

## **Dressmaking for Beginners**

This course is aimed at confident beginners and intermediate sewers who have never used a dressmaking pattern before, or who need guidance on choosing, using and reading sewing patterns. *Throughout this 4-week course you will make a simple garment\* to practise your skills.*

The 4-week course aims to cover:

### **Week 1**

Choosing a pattern

Important information - the back of the pattern

Taking measurements, choosing the correct size, finished garment size

Basic dressmaking tools and how to use them

### **Week 2**

Awareness of pattern seam allowances and garment ease

Pattern instructions – terminology

All about toiles

Preparing your pattern and your fabric before cutting

Cutting out your pattern

Lengthening and shortening pattern pieces

Interfacing and facings

### **Week 3**

Grain line and pattern markings including place on fold, notches, symbols (e.g. gathering points), buttonholes

Stitch length, basting, tailor's tacks

Fabric cutting layouts

Cutting out your fabric (you will cut out your own garment)

Pattern markings and how to transfer these to fabric

Reading instructions

Assembling the garment

\*Suggested garments are skirt, pyjamas/wide leg trousers, bathrobe, simple top

(Please note that this list is a guide only as we all learn at different rates – there is no pressure on the sewer to cover all aspects! We just want you to learn at your own pace and enjoy sewing! Sessions will be tailored to suit the needs of each group.)

### **Week 4**

Let's get sewing! - your chosen garment