

Necktie Upcycle

By Kim Montagnese

- Collect approximately 15 pure silk neckties. The number of ties needed will vary, depending on the size of your vest or skirt bottom. It's very important to use pure silk. You can find out if it's pure silk by looking at the tag on the back of the necktie. If it doesn't say 100% silk.... just put it back. You won't have the nice drape you need.
- Choose a vest or skirt. I chose a vest that was fitted and past my hip. Also...I did a skirt that was knee length, but cut it off to mid-thigh length.

#1 Prepare your ties...Use a seam ripper or small scissors to remove the tag and loop on the back of the tie. Sometimes I leave the small tag on the inside corner, if it's decorative. Also, save the manufacturer tag if its decorative. You can use them to cover the raw edge when attaching the ties to the hem of your garment, as well as embellish the neckline, collar etc.

Now.... find the basting stitch that holds the back of the tie together. Gently pull on the basting stitch and remove the entire thread. You might need to pick at it a little, but most of them come out in one pull.

Remove the interfacing from inside the tie. Some are attached to the corner lining. Just cut it away if that's the case. Leave the silk lining on the point of the wide end of the tie

Gently hand wash the silk if necessary...Lie flat to dry. Press flat.

#2 Try on your garment. Have someone measure from the hem of the garment to the place you want your new hem to be.

Add about an inch to that measurement.

#3 Select the ties and stack them together with all the wide ends of the ties at the same end.

Cut the ties, measuring from the tip of the wide end...to your hem measurement. (from the hem of the garment to the place you want your new hem to be...Plus one inch.)

#4 Using a [Brother Sewing Machine](#), sew ties together. Hold first two ties, right sides together, points matching. Now, sew the raw edges together. the points will remain free. Continue adding each tie to the strip in the same manner. If you are making the skirt...you will need to join the two ends to form a complete circle.

#5. Gather along the top raw edge of the strip of ties.

#6. If you have a [serger](#)...you can clean up your gathered edge now. Just serge and trim.

#7 Pin your gathered row of ties to the bottom edge of your skirt or vest.

Using a zigzag stitch.... attach the row of ties to the bottom edge of your garment.

#8 Cover the messy raw edge of your zigzags with the manufacturers tags from the backs of the ties or some nice lace or ribbon.

#9 Don't forget to embellish the rest of your garment...interesting buttons...trim around the collar or lapel etc.

