

Making a Tee-Shirt Dress

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My friend's favourite loose-fitting t-shirt dress is worn completely thin, and last time she visited, she asked me whether I could make her another.



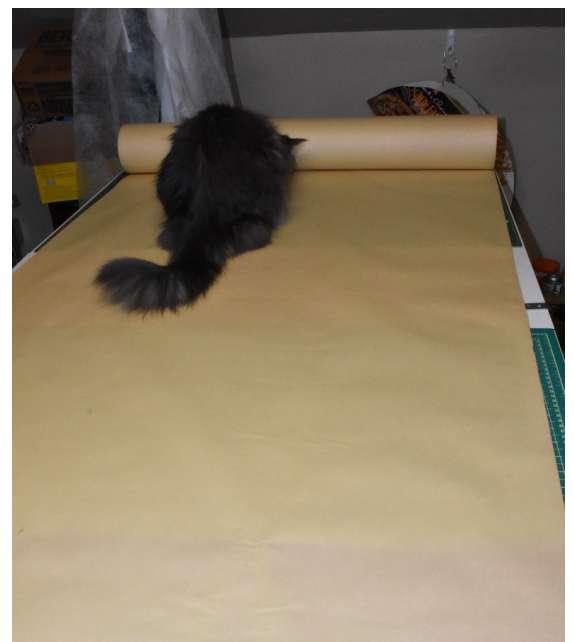
It should be a fairly straightforward job, since it's a pretty simple garment: sleeveless, with scoop neck and straight sides, so I agreed to give it a try.

She left the original garment with me, to use as a template for the new t-dress.



I laid out some paper on the cutting table in preparation for making the dress. The paper is an end roll of newsprint that I obtained from a community newspaper years ago for only a couple of dollars.

Before I can start, the paper has to undergo a mandatory inspection.



I used a metre stick to draw a line for the centre of my new pattern. Then I folded the dress in half vertically, and laid it against my drawn line to make a clean edge for my pattern.

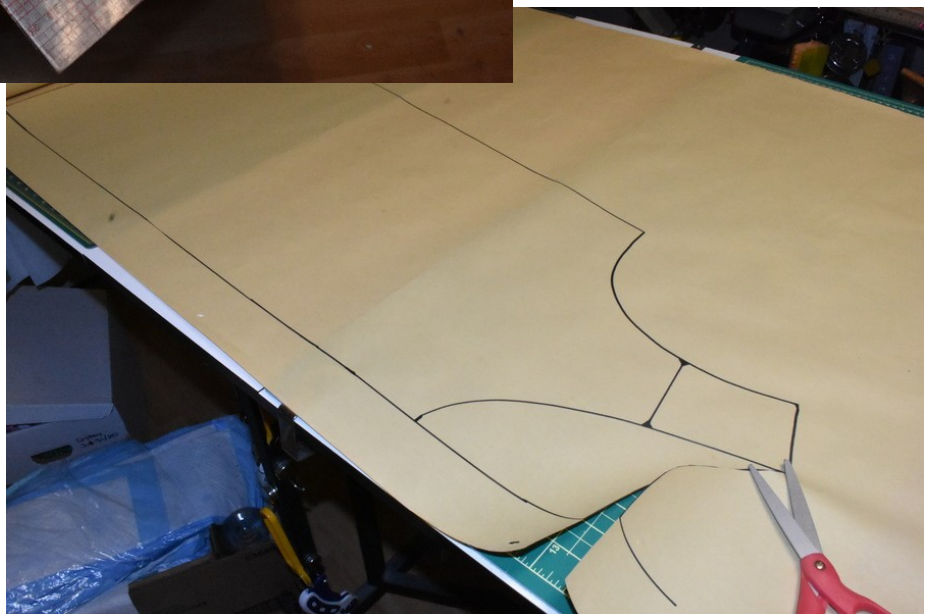


I used a black marker to trace around the dress, leaving a small seam allowance.

Here I'm using my vintage curve square to draw the front neckline.

With the pattern traced, I am cutting it out (using paper scissors).

I'll use my paper pattern to cut out the new dress, placing the centre line on a fold of the fabric.



I made the new dress in blue, mainly because I had a large length of blue t-shirt fabric on hand. Also, my friend really likes the colour.



Once it was cut out, making up the dress was a fairly simple matter. I stitched the side and shoulder seams, then applied a binding to the neckline and sleeves, and added a hem.

The pink strips slightly gather the front of the straps, as was the case on the original dress.

My friend was well pleased with the new dress: it's loose-fitting and comfortable, a top priority for her.

Now that I've confirmed that she's happy with this one, I have offered to make a second one, this time in pink – another favourite colour for her.

