
Sew the Wanderlust Tee with Fancy Tiger

Chapter 1 - Wanderlust Tee

Overview

(light piano music) - I'm Jaime, - And I'm Amber, - [Both] And we're from Fancy Tiger. - [Jaime] Fancy Tiger crafts is a shop located in Denver, Colorado that sells supplies and teaches classes for sewing, knitting, crochet, quilting, felting, embroidery, and spinning. We also have an online store at fancytigercrafts.com. - We also publish our own patterns. You may know us from the sailor top pattern which we've taught here at Creativebug. We're here again to teach more garment patterns. - We're gonna teach you how to make the Wanderlust Tee, which we're both wearing. The Wanderlust Tee is a super cute, flattering cropped T-shirt. Mine is made in a soy cotton jersey. - And mine is made in a hemp jersey. They both have really great drape which is a little bit flowy and works great with high-waisted jeans. If you want something with a little bit more of a traditional length for a T-shirt, I'm gonna show you how to lengthen the pattern as well. - The Wanderlust Tee is a simple pattern that's great for your first foray into sewing with knits. It has a simple set-in sleeve that is constructed flat, which makes it really easy to execute. Amber's gonna go over how to work with a double needle for your topstitching, as well as sew a pocket on, which mine doesn't have. (both laugh) Just kidding, I won't say that. (both laugh) - This comfortable tee is great for a day of errands and stylish enough for a night out with friends. (light piano music)

Materials

To make your wonderlust tee, you'll need your printed pattern I've printed out the pattern with the copy shop file. You can also print it out tiled and then tape it together, which you'll need your tape for. You might want to lengthen your pattern. For that, we're going to have scrap paper and I'm going to trace the pattern onto Swedish tracing paper. You also need a ruler and cutting mat. You're gonna need your jersey fabric, a yard to a yard and a quarter, depending on your size. And then an extra quarter yard, if you want to lengthen your shirt. You also need a pencil, pin cushion. We're going to be using a double needle, as well as a single needle for the sewing machine. To use the double needle, you'll need 2 top threads and instead of buying a second spool of thread, I've wound thread onto a second bobbin, which I'll use in the top of the machine. I also have pattern weights. We're going to be using a serger so I have my serger thread. Thread snips, a rotary cutter, which is how I'm going to cut out my pattern. If you prefer to use scissors, you'll need fabric shears as well. I have a pen and marking tool. Also, you'll need a measuring tape, as well as a sewing machine and a serger. If you don't have a serger, you can use your sewing machine on a zigzag stitch to do your seams. You'll need an iron and an ironing board. We have all the materials you need at Fancy Tiger to make your wonderlust tee. So you can follow the link on the class page to find them.

Cut & Sew Your Tee

Cutting out pattern pieces

- The first thing you wanna do is measure your bust to determine your size. Take your measuring tape and measure your bust at the fullest part. And I'm measuring a 36, so according to the size

chart, I'll be cutting out a size medium. On your printed pattern, there is a size key, which also has a scale, so you can make sure that you've printed out your pattern at the correct size. This one should be four inches, so it looks like this pattern was printed out correctly. Also these lines on here are gonna show you which lines to follow for your size. I'm gonna transfer the pattern onto my Swedish tracing paper. This is the way that I always like to cut out patterns, because I can trace my size and then I still have the original pattern to work from if I ever need to make a different size. It's also gonna be really helpful when I lengthen this pattern, which I'm gonna show you how to do because I can cut my Swedish tracing paper at the lengthen lines and create my longer pattern. Using a ballpoint pen, I'm just gonna follow the lines for the size medium. I usually use the straight edge of my ruler to trace the straight lines, which helps me keep them nice and neat. I'm gonna trace the lengthen-shorten lines as well, which will be useful in lengthening my pattern when I get to that point. Make sure and copy all the marks from the pattern and notice the pocket placement, you wanna make sure and trace that as well. I always make sure to write down the name of the pattern and which piece I'm cutting as well. And since it's a size medium, I'm gonna make sure and put that on there. Trace all your pieces like this, and then I'm gonna show you how to lengthen. Once you have all five pieces traced and you've double-checked that you have all your marks on each of the pieces. I'm going to now lengthen piece one and piece two. That's the front and the back of the tee. I'll cut apart each of the pieces. You don't need to cut right on the line, you just want to separate them from each other. When I lengthen the pattern, I especially want to leave a little extra of my Swedish tracing paper along this seam because when I lengthen that, I'm going to need to adjust the side seam and that'll give me the room to do that. Now starting with the front, I'm going to cut the pattern piece along the lengthen-shorten line. I will use my ruler and my rotary cutter, just to make a nice straight cut across the lengthen line. I'm gonna separate this pattern piece and add as much length as I want in between the lengthen-shorten line. I'm gonna use the scrap paper and put it underneath the top of my pattern piece. I'm gonna need two to get all the way across this width of the front piece. And I will tape it to this top front. And then to add three inches, I'm going to measure from that line three inches. And that's where I want to put this bottom piece. I wanna make sure and keep the center front in line with the top and the bottom. So I'm just lining it up with this mark on the ruler and then it's three inches below the top, and I'll tape it to my scrap piece. Now you wanna connect the lines for the center front. And on the side seam, you're going to even out that angle so I'm gonna go right to the very bottom, the bottom hem, and then right where it curves for the under arm, I'm going to connect those in a straight line. I'm making this line a lot darker, so I can make sure I'm following the correct one when I cut my fabric out. I'm gonna add a little bit more tape to secure this. Now do the exact same thing with your back piece to lengthen it three inches as well. And then, you're going to go ahead and cut the scrap paper right against the line because you don't wanna have that on there. That will dull your rotary cutter, but your rotary cutter can go through the Swedish tracing paper, so we'll cut that later with our fabric. I've laid the jersey out and brought the two selvages into the center. I'm gonna have my front on one side and the back on the other using both of those folds of the fabric so there's a fold along this side, the selvage is folded in. And a fold along this side and the selvage is folded in towards the other selvage here. To match my stripes, I'm going to use the underarm point and make sure that that is lined up with the other body piece so they're both hitting the stripes in the same spot. I wanna make sure that all my pattern pieces fit onto my fabric before I start cutting and the sleeve, pocket and neckband, I'll be able to cut once I get these front and back pieces cut I'll be able to refold my fabric to get those laid out correctly. But I just want to make sure there's enough room for me to do that once I cut the body

pieces out. And I can use my pattern weights to go ahead and hold those pieces in place while I cut them with my rotary cutter. I wanna make sure the two layers as I fold them together the stripes are lined up with each other. I'm gonna use my rotary cutter to cut through both my Swedish tracing paper and the fabric at once. And just go slowly, be careful because you don't want to hit your fingers with this. It's really sharp, but that makes it cut through all the layers really easily. When you get to the marks, make sure to use your marking pencil to mark them onto your fabric. I'm gonna mark both sides. Continue cutting out all of your pattern pieces and make sure to transfer all those marks.

Constructing the top

- The first step for the Wonderless Tee is to sew your pocket piece on. We're gonna start by finishing the top of the pocket, turning it under, a half inch, and pressing it. You're gonna do wrong sides to wrong sides. We're gonna sew this down with a double needle. I've already put in my double needle, and I have it threaded. It's on a straight stitch. I wanna make sure the outer needle is running right along this raw edge. But, my raw edge is gonna be underneath the fabric, so I'm gonna need to feel where that is, as I sew with the double needle. So my raw edge is running right around here, and I'm lining that up with my left hand needle. So I can't see that raw edge, but I can feel it underneath, and it's gonna be secured between the two needles on the bottom side of the fabric. I have my two threads, up here, one of them is on a bobbin, you can also have a second spool if you prefer. And those are threaded into my two needles. (sewing machine whirring) And you don't need to back-stitch with this. So I just went straight through, and the double needle has secured that raw edge on the back side of my fabric. Now I'm gonna turn under the edges of the pocket, about a quarter inch, and press all three of these unfinished sides to the wrong side. (iron hissing) Place the pocket right on the marks. And my pocket, I'm gonna adjust it just a little bit, so that I can line up these stripes nicely, cause I think that'll look good on the front of this shirt. Then pin it in place. You wanna switch back to a single needle on your machine, and you're gonna sew right along the edge of this pocket, securing it in place, on the three sides that are folded under, making sure to backstitch at the beginning and the end of that seam. (sewing machine whirring) So, it looks like this machine is pushing the fabric. The jersey and the stripes are being distorted. There are two things you can do to solve this problem. One would be lessening the pressure with, on the presser foot. The other would be to switch to a walking foot. And since I don't have pressure adjustments for this presser foot, I'm gonna go ahead and switch to a walking foot. I removed my stitches, and I'm gonna restitch this with my walking foot. (sewing machine whirring) Backstitching at the beginning. And I'm stitching really close to the edge, about an eighth of an inch from the edge. I'm gonna put my needle down to turn this corner. (sewing machine whirring) And backstitch at the end. Press your pocket, and next we will connect the front and back of the shoulder seams. With right sides together, go ahead and pin your shoulder seams. We're gonna sew at a half-inch seam allowance on the serger. If you don't have a serger, use your sewing machine with a single needle, with a zig-zag stitch. The needle should be hitting at a half-inch when it's on the innermost part of the fabric. The serger is great for garment sewing. It cuts and finishes the seam allowance while you're sewing. (sewing machine whirring) I'm lining up the edge of my fabric, where it tells me my half-inch seam allowance is. (sewing machine whirring) Sew both shoulder seams on the serger. (sewing machine whirring) Press your seam allowance towards the back. (iron hissing) Next, you'll attach your sleeve, I've already attached one of my sleeves, and pinned my second one. You wanna make sure and match your marks for front and back, when you're pinning your sleeve. And, line up the edge of your

sleeve with the edge of the side seam. Again, I am using a half-inch seam allowance. (sewing machine whirring) Make sure to line up the edge of your pieces as you're serging. (sewing machine whirring) Now, press your seam allowance towards the body, and then we'll pin our right sides together to get ready to sew the side seams. Starting at the sleeve, we're going to do one long, continuous seam to go past the underarm, and all the way to the bottom hem. (sewing machine whirring) Finish by sewing your second side seam, and then press both of them flat. We're gonna start the neck binding by bringing the two short ends together and seaming them on the serger at a half-inch seam allowance. (sewing machine whirring) I'll press this seam flat. Bringing my wrong sides together of my neck binding, I'm going to press this in half. (iron hissing) Going all the way around. I'm gonna pin the neckband to the neckline. Starting at the center back, with my seam and the neckband. Place it on the neckline with right sides together, and the three raw edges lined up with each other. And then move around the neckline, finding the marks on your neckband, and matching those to the marks on your neckline. Pin them together at each of the marks. I wanna add more pins, so I'm gonna go ahead and find the center point between the pins that I've already added, and pin it once more around. I'm gonna bring the two pins together, that are nearest each other, and bring the neckline out to find the center point between those two. And bring the neckband out, and find the center point as well. And then I'm gonna bring those two spots together, and pin it again there. Do that again around the entire neckline between each of the pins that are already there until you have eight pins in the neckline. Serge the neckband to the neckline at a half-inch. I'm gonna lift the presser foot to get this in here to get started. (sewing machine whirring) And once I get my half-inch seam allowance, I wanna watch the left side of my neckband, cause I wanna keep that even. That's what's gonna make the neckband even all the way around once I'm finished with this seam. (sewing machine whirring) So I'm noticing it's running pretty much alongside this presser foot, and I'm gonna try and keep the neckband right in that spot the whole way around. (sewing machine whirring) You also wanna make sure that all three of your layers are lined up. The raw edges of them are lined up. (sewing machine whirring) And as you're sewing around, you're gonna stretch the neckband just a bit so that it matches with the neckline. (sewing machine whirring) So I'm pressing this up, and as I do that, I'm gonna press the seam allowance to the inside of the shirt. (iron hissing) While we're at the iron, we're gonna go ahead and press up the hem of the sleeve, and the bottom hem of the shirt. We're gonna press it at a half inch, with the wrong sides facing. Turning the shirt inside out makes that easier. (iron hissing) We'll repeat that on the bottom hem. (iron hissing)

Finishing

- To finish up the tee, we're gonna switch back to our regular sewing machine. It has a double needle in. And we're going to tack now the seam allowance of the neck line and also finish the hem on the sleeve and bottom of the shirt. I have my walking foot on the machine to help me sew with the stretchy jersey. And I'm gonna sew the seam allowance down. So I want the two needles to go between where that seam allowance is behind my fabric. I'm gonna line it up to where the right hand needle is going just inside of this seam. You're not back tacking with this, so you just want to go a little bit passed the beginning of your seam. Now we're gonna sew the sleeve hem and the bottom hem. You're gonna start at one of the seams and sew all the way around going passed the beginning of your seam just a little bit. Make sure you're always sewing with your double needle from the right side of the garment. And remember you want to make sure that you're catching the raw edge of your hem in between the two double needle. Now your wanderlust tee is finished.

You've learned how to use a double needle, a Serger, and work with knits. You can make these in a million different lengths, and colors, and stripes, and prints. It's a really cute tee that can be used a lot of different ways. This is the longer version that we've made. But the original cropped version is really cute here too. It's really easy to change the length of this tee. This is the wanderlust tee in a larger size. It looks really wonderful and solid, and is great for all body types. The wanderlust tee is a shirt that I really enjoy wearing everyday, and I hope you like it too. This one came together so quick. I have a 5:30 dinner reservation and I'm gonna throw it on and get out of here.