Cocoon Cardigan with CBTV Live

Chapter 1 - Chapter 1
Cocoon Cardigan
- [Leanna] Hi everybody, it's Liana, and I'm here with you live today. I'm going to be showing you how to make a cocoon cardigan. This is actually one of my favorite new things. I actually was inspired to learn how to make a cocoon cardigan, when Marley Bird was here filming with us a few months ago. And she was making a knitted cocoon cardigan and I thought this is so cool, and the construction is so simple, so I decided to go ahead and apply it to fabric. And wouldn't you know, it's really really quick, really really easy and I thought it would make a great live shoot. So here I am, I'm actually on our Halloween set, I know some of you maybe aren't ready for Halloween, but we are. And we're gonna have a lot more Halloween goodness coming for you next week. So make sure if you are liking these live shoots, tune in every Tuesday and Thursday at 4 p.m., and we go live, yeah it's 4 p.m. for us, 7 p.m. for East Coast. And we are gonna have lots of Halloween goodness, but for today, we are doing a little bit of garment sewing. So I'm actually gonna go ahead and take this off for now because its got quite a wingspan, and I'm gonna knock things over. So I'm gonna toss it over there. And what you need is really just one good yard of jersey knit fabric. So I have a nice yard of it here. You can actually do a yard and a half if you want to and go even longer, depends on the length of the cardigan that you want to do. So this one I got, came right off the bolt, it's a 60 inch fabric and I cut off the salvages so that it's 54 inches wide. So I cut about 3 inches off of either edge of it, off of the salvages. And I've already cut it out, and I fold it in half. So this is 40 inches long and I fold it in half so it's 20 inches. So you can see here, when it's opened up, it's 40 inches long. Like that. And there's a lot of different weights that the jersey knit fabric can come in. This one is really light weight, like this is what you would kinda use for a maxi dress. The one that I tossed over there is actually a heavier weight, so a little bit more like what you would find in a store like for a cardigan or a light weight sweater. All of those work beautifully. And you can do this on a home sewing machine, you don't need a serger. And all you do is, you're gonna line up your fabric like so, and you are gonna measure 6 inches from your bottom cut edge. So your fold is up here, this is your bottom cut edge. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. And we're just gonna place a pin right here. Now, I am using this fancy Spiegle sewing machine, it's been sitting in our closet. Our closet basically is like sewing machine parking lot. I think we have 7 or 8 machines back there, and they call to me all the time. So this one, I have to show you, has all of these stitch options, I think there's 350 different stitches that this machine does. They're not even paying me to sell this machine for you, I'm just doing it because it's so much fun. And so, this one, I thought well there's all these different stretch stitches, so why not have some fun and play with them. And that's where this really comes in handy. Now if you don't have a machine with all these fancy stitches, that's fine. You can just use your regular sewing machine and a zigzag stitch works great. So don't let this turn you off. Now with your right sides together, I can't remember if I mentioned that, you definitely want to have your right sides together. Go ahead and just pop this into your sewing machine. I'm just going the width of my foot, so it's about 3/8 inch. And I already have my machine set up with a really cool stretch stitch. So I'm just gonna go for it. (sewing machine stitching) And you can see, it really takes a while. And you wanna make sure that you don't pull, you just let it do it's thing. Because if you pull, you're gonna get ruffles. And I'll show you on the other cardigan, I actually did one where I pulled intentionally, and it made some really cool ruffles. But this is your interior seem, you probably don't

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want ruffles there. (sewing machine stitching) So I have just sewn down this one length, you can see there. Look at that cool stretch stitch, I love that. So what you would do then, is go to your other side, and do the exact same thing. Measure 6 inches down, sew down to the edge. Now I'm not gonna bore you by showing you how to do the other side. What I'm gonna do instead is show you what to do if you want to finish the seam. So, what you wind up with, on your cocoon cardigan, is a whole bunch of raw edges. So here's one that I've already done. And you have, this is the seam we just did, but you have these holes. So like this giant hole for your arms, and then you've got this edge all the way around. So if you want, you can finish these up. You don't actually have to, you could leave them raw. That's kind of the beauty of knit fabric, is that you can leave the edges raw. But I love the way it looks when you finish the raw edges. So I'm gonna go ahead and fold just a little bit in like this. You can pin if you want, but jersey fabric is actually nice and sticky. So once you get going, I usually do a few pins at first just to start, and then once you get going, you actually don't really need to do a whole lot. You can just kind of fold it as you go. So let's go ahead and do these two. Take it back over to our machine. And just so you all know, we are live right now. If you have questions about how to do this, feel free to write in. And we also have a deal going for anybody who's watching us on Facebook right now. It's our Facebook 30 Deal, and if you sign up for CreativeBug, right now, you get access to all 700 something classes that we have on the site, and you, if you use promo code Facebook30, you get 30 days of CreativeBug for free. So that means you can tune in and watch as much as you want for an entire month, it's a great deal. And if you are liking this class in particular, then I think you would love Cal Patch's Pattern Drafting with Knits Class. She talks all about how to work with knits, how to make your own patterns, and do exactly what we're doing here, but on an even grander scale. It's amazing. Oh, do we have a question? - [Interviewer] We do. - What is the question? - [Interviewer] Suzy asks, "How much yardage length should you cut off the fabric?" - Okay Suzy asked, "How much yardage should you cut off the fabric?" Okay, so kind of a good guideline Suzy, is that you want to aim for a piece of fabric that is 56 inches wide, by 40 inches long. So that's a good standard size, it fits everybody. It's this great drapey piece and you'll have lots of room to work with. If you have only one yard of fabric, so that's 36 inches by 56, you could probably make that work. It'll just be a tiny bit shorter on you, but as you saw when I was wearing it in the beginning, it was like really long. So lots of room to play with. You just want to make sure that you've got that width though, the 56 inches wide at least, because any shorter than that it's gonna start like creeping up on you, and you're not gonna be able to move your arms very well. I hope I answered the question. Okay so, going back to the machine, we're just gonna finish up this arm hole here. So I've got it tucked in there, we're gonna use the exact same stitch. And you can see I've got my arm hole just kind of laid out like this. So we're just gonna start, (sewing machine stitching) going over it. And this part's a little bit tricky, just give it a little nudge with your finger, hold it in place. (sewing machine stitching) And once you, once you get past that seam, it is like smooth sailing. So you can see here, I'm just gonna start rolling it with my fingers like this. (sewing machine stitching) I'm not even gonna pin it anymore. Jersey is like, such a dream to work with. And like I said before, try not to pull while you're doing it. It's really tempting, 'cuz it feels like it's going forever, like oh my gosh, why is this taking so long to sew? It's just with the stretch stitches that you're doing, it really has to go back and forth a whole bunch of times so it's like way longer than a typical straight stitch. But you're doing it all correctly, don't pull. If you pull you're gonna get ruffles, and unless they're intentional, don't do that. So we can just keep going around like this, (sewing machine stitching) all day long. But you probably don't want to watch me do this really slow stitch the whole time. So instead what I'm gonna do, is I'm gonna show

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you how nice it looks there, and then let's go over and take a look at this one that is already done. So this is one, same fabric that I did earlier, and it's got the edges are totally finished on it. So you can see how nice and flat they lay. I did a hot pink on the inside of this one because sometimes it's easier, it's like hard to tell which side is the inside and which side is the outside 'cuz it's so drapey, so I thought it'd be helpful to do a hot pink on the inside. And I did not actually finish the edges of this one, going all the way around. Because you actually, you don't need to. But if you have a little time to spare, it will probably take you about 30 minutes to go all the way around, and it's really nice and pretty when it's done. And so, this is one, like I mentioned before, where I stretched it a little bit as I sewed. I used a hot pink thread when I went around, just for a little tiny bit of contrast. And when you put it on, oh, I put it on inside out. See what I mean? It's hard to tell. Probably nobody would ever know. Okay, do I have it right this time? Yes. So you can put it on either way, upside down, right side up. If it really bothers you, you could put in a tag, and that way you'll know for sure. But in this one you can see, I've got these nice little rippley edges, which I actually really like, and it makes a really nice layering piece. I actually plan to keep this one at work because we have a really cold office, and I'm a victim of air conditioning all the time. So it's just nice to have it here. Another fun thing to do is, you guys are gonna think I'm crazy, but you can actually pop this around your neck, and go like this, and you've got a cowl. Look at that. So, thank you so much for joing us everybody. I hope that you really enjoyed this. Remember to use that promo code Facebook30 and you'll get 30 days of CreativeBug for free. And check out Cal Patch's Pattern Drafting for Knits Class, you will love it. Thanks again for joining us.

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