

## Two-Piece Dress Modification – Meg Healey

- Cut the pattern out along the your size line printed right on the fabric and note that these types of pattern DO have 5/8" seam allowances included.
- Using a long clear gridded ruler, line up the front pieces and align your ruler from waist notch to waist notch already indicated on the printed out pattern (Step 1.jpg).
- Cut using a rotary blade and cutting mat in a straight line (Step 2.jpg).
- Repeat for back pieces (Step 3.jpg).
- Pin and stitch each center front and center back skirt piece, right sides together (Step 4.jpg).
- Serge-finish the allowances together and press to one side (Step 5.jpg).
- Pin and stitch the side seams of the front and back skirt, right sides together – but first finishing each edge separately as this makes it easier to press open (Step 6.jpg)
- Press seam allowances open (Step 7.jpg).
- Wrap a 1" wide piece of elastic around your natural waistline also accommodating for some over/under lap – pin (Step 8.jpg).
- Stitch the ends of the elastic closed by sewing a small box around the over and under lap.
- Pin the sewn elastic to the wrong side of the skirt waistline matching up the center back with the elastic seam and the center fronts (Step 9.jpg).
- Stitch the elastic to the wrong side of the waistline while stretching the elastic to match the skirt's waistline circumference – note this will gather in the skirt fabric (Step 10.jpg & Step 11.jpg).
- Flip the sewn elastic to the inside and pin in place (Step 12.jpg).
- Topstitch bottom edge of elastic down in place while stretching the elastic slightly (Step 13.jpg).
- The waistline will now be finished and gathered in (Step 14.jpg).
- Serge or zig-zag finish the bottom hem edge of the skirt (Step 15.jpg).
- Press up hem allowance according to the hem notches already indicated on the pattern (Step 16.jpg & Step 17.jpg).
- Stitch the hem in place close to the serged/finished edge (Step 18.jpg).
- Finished hem (Step 19.jpg).
- Pin and stitch the center back seam of the back bodice pieces, right sides together – finish the allowances together and press to one side (Step 20.jpg & Step 21.jpg).
- Pin and stitch the shoulder seams of the front and back bodice, right sides together (Step 22.jpg).
- Serge or zig zag-finish the seam allowances together (Step 23.jpg).
- Serge or zig zag-finish the side seam and armhole all in one on each side. Also serge or zig zag-finish the center front edges separately on the front bodices (Step 24.jpg).

- Pin and stitch the center front bodice, right sides together from bottom of V-neckline to waistline (Step 25.jpg).
- Press center front seam allowances open (Step 26.jpg).
- Cut and fuse wove fusible interfacing to the wrong sides of both the front and back neckline pieces (Step 27.jpg).
- Pin the shoulder seams of the front and back neckline facing pieces, right sides together (Step 28.jpg).
- Press seam allowances open, and then serge or zig zag-finish around the outer edges (Step 29.jpg).
- Pin the sewn neckline facing piece, right sides together with the neckline of the bodice, right sides together matching up the shoulder seams as well as the V point (Step 30.jpg).
- Stitch together along the seamline (Step 31.jpg).
- Clip and grade the neckline seam allowances and clip right into the corner of the V (Step 32.jpg & Step 33.jpg).
- Flip and press the facing to the wrong side of the bodice (Step 34.jpg & Step 35.jpg).
- Working from the right side, topstitch around the neckline, pivoting at the V-neck front point (Step 36.jpg).
- Finished neckline facing topstitched (Step 37.jpg).
- Match up the side seams from the waistline to the notch, right sides together and pin in place (Step 38.jpg).
- Stitch from waistline to side seam notch, back-stitching at the notch, and then press seam allowances open and continue to press the allowance to the wrong side around the armhole (Step 39.jpg).
- Topstitch allowance to the bodice and on either side of the side seam (Step 40.jpg).
- Finished topstitching (Step 41.jpg)
- Serge or zig zag finish the bottom hem edge of the bodice (Step 42.jpg).
- Press allowance to the wrong side and stitch in place from the right side (Step 43.jpg).
- Finished top and bottom (Step 44.jpg).