

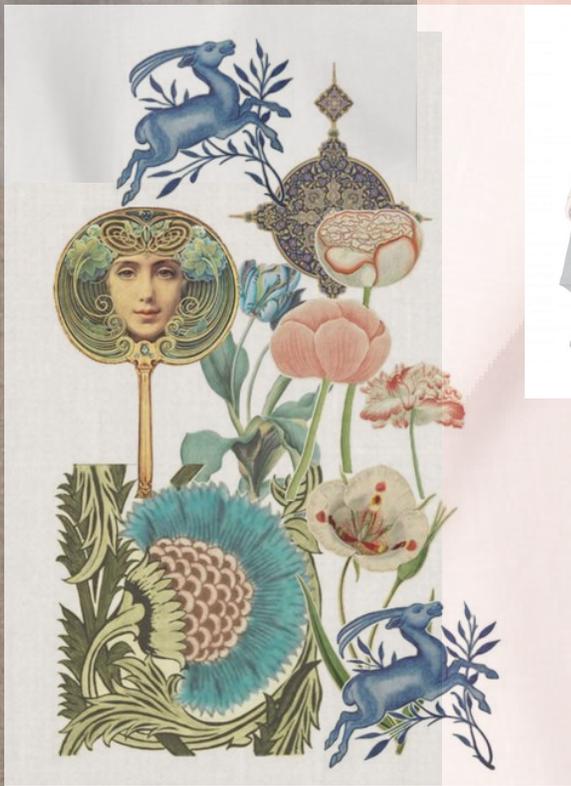


#0129/07 WORKSHOP
tina givens

WORKSHOP SPRING *Details!*



CHAPTER #2 *Linen*



Sew
tina givens
WW/07/SPRINGDETAILS

CHAPTER #2 *Linen*



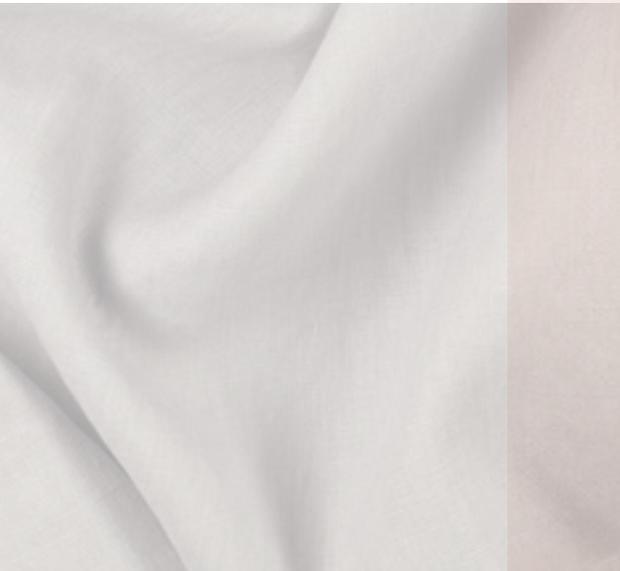
INTRODUCTION

My passion for sewing with linen blossomed when I discovered its remarkable abilities, yielding a soft, luxurious texture. Linen garments sway and drape beautifully, effortlessly concealing imperfections. I simply cannot imagine my life without it! My linen pants, slip dresses, and jackets create an effortlessly stylish capsule wardrobe for spring, lasting seamlessly into summer.

Sewing with linen is a joy; its woven surface provides an excellent foundation for stitching. Matching edges and working with the ease of this fabric are incomparable. In my early sewing days, I explored raw edges, creating my first Peter Pocket Shirt with perfectly fringed edges for the most relaxed and comfortable feel. I also crafted a tank dress with an appliquéd circle on the front, which became my summer staple—I ended up making ten more! That dress was my go-to for the entire season; I practically lived in it.

In this chapter we explore sewing a few dresses that have great details and work well with linen for its drape and weight. Sewing methods are straight forward and the sewing patterns I chose to share with you are two unique examples of linen garments.

I hope you enjoy and get to love linen as much as I do!





SEWING WITH LINEN

The Versatility of Linen in Sewing

Linen, a natural fiber derived from the flax plant, has been cherished for centuries for its remarkable qualities. Its popularity in sewing endures due to its strength, durability, and timeless elegance. Let us explore the unique attributes of linen and how to best utilize them in your sewing.

The History of Linen in Sewing

Linen has a rich history in the world of textiles, dating back to ancient times. The Egyptians used linen to create garments for the pharaohs, while the Romans valued its cool, breathable properties. Throughout the Middle Ages and Renaissance, linen was a symbol of luxury and status, often used for clothing worn by the wealthy.

The Attributes of Linen

Strength and Durability: Linen is one of the strongest natural fibers, making it ideal for sewing projects that require longevity. Garments made from linen can withstand frequent washing and wear, making them a practical choice for everyday clothing.

Breath-ability and Comfort: One of linen's most celebrated attributes is its breath-ability. It allows air to flow through the fabric, keeping the wearer cool and comfortable, making it perfect for summer clothing and bedding.

Absorbency: Linen can absorb a significant amount of moisture without feeling damp, making it an excellent choice for towels, bathrobes, and other items that need to be absorbent yet quick-drying.

Lint-Free and Anti-Static: Unlike many other fibers, linen is lint-free and has natural anti-static properties, making it easier to care for and maintain.

Versatility: Linen's versatility is another reason for its enduring popularity in sewing. It can be used to create a wide range of items, from clothing and accessories to home decor and upholstery.



SEWING WITH LINEN

When sewing with linen, there are a few tips to keep in mind to ensure the best results:

Tips for Sewing with Linen

- **Pre-washing:** It is advisable to pre-wash linen fabric to soften it and to account for any shrinkage that may occur.
- **Needles and Thread:** Use a sharp needle appropriate for medium to heavy-weight fabrics. A quality polyester or cotton thread works well with linen.
- **Cutting and Layout:** Linen can be prone to fraying, so use sharp scissors and consider finishing the edges with a serger or zigzag stitch. Layout pattern pieces carefully to minimize waste.
- **Seam Finishes:** French seams or flat-felled seams work well with linen, providing a clean finish and added durability.
- **Pressing:** Use a steam iron on a linen setting to press seams and hems. For a crisp finish, use spray starch.
- **Hemming:** A narrow hem works best for linen, as it maintains the fabric's lightweight and flowing characteristics. Binding works well for asymmetrical styles, and of course leaving the hem to fray a little by stitching a zig-zag stitch 1/4" from the edge.

Sewing with linen for apparel offers a plethora of creative opportunities and benefits. Linen, known for its durability and breathability, is a versatile fabric that lends itself well to various garment styles. Its natural texture adds a rustic charm, making it ideal for creating casual, yet elegant pieces. From airy summer dresses to tailored shirts and relaxed pants, linen can be transformed into a wide range of garments suitable for different occasions. Additionally, linen's timeless appeal makes it a sustainable choice. Experimenting with different sewing techniques, such as embroidery, applique, darts, curved seams, ruffles, or pin-tucks, can elevate linen garments, adding depth and visual interest to the final piece. Whether you're aiming for a minimalist aesthetic or a more intricate, embellished look, sewing with linen provides endless possibilities for expressing your personal style and creating garments that are as unique as they are comfortable.

I chose a few dresses to create with you with some magical details that take a simple dress idea to another level of 'wow.

SQUEET TUNIC DRESS

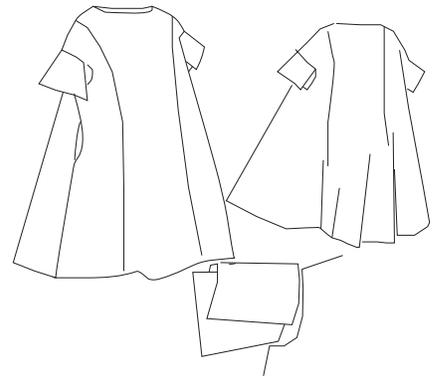
- WWSD/07/4013

What a sweet little tunic with optional sleeve details. This simple dress has great shape and details to take it to the next level. I love this dress and will make many more.

FABRIC: Light and Medium-weight linen, cotton, solid or prints.

XS-2X

ALL SIZES 54" WIDE 3-1/2Y / 2.95M



OTHER PATTERNS TO TRY

NANCY
CLOVER
EMMA
CHANTELLE
MARLA
YENELL
RUBY
OLGA

TREACLE Dress

WWSD/07/4012 XS-2X Treacle is a fantastic dress that is encouraged to be made in linen, however, it can be made in cottons, wovens and knits. I suggest something with body so you get the shape of the dress.

FABRIC

54" WIDE

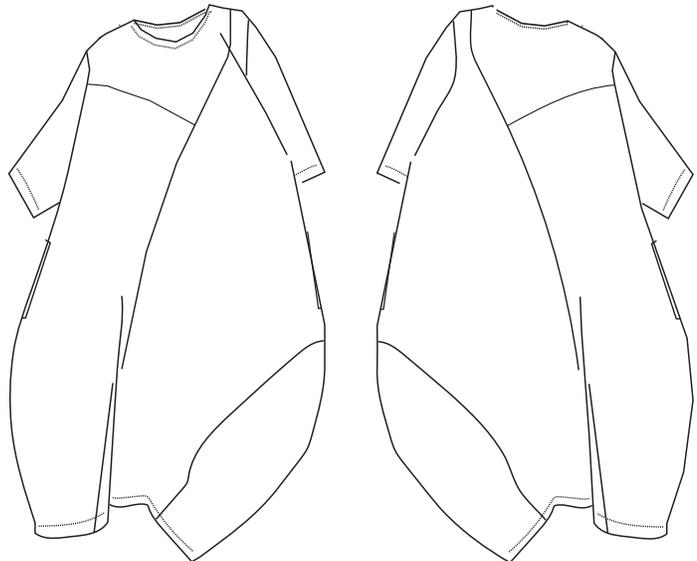
ALL SIZES: Two Options

a) One Fabric 3-1/2Y / 3.20M

b) Two Fabrics:

i) 2 Y / 1.80M

ii) 2-1/4Y / 2.10M



I chose a medium weight for my first fabric and a lightweight for the second.

Download Pattern Pieces and Instructions
www.SYCHIL.COM • WWW.SewTinaGivens.com
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