

Fashion Clownette's Costume Academy

Swimsuits - Materials List

I'm here for you - email me with ANY questions! axel@fashionclownette.com

1. A swimsuit pattern.

There are lots of swimsuit patterns to choose from. I've included a list of links at the bottom of this document. If you choose a "print at home" pattern, make sure to print and assemble the pattern BEFORE class and print all the sewing instructions as well.

Make sure to purchase your pattern in the correct **size range**. Many patterns come with all sizes in one envelope, but some are split up into ranges (i.e. size 8-12 or size 14-20). Pattern sizes are based on body measurements, not ready-to-wear clothing sizes. Measure your bust, waist and hip and look for the **body measurement** chart on the back of the envelope to find the pattern size closest to your measurements. It is common to fall into multiple sizes and if this is the case, choose your pattern size based on your BUST measurement.. **Don't worry too much at this point about perfect sizing**. We will discuss this in class together and make alterations to the pattern if needed to make sure it fits you perfectly. The most important thing at this point is that you purchase a pattern that contains the correct **size range**.

I want you to choose a swimsuit design that you are excited about, but I also want you to be able to complete the project within the 5 class periods we have together and have a fun time. Many pattern companies will rank their patterns in terms of difficulty (i.e. simple, easy, beginner, confident beginner, intermediate, advanced). Try not to choose a complicated or advanced design if you are super new to sewing. Not sure? Email me links and we can discuss!

2. Fabric & Notions.

Swimsuit patterns typically call for **4-way stretch** knit fabric, which means it stretches in all directions. You will also need swimsuit lining fabric, which usually comes in black, white or beige. Your pattern will tell you how much of each fabric is required to make your swimsuit and this info is typically found on the back of the envelope (or with the instructions) in the form of yardage charts that are organized by size. I recommend getting at least 1/2 yard of extra fabric so that we can do some test stitching. Also, some fabrics shrink when you wash them for the first time, so getting extra will ensure you have enough yardage. **Please wash and dry your fabric before class according to care instructions.**

Your pattern will also call for other items like elastic, hardware or foam bra cups. You can find this info on the back of the pattern envelope as well. It is important to get elastic that is specifically intended for swimwear so it won't lose its stretch in chlorine, saltwater,

hot-tubs, etc. There are two kinds of swimwear elastic – one looks like regular elastic and is cream colored (PREFERRED!) and one of them is clear rubber. **The clear rubber is tricky to work with, so please avoid it, especially if you are a beginner.** Please get ½ yard of extra elastic for test stitching.

3. Tools

You'll need ball-point sewing needles (size 70/10 or 75/11), a stretch twin needle and all purpose, 100% polyester thread.

We will sew our swimsuits with regular home sewing machines using a zig zag stitch. It is best if your sewing machine has the capability to adjust the width of the zig zag rather than using pre-programmed zig-zag stitches. If you are unsure, just bring your machine and we will figure it out. If your machine won't work, you can use one of mine.

Bring your favorite sharp scissors, snips, pins and sewing tools, or borrow mine.

Online sources for swimsuit fabrics and notions:

[Spandex World](#)

[Spandex House](#)

[Mood Fabrics](#)

[Blue Moon Fabrics](#)

[Sew Sassy](#)

Swimsuit Patterns!

Seamwork:

<https://www.seamwork.com/catalog/crosby>

<https://www.seamwork.com/catalog/reno>

Tilly & the Buttons:

https://shop.tillyandthebuttons.com/products/coralie?_pos=3&_sid=68f99fb0b&_ss=r

Closet Core:

https://corefabricstore.com/collections/patterns/products/faye-swimsuit-pattern?_pos=1&_fid=d18bf6415&_ss=c

https://corefabricstore.com/collections/patterns/products/bombshell-swimsuit-pattern?_pos=2&_fid=d18bf6415&_ss=c

https://corefabricstore.com/collections/patterns/products/sophie-swimsuit-pattern?_pos=3&_fid=d18bf6415&_ss=c

Vogue:

<https://simplicity.com/vogue-patterns/v9192>

<https://simplicity.com/vogue-patterns/v1894>

<https://simplicity.com/vogue-patterns/pdv2038>

Butterick:

<https://simplicity.com/butterick/b4526>

<https://simplicity.com/butterick/b5795>

McCalls:

<https://simplicity.com/mccalls/m7168>

<https://simplicity.com/mccalls/pdm7964>

<https://simplicity.com/mccalls/pdm8330>

<https://simplicity.com/mccalls/pdm8329>

<https://simplicity.com/mccalls/pdm7787>

<https://simplicity.com/mccalls/m8502>

Simplicity:

<https://simplicity.com/simplicity/s9609>

<https://simplicity.com/know-me/pdme2037>

<https://simplicity.com/new-look/n6734>

Burda:

<https://www.burdastyle.com/swimsuit-fabric-swimsuit-129-burda-style-06-23.html>

<https://www.burdastyle.com/stretch-bikini-115-07-18.html>

<https://www.burdastyle.com/stretch-swimsuit-112-07-19.html>

Kwik Sew:

<https://www.sewsassy.com/LycraProducts/swimsuit-patterns.html>

Etsy:

https://www.etsy.com/shop/EvielaLuveDIY?ref=shop-header-name&listing_id=594674934&from_page=listing§ion_id=35461056

https://www.etsy.com/listing/1507667721/pattern-womens-swimsuit-sewing-pattern?click_key=0f4239f82e83ec4a9aba33b6b4ba31fa03589802%3A1507667721&click_sum=1b58189f&ref=shop_home_recs_1

https://www.etsy.com/listing/1411990423/pattern-womens-swimsuit-sewing-pattern?click_key=1758b718d65f97b8a6114cab1c7d4eb8f60b629e%3A1411990423&click_sum=3e4ea935&ref=shop_home_recs_3&cr=1

https://www.etsy.com/shop/EvielaLuveDIY?ref=shop-header-name&listing_id=1396818490&from_page=listing§ion_id=35461056

https://www.etsy.com/listing/398770537/swimsuit-pdf-sewing-pattern-in-sizes-us?click_key=58e3e5d64b6d781e21a084afd90d27b96c90284e%3A398770537&click_sum=12be0e50&ref=shop_home_recs_1

https://www.etsy.com/shop/StylishpatternsStore?ref=shop-header-name&listing_id=1704309744&from_page=listing§ion_id=47865632

https://www.etsy.com/shop/StylishpatternsStore?ref=shop-header-name&listing_id=1704309744&from_page=listing§ion_id=47865628

Mens:

<https://www.sewitlikeaman.com/collections/underwear>

<https://simplicity.com/vogue-patterns/v1897>

<https://www.sewitlikeaman.com/collections/underwear/products/mens-square-cut-swim-trunk-yoga-short-sewing-pattern-pdf>

<https://www.sewitlikeaman.com/collections/underwear/products/mens-swim-thong-posing-underwear-sewing-pattern-pdf>

<https://www.sewitlikeaman.com/collections/underwear/products/mens-vintage-swim-trunk-sewing-pattern-pdf>

<https://www.sewitlikeaman.com/collections/underwear/products/mens-retro-style-swim-trunk-with-waistband-and-leg-binding-pdf>

https://www.etsy.com/shop/YouMakePatterns?ref=shop-header-name&listing_id=1207702495&from_page=listing&search_query=swimwear

https://www.etsy.com/shop/SewGirlPatterns?ref=shop-header-name&listing_id=1408131137&from_page=listing§ion_id=38263242