

Ten Tips For Making Beautiful Knit Garments

1. Check your fabric before you buy. Make sure it has good recovery. If it doesn't - don't buy it!!
 2. Cut out your knits with a rotary cutter and weights. Your cutting will be much more accurate!
 3. Good thread and needles are essential. Use a high quality thread (I love Isacord) and Stretch (not ballpoint) needles.
 4. Use stay tape on shoulder seams to keep them from drooping.
 5. A 4-thread serger stitch is the best for seams. Use a little differential feed to keep the fabric from stretching.
 6. Always press armhole seams into the sleeve using a dressmaker's ham. Don't let the iron actually touch the fabric - use the steam, heat and your hands to do the work.
 7. Check your fit as you sew. Don't assume it will fit the way you like! Adjust your pattern to make the next garment even faster to make.
 8. Three ways to hem knits:
 - Slight zigzag stitch width - 1.0 length - 2.5
 - 4.0mm double needle stitch length - 3.0
 - Coverstitch with a little differential feed
- TIP: Be sure to lighten the foot pressure if possible!
9. Block necklines and hems. Without this step they will look stretched. Invest in a good iron and point presser/clapper.
 10. Don't be afraid to play around with the style. Knits are ever-so-forgiving!