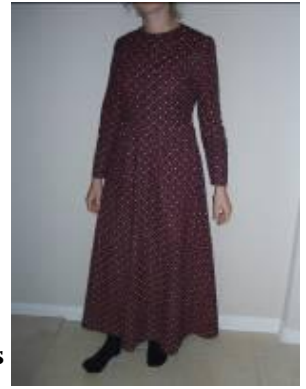


# Sew Modest News

February 2006



**A**-line skirts: This style is wonderful

for everyday wear or dress up and only takes about 30 minutes to sew if you make an elastic waist. The A-line style is also nice made on the bottom of a dress as in the photo above. If you don't have a nice pattern, we have one, and you may purchase ours for \$12 ppd. This pattern works for any size girl or lady up to size large. You also will adjust the length to your specifications. See the website for more details.



**T**ry a new needle!

I was having trouble with my serger because one of the looper threads kept breaking. I rethreaded over and over to no avail until I decided to try changing the left needle. Instantly the problem was gone. So, sometimes the problem is simply fixed.

I buy needles in bulk from Home Sew, <http://www.homesew.com>. (25 for 3.65 plus shipping; I order with my other supplies)

I also was having trouble with my sewing machine tension and finally took it in to the repair man to get cleaned out. For \$20, that was the perfect answer. As much sewing as we do, it just needs a tune-up once in a while.

If this newsletter has been helpful, or if there is something you'd like explained more, please email us.

**H**ave you ever wondered why you should bother to sew, when, after all, it takes so much time? Sewing takes time but so does shopping for clothes. When we are sewing, we are home; when we shop, we are not.

When first learning to sew, it takes concentration but there are times when sewing that you can visit with a child or sit together in the same room. I am not saying that you cannot be together and visit when shopping because I do them at times, but when I am home, I am more relaxed. It is a peaceful environment to be in away from the bustle and influences of the world.

**I** tried a pattern recently (available from [sewbaby.com](http://sewbaby.com)). It is a nursing top. I will try to



get a better photo some-time on me. It has a center opening underneath a front panel. I also used new fabric from this top from sewbaby co. It is a 100% cotton knit and a lovely weight and color.

The pattern seems easy to sew and is by a home-based company.

**E**xperimenting with vests: I have several nice skirts bought at thrift shops and some blouses/tops to wear with them but there are times that I like more cover over my blouses so I am experimenting with vests. This navy vest was made using a \$1 cotton skirt from a thrift shop. I laid



the center front of the vest pattern (made from a vest I had bought and liked the fit and style of) on the front of the skirt which closed with snaps; I made sure the snaps were in the right place to be used to close the vest front.

I cut the back of the vest from the back of the skirt fabric. I did not line the vest because this fabric was thick. I sewed the shoulder seams and then finished the edges of the armholes and turned them under and stitched. I also did the same for the neckline.



I then sewed the side seams, finished the bottom of the vest like I had done the other edges, and was done. This was a very fast vest. If you had thin fabric, you would want to line the vest but this worked well for this fabric. You can also use the top of a jumper pattern for the vest and curve the bottom (if you don't mind experimenting.) You can also make a vest straight across the bottom instead of curved. The vest will usually be several inches longer than your jumper top pattern.

Oh yes, the vest also covers up the elastic waist on skirts if you don't like them to be seen.

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