just gonna let it sit and dry. Go ahead and stitch your second side seam exactly the same way you stitched the first one. I've got both of mine done here. You can see my pocket is pressed toward the front. I've got those clips on the back side seam and now this is what it looks like on the outside. I've got a smooth pocket opening and as I lift it, you can see my initial $\frac{3}{8}$ inch seam allowance is hidden inside the pocket and held in place with the edge stitching, and there's the pocket lining that we stitched to the front, and the fold edge is your $\frac{5}{8}$ and your seam line is your $\frac{3}{8}$. That's a very nice pocket construction. It conceals everything and there's your finished pocket and your side seam on the inside. We're gonna get ready to stitch the last two major seams, your shoulders seams, and with your right sides facing and you're gonna match your notch. You're going to just pin. They're two short seams. You don't need a lot of pins. And I'm going to take my right sides together on this side and match your notch and all your cut edges should be even, and your neckline shape should match up. I'm gonna stitch both those shoulder seams in a $\frac{5}{8}$ inch seam allowance. Make sure you backstitch at each end. Those are important points, and then we'll be ready to start building the facing and the lining. I'm gonna stay at the ironing board because my next step is to press up this entire lower edge, creating the angled hem, getting ready for putting on my facing and doing the hem later on. So I make a little template out of a piece of cardboard, just so I have a nice edge. I've got a little clip mark in there that's indicating my hem allowance, which was $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and I'm just going to bring up my edge and have it meet the edge of my cardboard and just start pressing. You can press right over the cardboard. Nothing's gonna happen. I'm gonna go all the way around the lower edge, getting a nice crease there. You can make these out of a piece of manila folder, the inside of a package tape. They always have those nice cardboard things that the tape is around, or you can use your own ruler. If it's a plastic ruler, you don't want to press over it. You can use a little seam gauge, something that's gonna give you the nice edge and the right amount as you go. So now we're gonna get to that first corner, which we already pressed up earlier so you're just gonna make sure it matches and then do one more pressing around the corner. So you're gonna continue all around the entire edge of the coat to get this ready and then what you need to do is hand baste close to the fold, big, loose stitch, doesn't have to be a tight stitch, just enough to hold it in place while we're continuing sewing on the coat because you don't want it to keep flapping open on you and you want to keep that crease nicely pressed. My hemline is already pressed in place, but sometimes you want to give it a little more stability, especially if your fabric maybe is a little lightweight or you wanna add a little body. I've pressed up the hem and I've cut a lightweight, fusible interfacing strip $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch wider than my hem allowance, and I'm just going to open up that fold. I want to do it after I've pressed so I can use my crease as a guide, and I would just place it right inside there so it extends a little bit beyond the fold, and I'm just gonna fuse that in place. Again, I'm not moving my iron back and forth when I'm fusing my interfacing. And then I'm gonna go back to my initial crease. It'll fold automatically and add a little bit of steam. Make sure you let it dry and you can see I've got this beautiful, more stable, little bit crisper on the outside for the hemline of the coat. So you would wanna cut those pieces the length of the section, $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch wider than the hem which is $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches. You don't want to overlap at the seam allowance so you wanna come only under your seam allowance. It could even come a little bit shy of it and go around the entire lower edge. That'll give you this nice,

crisp fold. If your fabric is heavier, you really don't need to do it, but since I'm working with a lightweight wool, I decided that would be a nice tip to share with you. My hem is all pressed up and I've created a really nice crease. If your fabric's kind of wobbly and doesn't want to stay in place, you could take a long thread and just do a hand basting right along the crease line which will help you later on when we're gonna do the hem, but my fabric took the crease well so I'm gonna move past that and get ready to make my sleeves.

Sleeves

- I've got the two sleeve sections. I've got my upper sleeve and my under sleeve. This is the seam that goes down the back of your arm, and you'll notice I have two rows of long machine stitches here between my notches, because this edge, the distance between the notches is about 1/4 or 3/8ths of an inch longer than on the front sleeve. Again, some of your fabrics, if you're using a bulkier fabric or a softer fabric, you may not need the stitches. We did not include them on the guide sheet, but I wanted to give you a good example of what you would need to do if your fabric wasn't gonna perform. So the two rows of stitches have now shrunk that edge just enough so that that distance is the same. I'm gonna go ahead and pin this seam and stitch it, and then I'm going to pin the remaining seam together and stitch that. I've pinned the back seam, and I'm gonna do them one at a time so it's easier to press open. I'm gonna lower my needle, and make sure you backstitch at the lower edge of your sleeve, and take your pins out as you go along. Still keep your 5/8ths, make sure your needle, the edge of your fabric is touching. Your distance is always from your needle to your cut edge. That's your seam allowance. And I'm coming up to my ease stitches, my notches have been matched. I'm just gonna get those long threads out of the way and I'm stitching. And as you come to the top of the sleeve, just like with the princess seam, you're gonna end up with your seam coming right up to that point. And we're gonna backstitch. Cut your thread, and there you go. So I stitched that first seam, and I'm gonna press it flat. That's going to basically shrink out all of those ease stitches, and those stitches you don't have to worry about taking them out, they're hidden away on the inside of your seam allowance. And now I want to press this seam open, but since this is a small seam and I don't want the ridge of the fabric showing on the outside, I'm going to use my seam stick, and that's gonna help me press my seam open very nicely. See my fabric falls away underneath, and all the way down. I got a good amount of seam showing. And then on the outside you're gonna see I have a smooth line. That's my seam allowance for when my arm hole gets stitched, and I have no ridges showing from my seam allowance. I've got the back seam stitched and pressed. My ease stitches can stay, they're not gonna show later on. And now this is the front seam. As you can see, there's a little bit of extra fabric on this part of the seam. When I'm stitching I'm just going to stretch slightly and those edges will match. So this is going to be a 5/8th inch seam allowance, and I'm going to stitch it and press it open the same way as I stitched the other seam. Under my presser foot, line up. Drop my needle, drop my presser foot, take out that first pin. Backstitch a little bit. So I'm gonna note where my notch is so that I know to start a little bit of stretching when I get to that point. So as I take out this pin, just a little bit of tension on the fabric behind and above, and that's going to collapse that right in there, and then as I go past it I don't have to stretch anymore. You really don't need to stretch fabric as you stitch it in most cases, only in some areas. So we're getting to the top, again you've got that exact point where that seam allowance is. And slow it down, backstitch. The second seam is stitched. I've gone ahead and pressed mine flat first, and then pressed it open, using the seam stick for all the same reasons, and now we have to put in that same kind of ease stitching that we used in the back edge, into the cap

of the sleeve. The ease stitching is a longer machine stitch and it'll keep that, make that rounded edge of the sleeve fit into the arm hole really smoothly. So I need to put the ease stitches in between the front notch and the back notch. But I need to change my stitch length to a longer stitch, and I'm gonna use about a 4.5 stitch, and I've got to make sure I've got these long thread tails both from the top thread and the bottom thread, 'cause I'm gonna have to pull on them to pull up my ease stitches. Coming in just shy, make sure I'm just about at my seam line, and needle goes down. No backstitching, and you just want to stitch smoothly keeping it, it doesn't have to be exactly 5/8ths 'cause it's gonna get hidden inside, but you want to stay pretty close. And go slowly around the curve. And you're going to go past the seam from one of those sleeve sections. And you just want to lift up and make sure that the seam is staying open, nothing's getting caught under your presser foot because you want a nice flat seam over there. And you're continuing around, and you're going to come all the way to the double notch. And here you don't want to cut, if you're machine has a cutter you don't want to cut. You want to pull it out, keep a long thread tail. And then you're going to run a second row of stitching within your seam allowance. So again you need your long thread tails. And underneath, make sure you're not gonna get that caught. This time your coming inside your seam allowance at your same starting point. Make sure you're not gonna stitch through your clip. There you go, and you're gonna go around again all the way. And what these stitches will do, they will shrink this curve to fit into the arm hole. And again, it's going to depend on the weight of your fabric, how much you're gonna have to pull up or not, because every single fabric will react a little bit differently with the ease. Again, make sure my seam is staying open, and come past there. And, so this double notch represents the back edge of my sleeve. Come down. I've got both of my sleeves prepared. All my ease stitches are in, my seams are pressed. I've got one sleeve turned the right side out and this one is still the inside out. Next step, we've got to put the sleeve into the arm hole, so you're gonna turn both sleeves right side out, and let's get ready to put the sleeves into the arm hole. On the guide sheet you'll see that the collar was assembled first. I decided to do it in a little different order just to keep the collar out of the way while I'm working on my arm hole. I've got my sleeve right side out, and my coat wrong side out. And the first thing I just want to do is reach through the arm hole and pull the sleeve through. Now I want to match up all my matching points. First is going to be the dot at the center of the sleeve cap, and that matches to the shoulder seam. And then we had two small dots at the underarm section and that's marked with a little slash and I'm gonna match that up to my side seam of my garment. And I'm gonna get that anchored with a pin. Now I want to work on the front edge of my sleeve and then the back edge of my sleeve. So you'll see I have the small dot, also marked with a slash, and the slash on the sleeve which is the small dot, and I'm gonna put a pin there. What you're gonna see now is there's not too much ease between the notch and the small dots. But I need to keep those threads free because I need to pull them up to get the ease to fit in the top of the sleeve. So I'm going to place a pin at that marking, and then I'm gonna come up here and I need to see how much I have to pull on that. So I'm gonna take this pin out for just a minute and I'm going to start pulling on both of my threads at the same time, evenly and carefully. You don't want to break them, and there's not a lot of fullness, and I'm just going to slide them along the under thread. So I've pulled it, and now I'm gonna use my hands and move that all the way up. I'm gonna pull a couple of times. Again, keeping in mind that it's still those two markings must match. And I'm not gonna have gathers, I'm just trying to ease in the fullness. I've got most of it. I just to pull a little bit more and get that edge to fit nicely. You need to pull on both threads evenly, because you need it to pull up evenly, and if you're pulling one more than the other it's not gonna sit properly. So I think I'm pretty good. I don't want to yank. I

don't want to stretch anything out. I want the arm hole of my garment to stay in the right shape and I want the sleeve to take on that shape. So I'm going to go back and re-anchor that one marking and then I'm gonna smooth out this extra fullness that's here, and I'm going to just wrap those threads around that pin so that they don't move and loosen up. And I'm going to now continue pinning from the inside for the moment. And then these, I'm just gonna move them a little bit with my fingers, so you see that this does fit the shape, and you don't have any fullness really puckering on that seam line. That's because this is a set-in sleeve, eased, not gathered. If you had gathers, then you'd have puckering coming from the other side of that 5/8th inch seam. I'm gonna do the same thing on the back edge of the sleeve. I'm gonna start at the bottom. Now some people, tailoring actually will do this, they will pull up these ease stitches to the measurement of the arm hole before you're even setting in your sleeve, and then steam it and get it to be the right shape. It can be done. But this is a pretty easy way. I'm gonna turn this around, and I'm gonna look for that marking up there, and again you'll see that there's not much happening there, but you will have more fullness to ease in in the back of your arm hole because it moves more forward and backward. You don't really move your arm backward too much, but you move your arm forward all the time. So I'm going to pull up those ease stitches the same way, get them nice and even and flattened. And then we'll be ready to set the sleeve into the arm hole. I need to get my threads in my hand. And pulling evenly, I've pulled a little bit more than I did on the front. Plus I have this seam to go over, so I have to be careful as I slide them. You really don't want to break your ease threads, because you'd have to go back to the machine and stitch the whole thing, and just be a little bit careful. So I've moved them. I'm matching my point. Just put that pin in there temporarily, and we're gonna see where we're at here. That looks pretty good. We're gonna spread them out. Make sure you have no puckers or tucks or extra folds along the seam line. Slide it, and then you can pin that in place. Make sure your cut edges are even. It's very important that you're going to stitch on that 5/8th inch seam line. That's going to really determine the sharp look of your arm hole. And then I'm gonna come back here and make sure nothing's pulled up here that I need. And make sure that seam is flat, and your seam allowance on your coat. So you've got a lot of intersecting seams here, and you want to make sure they're all flat when you go to stitch that sleeve in. And I'm gonna wrap these threads around my pin in a figure eight. And now I'm ready to go to the machine and stitch all around. I want to make sure when I'm stitching that I'm not catching in any extra parts of the garment. So I'm always going to be conscious of what's going on underneath, because I am going to be sewing it with the sleeve side facing me so I can make sure that all of this ease is moving into the arm hole nicely. So you've got to be careful of two things when you're putting that sleeve in. I'm gonna start stitching at my underarm seam, or my side seam of the garment, and remember to put your stitch length back to your regular 2.5 stitch length. I'm going to drop my needle and my presser foot and I'm gonna take out that first pin. So, sewing a sleeve in is a little tricky but go slowly, make sure you keep your tape lined up with your cut edge. You don't really need to backstitch 'cause you can overlap those stitches when you get to the end. And we're just gonna go nice and easily. And at each point when you lay it on the machine, look underneath and make sure you're not catching any extra folds, really important. Worse things is, just gotta take it out and start again. That's why you have a seam ripper. I should be taking my pins out. Okay, so I'm kind of smoothing everything, and I'm checking to make sure underneath before I go again. So each step of the way, you're just gonna smooth it out. Check underneath. I'm stitching right over that ease stitching from before. And I'm just going to now bring my sleeve a little bit forward. Make sure underneath is nice and flat. Make sure we don't have any extra folds. Take out your pins as you get there. And check underneath, make sure your seams are

staying nice and open. So these are glass-head pins which are really nice because they don't melt when they hit your iron, and I like having a ball on the end of my pins 'cause it just makes it easier to pull them out, if you remember to pull them out while you're stitching your seams. And again, I just have to rotate, and as the coat is building you're gonna notice you're gonna have a lot more fabric with you every time you go to the machine. So you're gonna have to be that much more careful to not catch in other parts while you're stitching your seams. And we're gonna meet that other stitching, we're gonna come over it, and here we're gonna backstitch a little bit. And we're gonna pick up our needle. So that first stitching is done. I want to check from both sides, and inside and outside. So looking from the sleeve side, and I see I don't really have any grabs, any puckers, that means I was pretty successful. I'm gonna cut my threads later, and now I'm looking from the garment side and I see it's folding a little bit but that's gonna come out with the seam. You see I caught my seam, but just fold it in nicely. And then the last thing I want to do, because you could get surprised, is I want to come to the outside and check all the way around. Don't worry about the threads now. I want to make sure that there's no extra folds, either on the garment or on the sleeve, and that I have a nice edge. I haven't pressed anything yet. I haven't completed the second row of stitching. I want to make sure that I have no puckers. You see a little bit of my ease stitches are showing, sometimes that happens. You can pull them out later with a seam ripper, that's not a problem. And we're gonna go all the way around underneath, and we're good. So the first row of stitching is done. I've checked, I've got no puckers. I've got no extra folds, so that's a good thing. Now I'm gonna go back to the machine and around the entire arm hole again I'm going to stitch an eighth of a way inside that first row of stitching to reinforce the seam. Your armhole is a very stressful area on a garment and you want to make sure nothing's gonna tear later on down the road, especially because it's a lined coat you don't want to have to undo something to fix it. I've done my two rows of stitching, and now I want to trim away just in the underarm area, that extra seam allowance. It will just keep the coat from feeling bulky when you're wearing it. Make a nice snip and you can go really close to the stitches but make sure you're only trimming those. Don't catch your sleeve in there or any extra pieces of fabric. So remember now this coat has grown considerably in size, so we're just gonna get rid of that. And now I'm using my pressing ham, and I only want to press this seam allowance right up to that stitching. So you could use the end of your ironing board, you could it flat on your ironing board. Depends on what kinds of tools you have. You're just gonna be pressing just the seam allowance, and coming in here, all of this is just going to shrink away. And you see how nice it is right at that stitching. You really don't have any puckers. You have a little fullness, which is what creates the shoulder line. It gets a nice little edge as it goes over your shoulder. All that fullness is gonna get shrunk away. And I don't trim away that seam allowance in the arm hole area because what that does, it's gonna be pushed toward the sleeve, not toward the garment, and that supports the top of the sleeve. So we can take a nice look on the outside. We're gonna move that seam allowance, just with our fingers toward the sleeve, and you're getting a nice roll there. And your seam allowance is underneath there. We're gonna do a little something extra that's not included on the guide sheet. I'm going to cut a sleeve heading that I'm going to put inside that same seam allowance which is just going to give a little lift to that sleeve cap and keep any seam allowance from showing through on the outside. I've set my sleeves in and I've made sure everything is clean and neat. I've trimmed away the underarm seam allowance. This is a lighter weight fabric, so I really want to add something to support the top of the sleeve. Again, if you're making a heavier weight fabric or you wanted a softer shoulder look, you wouldn't have to do this. I've taken a piece of lightweight cotton batting, but you could use a fabric remnant. You could use a

piece of corduroy, a piece of lightweight fleece. Anything that's gonna give it a little oomph but not too thick. So I've cut a piece, it's an inch and a half wide and about nine inches long. I've made a little mark at the center and I'm going to place that on the inside of the sleeve at my shoulder seam. I'm gonna have my raw edges even, and I'm going to pin it in place. Just reaches just past my notches probably, and I'm gonna form that there. And then I'm gonna do the other side. I've got my sleeve heading pinned in place and I'm gonna sew it in by machine right along that same stitching. If you feel like it might be a little too bulky for your machine you could sew it in by hand. Use a good matching thread. Use a nice small stitch and just sew right along your initial stitching. I've got this nice row of stitching holding that heading in place, and it's right along my seam line. I don't need to trim anything or really press. I'm using my fingers to push the seam allowance and the heading out. And it's going to stay there. You could go to the iron and holding it you could steam this so it gets trained to stay in the right direction. You could do that now or later on when we're finishing the coat. But what you see is you get this nice little pouf which gives that sleeve a nice roll over right at your shoulder line. So we're gonna go ahead and do all these same steps to the other sleeve, and then you're going to press up the hem allowance at the lower edge of the sleeve. You can add the interfacing, same as we did as the tip for the lower edge of your coat. You're not going to sew that hem. You just want to mark that hem line for later on after we've applied the lining.

Collars

- I've got my two upper collar sections here. I've got the one I interfaced at the very beginning of my project, and I've got the remaining uninterfaced section. So I'm pinning them together with right sides together, and I really need to stitch this outer edge. We're gonna leave the notched neckline edge open. So I'm putting in a few pins, and we're gonna stitch that in a 5/8th inch seam, and we're really gonna make both of these collars the same way. You have an upper collar that's a little bit smaller and then the under collar which is a little bit bigger. That's like the beautiful part of this coat. I'm gonna lay my fabric underneath, drop my needle. Remember I've got my 5/8th inch seam allowance marked with my washi tape, and I'm gonna try to remember to pull my pins out. I am going to backstitch at the beginning and follow that curve around, and make sure that I keep it even. I can still pull the pins out even though they're facing the other direction. So you want to keep that cut edge really even with your washi tape just by guiding it with your left hand and it'll go around the curve. I want to make sure that nothing's bubbling and everything laying flat. So while you're stitching you've got the interfaced section down and that becomes the outer part of your collar. At the end we're gonna backstitch. I can cut my threads here. I'm going to press this seam flat, like all my other seams, set those stitches in. And I'm going to trim away the excess seam allowance. Trim it to about a quarter of an inch of your stitching, and it's good to use a smaller pair of scissors for all your trimming while you're sewing. You can have a nice pair of dressmaking shears for your cutting your fabric out with your pattern, but you need a little bit more control, a shorter pair is really worthwhile to have. And keep them sharp, and don't cut paper with them. So I've trimmed that away, now I want to press this seam so it goes toward the uninterfaced section. And I'm gonna use my tailor's ham for that. Good tool to have, it helps you press in small areas, it helps you press curves, darts, princess seams. So I'm gonna press this seam toward the facing section. And once you get that seam going in the right direction, then you're gonna go back to the machine and we're going to under stitch which will hold the seam allowance in the place and allow the collar to sit properly when it's done. I've got the seam allowance going toward the collar facing, which is the uninterfaced section, and I'm gonna lay it on my machine making sure it stays that way, and I

want to stitch as close to that seam as possible, 'cause it's gonna hold that seam against that facing edge when the coat is finished. And I'm just making sure I stay close to the seam, and you can feel underneath the seam allowance. So you want to make sure you're always feeling it on that side. Under stitching is used on most facings, on collars, on, it's usually, it's always on the inside of a garment. It doesn't show, and it really makes for a fine professional finish when you're done because it creates a sharper edge, holding those seam allowances in place that are between your outer layer and your inner layer. My seam allowance is still there. You'll be able to tell if it's folded. You'll get a little ridge on the other side and then you just want to lift up your collar and make sure that it's not folded the wrong way. You can see now that the seam is forced to stay in that direction, and when you fold this you get a very nice smooth fold and everything is staying on the under side. I've got both my collars made, remember I stitched the facing to the interfacing section of each one, stitched the outer edge in a 5/8th inch seam, trimmed it, pressed the seam toward the uninterfaced section and now I've brought my raw edges together on both sections. I didn't baste them individually. I don't need all those extra rows of stitching. So now I'm going to take the smaller collar and put it over the larger collar, having both interfacing sections up and matching my notches, which would be my back neck edge and I'm gonna have small dots that match for my shoulder seam. So I'm gonna pin both of them together, having my raw edges even. One is smaller than the other, so I'm gonna come down here and make sure I'm getting my curves all matched up. And get this going. Make sure you get them evenly. That's why you have those markings. You want them the same distance apart on both ends and you want all your raw edges even, match your notches and your small dots, and then we're just going to machine baste just inside the 5/8ths. Sometimes basting shows later on when you're finished. This way if it's inside the 5/8ths you're not gonna see it anyway. Machine baste a long machine stitch, and that'll make this as one unit to put onto the coat. I've got the two collars pinned together and I want to baste them. I'm not gonna go right up against the tape, just a little far away, and I've changed my stitch to a basting stitch, and I'm just gonna come in here and make sure these two collars stay together. The next step will be putting them onto the coat, and I want to be able to treat them as one unit. So that's what we're gonna do, and as you can see my bad habits of stitching over pins continues, but it's a short seam and I got a lot of thicknesses of fabric there, so I'm just gonna go with it and hope for the best. And we're gonna just take 'em out. I've got my collar unit right here all basted together and now you're gonna work with the neck edge of your coat. So you've got your shoulder seams, which are gonna match the small dots that you marked on the collar. You've got your two notches on your back neck edge, and you've got that large dot that we made the tailor's tack. That's where the end of the collar is, because later on when we stitch the facing this way and over here, the collar is actually gonna come exactly to the front edge of the coat. So we're gonna take this, we're gonna start with these two notches at the back. And we're gonna just start pinning. And then this matches to your shoulder seam. Put a pin in there, and then you're going to bring the front edge of the under collar right to that large dot that you marked and you're gonna get your raw edge even. And you're gonna put a pin in there. And then you're going to see that you've got all those edges. You've got this whole collar unit even with the neck edge of the coat. And we're gonna come back in here and double check from your shoulder seam to your first notch. And then we're gonna move across and do the other side exactly the same way. You've got your small dot matching to the opposite shoulder seam. You've got your notches matching, your center's back will also be matching. And we're gonna come around back to the front edge and you're gonna get your excess threads out of your way, and the edge of that under collar piece, the larger one comes to the front edge, and then you'll see that

this collar fits exactly to the neckline. Sometimes you'll be working on a collar, and it's a little smaller than the neck which means it's going to stand up and roll, so you would have to clip the curves on the neckline. But this collar will roll later, but it does fit flush to the neckline. So you don't have to worry about putting any clips in yet. Now what we're gonna do, we're gonna go back to the machine, we still have the basting stitch set and you're going to baste exactly that whole neckline all over again, and that gets us in position to build the facing and the lining and get toward finishing the coat.

Lining and Finishing

Lining the coat

- I've got my two front facings and my back facing I've marked all my markings in red just so you can see them more easily, I'm going to stitch my shoulder seams to my facing and then I'm gonna move on to the liner. So let's get these seams stitched and press and then we're gonna make the lining. I need to stitch this in a 5/8th inch seam I'm also going to backstitch at the beginning and the end of the seam. And the other one the same way. I need to press these open flat first and then open and now we're gonna work on the lining so you have cut a separate front lining and a separate back lining. The side front and the side back linings were cut of the same pattern pieces as the coat as were the sleeves, but remember we cut the sleeve linings and the coat lining pieces from the side front and side back one inch shorter than the actual pieces so that means you're not going to have to worry about that small dot that was the pivot point when you were stitching your coat seams. So you're going to stitch your front lining to your side front lining, your back to both side back lining sections to your shoulder seams and your side seams in exactly the same way we did for the coat, we have no pockets so your side seam's gonna be on fell, one big long seam. And you don't have to worry about the small dots. Press all those seams open in the same way and then we're gonna start building the facing and the lining together. I have my lining already finished and my facing is ready to apply. So you have double notches along the inner edges of your facing that are gonna match to the notches on the lining edges. There are some at the back neck and some at the front edge. So I'm going to go ahead and start pinning this facing onto the lining. I'm going to start at my shoulder seam 'cause that's a really good place as a focal point, and remember you're pinning the outer curved edge of the facing to this open edge of your lining. Match your shoulder seams first and then I like to go down one front edge, the other front edge, and then around the back neck. The back neck edge of the lining might have to be clipped to open up to fit the shaped of the facing, so we're gonna see that as we go along. So I'm going to stitch my lining to my facing in half inch seam, so I've moved my tape to make sure that I'm still eyeballing the right seam allowance, and to be able to accommodate what's going to happen with the hems later on, I'm going to start stitching the lining to the facing an inch and a quarter above the edge of the lining. That gives me space later on to do all my finishings. So starting at the inch and a quarter and we're gonna drop our needle, we will backstitch to reinforce that. And I'm just gonna stitch this long seam and being careful that nothing's buckling underneath. Now remember as with when we were putting other parts onto the coat, you're starting to get a lot of fabric. And it's very easy to get a fold or a piece of something that doesn't belong under there, so you wanna make sure that what's happening underneath is as correct as what's happening on top. I'm continuing along and I wanna make sure now that I've clipped to open up those edges there so that they fit to the back facing. And let me take my pins

out, and I'm gonna go kind of slowly around this curve. I'm stitching it from the facing side, because that's the direction it needs to go. I don't want all that fabric on the inside of my machine. So I just have to be careful to make sure that I'm catching the facing and the lining evenly and every once in a while I'm going to pick it up and make sure this is still laying smoothly, so that my lining is not buckling. Remove your pins as you come to them and just guide it underneath your presser foot around the curve, pick it up, adjust, make sure that you've got no folds, that's what the clips do, the clips open up that edge so that it will lay flat against the lining, I'm gonna just do another little clip right there. 'cause they're opposite curves going to each other. So that's why you have to clip the lining section so that it fits the larger curve of the facing. I'm going to continue down the front edge of the other half of the lining, and I'm gonna stop again, an inch and a quart above the lower edge lining where I've made my mark, I'm going to backstitch to reinforce that seam, take out all the pins, and then I'm going to press the seam toward the lining. The seam doesn't get pressed open, it gets pressed toward the lining. I need to take care of this little corner at the lower edge of my facing and my lining I need to clip into the facing at the lower edge here, right at the bottom of my stitching at that inch and a quarter mark from before and then this way, I can press this part open so that when I'm assembling the lining unto the coat later on these two pieces can act separately and they're not gonna get stuck with each other. So I just need to press this open on the half inch seam line. So now the facing and the lining is one unit and we're going to apply it to the coat. So the lining is stitched to the facing and I've done my clip and I've pressed that seam open. I'm going to go a little bit differently from the guide sheet now to make it an easier process for assembling your lining and finishing the hem. The guide sheet is a perfectly great way to do it but I wanna show you an easier alternative so that you have an option when you're sewing your coat. Because I'm going to be slip stitching the lining over the hem instead of doing the whole machine stitching I need to press up a half inch on the lower edge of this lining. You can use a ruler, you can eyeball what a half inch is. And make sure you have the iron at the right setting because your lining may need a lower heat setting than your coat fabric. So remember we had these angles that we did with the hemming we stitched to the dot and we clipped, we don't have that here, so I'm just gonna form a little manual miter, I'm gonna fold one edge under the half inch and press that. And then the other side's just gonna fold along the seam and that's gonna come up a half an inch. And then I'm just gonna continue all the way around. You're gonna have four of those miters to press, at your side front seams and then the two remaining ones on the side back seam. You could put a pin in it to hold it in place, till you're gonna work on it later on. Now we're going to stitch the lining to the coat. I've got my coat laying down with the right side facing up so it's the right side of the collar and the whole coat, and I'm going to take the right side of the facing and the lining, and pin that around the entire outer edge. I'm going to start again with the back neck edge, I'm going to match my shoulder seams first, just as a way to anchor what I'm doing. Shoulder seam of the facing and the coat and it goes over the collar and you would've had that small dot on your collar that we used earlier. And then we've got those two notches at the back neck edge and we're going to match those. Make sure all your edges are even. And if the collar and the coat have gotten a little bit too tight to fit the neck edge of the facing or vice versa, you can clip but mine's fitting together pretty smoothly. Now I'm gonna go back to my front edge, it's going to be really important when I'm stitching that I can see my tailor's tack and make sure that I'm only catching in the seam allowances of the neck edge of the collar. Because you don't want the collar caught into the front edge I only want it caught into the neck edge so you're gonna have to be very careful when stitching that seam, but if you've got everything marked and been following along, it should not be a problem. I'm continuing to pin and

match my neck edges. Now you've got a lot of thicknesses here now because you've got your garment, then you've got the collars, so that's four thicknesses of fabric, plus the interfacing, and now you have your facing. So if you've been using a really heavyweight fabric you may want to check your sewing machine needle, make sure it's still nice and sharp, you haven't hit a pin like by mistake or something and you might wanna change the needle. This is a long seam so you might wanna check your bobbin and make sure you've got enough thread left in it so you're not gonna run out halfway through because that's just a drag, and we're gonna get ready and stitch this whole seam. I've pinned the entire facing and I pinned across the lower edge of the front facing, along the headline which is exactly an inch and a half from the cut edge so I'm going to stitch across there first. And you can see the pressing and the leaving that seam open really helps keep everything out of the way. So we're gonna stitch and make sure that you're only going to stitch to the 5/8th over here. So we're going to stitch a little bit and then we're gonna backstitch and we're gonna come exactly across this line. And we're gonna go to the 5/8th, we're gonna turn, we're gonna get that nasty pin out of the way, now I'm going to continue stitching around the entire edge of the facing, all back through the back neck line and down the remaining edge of the front. And then stitch across the lower edge of the other front the same as I just did for here. Make sure you keep your seam allowances out of the way and make sure, keep checking underneath, that you haven't caught your sleeve, or the lining portion in that seam, because you don't wanna start tearing out things or possibly trim away something that really needs to be there. So remember as you get to the other lower edge of the front you don't really want that pin there, but you need to make sure that you're still anchored and you're going to stitch exactly across your mark line which is an inch and a half, which is your hem allowance across the lower edge, to the inner edge of the facing. So I'm going to do one more stitch, I'm gonna turn and pivot, and that crease that I made earlier, that's where I'm going to stitch, I'm gonna get this pin out of my way. And I'll stitch all the way across. And you can see I have a really nice corner. I'm gonna trim away all of this excess fabric so it's not inside my coat and I'm also going to under stitch this seam I'm going to press it, trim out some of the excess fullness then we're gonna get finished. So I have to get rid of all of this fullness and there's two steps that you need to do. The facing, which is this part, you're gonna trim that off completely, right close to your stitching, about a quarter of an inch away. Then you need to trim the garment, but you want the garment when you hem the coat to come underneath the facing, so you're going to leave about 5/8th of an inch and you're going to trim that off, and then you're going to square it. So now you've got the facing trimmed away all the way to the inner edge, and the hem allowance of the coat, to within 5/8th, then we want to trim this corner, you always trim your corners so you don't have bulk in them don't cut your stitching. And then we're going to trim this remaining seam, we're gonna come all the way up, leave about a quarter, or an eighth and we're gonna go up and all the way around. Make sure you're not trimming away something that belongs there, you've got a lot of fabric here now you've got coat, you've got lining, you've got collars. So you're just gonna keep going up so you wanna make sure that before you start trimming any of this away, you've turned your coat or you've opened it up and you've looked at all your seams on the outside. Make sure you didn't catch anything, make sure you have no bubbles, no folds, make sure you squared your corner, stitching at your tailor's tack of the large dot at the center front that you've only caught in the correct inner edge of the collar, not the front edge of the collar and you have nice square corners. Because once you trim away and if you have a mistake to fix it's much more difficult because you've got no seam allowance left. So three minutes, turn it, check it, make sure everything's right, then come back on the inside and start trimming everything away. I'm at the upper corner where my

collar is and I have a lot of seam allowances. In this case, I don't want them all the same thickness. I have a lot of thicknesses in this neck edge, remember you got the facing, and interfacing, two collars, four thicknesses there and the garment. You don't wanna end up with all of those the same width after you trim so you wanna cut them in a different width each way. So one seam allowance is gonna be maybe a quarter the next one will be $\frac{3}{8}$ th, the next one could be an eighth closer, so I'm gonna do them each separately to make sure that I'm doing it correctly. This is the facing edge and I'm cutting that pretty close I'm not gonna go all around. And that's pretty close. Now these are the collars, there's two collars and the interfacing. I wanna take the one collar, and cut it almost as skinny as that first seam and next collar I can cut a little bit wider, this is called grading, grading your seams. And the last one I'm just gonna trim off a little bit. And I'm gonna go to the outside and check and see really how it feels, and I may end up trimming even more out. And after that I'm going to under stitch just the neckline to make sure that all those seams stay going toward the garment and now popping out into the collar portion. I'm going to clip my curves now around the neck edge. Again this neckline was pretty easy to sew but I've got all those thicknesses in there and I wanna make sure that when I'm done it turns nicely. With all those thicknesses you also may have to do it in stages, not clipping all the way through. The clipping of the curve allows the curve of the fabric to open up but make sure you don't clip through any of your stitching. My corners are all trimmed, my seam is all trimmed and graded, and now I'm ready to under stitch my neckline of the collar. To under stitch this, I've gotta put the collar against the machine with the coat. My seam allowance needs to be going toward the facing and the lining so you're gonna have your lining inside your machine. You've got lot of fabric here and it's a little bit tricky which is why you can't start under stitching at the front corner because you have no room to get the whole coat under there. So it's a couple inches, maybe halfway between the front and your shoulder seam, and make sure your collar, both of them are laying flat, that you've got nothing bubbling up underneath and you can feel your seam allowance is under there. So you're going to come down and lower your needle. And you could backstitch a little bit just to make sure your under stitching doesn't come out later on. And then you're gonna keep going. You want to really be careful, put your hands under here, make sure you've got nothing under there, you're sewing in the blind partially so be slow and careful and make sure every step of the way that you're not catching something that doesn't belong. under stitching's important in this case remember we've got a lot of seam allowances underneath there and this is gonna really help keep them going in the right direction. So I'm coming to the shoulder seam and I really wanna feel underneath and make sure that everything's in the right position and I'm continuing along. Let me go around the whole neck, feeling and making sure. Pull the collar a little bit, readjust. Feel your seam allowance. Make sure nothing's caught underneath there. You know, that's what you have a seam ripper for if it gets caught, take out the stitches, spread it out again, and stitch over it. Again I wanna make sure on this side too that my coat is not caught underneath there. So I've passed my shoulder seam and I'm getting to about the midpoint, and that's where I started so I'm gonna go a little bit further and then I'm gonna backstitch. Cut my thread. So now I've gotta pull all of this out underneath my presser foot, 'cause I had to put the whole lining all the way to the inside of the machine. As you can see I've got this beautiful row of stitching that's going to hold all those seam allowances in place and send the collar rolling over the neckline and finishing like the designed intended it to. I've under stitched and trimmed all my seams I've trimmed across my corner, and press that entire seam but before I go there I just wanna show us my little trick for getting this corner turned because sometimes your fabric, even if you've trimmed it close and I may trim this even a little bit closer, just don't trim your stitching. So you

wanna get your finger way inside that corner and push it out, you can use the point of a scissor, you can use a knitting needle, and this one came out pretty good, but if it's a little stubborn, you can take a needle that's threaded and you can go in that corner, and just take your two little pieces of thread and give it a little bit of help. Sometimes it's better than poking. There's a little tool you can buy it's called a point turner, you could use that. But you really wanna get those corners nice and sharp, and then we're going to press this on the outside. So here's my coat, my lining is still in there. We want this edge nice and flat. And we wanna get this, it's gonna take a little bit of your fingers, we didn't under stitch all the way down you could but then sometimes your under stitching is gonna show if your coat is open. So I didn't under stitch all the way down I could, you could also do a decorative top stitching if you wanted to, if you're making your coat out of a fabric that would show top stitching. Once you press it in place and once the lining and the hem are all finished, your facing will stay in place so we're gonna work up and around, we're gonna go up to this part you've got your collar here and you can see how nicely all of that came to the same place. I've trimmed my seams very close and I just need to continue pressing this edge and again, when you're pressing wool or any natural fiber you really wanna make sure that you're using the right setting on your iron and you're letting your garment dry 'cause it's gonna get a little bit of steam. You want it to dry before you move it off the ironing board. Put a little pressure and this was my basting of one of my collar sections, I can always remove that later if I don't wanna see it. And I'm gonna continue pressing down the whole front edge. I'm gonna roll, you can feel your seam on the inside so you're gonna roll it across your ironing board and then you're gonna hold it in place and you can pull it a little bit and that will give you the right place to press and then you've got your edge all nice and pressed. I'm going to continue pressing all around the outer edge of the garment making sure I get a nice crisp edge down the front edges, that's the focal point of your garment and then I'm getting the collar to roll nicely to the outside.

Finishing the hems

- I'm getting ready to start catch stitching the hem, but remember, I've done this a little bit differently now than is on the guide sheet. I wanted to give you two options so that you could do it like the guide sheet or you could do it the way I'm doing it for the class. I've threaded a needle with long thread. I've knotted the end of the thread that came off the spool. Don't make your thread too long. It's going to get tangled and always knot the end that comes off the spool. It keeps it from getting tangled as well. For a catch stitch, I wanna start from underneath so that I'm hiding the knot of thread. It really doesn't matter because it's a lined coat. And for a catch stitch, you take your smallest stitch into the garment. I go from right to left. And then about a half inch away, I'm coming into the hem allowance and about three eighths of an inch deep. Catch stitching is a nice stitch. It makes a very flat finish. And it is going to take a little bit of time. The lower edge of this coat is quite wide, but this gives you the opportunity to make sure it's going to lay nice and flat. Sometimes when you stitch it by machine, you could end up with a little bit of gaping. The lining could bubble a little bit. I like this method because it really ensures that everything's going to lie nice and smooth. I'm going to continue catch stitching the entire hem. It could take a little while, but that's the joy of making your own clothes. There's kind of a meditative process in certain steps. Now my hem is all catch stitched, and now I want to attach the lining. So those corners that I made earlier, I wanna start there. I want that lower edge of the lining an inch above the lower edge of the coat. The lining has what's called a drop. So though I'm going to slip stitch it an inch above the lower edge of the coat, there's going to be a little bit of movement. It's going to drop down a little bit. It's going to

create it's own fold. That's so the lining isn't grabbing you when you're wearing your coat. My first step is I'm matching up my corner where I had pinned earlier. And I'm going to put in a pin to hold that in place. I'm gonna take out that pin that held that point in place. And then I'm going to make sure that I'm an inch above the lower edge. I can use a ruler or my little guide. So, you've got it an inch. And I'm just gonna place some pins, keeping it an inch. And when I get to the front edge on both sides. These is where, because we varied a little bit different from the instructions, we're going to have to do a little bit of a trick. You don't wanna pull the lining too tight. It does have a little bit of a flair. And that. So I'm at my front edge. And remember, I stitched, I created that nice corner. So if I'm placing this an inch above the lower edge, I get something funny happening over there which is perfectly fine. I wanna make sure I'm nice and flat. I don't want a big bubble so I'm gonna come over here. Remember this coat is really big on the bottom. You're going to have a little bit of ease as you slip stitch this lining. I'm gonna come back to that pin. And over here, I'm just going to fold this up at a slight angle and turn it under. And then, I'm going to slip stitch it that way. I'm going to catch it to the inner edge of the facing. As close as possible. And that's going to allow it to drop later on. Let's get this pinned back in place. I'm going to pin it around the entire edge. There's going to be a little bit of fullness so make sure you're matching your points and then smoothing anything away. And as you slip stitch it, it will get folded and then when you press it, that fullness will disappear. I'm continuing around the lower edge. I'm slip stitching that fold right to the hem allowance. Make sure you're not going through the outside. Slip stitch is a very small stitch done on an angle. I'm picking up a little piece of that fabric and I'm going right through the fold. This is ultimately going to be invisible after I've stitched it. And I'm coming across, picking up the fold of the lining once more. Again, I knotted the end of the thread that came off the spool. I didn't make my thread too long. I don't wanna have knots. And just tiny little stitches that are going to hold it in place. Make sure you're not going through to the outside. You don't want those little stitches to show, but you've got that hem pressed up, and if you use the tip about putting interfacing in there, you really won't be going through to the outside. You wanna stay right in the fold of the lining. I'm going to continue slip stitching all the way around to the front edge of the facing. Then I'm going to give it a little press and see how it drops. My lining is now all slip stitched. And remember, I slip stitched it an inch above the lower edge. And I'm just going to give it a little press to make sure those threads are anchored and I get a nice crisp press there. You see I've got a little bit of ease. It's not gonna matter. And now, I wanna smooth this down a little bit. And show us how this lining will drop. And that's gonna cover the stitches and give that moveability inside the lining. So I've allowed it to drop. My little thing that I did at the front edge just disappears. And we're going to give this a little bit of a press. Remember, don't burn your lining. Your setting might be different than for your coat fabric. And we're going to go around the entire lower edge of coat. And that's really what it should look like. So that's give you the movement of lining. It conceals all your seams and stitches. And now your coat is perfectly lined. Remember, you can certainly do this the way it's written and illustrated in guide sheet. It's a perfectly acceptable manner. You're going to have to turn the whole coat though. Wrong side out and right side out through an opening in lower edge as the instructions are written. So make sure you leave an opening large enough to get your hand in, to get the whole coat through. And make sure you press as you go along, but you're still going to end up with the drop and it's going to look just like this. The last thing we have to do before we can put the toggles on is hem the sleeves. It's done in the same way we just did the lower edge. You're going to press up the hem allowance. You're going to catch stitch it. Fold up the lining a half an inch. Slip stitch that in place. Remember though when you're marking the length of your sleeve, a coat sleeve is generally a

little bit longer than a sweater or a top. You want it to cover that. If you didn't mark it ahead of time and if you use the fusible interfacing, just make sure that when you put it on, it's coming a little bit beyond your wrist. It allows for your garments underneath. You don't wanna put your coat on when it's all done and have it too short. Go ahead and mark the length of the sleeves. Press them up, catch stitch the same way, bring the lining down, press it under a half an inch like we've prepared the coat lining, slip stitch it an inch above the lower edge of the sleeve, and then we'll be ready to put on the toggles.

Adding toggles

- We're ready to sew the toggles onto the coat. We have to do a little pre-marking and a little bit of measuring to make sure you get them in the right place. So a toggle overlaps at the center front. So it's going to be looking a little different on the right side of the coat than the left side of the coat, but it's going to be correct. If you want to, there is an opportunity to make button holes and sew on buttons. We've got a button hole guide for the shorter jacket. You can certainly use it here. Buy some great beautiful buttons and sew them onto the coat. I've got these four leather toggles. I want to make sure that I'm going to space them evenly apart and I have the center of the toggle on the right front, and then make sure that it's going to close properly on the left half of the garment. So I've marked my center which is seven-eighths of an inch from the finished edge. I took out my pattern piece because after all that sewing and marking, my markings were on the inside, I really need them on the outside now, and I know that my center is seven-eighths of an inch from the finished edge. I've overlapped. I've matched my neckline edges. I've mapped my centers. I've got a few pins to hold it all in place. I've also marked my waistline because according to the instructions, I want to place the lowest toggle about six inches below my waist. And I want to place the top toggle an inch from the neckline. Then I'm going to get the ruler to get the other two spaced evenly apart. I've got the center of my toggle and I have my center front, and I'm going to place that one right there. Since I can't pin these in place, I could either use a glue stick, I could use masking tape, something to hold them in place until I sew them on. I'm going to use a little bit of glue stick on the under side. I'm just going to rub it on the leather portion. And making sure that I'm still, the center of my toggle is in line with the center of my coat, I'm just going to lay down the left half and hold it in place for a minute. I really want to position these while they're closed 'cause that ensures they're going to match when they're open and after I've sewn them on. So that's staying in place a little bit. I'm going to flip this one back and while I'm holding it, I'm going to put a little bit of glue on the under side of that. And I'm going to adjust it and make sure it's flat and it's still at the center. Depending on the type of toggle you're using also will depend on how you're going to apply them. So I'm just holding them in place until the glue sets a little bit. And I'm going to leave them there. And now I want to place the lowest one. So that one, this is my waist line, and it says about six inches below the waist. So I've got my ruler, that's my six inch point. This is my center marking. I'm going to slide that pin up a little bit. This time I'm going to put the glue on ahead of time. And I've got to make sure I'm working it in the right direction so that when it opens, I'm working from right to left. So I want to go six inches below the waist. I want to center this over this last pin marking at the center front and I'm just going to press it in place, hold it there and let the glue dry. Okay, so those are anchored a little bit. Now, I'm going to use my tape measure and see how much space I have left between the two toggles. I have about 16 and a half inches. I have to do a little arithmetic and get them spaced evenly apart. We've got 16 and a half divided by three because you need two more spots here. It's five and change. So I'm going to place the first one at about five and a half, and

the second one at 11, at almost 12, but it looks like I have to move this one up a little bit. So it's going to be a little bit of moving around, use the math and then we're going to glue these down, and then we're going to go to the sewing machine. We're going to put brown thread in the machine and in the bobbin and stitch around the toggles to hold them in place. I've got the toggles held in place with the glue stick. It could be not as stable as you want but as in insurance, I'm going to use my washi tape and place it over each of the buckle portion of the toggle. That'll keep that from flapping and it'll give me a little insurance for the other ones. Washi tape will tear off nicely when you're done. You're not going to be stitching on that part of the toggle anyway, but it ensures that my toggle stays in the right place. I changed my thread to match my toggle and I changed my needle to make sure it's really sharp. You might want to use a leather needle depending on the toggle you purchased, but a sharp new needle should work. It's just a small distance. So I'm going to stitch slowly and I'm going to make sure I backstitch. You want these toggles to stay on your coat. And you're going to go very slowly close to the outer edge and follow the shape of the toggle. You might want to stop and then pivot slightly to go around the curve. Take a couple of stitches. One, two, three, four, and that, and then you're going to pick it up again. And we're going to pick it up again. And once more. Bring it down to the corner. One more stitch, you might want to hand crank it at the end and then we're going to backstitch and stitch forward again. That's good. Cut your thread. And take it out of the machine. Going to cut my threads and I think it's stitched on fairly well. Let's take off the tape and now you can see when you're going to use it, it works. And it's done. I have sewn all four of my toggles in place. Be careful when you're sewing them on to make sure underneath is laying nice and smoothly. You're going to stitch around the toggle and then of course the end. Now it's going to depend on the type of toggle you have. You're going to have to see how it really should be anchored. You also need to sew one snap at the neck edge right where the collars meet. That's going to prevent it from gapping while you wear it. The coat is all done. You want to give it one final press and make sure all your threads are gone and any stitching that still shows that shouldn't, pick it out, it's not useful any more. And you've done your coat. You've learned a lot of things, princess seams, pockets and your side seams, how to apply a lining, how to make a double collar. We've made a two-piece sleeve. We've made an angled hem. We've sewn our toggles and a snap. Next time it'll be a breeze. And for comparison, I have the original photo sample that we used on the pattern envelope. It's made in a heavier weight wool tweed and we used a traditional toggle, but all of the construction details are the same. You still have your pocket and your side seam, one cut of fabric, one cut of lining. You've got your lining sewn to your facing. All the same way. This is a good contrast of a coat made in heavier fabric and a lighter weight fabric. Remember as we discussed at the very beginning of the class, this coat can be made in anything, from denim to brocade to linen, to a heavier weight wool, a lightweight wool, anything in between. It's lined, so you're going to always remember to choose the appropriate fabrics to go with it. And it can be a trans-seasonal coat, a heavy winter coat, a spring coat, something to throw over in the summer if you make it in linen. It's your choice. That's why you're going to make your own coat.