



Apron  
Designer: Kendra McCracken

Growing up, I remember the aprons of the domestic women of shows I watched on television. Aunt Bee, June Cleaver, Alice from the Brady Bunch, they all wore aprons which were plain and simple and purely functional . How exciting that there's been a resurgence of the fun and colorful and stylish aprons reminiscent of the 1940's and 50's. Aprons are once again boldly colored and patterned, decked out with embellishments, pieced together in ways that allow for them to reflect the personality of the person wearing it. Anything goes as long as it makes you feel proud to wear it.

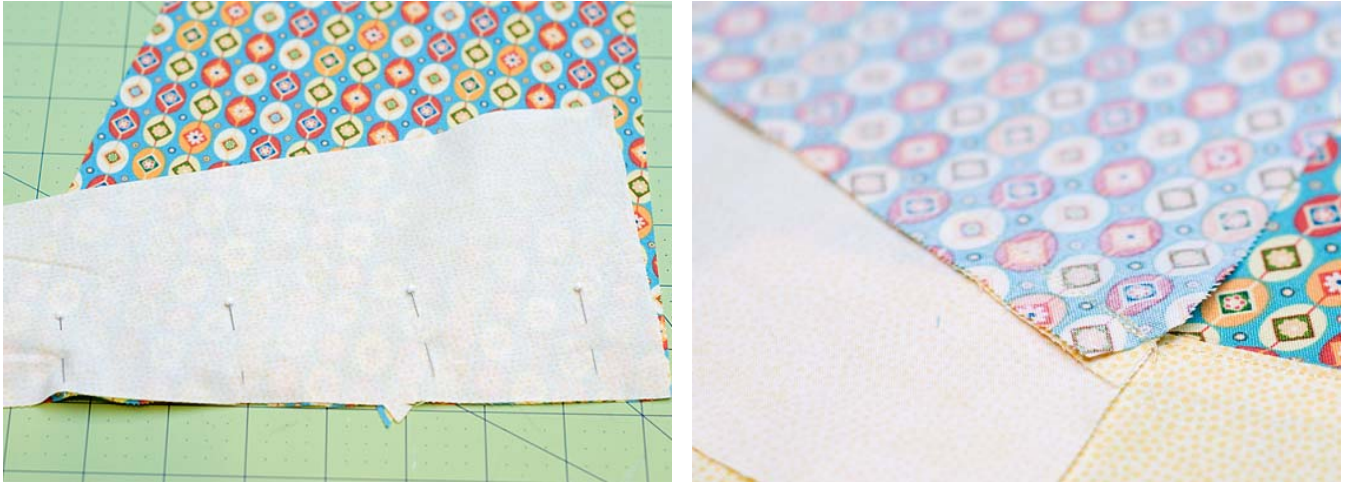
The apron I chose to make came from the book *A Is for Aprons* by Nathalie Mornu. The pattern name is Twirl Girl and I was drawn to the idea of using contrasting fabric panels. The saw-toothed line of the bottom edge of the apron adds a little more vitality and as involved as the design looks, it is actually very easy to assemble.

*Note: All seam allowances are 1/2" unless otherwise noted. I have outlined the basic instructions below. Full instructions and patterns can be found in the book or a favorite pattern purchased from a fabric store can be used.*



The first step after enlarging the pattern pieces on a photocopier (don't be too proud to let the associate at the copy center do this for you!) and cutting them out is to cut the pieces from the fabric. I always use my favorite Fiskars Scissors, the No. 8 Razor Edge Scissors, when cutting pattern pieces from fabric.

Pin and stitch together a hem piece to a front panel, right sides together, matching up the notches. Repeat with remaining panels.



Press all seams and to the same side and topstitch all seams.

Lay out 2 panels, right-sides together, line up the edges, and pin. Sew a seam along the right edge. Repeat with all the panels. Press all seams to the same side and top stitch seams. Make 1/4" hems on both sides and the bottom of the apron.



When you make a mistake in sewing a seam, use the seam ripper in the 12-in-1 Sewing Tool to remove the seam. The 12-in-1 Sewing Tool is a big space-saver and wonderful tool for keeping your work area organized, your inevitable tool misplacement at bay.

Make the waistband from the same fabric as the hem pieces. This is a cinch using a Fiskars cutting mat (the 18 Inch x 24 Inch mat is my mat of choice), a Fiskars Acrylic Ruler (6.5" x 24.5"), and the Fiskars 45mm Comfort Grip Rotary Cutter. The grids on the cutting mat and the acrylic ruler work together to align everything quickly and easily for cutting perfect square and rectangular sections of fabric.



Pin the waistband to the apron, right sides together, and stitch a seam along the raw edges. Turn the apron over and fold the top edge of the waistband down 1/2".



Again using the cutting mat, acrylic ruler, and rotary cutter, create ties.



Pin the ties to the right side of the waist band and stitch seams along the edges. Turn the waistband right side out. Fold the waistband in half toward the back of the apron and pin the bottom edge to the apron. Sew a 1/4" seam along the edge of the waistband.



Press the apron one last time and you're ready to make a statement, whether it's in your kitchen, in your craft room, or as a fun accessory to a casual outfit.



**Supplies:**

Fiskars 94547097 No. 8 Razor-Edged™ Scissors

Fiskars 12-83717097 18 Inch x 24 Inch Mat

Fiskars 12-87327097 6.5 x 24.5 Ruler

Fiskars 12-97937097 45mm Comfort Grip Rotary  
Cutter

1 yard each of two different contrasting fabrics

Thread