Judy's Jacket-2-Tote

No more hot flashes with this jacket that turns into a tote bag. Created by Judy Kessinger, owner of FitNice Systems using the MASTER TOP PATTERN with woven instructions.  www.fitnicesystem.com  Three different unique Hoffman fabrics designed by Linda McGehee www.ghees.com gives it the feel of luxury fabric but the washable comfort of cotton. The lined jacket has a separating zipper with elastic thread shoulder technique and zipper details. Attached to the lining is a zippered pocket that allows you to fold the jacket into the pocket creating a tote bag. When you get hot—carry the bag over your shoulder. You can also use that pocket as a secret hiding place because it is on the inside.
To create this garment you will need:

Pattern of your choice or the FitNice Master Top Pattern & DVD. This pattern is designed for knits but comes with instructions on how to convert to use woven fabric as well. To order go to www.fitnicesystem.com

Choice of three different fabric patterns. The jacket was created from Night Blooming Cereus in the pink and brown hues. This fabric was designed by Linda McGehee for Hoffman Fabrics. It is 45” wide and you will need 2 yards of two prints and 1½ yards of the third print. If you want to add more pockets, etc—purchase more. The finished length of this jacket is 25”
NOTIONS NEEDED FOR JUDY’S JACKET-2-LINDA’S TOTE

- 1½ yard Pattern Ease™
  www.fitnicesystem.com
- 2 Yards French Fuse™
  www.fitnicesystem.com
- One Spool Elastic Thread
  www.fitnicesystem.com
- One Basting Glue Stick
  www.fitnicesystem.com
- One Ghees 24” or longer separating zipper
  www.ghees.com
- Ghees 1 1/4 Zipper Yardage to match
  www.ghees.com
- One Ghees Zipper Pull for extra yardage
  www.ghees.com

Use zipper tape for the accent on front of jacket
You will need one zipper pull and enough zipper tape to open and closed the pocket on the inside of the jacket.
Make new pattern for woven fabric using directions from MASTER TOP PATTERN or use a pattern of your choice and create a yoke.

Black lines for angled yoke and red lines for square yoke

To create gathered yoke you will need:
Approximately ¾ Yard Fabric; 1 spool elastic thread; Yoke Pattern

Square Yoke Pattern

Angled

BLACK ELASTIC THREAD
Wrap bobbin with elastic thread on sewing machine. Take the elastic through the all tensions as if it were sewing thread. It only goes in your bobbin—use regular sewing thread on top. The rows of elastic thread are a machine foot apart. Sew all the rows until you achieve the length you will need for your yoke. Hold your steam iron about 2" above the elastic and steam to shrink it fabric. Cut out yoke using the elastic fabric that you just created.

Cut out two fronts with ½” added to center front, on back and two sleeves on both outer fabric choice and lining choice. You will actually be making two jackets and putting one inside the other for the lining. Fuse French Fuse to all the pieces of the outer jacket.

Sew shoulder seam together with ½” seam allowance when using FitNice pattern. Turn under ½” of the cut edges of the yoke front and back and glue in place as pictured. Stitch yoke to front and back. Set sleeves in to jacket according to pattern directions. Sew the side seams according to pattern directions.
Cut 2 lengths of contrasting fabric 3” to 4” wide and interface with French Fuse. Stitch zipper teeth to one side as decoration. Glue and stitch strip (with zipper attached) to both fronts.

Fold jacket in half – stand tape measure up as pictured to measure neck edge.

Cut two rectangles the neck measurement plus 2” X 3” wide for Collar. Fuse French Fuse to both rectangles.

Sew collar to outer jacket with ½” seam allowance, clip and trim seams as pictured. Cut off any excess of the collar at center front.
For pocket: cut two rectangles 15” X 20”.

For pocket strap and strip to cover top of pocket zipper, cut two rectangles 3” X 36”. Fold both cut edges to middle as pictured and then fold in half again. Stitch on both folded edges. Do the same for the other rectangle—but don’t topstitch edges.

**Fix a Zipper**  Create zipper desired length with zipper tape and pull. It is very easy to “fix a zipper” or add a slider to yardage. Place the slider on one side of the zipper teeth (chain) and hold with your thumb and finger. Place the other side of the zipper teeth into the slider and give it a little tug. You will feel the teeth catch in the slider. Now pull the slider to close the zipper. Isn’t that simple? Be sure to stitch over each end of the zipper to protect. This same instruction works with the coil type zippers.
For zippered pocket, sandwich zipper between the two 15” X 20” rectangles, include the zipper tape and both strap ends and stitch all together. Note: Strap ends are ½” from each rectangle side. Unzip the zipper and stitch side and bottom of pocket with ½” seam. Turn and press

Glue pocket to back of lining jacket with basting glue stick. Cover top of exposed zipper tape with the other 3” X 36” folded strap. Fold edges under to create clean look. Stitch all edges to the lining jacket back jacket.

Sew lining jacket together; shoulder seams, set sleeves in and side seams. Sew remaining collar to lining jacket with ½” seam allowance. Cut off any excess of the collar at center front. Clip and trim seam allowance.
Note: Same as you did for the outer jacket previously. Place outer jacket and lining jacket right sides together and sew long edge of collars together with ½” seam allowance.

LONG EDGE OF COLLARS

Fold ½” of entire front including collar to inside and press on both outer jacket and lining jacket. This is where the separating zipper will go.

Fold outer jacket and lining hems (bottom and sleeve) to inside to create a folded smooth edge and press. Baste hems after you insert the zipper, you will go over the jacket and sleeve hem with elastic thread.

Insert separating zipper. Pin or glue to hold in place.
When you get to the top of the collar, cut off any excess zipper and fold to inside.

Stitch separating zipper in place. Sew three to five rows of elastic thread at bottom of jacket (through all layers) and the same for bottom of sleeves.

Inside your new jacket is zipped pocket. When the jacket is in the pocket—you have a tote bag to carry.

Get ready to say “thank you” to all the compliments you will get on your new jacket!

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