Challenge #1: Let’s make a Happi (ã¬ã£ã¨ã¼% coat!

**Information:** This an easy guide that will teach you how to make a happi coat. *Our challenge to you is to follow our directions and make your own Happi coat!* Feel free to deviate from the directions. For instance, if you don’t have a sewing machine, use duct tape! We love creativity!

A happi or happi coat is a loose jacket-like garment that was usually worn by some craftsmen. It often beared on its collar or back the name of a store or the wearer's name. Today it is still worn by some shop keepers however it widely used during festivals and parties.

**Instructions:**

1. Select your material. Suggested material is cotton, polyester, denim or their washable blends.

2. Fold the material in half.

3. With your T-shirt sleeves fold inwardly, place its neck at the fold of the material. Make sure to give 3/8 inches for the seam for every sides of bodice and the sleeves. *(Diagram 1)*

4. Add 8 to 12 inches for the length. When done, bodice length should be long enough to cover your hips. With the remnant you will:

5. Measure around the collar length. *(Both front center sides and the T neckline.)* 6. Cut the Collar 4â€¢ - 4.5â€¢ (width) x length in 4.

7. Fold the bodice matching four corners in two and mark the fold ends for shoulder line.

8. Cut the neck-collar line. First, cut the center of front bodice, then, about 5â€¢ to make a T neckline along the shoulder line. *(about 2.5 inches from the center bodice point.)* It should look like *Diagram 2* when the sleeves are sewed on to the bodice, and neck opening is cut at the neck and the front bodice. The hardest is the collar.

9. Fold each sleeve in two for the shoulder point.

10. Fold the collar in two and clip 2.5 inches on the seam from the center for neck opening.

Watch the video on how to make a Happi coat.

*(Diagram 1)*

*(Diagram 2)*
Cutting the material: bodice & sleeves

Pin and Sew. Sew from the inside, then turn the right side out to press for finish. Match the parts inside together as follows:

A. Pin bodice and sleeves together.

1. Pin sleeves to the bodice, matching those points, and sew sleeves to the bodice. Press.

2. Take the collar and press the 3/8 seam line and along the horizontal centerline. This allows you to sew the collar easily around the collar line.

3. Draw a naturally curved triangle lines from the neck T ends to meet the collar width line in the front bodice.

3. Pin the collar center to the back neck center of the back bodice matching both centers. Pin also the clipped points and the neck T ends as shown in the Diagram 4. This is the hardest part of this sewing lesson. Sew from one end of the clipped pin point to the other, sewing a little curved in around the back bodice neck line. Turn right side out. Fold the front T triangles inside of collar, and pin with the seam fold in.

4. At this point, pressed collar should be sandwiching the bodice, meeting the seam line and the both collar lines in front bodice. sew collar to bodice. The clipping should allow you to sew the triangle line easily. (Diagram 5)

5. Fold the bodice in two, matching sleeves and bottom of the bodice inside out. It looks like a Tshirt.

6. Sew both under arm-sides lines together. Fold in the sleeves and bodice bottom edges and finish. (Diagram 6)

Finished?
We’d love to see your creation! Take a picture and send it to Happi@JRakuRaku.com.

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