MEN'S DRESS SHIRT APRON

17 AUG

Whether you're a beginner sewer or an expert seamstress, you'll love this easy **Men's Dress Shirt Apron** tutorial! Transform an old shirt into a sweet, feminine apron so you can look cute while you cook!



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Okay folks, this post is WAY outside of my comfort zone, so bear with me! Sewing is not my strong suit, and I only started teaching myself how to sew a little over a year ago. You won't find fancy sewing techniques or detailed sewing vocabulary in this tutorial, but you WILL find how even a beginner sewer can tackle a super cute project like this! Sound good? Okay!

Earlier this week I showed you the new shelf in my kitchen and how I decorated it on a budget... *Did you check it out*? It has wooden pegs underneath the shelf that are perfect for holding kitchen towels, pot holders, and yes, an apron! While browsing our weekly Time to Sparkle link party, I found a stunning apron tutorial from Sugar Beans and knew it was meant to be. This adorable apron had to be mine!

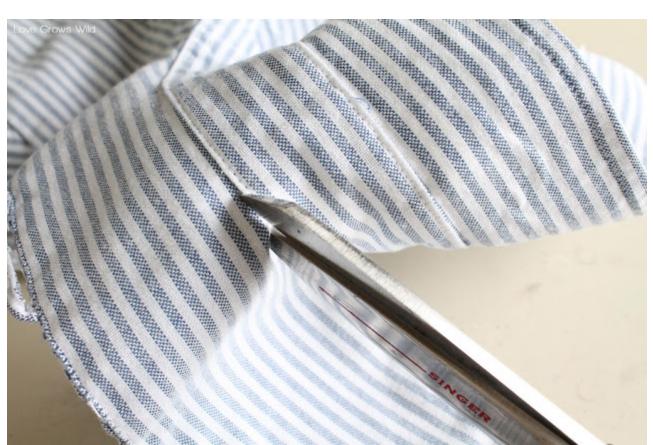
First I needed to find a men's dress shirt. My hubby probably wouldn't be too happy if I took a pair of scissors to any of his shirts, so I swung by Goodwill to pick one up. I found this pretty blue striped shirt in excellent condition for only \$2.15! Extra large shirts work best.



I started by cutting off the back and arms from the shirt, leaving the collar attached to the front.



I cut right up to the seams but left them intact so I wouldn't have to hem or have any loose edges. I like to take the easy route whenever I can, especially when it comes to sewing!



Once you cut off the back, your collar should now look like this:



Next I folded the collar up and using a ruler, made a line from the bottom of the armpit to the top of the shoulder.



To make sure both sides were even, I buttoned the shirt all the way up and folded it in half. I used pins to hold the fabric in place and cut along the line. Then I opened the shirt back up and hemmed along the raw edges I just cut on both sides.



To make the ties for the apron, I cut two 4 wide strips from the back of the shirt. I turned the two long edges under and sewed, then I folded the strip in half and sewed it closed. I cut one end of each tie on the diagonal and hemmed.



Then I attached the straight edge of the ties to the sides of the apron and backstitched several times for reinforcement. Now the main part of the apron is done!



To dress the apron up a bit, I followed Sugar Bean's advice and cut the cuff off one of the arms and sewed it on the front of the apron for a pocket. I also cut another 4 strip from the back and sewed a ruffle onto the bottom of the apron. It really gave the apron a finished look and added a ton of girly charm! I just LOVE it!!



Remember how I said this is WAY out of my comfort zone? Try modeling an apron in heels while photographing yourself using a tripod in your backyard with road construction crews driving by every 2 minutes... Yeah, this was a challenge! But I love the way the apron turned out, and I think these pictures turned out pretty cute too! What do you think... am I a model? HA!



This whole project only cost me the price of a thrift store shirt, and I cannot wait to make more! Christmas presents maybe?



I am so proud of myself for tackling this sewing project, and now my pretty new apron proudly hangs on my kitchen shelf!



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Whether you're a novice or an expert, you can easily tackle this apron too! Hope you enjoy this project, your weekend, and my awkward modeling :) Thanks again to Sugar Beans for inspiring me! More projects from my kitchen:



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