

Intermediate Sewing Workshops

LOCATION: Le Maine Neuf,
16300. Challignac.
We are 10 minutes from the N10 at Barbezieux.

TIMINGS: **Provisionally**, alternate **Tuesdays from 1-4pm**.
Provisionally starting on 3rd October.

COST: Each half day workshop costs **€30 or €100** for a set of 4.

NOTEBOOK etc:

For this Intermediate course, I'm going to give out some fabric swatches at each/most sessions, so you can start comparing fabrics and thinking about their suitability for certain projects. So, you'll need to **(1) bring a notebook** for these fabric swatches – I'd suggest no larger than an A5 spiral bound sketchbook with **at least 30 pages**. I bought a small (7.5 x 10.5cm) notebook from Super U for around €1.50. It's graph paper but perfectly ok! Perhaps bring a **(2) black fine liner** or similar for notes. I've got a **(3) stapler**, but if you could keep one in with your sewing kit, it would speed things up! You'll also need, for *some projects*, a **(4) sketchpad or plain paper** for recording your ideas, planning your work, noting resources needed.

CONTENT: This has been specifically designed to **build on foundation skills** and to **encourage more independent, personal work**.

The main focus is on **using a range of different, more challenging fabrics**, combining different fabrics, understanding fibre and fabric **properties** and how that determines the way you work with them. Even if you never use these fabrics again, tackling a project made out of, say, velvet, will improve your basic sewing skills.

CREATIVITY: I have continued to *try to* choose interesting, and relevant "PROJECTS" but this year there will be much more scope for individuality and creativity in these projects. One key feature of this Intermediate course is learning to create your own patterns and do your own planning (i.e., of resources and in terms of manufacturing processes etc) **You don't have to make MY project suggestions!** You can come along and make different products out of the same types of fabrics.

BOOKING: Please just email to let me know if you want to sign up; if you're a "regular" you can pay at the first workshop, if not, I'll ask for payment by cheque or bank transfer to reserve your place. .

Date (Provisional)	Skills	Product
1) Tue 3rd Oct	<p>* You'll start your "Fabric Swatch" notebook, inc. recording fibre/ fabric properties.</p> <p>Working with: * KNIT fabrics – we'll look different types of knits and other stretch fabrics, and their properties. * You'll have a go at stitching on some of them, using different methods and different needles.</p> <p>Skills: * Combining stretchy and non-stretchy fabrics. * Working with bulky products * Blanket stitch</p>	<p>* Eternity scarf * Heated neck/back pad * Hand warmers</p> <p>Or knit products of your choice.</p>
At home	You'll order your pattern and buy your fabric for your knitted/ stretch top.	
2) Tue 17th Oct	<p>* You'll continue with your "Fabric Swatch" notebook.</p> <p>Working with: * SHEER fabrics – we'll look at both synthetic and silk organza and other sheer fabrics (cotton voile, polyester georgette, silk chiffon). * You'll have a go at stitching on some of them.</p> <p>>>></p>	<p>*A set of gifts or items for your guest bedroom. These combine Organza with a medium weight fabric so you can see how you have to adapt your sewing when combining fabrics. * You'll make a scented drawer liner, a scented bag for hanging in a wardrobe and a scented pillow square.</p> <p>Or sheer products of your choice.</p>

	<p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Combining different types of, and different weights of fabric. * French Seam * Working with slippery fabrics 	
At home	Looking ahead: Planning your “Pile fabrics” project.	
3) Tue 31st Oct	<p>* You’ll continue with your “Fabric Swatch” notebook.</p> <p>Working with:</p> <p>* PILE fabrics and SILKY fabrics. Some fabrics have a “directional pile” and these require particular care when cutting, sewing and pressing.</p> <p>* You can look at - and try stitching with - silk velvet and silk satin, plus other silky fabrics.</p> <p>* You’ll use cotton velvet and, perhaps corduroy, along with (perhaps) a silky fabric.</p> <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Elasticated button loops * Overlaid seam 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Velvet collar * Gift or shoe bag <p>Or pile/silky products of your choice.</p>
At home	Cut out the top	
4) Tue 14th Nov	<p>Making a garment out of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Knit fabric 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * A knitted fabric top <p>Or a knit fabric garment of your choice.</p>
At home		
	Plans for workshops 5-8 to be finalized once I’ve made samples! I’m intending to include working with waterproof/ water resistant fabrics, zips (including a concealed zip) tweed, run and fell seam, pockets and more designing, leading up to pattern adapting/ altering in the spring.	