

15 Mistakes to Avoid When Sewing

From www.appletreesewing.com

These tips are written as what you should do, rather than the mistakes I've made, just so there is no confusion ;)

1. Choose projects within your skill level (grow your skills, but don't choose something that will make you want to quit).
2. Know what looks good on your body (let your closet guide you).
3. Use the right fabric (follow pattern recommendations).
4. Pre-laundry your fabric (particularly if you are working with a fabric that shrinks).
5. Iron your fabric before you cut.
6. Choose the right pattern size for you (using accurate measurements).
7. When using PDF patterns, make sure your printed test square is the correct size.
8. Be careful with directional prints (cut your pieces with the print going in the proper direction).
9. Follow the Grain line identified on your pattern (remember grainline runs parallel to selvage).
10. Copy your pattern markings (they are there for a reason).
11. Cutting accurately (so your pieces fit together and your final garment fits you).
12. Use the correct needle.
13. Pin (or clip) when fitting together pieces with different lengths or shapes.
14. DO NOT SEW OVER YOUR PINS (sorry for the caps lock, but it can wreck your machine... so don't do it).
15. Press your seams before they are joined to another seam.

Dora's Tip (which I need to follow more often): Don't rush.