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Tricia Waddell adds faux suede trim to a wool jacket for an instant fashion update.



Upcycle a Jacket with Suede Trim
designed by Carol Zentgraf for Stitch Magazine

Fabric

- Wool jacket

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- Soft faux suede in yardage determined by measuring your jacket hems and cuffs

Supplies

- Matching thread
- Self-adhesive, double-sided basting tape
- Size 80/12 universal or Microtex/sharp sewing machine needle
- Rotary cutter, rigid acrylic ruler, and self healing mat
- Chalk pencil
- Press cloth
- Teflon, roller or walking presser foot for sewing machine

Notes

- To determine fabric requirements for the faux suede (width of the fabric and the yardage you will need), measure the bottom edges of the jacket for the front, back, and sleeves. Add a 1/2" to each length measurement for overlapping ends.
- Make sure the nap is running in the same direction when cutting and applying the suede strips.
- For the smoothest edge, use a rotary cutter with a fresh blade to cut the suede.
- Use basting tape instead of pins to secure suede pieces for stitching; holes made by pins will be difficult to remove.
- Use a press cloth when pressing faux suede.

Instructions

1. Cut the jacket sleeves 1 1/2" shorter than the full length.
2. Cut the following strips to the indicated widths x the lengths determined from measuring your jacket. Cut the strips with the longest dimension running along the crosswise grain of the fabric for the most economical fabric use:
 - One 2" strip for the Bottom Hem Strip
 - Two 1 1/2" strips for the Top and Middle Hem Strips
 - Six 1 1/2" strips for the Cuff Strips
3. Using a chalk pencil, draw a line 1" above the hemmed bottom edge of the jacket. Apply basting tape along the line. Remove the paper backing and adhere the top edge of the suede Bottom Hem Strip to the tape, aligning the edge with the marked line. Topstitch in place 1/4" from the edge. Trim the ends of the strip 1/16" beyond the front edges of the jacket.
4. Repeat Step 3 to draw a line 1/2" above the top edge of the first hem strip and apply the Middle Hem Strip. Repeat to apply the Top Hem Strip.
5. To embellish each sleeve, use a chalk pencil to draw a line 1" above the wrist edge of the sleeve. Apply basting tape along the line and remove the paper backing. Beginning at the underarm seam of the sleeve, adhere the first Cuff Strip in place. Trim the overlap to 1/2". Topstitch the Strip in place 1/4" from the top edge.
6. To apply the second Cuff Strip, repeat Step 5, beginning by drawing a line 1/2" above the first cuff strip. Apply basting tape, sew the second Cuff Strip in place, and trim as before. Repeat again, drawing a line 1/2" above the second Cuff Strip to apply the third Cuff Strip.

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