Creativebug Live: Me Made May with Sadie Metter with Creativebug

Chapter 1 - Me Made May with Sadie Metter

Me Made May with Sadie Metter

- Hello everyone! We're gonna give people a second here to roll in since we're right at one o'clock here. But thank you for joining us. We're here with Sadie from Sew Daily. If you wanna say hi in the chat, warm up the chat box. I always like that. Tell us where you are viewing from. I'm also curious if you're here because you're already an avid sewist and you're all about Me Made May. Or if you're like, "What the heck is "Me Made May?" and we'll tell you all about it. You have some East Coast. Hi Denise! And Sadie's from Denver. That's correct? Yes. - Yep. That's where I'm at. Snowy. Snowy Denver today. - And when you messaged that this morning, I was surprised because that's so like not what's happening here, San Francisco. I was like, what snow? It's like Michelle. It's also freezing in Green Bay, Wisconsin. I love to see, I'm assuming Roberta is saying I love to sew, which is great. We love to hear it. A couple people from Wisconsin, Joy says "I've never heard of Me Made May, but I come to all the Creativebug lives." We love you Joy! Thank you! I'm gonna just share one anecdote before we get going. It's so funny because like I'll always try to see if like, I recognize names in the chat from our lives and I, there's someone I, I message on Instagram. I didn't put two and two together. That, that, this is Joy. It's Joy here. So - Oh, nice! I have this like friendship with her on Instagram. I'm like, oh, it's Joy from our lives! Yeah. Yay! Okay, going again. Thanks for joining us. Our Me Made May focus live with Sadie from Sew Daily, I guess if you don't know, Sew Daily it is like a hub for all things sewing, like patterns, instruction, video. And you are, I don't know if "Content Creator" is the correct title. - Content manager, content creator, digital, mostly digital and yeah, for sewing and for quilting. - And you learned how to sew like from your grandmother or your mother? - Yeah, it's like this, I think like a very common story with anyone that's, you know, my age or, or similar generation, like learning to sew my grandmother sewed, my mother sewed. I grew up sewing, making my Barbie clothes and stuff like that. So yeah, come from a long line, long line of women that sewed. So, and I didn't for a long time, you know, like teens and twenties I wasn't interested in it. But then like after having kids, I brought it back, it came back and, and the creativity was flowing. So I've been sewing, sewing nonstop probably since then. - Oh, I love that. Do you, did it come back because you started sewing for your kids or - Yeah, for them. For, yeah, for them for the house. Toys, dolls, clothing. Yeah. - Amazing. I love how like you learn a thing but you can always come back to it like it never Yeah, - Exactly. - Exactly. Are you, did you sew what you're wearing today? I'm kind of putting you on the spot, I'm just curious. - Yes, I did. Well because it is Me Made May I'm trying to wear something handmade every day. So yes, I did make this. This is, this is from a pattern company called I Am Patterns. Yes. And this is called I Am Lion, which is one of my TNT - my "tried and true" patterns I make, I've made it several times because it's a, it's a comfy sweatshirt but it has like the statement shoulders and then these like cute little buttons on one side. So it's one of my favorites. - I was admiring the buttons. Are they functional or decorative? They are functional. Yeah, these I, I did like vintage. I have found some vintage snaps. So they're gold vintage snaps that I put on there. - Cool. And you made your earrings? - I made my earrings, yes. - Super sweet! These, - I did for Quilting Daily and they were inspired by a Quilting Arts magazine article by an artist - her name I believe is Lyn Brown, but if any of my teammates are on here, they can correct me. But an artist by the name of Lyn Brown and she did pillow beads and so I took her article from Quilting Arts magazine and instead of making like a bracelet or something, I made earrings 'cause

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big earrings are my jam. So - They look really awesome together. I love it. - Thank you. Thank - You. Okay, so it looks like we have some people who love sewing, some people who are really new to sewing. Do you want to - Sadie also has a beautiful presentation for us. Dive into sort of what Me Made May is, the origins and how you can participate. Let's dive on in and also feel free to ask questions along the way. I'll keep an eye on the chat in case you have a question for Sadie. - All right, Stephanie, are y'all seeing my presentation? 'cause it look, I know it looks different for me. - I can see it. Great. Assuming everyone else can see it. If you can't see it, let us know. Oh, Jan, thank you. Thumbs up. - Okay, good deal. All right. Yeah, so it is May and what I want to share with y'all today is how you can participate, what it is, how you can participate and really make it something that's yours. 125 00:05:44,020 --> 00:05:44,680 Okay, here we go! All right. So first I'll share the origins of Me Made May. It was started by Zoe Edwards and you can follow her at sozo blog. She started this back in 2010 as really a way for herself to start wearing the garments that she was making as a bit of a challenge to herself, to just make sure that she was, you know, using them and getting joy out of the things that she loved to make. But it has, I think since 2010, it has grown exponentially every year. And it's more than just garment sewists. I think that creatives in a lot of different areas participate in Me Made May. It's primarily garment sewing, but I've seen lots of other creatives and crafters following along. So I do have some tips on how to participate in Me Made May, and I think something that Zoe talks about on, on her pages and on her social and her website is that it's really meant to be low stress, no pressure. It's more about celebrating your skills and your joy of sewing and not so much about challenging yourself to do something that's not joyful or feels stressful. So you can - there are a lot of people that participate in Me Made May that will pledge to wear a new handmade garment every single day. But you could do it once a week. You could decide that you're going to be more sustainable, which is kind of part of what I'm trying to do. And mend something or alter something that you have in your closet. There's really no right way. Again, I think you need to focus on what you love about your sewing practice and really make that part of your pledge for the month. And that can be as much or as little as you need it to be. Again, I think alterations and upcycles are a huge part of it and I think a lot of us sewists are thinking in more, in more frugal, sustainable ways these days. And then if you want to, and if you're up for it, you can connect and share socially online. And there is the hashtag #memademay2026 which is what you could tag your photographs of whatever it is that you're wearing that day. And then it's such an amazing community. I've never experienced anything negative with it. Everybody is very encouraging and it's a great place to go and get inspiration for what you want might want to make. 'cause I have seen other sewists on there who will post a picture wearing a make that they made that it's a pattern that I have that I haven't made yet. And then I'm completely inspired to, to go and dig, dig in my stash and make that too. So it's a really great way to find inspiration to, if you're sewjo's feeling a little down. - Your sewjo! Super cute. - All right, so for me, what is Me Made May, I'm really taking this year I've participated a few, a few times fully and like dabbled different ways, different years. But I think this year I'm really looking at Me Made May as a way to be intentional about not only what I'm wearing, but about what I plan to sew. So prior to Me Made May starting, so the last few days of April, Kelly from True Bias, True Bias is a pattern company and Kelly is the founder of that. I don't know her last name, but she, if you, if you look up True Bias on Instagram, she had done like a three or four day lead up to Me Made May where she was giving tips on how to participate. And I, and one of the tips that she gave was to pull out all of your clothes, put them either in a section of your closet or if you happen to have a rack like I have behind me, and put them all out so that you can see them. And then what I thought was brilliant about it is that her idea was

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to have a notebook or a clipboard with some way to take notes so that every day when you put something on or you're, or you're looking through the rack and you're deciding what you want to wear, things come up. So like I've grabbed stuff off of my rack before where I'm like, oh, I really want to wear this. I haven't worn this enough. I invested my time and my money in making it and I don't wear it. Why is that? And then it might be, oh, I don't have a pair of pants to go with it. Or you know what, I don't really like the way that it's like fitting my body right now. I, what if I altered it? And so just taking those notes and I think that using the month of May to really evaluate what hand-mades I have, what's in my closet where there are gaps because that could really shed light on what I want to make next. And so intentionality is really what I'm hoping to get out of my Me Made May. It's like I'm always creating and sewing, it's my hobby. I love to sew, but being very intentional about what it is that I'm going to make so that I'm making things that I truly will grab outta my closet and wear. So that's kind of what I'm looking to get out of Me Made May. Again, I'm pledging to wear something I've made every day, but really hoping to, besides the celebration of it, really find some intentionality in how I round out my wardrobe with it. - Could you guesstimate like how many handmade garments you have to choose from? Because like I'm a baby sewer so I'm like, oh, I have three things maybe I could wear out in public. And so it'd be like a high rotation - And that's gonna vary for every, I mean I've been sewing for so long that I have enough that I could wear something every single day, the month of May if, if I wanted to. And I've sewn so much throughout the years that I've even, I mean here's like something that I had I think like in just the past couple of years that I've been able to bring myself to like give away or donate or sell my me-mades like that I people that, that sew clothes probably know what I'm talking about. Like I'll make something and even if I don't wear it, I'll just, it, it stays forever in my closet. And it's just in the past couple of years that I've really decided like that's not, if my, my lifestyle changes, my body changes my just my like sense of style changes now I'm much more able to like decide, okay, is this a gift to a friend or a donate or a sell? I mean I've been able to even sell some of my me-made stuff on other platforms. So that's something that you could think about too. But I think it's gonna depend on where you are in your garment sewing journey as to how much you're gonna be able to wear during the month of May. But I think that's kind of a way of looking at it is it's much more of a celebration of, of your skills, what you have made style them differently. Like you could, you know, if you have three garments that you've made, you could try styling them in different ways throughout the month just to flex that kind of muscle a little bit. - Right? It's a great idea. - All right. So yeah, again, I think that a lot of us are looking at our sewing journey in a sustainable and creative way. And it's a great way to participate in Me Made May, especially if you're on a budget or something like that. I don't know why this keeps like not wanting to play nice with me. All right, here we go. So refashioning and upcycling. So look at those. I say that refashioning and upcycling still counts for me-made even if you're refashioning or upcycling store-bought garments because I think that if you've made something wearable that wasn't before, it counts for Me Made May. So think about those types of, even if it's like sewing on new buttons or something like that in my book, it counts. - Yeah, Laura was asking does an apron count? I think that totally counts - 100%. Oh my gosh. And yeah, well I, we'll I'll get there. I do have like some other ideas but I even count like home decor items or cloth napkins or, there's lots of things that I like to include in my Me Made May - mending and repairing, like I said, like if you want to hem something or take in something or add a button or darn or whatever, like I think those count towards Me Made May utilizing your scraps. I know a lot of us sewists have bins and boxes of scraps and I've been really excited to start digging in and using those things to do upcycles and alterations and refashions. I even, I, I love the, there is the class, I

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think it was Faith's and I think maybe you have one too Stephanie, if I'm not mistaken, but the quilt block on a t-shirt or a sweatshirt like is so, such a fun, cute way to like upcycle something. And so digging into those scraps is a great way to do that. - Courtney also has a fabric scrap ornament class where you just like run the scraps in between like a mesh and a backing and then you can cut them out and - Yeah. Yes. Yeah, scraps using up those scraps that's like on my list. And then if you, for me, if I'm going to make anything new in the month of May, again I'm thinking of it from an intentional viewpoint. Like is it something that I'm gonna wear that I'm gonna grab on a regular basis and that's working with the rest of my stuff so I'm not putting a lot of pressure on myself this month of May to sew up 30 new garments. Like that's not what it's gonna be about for me. And I think that that hopefully can give some other people permission to like do Me Made May in a way that works for them. - Would you say that the month is more about wearing what you've already made or sewing new things or is it a combination of both and just sort of however you wanna interpret that? - Yeah, I think it's a combination of both. And I think like in the spirit of it that Zoe kind of started it with was that it wasn't supposed to be this pressure thing where you're sewing a new garment every single day. Like that's, that's a lot of pressure, you know? But I think more so celebrating skill of sewing. So if you wanna make something awesome, but if you wanna just wear something you've already made even, you know, even more awesome in my book. Anyway. All right. So I did share some of my journey through the years of Me Made May. So on the left there, you, the, the smaller images on the, on the upper left, so I don't know if any of you'll remember this, but when I first participated in Me Made May it was back in 2012, 2013, and there was this photo app called Hipstematic. I don't know if anyone's gonna remember this, but it, you could run, it was like before filters on social media and you could put your, you would put your photos into it and you could make them look like old Polaroid pictures and stuff. Anyway, I was obsessed with it! So it was so funny when I was going back through my camera roll to find some of my images of, of me-mades in the past, I found a bunch of, of those with the hipstematic app that made it look like they were, you know, already 20-year-old photos or something. But I, I thought it was really funny., And I participated very sporadically so I was, I was making new things but not 30 new things. So I think, you know, like those first couple of years that I was aware of Me Made May, I was posting things that I had made for the month, but it, you know, I had like five, five new things or something. And so that's what I was sharing. I got a little bit more involved in 2018 and started because I had more to choose from in my closet. 'cause I was keeping, like I said before, like I never threw anything away. So then I would have kind of some stuff to choose from. But it wasn't until like 2019 that I was participating almost like on a daily basis. And then also using Instagram and social media in a way where I was like every single day. And then again, as you can imagine, like during 2020, we all know what was going on in 2020. So I had a lot of time to, you know, sew and post. And so May of 2020 I participated fully and then I participated again pretty fully in 2021 on Instagram and, and then I kind of fell off after 2021. I really didn't participate for a couple of years until 23. And again, I was kind of back to a more sporadic kind of posting. So I think really the reason I share this is to just let everybody know that like you don't have to commit to posting and being on social media every single day to get a lot out of Me Made May, even if you're kind of going on there to just find inspiration and you don't feel comfortable posting yourself. I think it's anything and everything in between. - Do you find that you end up making like new connections? - Like 100%! Yeah, because you know, people will, they're so wonderful - you know, sometimes it, it's nice to find a corner of the internet of people that are creative and nice and encouraging and supportive. And I've only found that in posting pictures of my me mades. Like - people support it, encourage you, they give you

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love, they give you hearts, you know, and, and it's just a great way to, you know, gain a little bit of confidence in your me mades, because you know, I work from home so a lot of the times I'm not wearing them out every day, but sharing it is a way to, you know, have people appreciate what you've done. So, and I've only found encouragement online, so I recommend people do it if they feel comfortable. - Lauren is asking, do you, is it primarily on Instagram? Like do you see it Me Made May, maybe on Facebook or on TikTok? I'm not really on either of those things so I couldn't speak. - Yeah, I mean I have my Instagram also posting to my Facebook, so I think that you, I mean - it is there, but to go and look for the hashtag, the best way is to do the search for the Me Made May 2026 hashtag on Instagram just to find other people that are participating in it. And then what I've done is I've ended up following like just in this past like six days of, I've found probably like 10 new creative sewists that I wanna follow. So it's also a great way to follow other people. And then my algorithm now is like so wonderful. Like I go on to my Instagram and my algorithm is just like people's handmade garments and showing them off. And anyway, it's a good way to kind of play with that a little bit too. - Make your feed really inspiring. So as I was saying, kind of like at the beginning, I'm using the month of May to really reflect on the things that I've already made, celebrate them, wear them, show them off, but also helping me think about how I'm going to look at my sewing practice for the rest of the year. And so I did include like a couple other tools that I use to keep track and to also kind of like bookmark those things that inspire me. So I use Trello, I use it for work, but I also use it for my personal sewing practice. And I create Trello cards of my fabric stash with notes about how much yardage I have, where I got it. And then also links to patterns that I may be interested in sewing that I think would work with that fabric. And then I also have patterns listed and then completed projects. So it's a way for me to just keep track of like, didn't I already make that? Oh yeah I did. And then I can go back to that card and see what fabric I used, what size I may have made, that type of stuff. So that's how I keep track of my patterns and my fabric. And then my inspiration, my mood board, a lot of people use this is Pinterest. I have lots of boards that are dedicated to fashion and sewing and fabric. And so I curate a list of things that I want to make. And so I was kind of, for this presentation, I was looking through it, things that I'm interested or that are on my to-sew list. And I think at the end of May, I'm going to be able to go back and look at that mood board and say, okay, is that really going to be something that's gonna work into the wardrobe that I already have? Is it intentional? Well, I wear it and so forth. So these are a few of my ideas of the things that I want. And then the, the art there is also, I have again, using scraps, and my algorithm, something has started to pop up, which is called, and I probably not pronounce it right, kinusaiga. It is a no-sew Japanese art form where it's like foam and you take your fabric and you tuck it into the foam. So anyway, this is like on my list of things and I am gonna count that if I start something this month, it's gonna go towards my Me Made May, but that's kind of one of the creative textile projects that I am thinking about doing. So you should check it out if, if it sounds interesting to you, but it's, it's more of like art than it is clothing, but it is using textiles. And then that last picture all the way on the right is of Jesse Buckley. I don't know if anyone saw the movie The Bride, but I went and saw the Bride and I absolutely loved it. And it's Maggie Gyllenhaal's new movie and I'm already thinking about Halloween. And so I had this on my Pinterest board, this is my Halloween costume inspo and will probably end up being like a refashion or something. But I start thinking about those things in May. I don't know if I'm crazy if I'm the only one that starts thinking about Halloween in May, but I wanna these gathering my fabric and stuff. All right. So again, I think like it all counts. So of course garments, garments count for Me Made May, but I think jewelry, like my earrings or if you make clay jewelry or metal jewelry, I think that counts for Me Made May.

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Accessories, scarves, hats, hair accessories, I think count. Bags and totes, upcycling and refashioning. And then again, like I mentioned before, I really think that like home decor and home goods, if you're making them completely count. Aprons 100% count. Yeah, I think it all counts. If you're making it and you're making it something usable, celebrate it for Me Made May. And then I just want to encourage everybody to join in and, and join the celebration! Wear those things that you make if you feel comfortable on social media, post it, include the hashtags, #memademay and then #memademay2026 You can also go back to previous year hashtags and find really great inspiration for your sewing. And then be sure to follow along. Sozo blog, like I said is Zoe Edwards and she's the creator of Me Made May and and then there is my personal Instagram, @SadieFoxStudio if you wanna follow my personal journey through this month. But you can also get great ideas for creating and crafting and sewing and all the things that Creativebug and Sew Daily makers and Quilting Daily. - Awesome. - All right, so I'm gonna stop sharing. Alright, - Gorgeous. Thank you so much for putting that together for us. Absolutely. Very informative. Valerie said that she loved your idea to use Trello. I've never even looked at that before, but now I'm thinking about, oh that looks like a really smart way. - It's such a great way to keep track. Like, yeah, I love it because I'll, I'm a good like stasher, like I could stash stuff away and then forget that I even have it. - Yeah. - So it's nice, it's like a, a tool and you can look on your phone or whatever and be like, you're at the fabric store or the craft store and it's like you can go in there if you have it organized well and you can go in there and see like, oh, I already have enough yardage for that pattern or I already have some a pattern that I could use for this. And just helps you be a little bit more mindful when you're out there, you know, shopping and thinking and dreaming about what you wanna do. - Like putting two and together like, oh I have this. Yeah, Denise is asking specifically, what is Trello? So it's an app, like you can just, - It is, it's, it's an application. It's, I don't even know, I don't like organization, like teams use it. So I use it in for work as well. So you can like if, if you had like a group of people you can assign projects, but it's like a simplified team management tool. But you could use it just for yourself for, for inspiration. And I believe they have a free version that you can try out. - I gotta check it out. Laura Lynn is asking where is a good place to learn to alter clothes I made to, to alter clothes to make it smaller instead of making them all over again to - To learn how? - Yeah, to alter your clothes. - I mean I think that we have a few, we have some YouTube videos on the Sew Daily makers, I'm guessing Creativebug might have something. - Trying to think specifically if I can recommend a class and I'm - gonna - yeah. But, but I think like sometimes like when in doubt when I don't know what to do. YouTube is a great, is a great resource, you know? - Yeah. I think we have a lot of classes on like if you take a store-bought pattern and then it's how to alter the pattern before Oh, to - hack the pattern. - Yeah. Make adjustments. - Yeah. - But if that's interesting. I know Courtney's here, Courtney, do we have a class that's about altering clothing you've already sewn? It seems like we must! It seems. And if we don't, I know, - I feel - I'm - Drawing a blank too. I'm like, surely we do. I don't know. But, and then again I'm also like, just go for it. That's what I do. Like I'll just get this - On the hunt. I know we're all like, duh, we should have that. Yeah, it would count or yeah, it would count. We have some like, you know, you can, you can hem things but I think yeah, resizing them is an interesting, interesting process because someone said they're already thinking about Christmas. Yeah. Wow. - Yes. - That freaks me out right now. Like I don't wanna think about Christmas, - But May is a great time. I think like, you know, I'm thinking about my Halloween costume, but like if you'd like to make gifts, - Yeah, - May is a great time to kind of think about that if you're evaluating your stash or what you currently have, what you can use there for gifts. That's a great idea. - Denise is asking if you have some favorite me-mades. - I do, I do, I do actually today I

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got to pull one out because of the weather. We, we are having the snowstorm and I had made a jacket, a coat, like a wool coat with a lining and a hood and everything. And I was so excited to pull that out. Today it's called, it's an old old pattern by a pattern company called Waffle Patterns and the coat is the Pepernoot Coat is the pattern name. So that's one of my favorites. I love, love, love. So we at Quilting Daily and Sew Daily and a couple months ago I did a, a Creativebug live about the "Quilted Runway" and one of the garments in that program is called the "Milan Mosaic Dress." And actually I have, it's the yellow dress right there. I've made a couple of different versions. You'll see like the pieced insert on the sleeve and that's become one of my favorite garments. - But - I dunno, I probably have a dozen, I dunno, they're - All my favorite though. They're - all my favorites. They're all my babies - At this point. Do you find that like pretty much once you've decided the fabric in the pattern and you sew it, you'll wear it because still again, like since I'm starting, like I'll sew up this whole thing and realize I'm probably actually not gonna wear it. Whether it's like I picked the wrong fabric or, so I'm still like figuring that all out. I think I'm like, yeah, I haven't, like, it feels like a waste. I know it's all a journey, but I'm like, oh, I just blew like hours and hours on this thing. I'm just not gonna wear. - Well I think that that's, so I think Stephanie, you're not alone. And in fact, like as I've been starting to follow other people that have been posting and tagging for Me Made May, I've seen that thread where people are looking at what they've made and they're like, you know what? I made this. It's kind of like the, the fabric purchasing is one thing and then the sewing is another thing. And then the actual wearing can be something completely different. And so that's kind of like, my goal is to be sure that I'm in, because I love, like, I sew because I love textiles. And so I've definitely made lots of things that I absolutely loved the fabric or I absolutely loved this on-trend pattern that everybody was posting about, but it doesn't work for my body or my lifestyle or anything. And so I've made it, but now what? And that's what I was seeing at the, at the top. Like, I'll save it for years and years. And it's like, why, why? So I've been able to now like kind of let go that I got something out of that. Like I probably learned some amazing skills while making it. And I think celebrating that is important too. Like the, the, the month should be about celebrating your sewing journey wherever you're at in it. So you probably learned some things, even if you did, if you're not wearing the garment - For sure. Yeah, I can't wear hemp. That's what I learned. It's not gonna, I don't know why I bought that, but yeah. That's interesting. Let's see, Courtney said there's a class coming up by Sandra Chandler that does show how to take existing pants and change the leg and add a side team embellishment. So it changes the fit, but - Oh, that's fun. - I do like the idea of like, perhaps we will in the future put together a class that's specifically about altering clothing because I think that's whether it's store-bought or me-made and I get, I mean I don't, it's also interesting learning, like when you make your clothes, there's this opportunity right to to like hack the pattern for your body. - For your body. Yeah. - Feel like even as you're learning, it's sort of like I still need a lot of help. Like I, for some reason I, I always have a lot of like tightness in my armpit area, but my brain doesn't really know how to fix the pattern for that. So there's a lot. - Right, right. - The whole big thing. - It's a big thing. Yeah. Altering, altering, altering the patterns once you kind of, there, there are a few different pattern alterations that I always have to do for myself, like for the most part. And then knowing how to do that then it's really easy. Yeah. To just make that simple tweak. But then you'll also find as, as you go through your sewing journey that like different pattern designers they have, so they, I'm guessing most of them start out with like a block or like a kind of standardized bodice block or something. And when you find a pattern designer that uses a block that works for your body type, you tend to be kind of a, a lifelong fan of that pattern line because it always seems to work. And so I have a few that like, they just always work for me and I love it or I have to make very

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few pattern adjustments. So you'll learn that as you go through your like sewing journey, which patterns you really love. Which pattern designers. - Courtney said: Sadie, do you wanna teach the clothes altering class? - I would love to! - Put it on the list, Courtney. - Put it on the list. - Ready here first. Yeah, that would be really cool. Does anyone, let me see if I missed any questions. Roberta said I have pants I'm struggling with to alter because of the pockets. I mean that's very, - Oh yeah, that can be complicated. - Yeah. - What's the, what is the alter? Like you might have to like become really good friends with your steam ripper. - Mm. This is also what I like when I'm like, 'cause I'm an artist coach so like I'll be on the shoots with people as they're instructing and a lot of the sewists and quilters are like, "You know, I've done this for years but I still seam rep." And that's very comforting because it feels like, oh gosh, I don't know. But I - mean I think like a good rule of thumb with sewing garments is as long as you don't cut it wrong, right? Cutting can be permanent but if you sew it wrong most of the time, barring some like extreme fabric choices, you can always rip it out and start over. - It's comforting. - Yeah. - Let me scroll up and see if we have any other questions for Sadie. Oh, my daughter's getting really into upcycling clothes and has made several items for herself to wear, but we are struggling to find patterns for her that are fashionable. Any kids patterns or maybe kids pattern designers that you recommend? - I do know that, so I mentioned True Bias Kelly with True Bias and she, she has, it's not extensive but she does have some kiddo patterns that are really good because she created them when her kiddos were younger. So I would recommend those. I know on Sew Daily we have some girls dresses we don't and a coat and maybe like some shorts and stuff, but again, not extensive. Yeah, I don't know. I don't have like my, my kiddos are grown now so I think the ones maybe I use when they were little probably don't exist too much anymore. You know, another great place to find patterns for kids is the thrift store. I don't know if if if you're a thrift store or not, but there's always dozens and dozens of sewing patterns in the thrift store that you could get for like next to nothing. And I do see a lot of kid patterns there so, and you just have to kind of like have the imagination to look past the dated styling on the cover of the pattern because you know, shorts or shorts or shorts or pants or pants or you know what I mean? And just think about it in like modern fabrics. And it's also a great way to kind of learn some new skills with some of those like older big box patterns are, they're really good at like skill building. - So also thinking like if she got more comfortable, even just practice sewing things that she might feel are super fashionable, like you would pick up the skill then to like, oh what if I made this part bigger this or added this thing. So she might get to the point where she's just like making her own stuff up. - Yeah, or even just like if she has like pair of pants or leggings or shorts, those are really like, you could like copy them, you know, like trace them off and and just copy them. Especially simple garments. - Jane is wondering if you have any sewing machine recs for beginners. I think we get that question a lot. Favorite brand for beginners? - I don't have a favorite brand. I use all of them. My one recommendation when I'm talking to people that are getting ready to buy a machine is, well I have two. One is get a machine that is able to be maintained by if you need to, if like something happens and you need to take it in, there are a lot of machines on the lower end of the price range but you can't open them up and maintain them. So then it's kind of like a disposable machine in a way. And you can find those like they're, you know, 50, 60, 70 bucks. But there, if something happens it's almost impossible to repair. So I say if you can jump up to the price point where it's something that you can have forever and it can be maintenanced. And then the other thing is if you're willing to take a little bit of a risk, I'm a huge proponent of old vintage used thrift store, garage sale, estate sales, finding those great machines that will last you forever and then getting them for almost next to nothing and then taking them to someone to be serviced and

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cleaned and then be the machine that you have for the rest of your life. But I am not brand, like I'm not committed to one brand. I've sewn on all the brands and like something from all the brands - I guess also hope - That, I hope that helps. I dunno, - Could find maybe a class and just to maybe play with a machine or two. And - That's a great idea. Like a local, a local quilt or craft store has probably has classes and then you can go in and test stuff out. Or even sewing machine dealers like you can go in and play and test drive stuff as well. And then kind of think about what features are important to you. But beginners like you need like straight stitch and zigzag. That's about all you need. You don't need all the bells and whistles and all the fan, you know. - Yeah. Joy said you might also be able to borrow one from your local library. Some of them. Oh - yeah, that's a great idea! - Where are you finding fabric for your garments these days? Do you have a spot, are you buying online? I think everyone is really a little bit lost at this point for fabric. - I know, right? So I have, so I've talked about the thrift store. I love using sheets and so like when I go to the thrift store, I go to my local thrift store does have like a fabric section and it's hit or miss. But I also look at the curtains and sheets and bedding and those sections of my thrift store as well. Here in Denver we're lucky we have a couple of creative reuse centers where they're like arts and crafts stores. So they have fabric I like to buy there. If I am buying brand new, I like to support local smaller shops. So like I look for, there's a couple of quilt stores, quilting fabric stores, craft stores in the area. So I'll try to support them. And then if I need to go online, I like to touch fabric before I buy it when I can. But if I absolutely have to and I know what I'm looking for, for garments I have purchased from Mood Fabrics before online it's not gonna be the most affordable place to go. But if I'm looking for something very specific, that's a place. And then for like natural fibers, another one I'm thinking of is called Nature's Fabrics. I like them. They have kind of the cotton linens, silks and stuff, voiles and stuff like that. The, the natural fabrics, nature's fabrics. But yeah, it's hard. There's not a lot of places like brick and mortar places to go anymore. - Yeah, I've definitely been shopping online and crossing my fingers. Hope, hope it's nice. - Yeah, you have to, you have to. But I have noticed, and I think that something that I've kind of liked about the current environment that we're in is that those local smaller shops are starting to carry more fashion substrates than they used to. And so you can find like a good linen or rayon or something, at least like here in the Denver area, those places are starting to carry some more of that stuff, which is, it's good for drape and fit and or like knits, they'll carry some jersey knits and stuff like that. So check your local smaller shops, they might, they might surprise you. - I've also been noticing, I don't follow a lot of sewing designers, but sometimes people will like release their own collection of like, this is my striped cotton that we're so kind of like design the fabric or pick the fabric that goes with their current patterns, which is - Yes. - Cool. So you kinda like, it's - Very cool. - Trust their recommendation for their garments. So - Yes. Oh who's so I think doesn't Blackbird Fabric do that? I think Blackbird, they're located in Canada, but I think that they'll do that. Like they'll pair their fabric with a pattern, which is really is really nice. - Yeah. On the other thing too, for fabric, if you're afraid to shop online is that's why I like Me Made May would be so cool 'cause everyone's posting their me-mades, they often cite where they got their fabric. So you can be like, I love that they told me where to buy that. It looks great. Yes. So it's not even just on a bolt, you can see it moving on a person, - On a person. Yeah, absolutely. - I've definitely bought fabric because of that. I'm like, oh, what's that? I need to have that - Right. Yeah, it's not just the patterns, it's the fabric you can be inspired to. Yeah, absolutely. - You were saying the fabric purchase, like fabric purchase buying and like yarn shopping, it's all its own hobby and then it's its - own hobby. - You move to phase two and perhaps phase three, like - Exactly - The whole universe. I dunno if this is too specific for this group, but I'm going acknowledge that Mary asked if there is an easy way to

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alter a neckline that's too large, like making a dart or is there like a sort of a, an easy tried and true for her or? - Yeah, and in fact I've done that and I had like this, I don't think it's on my rack, but I have, I had this dress. Oh you know, actually I think I could, I could show you. Do you want me to show you? I think I have - It exciting. Very cool. - Let's see. Here it is. Yeah, I do, I have an example. So this, this fabric, this, I've had this dress for a very, very, very long time. But the neck, the, this particular, it's a jersey, it's a stretch fabric and it completely stretched out as I was sewing the, the neckline. So I ended up putting in, but on the front and the back darts. So I darted it there and there and then on the back as well so that it's not loosey goosey around my neck. So yeah, darts, you could do like a box pleat where you bring in the sides and so it's like a really large dart. Like you could do that and just make it a, it's a design, it's then a design feature, - Right? - Not a mistake. - It would alter sort of maybe the line of it, but then you just make sure it's in a part that maybe - I put it on and pin it. So like I put it on and then I put the pins where I decide, you know, okay I need to bring it in there and then obviously sew it on the wrong side. So yeah, I think that's a great solution for something that's already made. - Yeah, that's great. Thank you. Or you - could add a channel for elastic. If it's really big, you could put a channel for elastic and make it like a gathered neckline. - That's so cool. Love that. Thank you. Let's see. Oh, Mary said awesome. I'm gonna try your recommendation. Really doable. Thanks. - You're welcome! - You're welcome. Mary. - Yeah, the doctor is in, so if you had, anyone else has a question? Fire away. Let's see, I'm gonna scroll up. Oh, I like that too. Buying fabric at estate sales. Courtney dropped a recommendation for Stone Mountain Fabric, which is a really cool fabric. Oh, - I've been there. That is a great, that's a great, they do sell online, but that's a great store to just go. If you're there to dream in. - I mean I can drive there, but I still also buy online sometimes, to be honest. It's just easy. Courtney says I need some of those little clips from the nineties that gather your shirt or dress in the back. Oh yeah. With like little like elastic or fabric. - Oh yeah. With the little grabby things. Yes. - Those were cool. - Those are cool. And you could do, you could do that. You could like fake that by putting, like I said, making a channel around the neck. You could just put a little casing at the back, even if it's on the wrong side, on the inside. And then you would stitch the elastic on one side, stretch it, and then stitch it on the other side and then it'll bring it in. I've done that before too for like, for like something that's feeling too drapey at the back to like bring it in and accentuate your waist. - That is cool. Courtney says, put that in your class that you're there. Love that little hack. That's a really, really smart idea. - The other thing, one of the other kind of alterations that I like to do, I love, 'cause I love to thrift, but you can put pockets in things that don't have pockets. Like that's one of, that's something that I love to do. - Yeah. So you just like open up the hem, the - side, open up the like do an, inseam, side seam pockets. Those are so easy. - That's cool. Put that in the class too, to write notes from this live. Oh, we def have classes on adding side seam pockets. Okay, nevermind. - Oh nice. Is there though, that's a good, - That's a good already sewn garment. Like, I dunno, I feel like that's a little different. Let's see, - One of my thrift thrifting fabric tips is to make sure you do a sniff test. I always smell the fabric because if it comes from like a home where somebody smoked, that's really hard to get that out even after a few washes. So I always do like, like pet messes and cigarette smoke can be really hard. So I always do, even though it feels gross, I do a sniff test at the thrift store before I buy something. Well, you - know better to have your gross moment before you buy, right. - Than when you get home. - Yeah. Yeah. And I always feel weird when I buy yarn sometimes I don't know if it's gonna be like scratchy and I feel bad about it. I don't, I feel like I'm tainting, but I have to put it on my neck. I'm at the yarn store. Yes. Like this. Like, sorry that I can't do this before I buy it, but - Yep. - I don't know. Yeah, - You don't wanna make something that then you, you're not gonna wear it. See, then you're not

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gonna wear it 'cause it's gonna drive you crazy. Yeah, yeah, yeah. - Does anyone else have any more questions for Sadie? Give like six more minutes, but we're almost up on our hour. I feel like people asked a lot of great questions. This was - Really great questions and I hope if you're not participating or even just lurking on the hashtag #memademay, everybody should go check it out. It's really inspiring. There's people creating some amazing things out there. - Yeah, I definitely feel like not only working here, but just seeing what everyone sows on Instagram has inspired me as a person who didn't really sew before. So if you're new to the universe, check it out because you might find your new hobby. So yeah, - I'm slowly trying to convince Denise, my coworker, she's a, she's an amazing quilter, but I am like, I'm bringing her over to, to this side little by little trying anyway, - Like where they merge all the amazing quilted garments. Oh my goodness. - Yeah. - Those are awesome. So, alrighty. Well thank you so much Sadie. - Thank you Stephanie. This was fun. - Yeah, it was. We'll have you back. We're gonna film, we're gonna, we have plans. - Looking forward to it. - Great. Thank you everybody - That was here too. - Can't wait to see all your makes.

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