

SINGER® PROJECTS

Denim Apron for Dad & Son

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It is time to kick off grilling season with this fun denim apron perfect for Dad on Father's Day and all summer long!

For this month's project we will be sewing with denim and upcycling an old pair of jeans. You will learn important sewing techniques and tips for sewing heavy fabrics like denim and repurposing something you already have into something new.

This project is set up to be scalable to make it for adults and kids of all sizes. This is the perfect project for the grill master in your life. It is also great for kids who love to paint and craft to protect their clothes while they create.

PROJECT SKILL LEVEL: ■ ■ □ □

Shopping List

Everything you need to complete this project in one place. Use this convenient checklist to ensure you have all required materials in your sewing room, or take it with you while you shop for supplies.

- Denim Fabric
- Old pair of jeans
- 1" Belting/Strapping OR 1 yard of cotton fabric to make your own straps
- All purpose Sewing Thread (this can match or contrast your fabric)
- Denim Needle
- General Purpose Foot
- Straight pins or clips
- Washable Fabric Pen
- Ruler
- Fabric scissors and/or rotary cutter and mat
- Iron
- Parchment Paper (optional to make your own pattern before cutting)
- Singer Sewing Machine
- Serger Sewing Machine (optional)

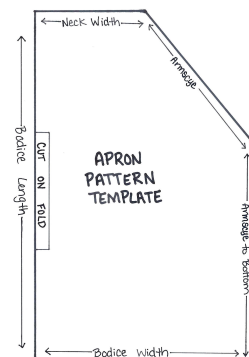
Cut:

- Cut out back pockets of old jeans - be sure to cut along the edge and also remove the backside of the pocket as pictured.
- Cut off 2 belt loops from old jeans.
- If making your own straps: cut cotton fabric strips 4 inches wide by 30 inches long. Cut 2-3 strips for an adult size pattern. Cut 1-2 strips for a child size pattern. Depending on the size of the adult or child you can add extra length by adding an extra strip.



Apron Pattern:

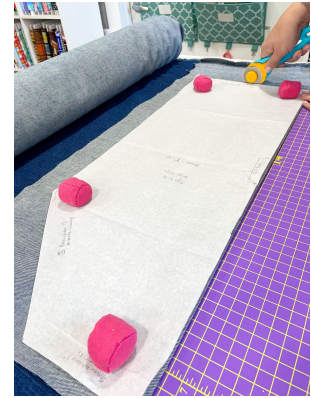
- Type of fabric - denim or canvas type of fabric
- I recommend using parchment paper to trace your apron measurements onto and then cut it out to have a reusable pattern.
- Pattern measurements are as follows but length and width can be adjusted as needed:
 - Adult Apron: Bodice Length - 32" / Bodice Width - 16" / Neck Width - 6" / Armscye - 16" / Armscye to Bottom of Apron - 20"
 - Child Apron: Bodice Length - 26" / Bodice Width - 10" / Neck Width - 5" / Armscye - 8 1/2" / Armscye to Bottom of Apron - 19 1/2"



- Bodice length, bodice width & neck width are half the total distance of the actual apron as this pattern is meant to be cut along the fold of the fabric.
- See included apron pattern template as a guide to make your own pattern.

Steps to Prepare Materials:

1. Cut out the apron using the pattern you made.
 - Be sure the longest side of the apron (length measurement) is lined up with the fold of the fabric. Your fabric should be folded in half before cutting out the pattern.
 - Use pattern weights or small objects in your sewing room to hold down the pattern as you cut it out. I find it easiest to cut with a rotary cutter on a cutting mat when cutting along a pattern.
2. Thread your machine with all purpose sewing thread in top and bobbin. This thread can match or contrast your fabric.
3. Set your machine for a center needle straight stitch at a 2.5mm stitch length with the general purpose foot attached. Make sure you have a denim or heavy duty needle in your machine.
 - **PRO-TIP:** Always change your needle every 6-8 hours of sewing for best results!
4. For this project I'm using the Singer® Quantum Stylist™ 9960 sewing machine which includes a special general purpose foot that has a spring button that helps keep the foot level when sewing over bulky seams making it perfect for this denim project.
 - To learn how to use this foot and other features of the Singer® Quantum Stylist™ 9960, check out our youtube video here: <https://youtu.be/pBpSSwqgO6c>



Put it All Together:

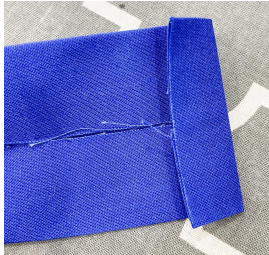
*Note: All seams are sewn at ½” unless otherwise indicated. Recommend general purpose foot with leveling spring available on the Singer® Quantum Stylist™ 9960 sewing machine.

Making your own apron tie. (skip if using 1” premade belting/strapping for apron tie)

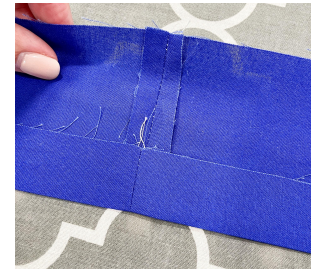
1. Line up short edges of tie strips (4” wide x 30” long each) right sides together and straight stitch together with a ½” seam allowance. Repeat for every strip you wish to add to create one long strip.
 - a. Remember for kids you will need 1-2 30” strips sewn together and for adults you will need 2-4 strips sewn together. Longer if you want the apron to wrap around and tie in the front.



- b. Once you have your strips sewn together to make a longer tie, drape it around your neck and pretend to tie it behind your back or around to the front to make sure your tie strip is long enough. This is the best time to add more length before you sew it together.



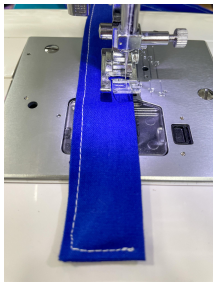
2. Using your iron, fold the 4" wide strip in half to create a crease all the way down the center of the tie strip.



3. Open the strip so you see the crease you just made and then fold each long side of the strip 1" in towards the center crease you just made all the way down both sides of the tie strip so they meet in the middle and press

with the iron.

- a. Now your strip should be 2 inches wide with the raw edges folded into the center.



4. Fold the short ends of the strip in 1/2" and press with iron.



5. Lastly, fold the entire strip in half again on that original center crease and press. You will be left with a 1" wide strip with all raw edges folded into the center of the tie strip.

6. Sew a straight stitch along all edges of the strip including the short ends. Be sure to backstitch at the beginning and end to secure your stitches. Your apron tie is complete and should be 1" wide with no raw edges

showing.

Making the Apron:

1. Finish the top edge of the apron (neck width) first by one of two ways:
 - a. Use a Serger set to a 4-thread overlock stitch and serge raw edge and then fold up 1" and sew a straight stitch along the serged edge.
 - OR
 - b. Fold up 1/4" and then fold up additional 1" and sew a straight stitch along the edge. This will hide the raw edge and prevent fraying.
2. Repeat step 1a or 1b on the apron sides and bottom hem only.
3. To make the armscye casing for the apron tie: fold up 1/4" and then fold up an additional 1 1/4" and press with iron. (you can serge this raw edge and then fold up 1 1/4" as well)
4. Straight stitch along the serged or folded raw edge to create a 1"-1 1/4" casing for the apron tie to go through. The apron tie should be



- able to move freely through both armscye casings.
5. Pin a safety pin on one end of the finished apron tie. Feed it through one side of the armscye casing from the neck to the side.
 6. Use the safety pin to feed the other end of the apron tie through the other armscye casing from the neck to the side.
This forms a loop at the neck that will fit over your head.
 7. Tie a single knot at both ends of the tie to prevent it from pulling back thru the armscye casing.
 - a. When you wear the apron, simply pull on both tie ends to raise the neckline of the apron making it more adjustable.
 - b. Depending on the length of the tie, tie behind the back or cross over in the back and tie in the front.
This is personal preference so keep this in mind when making the length of your apron tie.
 8. Lastly, pin in place where you would like the pocket(s) and belt loop(s) to go on your apron.
 9. To sew on the pocket, start at the top corner of the pocket and straight stitch around the pocket following the stitch line of the pocket. Do not sew across the top of the pocket so it can be usable.
 - a. PRO-TIP: The general purpose foot with the leveling spring that comes with the Singer® Quantum Stylist™ is extremely helpful when sewing over the bulkiness of the pockets and belt loops.
 10. Tack down both ends of the belt loops with a straight stitch. Backstitch to secure stitches.
 - a. PRO-TP: Straight stitch over the ends a couple times to make the belt loop very secure.



You did it! You've created an upcycled denim apron perfect for dad, kids, grilling season and more! Now that you've made one I know you are already planning your next. Share your finished apron with us by using the hashtag #singersewing and tag us in your photo on Facebook and Instagram!

