



Upcycled Quilt Jacket Tips & Hints

HONOR YOUR QUILTS BY GIVING THEM A NEW LIFE

Upcycling a quilt into a jacket is made even easier with an overlock/coverlock machine like the HUSQVARNA® VIKING® AMBER™ AIR S 500 machine. For these jackets we have used overlock stitches for the seams and a variety of coverlock stitches for decorative elements on the collar and pockets.

Creating this project is quick and easy with the serger because you don't have to worry about hiding seams. Want to try it yourself? Discover tips on how to cut a quilt, which stitches to use, and more!

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Jacket pattern (a simple pattern is better to show off the quilt design)
- Quilt that is at least 60"x60" (153cm x 153cm) for smaller sizes or 70"x70" (178cm x 170cm) for larger sizes
This could differ due to damage on the quilt or the pattern used.
For example, if you have a longer jacket pattern you will want a larger quilt.
- Optional: Contrast fabric for design elements
- Serger thread (consider a color that is in the quilt, so it looks like a design element)
- Fabric marking tool
- Starch
- Hand-sewing needle with large eye
- Needle threader
- Optional: sewing machine (needed if adding pockets on top)

PREPARING THE QUILT

- Before cutting, prewash your quilt (and contrast fabric if applicable) to prevent shrinkage after construction.
- Thoroughly iron the quilt after washing. Using starch while ironing will make marking and cutting pieces more precise to your pattern.
- Cut out your pattern pieces from paper and arrange all of the pattern pieces on the quilt before cutting anything.
Tip: If the binding is in decent shape, arrange your pattern pieces so the edges of the pattern that won't be sewn into a



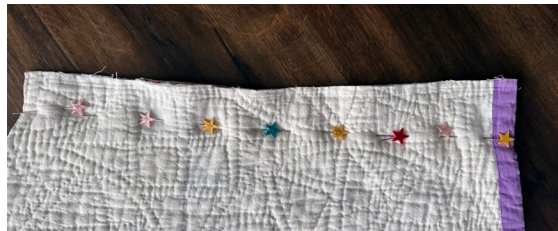
seam are along the edge of the quilt.

Note: This allows you to play with the layout, but if your quilt has a significant amount of damage, this will also let you see if you can fit all of your pattern pieces before cutting into the quilt. If you are just slightly short, consider adding a contrast fabric for smaller elements.

- Mark the outline and any markings from your pattern pieces with a fabric marking tool.
Tip: If you use chalk and change your mind, take a used dryer sheet and rub it against your markings to remove them.
- Cut along your marked pattern lines.
Tip: If the scraps are in decent condition, you can save the rest for other projects.
- Cut some of the excess to use as test strips.

SEWING THE JACKET

- When pinning, place pins parallel to the edge of the fabric to avoid accidentally catching a pin on the serger knife.



- Test any stitch you intend to use on scraps first to make sure the stitch looks good with balanced tension.
Note: Pay special attention to the stitch length. To feature the looper thread more, use a smaller stitch length.
- Use a safety stitch to overlock stitch all inside seams. This stitch will finish the edge and it will have a line of stitching next to that, which strengthens your seam.
- We recommend the 5-Thread Safety Stitch Wide
- Attach the extension table to support your fabric. This will ensure your seams are straight and free up your hands to better guide the fabric while stitching.
- When you are done with a seam, leave 2"-3" (5-8cm) of a thread tail, you will address these at the end.
- Remove the extension table and using the free arm of your machine when sewing the armholes.

COVERSTITCH

- To add more interest to your contrast fabric, use a coverstitch to add patterns.
Tip: Use both sides of the coverstitch or add chain stitching to create something even more interesting.
- You will also want to use a coverstitch on any unfinished edges you are adding with a sewing machine.
- For the pockets you can fold the top edge over ½" (1¼ cm) to the wrong side and then press with starch, pin, and stitch over the edge with a coverstitch.
- Stitch the fabric right side up to hide looper thread, like when going over the edge of a pocket.
- Place the edge of the fabric to part of the machine bed to make sure your seam is straight and the edge of the fabric folded on the back is covered by the looper thread.
- Since the edge of the fabric you want covered up with the looper thread is on bottom, try a wide coverstitch so there is more room for error.



FINISHING THE JACKET

- If adding pockets on top of a finished quilt, you will need to fold over and press the sides that need to be attached to the back, preferably with starch. Then sew along the edge.
- Once these are pressed, use a straight stitch on your sewing machine to attach. I recommend increasing the length of your stitch to 3.0-4.0. Since there is a bit of bulk to sew through, the normal straight stitch will end up shorter than normal to accommodate the bulk.
- When done stitching everything, use the hand-sewing needle to weave the thread tails in-between so you don't see the tails at all.

Note: You will need to use a needle threader to get all of the tail in the eye of the needle.



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