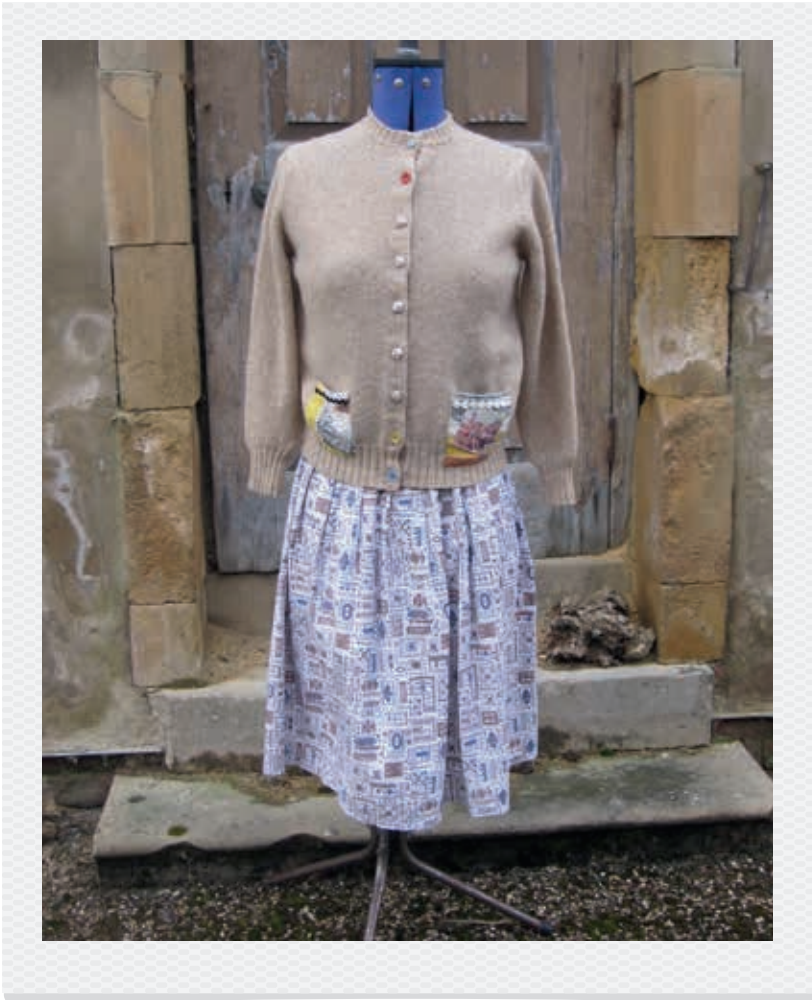


A Vintage Cardigan



Things you will need



- A button through cardigan
- Self cover buttons to fit button holes (these can be either metal or plastic)
- Lightweight fabric to cover buttons
- Stitch and Tear stabiliser or an embroidery hoop
- Water erasable marker
- Contrast fabric for pockets
- T-shirt transfer paper (for adding images)
- Trims, name tapes and few of your very favourite buttons

Background

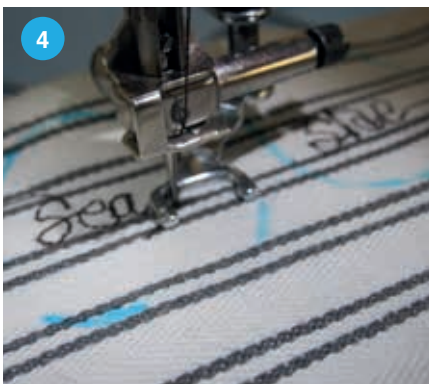
When it came to clothes my Mum would always say: “don’t be a sheep, wear something different.” As a teenager I ignored her advice – I just wanted to look like all my friends! However, her words stuck and gradually I began to adapt clothes to make them my own. I created this cardigan, stitching in words and stories, to bring a sense of personality and sentiment to my wardrobe.



Louise Presley

Louise Presley is an experienced fashion and textile designer, based in Nottinghamshire. She runs Hope & Elvis which provides sewing workshops catering to a range of different levels of experience.





To make the conversation buttons

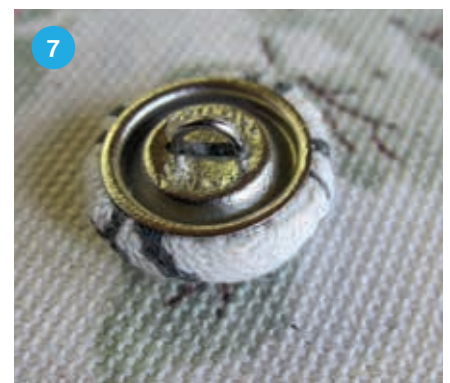
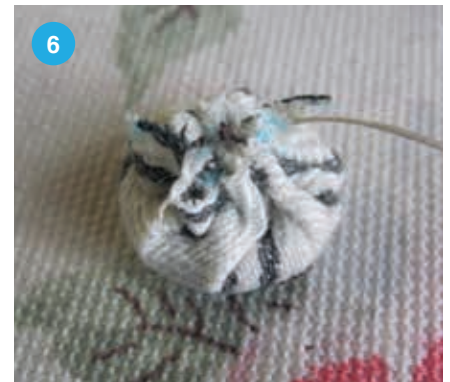
- 1 Remove the original buttons carefully.
- 2 Iron a piece of stitch and tear onto the back of a piece of lightweight fabric. Allow yourself a good amount to fit all the buttons from as well as extra to practice, practice, and practice on!
- 3 Following the instructions on the packet cut out the template to fit the button (mine was a 15mm button). Using a water erasable marker draw around circle template onto the front of the fabric. Then mark the button position in the centre so you know the area you have to stitch into.
- 4 Set up the machine for free motion stitching by dropping the dog feed and changing to the darning foot.

To stitch the words I practice first to get into the rhythm and scale, you may prefer to write out the words but I find it near impossible

to stick to the lines. On the scale of button I worked on, three of four letter words are just about all you can fit on and this can be fun trying to work out suitable phrases. My favourites include: love, home, make, tea, time, bed, sun and sea. I make quite a few attempts at each word and then pick the best ones. Practice makes perfect!

- 5 Cut out the circle's and remove the stitch and tear from the back of each piece.
- 6 Remove any markings with a damp cloth and then stitch around the edge of the fabric using a running stitch with a knot and a double thread. Pop the button in the centre and gently draw up the thread and secure with a knot.
- 7 Put on the back piece and push down into place.

(Continued p3)





- 8 Stitch the text buttons into place and add any extras needed to complete the cardigan.

To make the personalised patch pockets:

- 9 Work out the size of the pockets in proportion to the garment and make a paper pattern. Add a 1cm seam allowance and 3cm at the top. Cut out and press edges under making a double turn at the top. Stitch across the top edge.
- 10 I have chosen to add a family picture using a paper and heat transfer method (follow the instructions on the packet) and have patched it in place before applying the pocket.
- 11 Add any further trim details and the pin and tack pocket in place before machining down.



