



Stretch Lace T-Shirt Tip Sheet

Stretch lace is hot again! Create your own style and enjoy the comfort and versatility of these pretty tops.

Stretch Lace Considerations:

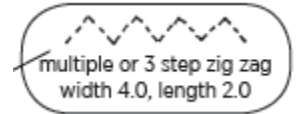
- Stretch lace often has stretch going in both the crosswise and lengthwise grain, so the fabric layout could be in either direction. Hold the fabric up to you in both directions to see which looks best. If there is a scalloped or finished edge on the selvage side, you will most likely want to use that for the T-Shirt bottom and sleeve hem (you will need to straighten the shirt tail hemline on the pattern for this).
- Pre wash the stretch lace and then steam it with your iron. This will relax the lace, resulting in less fitting adjustments.
- Use a 4-thread serge or slight zig zag (width-1.0, length-2.5) for seaming.

Semi Lined Top:

- Trace a Front and Back pattern with a neckline shape to cover your bra, and 2" shorter at hem. Cut each piece from a solid color knit (this is your "lining").
- Cut out the T-Shirt from stretch lace.
- Lay the solid color knit onto the wrong side of the stretch lace, lining up the side seams and armholes. Pin together.
- Thread the sewing machine with a thread color that matches the stretch lace as closely as possible.



- Use a multiple zig zag to stitch along the top edge of the knit lining, attaching it to the stretch lace. The multiple zig zag stitch imbeds into the stretch lace and virtually disappears! Use this same stitch to attach the lining to the stretch lace at the armholes and sides.



- Construct the T-shirt according to the pattern instruction sheet. Since stretch lace can be very stretchy, you may find that you need to take in the sides more than normal.
- Hem Finishing – The lining will hang free from the stretch lace, and since it does not ravel, can just be left unfinished for a flat and smooth appearance under the stretch lace. If the stretch lace needs to be hemmed, turn up 1” and use the multiple zig zag for the hemming stitch (do not use stabilizer in the hem).
- Neckline Finishing - Use the stretch lace or a matching solid color knit for the binding. Be sure to stabilize the neckline with knit stay tape. Or, staystitch ½” from neckline edge, turn under and topstitch in place. If the stretch lace is sheer, do not use any stay tape in the neckline (this technique can be found in #108 The new Versatile Twin Set, Sleeveless top).

Here is another idea for using stretch lace!



Lace Blocking:

- Create a piece of fabric by piecing together stretch lace to solid knit.
- Lay pattern over the blocked fabric in the desired placement. Cut out T-Shirt.
- Construct the T-shirt per instruction sheet. Sew trim over the seam if desired.

