

EASY ROLLED EDGE KIMONO

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This simple, classic, dropped shoulder kimono with sleeve variations will acquaint you with the rolled edge feature of your serger. Most construction and all finishing will be done on the serger with just a bit of top stitching on the sewing machine. This beautiful Kimono jacket can be designed and stitched in just one hour.

MATERIALS

2– 3 yds. Silky* type fabric (depends on your size and fabric width, better safe than sorry)
2 or 3 Spools cone thread or Sulky thread depending on Serger capabilities

Sewing machine thread

Tape Measure

Scissors

Rotary cutter, mat, gridded ruler (optional)

Water soluble marking pen

* Fabric that tears in both lengthwise and crosswise directions are far and away the easiest to use. A nice drapey fabric is more slenderizing than a crisp fabric.

PREPARATION

The sample length is cut 36 inches from shoulder seam to hem. Use 36" or select a preferred length. Your length _____.

Decide upon your preferred **drop seam distance from shoulder**, usually 4" to 8". Small women use 4", medium women use 6", large women use 8". Use a tape measure and measure from the left drop point up and across shoulders and down to the right drop point. This is the back width measurement for the kimono. Back width measurement _____.

Measure from the side of the neck across the back of the neck to the other side. This is the neck width measurement, usually 7"- 8". Neck width measurement _____.

Subtract the neck width from the back width for _____. Divide by 2 for _____. Round up to a full number if the result was a fraction, this is the front width measurement_____.

To determine sleeve length, measure from your drop point to your desired sleeve length. Generally 11" to 14", but you are the designer. Be aware that $\frac{3}{4}$ length sleeves or shorter work best on this Kimono jacket due to the width of the sleeve. Long sleeves catch on everything! Sleeve length _____.

CUTTING MEASUREMENTS Hint: Write measurements on the lower left diagram before cutting. Use for reference.

Back: Add one inch to back width for ____ inches. Cut/tear one, your width X Length.
 Front: Add one inch to front width for ____ inches. Cut/tear two, your width X Length.
 Sleeve: Add one inch to sleeve length for ____ inches. Cut/tear two, your length X 30"-32"

CONSTRUCTION

Set up for a 2 or 3 thread rolled hem using a wide (6--7 mm) stitch width so that there is a good amount of fabric in the roll. When serging, trim about 1/4" from the fabric edges.

- Serge: 1a) Both short edges of each sleeve.
- 1b) The hem edge of each sleeve.

- 2) The long inside edge of each center front.

- 3) With right sides together align the outside edges of fronts to outside edge of back, serge across entire shoulder seam catching both fronts in seam thus attaching fronts and finishing neck edge in one step.

- 4) With right sides together, center sleeve on shoulder. Serge from garment hem onto sleeve and back onto garment to the hem, finishing edges and attaching sleeves in one step.

- 5) With right sides together, stitch side seams on **conventional machine**. Use a 1/8" seam allowance. A piping, cording or zipper foot makes this easier. *Variation: Leave each sleeve seam open for six inches at the hem end. Knot ends together.*

- 6) Serge hem. Use a fray sealant on each "tail". Allow to dry. Trim "tails".

