

Style Sheet: Short FR How-to Article

- Please make sure all measurements are in inches with metric in brackets immediately afterwards ie 2" (5cm)
- Use the same word for specific items throughout the article. For example, if you have several types of fabric, always refer to the coutil as "coutil" and the satin as "satin", never "the fabric".
- Word count 2000-3000

The bits in [CAPITALS IN SQUARE BRACKETS] are to help the editor format your article, so just leave them in please.

The bits in purple are instructions to help you, the writer – delete these after filling in your article details. Replace the example text with your own.

[STRAPLINE **Type of article and how many steps**]

Example: BUSTLE MAKING PROJECT easy beginners project

[HEADLINE **The title of the article**]

Example: Butterfly Bustle Drape

[CREDIT **The author and their business name, if appropriate**]

Example: Jema Hewitt – of Kindred Spirits Bridal-Originals

[STANDFIRST **A sentence describing the project**]

Example: Turn a simple overskirt into something stunning

[BODYCOPY **A bit about the background of the project, 100-300 words**]

Example: For the Victorians, methods of folding and draping the fabric of a bustle truly developed into an art form. There were many different styles with assorted fanciful names like "The Waterfall", which burst in and out of fashion. I'm going to show you how I created my ladybird gown's "Butterfly" bustle drape. It is very simple and needs no pattern at all, being created from just a rectangle of fabric.

Other dressmakers and designers have experimented with this style too, and it can still be seen in some museum pieces. It is made to be worn over the bustle cage and a plain skirt.

I like to sew my drapes in place as I go along, but many historical bustles had a series of loops and ribbons to allow for the fabric to be straightened out, laundered and pressed. I include instructions for loops and ribbons at the end of the process.

I have also included a lining for my drape but it is also possible to make this bustle using only one layer of fabric, which can look lovely if the reverse of the fabric is pretty. If you want to use this method, just hem one long edge and the two shorter sides and ignore steps 6, 7 and 8. This is shown in the silver bustle to the right, which is made from shot taffeta.

[END BODYCOPY]

[SIDEBAR All tools and materials that the reader will need to complete the project. Quantities of fabric can be estimated]

Example:

Materials:

2 ½ yards(2.2m) of 45" (112cm) wide fabric – I used red satin, dress weight

2 ½ yards(2.2m) of 45" (112cm) wide lining (optional) – I used black satin, dress weight

Thread – I use Gutermann sew-all

Equipment:

Scissors

Chalk

Sewing machine

Pins

Hand sewing needles

[END SIDEBAR]

[STEPS The number of steps needed to complete your project. Keep the instructions fairly concise wherever possible.

- Each step should have a clear photograph to accompany it and show a logical progression of the making process.
- A short video can be used to help demonstrate a tricky step.
- Each step should be between 50 and 200 words.
- Keep the titles step 1, step 2 etc, but replace the example text with your own]

Example:

STEP 1

First cut your fabric. You will need a rectangle of 45" (112cm) wide material that's 2½ yds (2.2m) long. If you are using a lining, cut the lining rectangle to the same size. Don't panic if your fabric is a slightly different width or you don't quite have enough length - a little more or less, within reason, will work too ;)

STEP 2

To make it fit elegantly over the hips, on the reverse of each piece, mark 4 darts. These need to be positioned perpendicular to one of the long edges, which will become the waist edge.

Each dart needs to be 5" (13cm) long and 1½" (3.8cm) wide. Measure 9" (23cm) from each shorter side along the waist edge and mark. Then measure 4½" (11.5cm) from each edge and mark. Draw in the darts.

Do this on the reverse of both the outer fabric and the lining (if using one)

STEP 3

Mark the centre back and also 23" (58cm) from each of the side edges. This point is where the butterfly bit will begin.

If you have a waist size of more than 35" (88cm), you may want to measure 30" (75cm) from the sides to allow for more pleating.

STEP 4

On the reverse of the lining, draw a straight line square down from the centre back 24" (60cm) long.

Mark it at 3" (8cm) intervals.

Sew tailor tacks at these places (if you aren't using a lining, do the tacks on the fabric.)

STEP 5

STEP 6

STEP 7

STEP 8

STEP 9

STEP 10

STEP 11

STEP 12

etc etc

[END STEPS]

[SIDEBAR Extra information on the project, how you feel it turned out, any tips or tricks for other makers, 200-300 words]

Example: There are two ways of wearing this bustle. The first is with a hip length "cuirasse" bodice. In this case the butterfly can be attached to the back of the bodice, coming up and over the back of the long bodice. It is also possible to add two extra sets of horizontal pleats for extra volume. I added mine using the loop and ribbon method, so I can let them down for total versatility! Just mark another

set of horizontal pleats about 15" (38cm) each side from the center back and follow the instructions from step 16.

[END SIDEBAR]

[SIDEBAR Another (optional) section on the project, maybe a bit more detailed history if you have a section that doesn't fit elsewhere.... 200-300 words]

Example: A bustle is a type of framework used to expand the fullness or support the drapery of the back of a woman's dress, occurring predominantly in the mid-to-late 19th century. Bustles were worn under the skirt in the back, just below the waist, to keep the skirt from dragging.

[END SIDEBAR]

[SIDEBAR Links or lists of places to buy unusual supplies, where you did your research, useful further reading etc]

Example:

Further reading: See Godey's Ladies Book for more bustle fashions
Buy crinoline steel from www.venacavacorsetry.com

[END SIDEBAR]