

My Label Tips and Tricks

Smocked blouse

Cutting out fine fabrics

Since many fabrics shrink considerably after they are washed, we recommend washing fine fabrics before cutting out.

Fine and slippery fabrics may be pinned in place on paper to make them easier to cut out. Pin fabric to paper before laying the pattern pieces on the fabric and pinning them carefully in place, then cut out everything all together.

Markings on fine fabrics

Markings can be indicated with embroidery/darning thread or a fabric marker.

Couching elastic thread

The elastic thread is threaded through the hole in the stitch plate from below. The bobbin cover then remains open so that the elastic thread can pay out loosely and is not pierced by the needle as you sew.

For inexperienced sewers, we recommend placing tissue paper or water-soluble embroidery stabiliser underneath the entire width of the pattern pieces.

Tissue paper can be completely removed with a bit of effort, whilst the stabiliser must be rinsed out. The whole piece should be soaked, as water spots may otherwise form.

The seam allowances may be reinforced with tissue paper or Vilene Solufleece, which will make securing and knotting the elastic thread easier.

Pulling the elastic thread tight

Do not pull the elastic on the sleeves too tight. You might want to gather the elastic thread in twos.

With most machines, the elastic thread may also be wound on directly as a bobbin thread. This is substantially easier to handle, but gives a slightly different gathered look.

Note: It may be necessary to loosen the bobbin-case tension here somewhat; use a second bobbin case if possible.

Neckline

The Bernina wide gathering foot no. 16 makes quick work of gathering fine fabrics attractively and evenly. It can even gather and sew on collars in a single step.

Please note, however, that this requires considerable skill. We therefore recommend that your first gather the collar with foot no. 16, then join it to the neck edge with the usual reverse pattern foot.

Another approach is to use the gathering attachment for the overlocker.

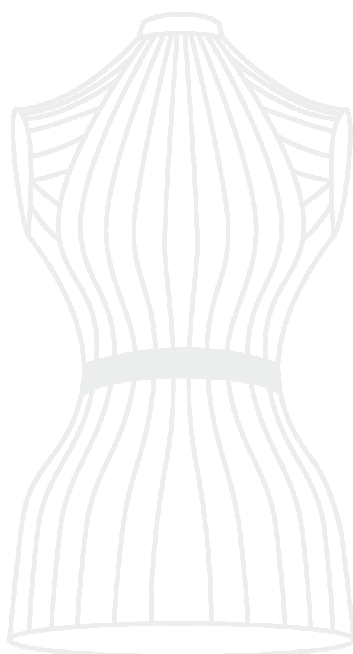
This attachment boasts the advantage of gathering, sewing on and neatening the garment in just one step.

In order to achieve a different effect, the collar can also be laid in small pleats with the Bernina ruffler no. 86.

For a neat finished neckline, bias binding or narrow satin trim may be sewn on.

Alternative to the overlocker

If no overlocker is available, the hem edges can also be stitched with a scalloped hem. To do this, use either the mirrored blind hemstitch or the vari-overlock stitch. Turn under the hem edge by about ½ cm and press, then overstitch. The size of the scallop is determined by the stitch length or width (sew a sample).



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