- How to use -

PDF SEWING PATTERNS

THE 12-STEP CHECKLIST

Run through this list each time you use a digital PDF sewing pattern for almost foolproof results. This is an interactive PDF, so you can actually click the checkboxes below.

1. DOWNLOAD THE FILE

If you purchase a pattern from Colette Patterns, all your purchases are available from the Downloads link when you are signed into your account.

2. SAVE THE FILE SOMEWHERE SAFE

Move the file to a specific folder where you keep your PDF patterns.

3. OPEN THE PDF

If your pattern contains multiple files, look for the specific version / size you need to print.

4. LOCATE THE TEST SQUARE

Find the page with the 4 inch test square. Note the page number of the PDF.

5. PRINT THE TEST SQUARE PAGE

Print only the test square page. Choose printer settings to scale at 100%. Do not choose scale to fit.

6. MEASURE THE TEST SQUARE

With a ruler, make sure the test square is exactly 4 inches. If it is not, this is almost always due to your printer scaling the pattern to fit. Look within your printer settings to make sure the scale is 100%.

7. PRINT THE PATTERN PAGES

Print all pages needed, using the same print settings. You may or may not choose to print the instruction pages to save ink and paper.

8. TRIM THE PAGES

Trim away the margins, or fold them down. If you trim them, you can often trim several pages at a time.

9. LAY OUT THE PATTERN

Match up the alphanumeric markings on the pattern to assemble the entire sheet.

10. TAPE THE PIECES TOGETHER

Use clear tape to hold the times together. Try to put tape through any cutting lines that go across the page edges, as well as where the four corners of the pages meet.

11. CUT OUT YOUR PATTERN

You are now ready to cut your pattern pieces out and use them as you would any other sewing pattern.

12. STORE YOUR PATTERN

If you plan to use the pattern again in the future, fold, roll, or hang the pattern up for storage. See colettepatterns/go/pdf-patterns for ideas. Remember that you can always download or reprint the pattern later.

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