

Pattern Adaptions

Length

If your corset is a longer length style (i.e. finishes past your natural waist) you can easily shorten it to be a bustier style length (i.e. finishes in your natural waist).

Often a pattern will have notches or marks on the pattern pieces for the waistline. You can draw lines to join these marks and cut along them.

You could make and fit a mockup/toile or pin the pattern on yourself to work out where your waistline is in comparison to the pattern.

Underwire

Underwires are recommended for a cupless corset like the one I am making. Without them the garment may not hold its shape well and come away from your body.

I chose the shape and size underwire that best fit me and adapted the cup shape on my pattern to fit my underwire. I didn't want the underwire to extend all the way to the top edge as it will be bias bound.

Closure

I like to have an open ended zip closure on my corset as it gives it a modern and more casual look. It's also a lot easier to get into than lacing.

If your corset pattern has a lace up closure, I would recommend adding to the Centre Back seam allowance. When you make a toile you can draw in the new centre back seam once the toile is pinned snugly on you.

Fabric & Habby

Fabric

The fabric you choose is dependent on the style and fit want. If you are wanting something to cinch you in, then a sturdy, non stretch fabric like a medium weight cotton is good.

You could choose a sheer fabric like chiffon or even tulle. These won't be as sturdy as the fabric is soft. It is also tricky to work with slippery fabrics like chiffon, especially when trying to make something structured from a drapery fabric.

I went with a cotton sateen fabric (left over from my Sue Shirt) as it can hold its shape and has some stretch for comfort. I decided to line it to create a neater and more comfortable inside as I embroidered the fabric with an intricate design and don't have the time to remove all the stabilizer.

I used the same fabric for the lining.

As the seams and edges will be bound and form the casings for the boning, it is not necessary to line the corset. However a lining can help strengthen the outer fabric and create a sturdier, structured corset.

Habby

I like to use the plastic **boning**, usually called Rigilene. It is woven so you can sew through it (carefully of course) and cut it easily. You can also shape it with an iron.

Rigilene comes in different widths and is cut by the metre. It is usually available in black and white.

Swimwear **Underwires** (plastic) are my preference as they are less likely to push through the fabric or poke you. I also like the way they fill the casing and hold their shape.

You can make your own **bias binding** if you want it to be the same fabric as your corset.

Here is a helpful tutorial: [DIY Bias Binding](#)

I used premade bias binding for ease.

Open ended zips come in various lengths. However, you may need to shorten it to fit your corset. Refer back to the blog post for help.