

KENTUCKY

MASTER

CLOTHING

VOLUNTEER

PROGRAM



*"extending clothing
knowledge and skills"*

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Newsletter

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CLOTHING and TEXTILES PROGRAM

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Bobbin' along with Marjorie

What a winter we have had. I'm so glad that spring is finally here. I hope everyone got lots of fun things sewn while the weather was cold. Now that spring is here, the outdoor will be calling.

I have exciting news; my daughter is getting married in September! All of her years of 4-H sewing will be put to test as she attempts to make her bridal gown and bridesmaid's dresses! Up to this point, the biggest challenge has been finding lace to coordinate with the lace she removed from my wedding dress. All-over lace is the rage in ready-to-wear as well as bridal but you all know that our options for buying fine fabrics are very limited. Lexington is home however to Alma's Variety Store and that is where we finally landed. If you have never been to Alma's, it's a real adventure. My daughter bought several pieces of lace from Alma. However, once we got it out in good light, it wasn't quite the same ivory color that she thought it was. Alma kept telling us we would need to tea dye her lace to get it the ivory color. So I proceeded to experiment with tea dying. My first attempt using regular black tea produced a beige color that was too brown. My second attempt worked better when I used Chamomile herb tea. The Chamomile tea was visible more yellow in the dye bath which was encouraging and after my sample dried, it was a pretty close match. What I discovered is you don't have to leave the lace in the tea very long and if you want it darker, you can always put it back in to soak a little longer.

The steering committee met recently to plan the fall training. I hope everyone has October 14-17 marked on their calendar. When the schedule is finalized, I will share it on our website and Facebook page. There should be something for everyone. Remember that in order to register for classes; you must turn a complete report with required number of volunteer hours. Reports are due to your area contact agent June 30. As the program continues to grow, our space will be limited to first come, first served.

Marjorie M. Baker

Marjorie M. Baker, M.S.
Extension Associate for Clothing and Textiles

SPOTLIGHT



Claudine Williamson
CMCV Greenup County
Class of 2004

Tell us about your earliest sewing experiences.

At the age of 7, I learned to embroider on tea towels. With that, a lifelong love of sewing began for me.

Tell us about your experience as a Master Clothing Volunteer.

I have enjoyed meeting new people and learning new things at various workshops and while teaching in the community. It is always so exciting to bring new ideas back to the community. Recently I was a part of a project which made and donated 88 pillow cases to Jamie's Sake. I also teach a beginners sewing class in our community which is a huge hit every year. In the fall I also teach a series of workshops for holiday projects.

Your family?

I have two children. James Desmond Wilson resides in Salado, Texas has three children; Sawyer age 5, Brooklynn age 7, and Mikalann age 12. Kelly Lands resides in Lloyd, Kentucky and has one son, Trevor age 15.

Any other background information you would like to share?

I was born in Elliott County. At 6 years old my family moved to Greenup where I am currently living. I graduated from Morehead State University with Master's

degree in education with an emphasis in library science. For 33 years, I worked for the Greenup County schools as a librarian. I have been involved in Greenup County Homemakers since 1995. When I retired from teaching, my neighbor insisted that I join her club. They handed me a camera and an album and made me vice president on my first day! I tremendously enjoy the fellowship and involvement with Extension Homemakers and the Master Clothing Volunteer program. I am also involved with the McConnell house board, tourism development, and the Greenup County Homemakers Greenbo decorating project. I make baby quilts for King's Daughters Medical Center NICU where one is given to every baby placed in the NIC unit.



Martha Edwards
MCV Boyd County
Class of 2004

Tell us about your earliest sewing experiences.

When I was 6 years old my sister started a club for kids in the neighborhood. One of the first things she taught us to do was sew and we made aprons. I was the only other girl in my family so she was happy to teach me how to sew. She even taught me how to do embroidery and we made a tablecloth.

Tell us about your experience as a Master Clothing Volunteer.

I love teaching others the art of sewing. It is very sad for me to think that soon this art may be lost if we don't encourage our youth to learn. Through my experience I have taught many sewing classes.

Your family?

My husband has been gone for 15 years and we had one son together, Steve Edwards. He did not have any children but I have adopted many children as grandchildren at my church over the years!

Any other background information you would like to share?

I have been involved in many weddings making wedding and bridesmaids' dresses over the years. It is so special to be involved in such a big day in the young ladies life.

Texture Magic™ Challenge

The Steering Committee has issued a challenge for the 2014 training. The challenge is to make something using Texture Magic™. Those that attended the 2013 training received a package of Texture Magic™ in their registration packet. Even if you were unable to attend, you may still participate in the challenge; however, you will need to purchase your own Texture Magic™ or share with someone that did attend. Bring your completed project to the training. It will be fun to see everyone's projects next year. The steering committee will award prizes in three categories: Wearable items, Accessories, and Other.

INTERFACING

Do you have a project you are proud of that you or your fellow Master Clothing Volunteers are involved with? Then share it here. Do you have a quick sewing project that you would like to share with our readers? If so please share your instructions for publication in an upcoming newsletter. You must write your own instructions and use your own drawings and photographs.



The project at the end of this newsletter is a folded fabric origami kimono. Designed with a back pocket, it can hold flatware or a set of chopsticks. Use it as a fun table favor for a spring luncheon.

4-H Volunteer Leader Forum

A big thank you goes to Judy Greenwell and the Lincoln Trail Master Clothing Volunteers for all their preparation and teaching the Fiber to Fabric fun class at the 2014 Volunteer Leader Forum. They all did a great presentation on the four basic natural fibers. You could tell them enjoyed learning the facts and sharing with those at the forum. Perhaps we can persuade them to present this at the fall training for everyone!

Class of 2014 Recruitment

Recruitment is underway. Talk to your sewing buddies about applying to be a candidate for the Kentucky Master Volunteer in Clothing Construction Program Class of 2014. Sewing clothes is on the upswing and looks to continue, and we want to be known as the go-to people for teaching how-to-sew and improving sewing skills. There are many counties that do not have Master Clothing Volunteers that could benefit from our outreach. If you are planning an area sewing event, this would be a great time to introduce yourselves to those who may be interested.

✓ DOROTHY DO RIGHT ✓

To Prewash or Not ?

Submitted by Jennifer Klee

This seems to be an ongoing question, so Dorothy is going to tackle it! Discussions I hear often go like this: sew-ists say “Definitely, yes!” and quilters tend to say “No, it takes time away from my creativity☺.” When I learned to sew in 4-H, ‘always pre-wash’ was the word, and so, of course, I did. The same instruction was reinforced in my college classes. Let’s look at the pros and cons of pre-washing fabric – and then, you can decide which path to follow.

Pre-wash your fabric because:

- It prevents vibrant dyes (especially solid reds, dark blues, purples) from bleeding onto other fabrics, which can have a devastating result on the final garment/project.
- Shrinkage occurs in most fabrics. With cottons, it’s typically 3-5%, Flannel and knits may be even

more. This can have a real impact on garment construction and fit!

- Sizing and chemicals are removed. For folks with sensitive skin issues, this is a must.

But I don’t want to pre-wash because:

- The fabric won’t shrink enough to make a difference in my garment/project.
- A bit of shrinkage makes a quilt look like a quilt.
- Sizing gives fabric a crispness that makes for easier cutting and sewing fabric pieces together.
- The garment looks ‘worn’ or hand-me-down.
- Takes too much time.
- Quilted wall hangings or art quilts may be designed or include embellishments that would prevent washing, therefore the item is likely to not be washed anyway.

If your concern about pre-washing is the ‘worn’ look of the fabric, that is generally a fabric quality issue. Good quality fabrics should wash and dry with a quality appearance. Pressing with spray starch or sizing can provide a crisper look and feel. Consider your time and skills when selecting fabric, and the life of the garment or project you are creating.

For many, pre-washing is not an ‘always’ or ‘never’ decision. So if you choose to pre-wash, here are some guidelines to follow.

- Wash and dry fabric as you would the finished garment/project and follow manufacturer directions. Separate darks from lights. Omit fabric softeners and/or dryer sheets. Fabric can be tossed into the regular wash with other fabrics/clothing of the same color and care requirements or washed by itself using a short cycle or rinse only. It

is helpful to damp dry and press to avoid difficult wrinkles.

- If you are unsure of a fabric, test it first by cutting a small piece; soak it in warm water with a drop of detergent. After several minutes, check the water for color. If there is color, dry the fabric piece on a white paper towel to check for more bleeding. Consider hand washing until the water is clear. Add a dye setting agent such as Retayne® to your wash water. Using color catcher sheets will also help to capture excess dye in the water.
- Clipping the corners off prior to prewashing will help prevent continuous fabric yarns from creating a tangle and knotted mess in the washing machine. If ravelers drive you crazy, serge or zigzag the cut edges before washing and drying.
- Do Not pre-wash quilting pre-cuts such as jelly rolls, charm packs, layer cakes, etc.
- Pre-washing is an all-or-none decision. Washing one fabric in your project means washing all of them – or don't pre-wash anything.
- Wools can be steam pressed. Some dry cleaners may offer this. Always test this treatment on a sample before doing the entire piece of yardage.

So there you have it! The pre-wash decision is totally up to you. As you teach others and hear the discussion, you have some pros and cons to offer. For more fabric preparation tips, see ***Fabric Preparation for Sewing*** publication [CT-MMB.211](#) available on the UK website.

Calendar of Events



April 15 – 16 *It's Sew Fine for Home and Family Sewing Expo*, General Butler State Resort Park, Carrollton

June 11 *State 4-H Fashion Revue*, Lexington

June 12 –14 Nancy Zieman, Connie Crawford and Pam Damour will be at ***The Original Quilt and Creative Expo***, Sharonville, Ohio
<http://originalcreativefestival.com/>

July 1 Service Hour reports due to your area contact agent

July 1 – August 15 Registration open for fall training, look for materials in the next newsletter

September 20 Daryl Lancaster trunk show, sponsored by The Louisville Chapter of American Sewing Guild, Hilton Garden Inn, Louisville
<http://www.asglouisville.org/Events.html>

October 9 –11 *Sew Original Quilt and Creative Expo*, Kentucky Exposition Center, Louisville
<http://qscepos.com/louisville.html>

October 14 – 17 *MCV State-wide Training*, Lake Cumberland 4-H Educational Center, Jabez

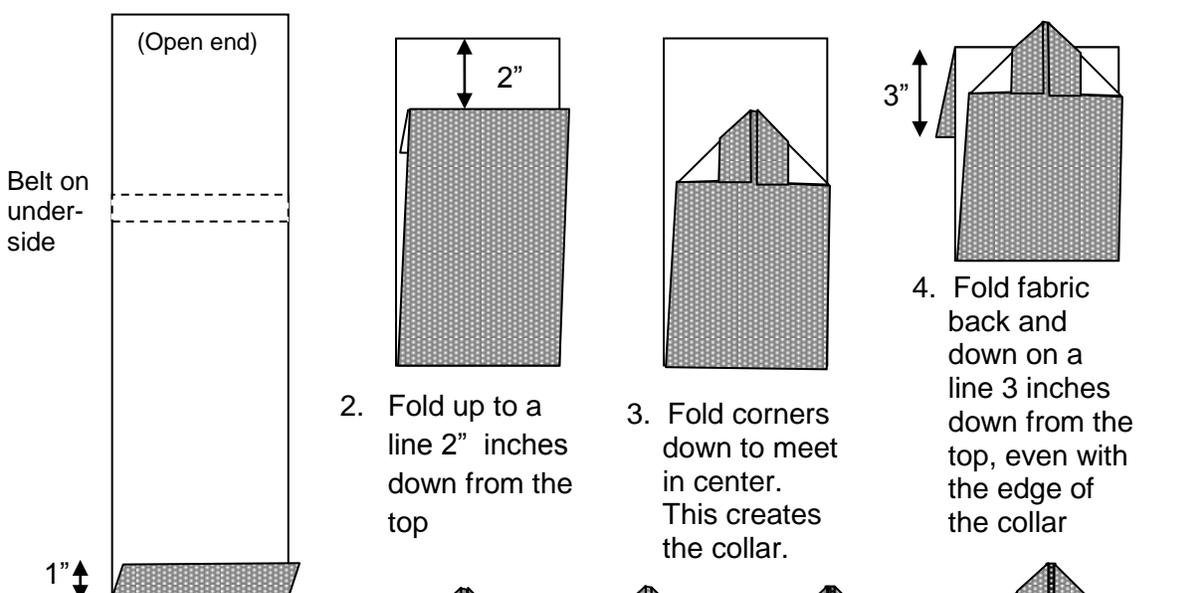
Fabric Origami Kimono

Instructions:

- A – Outer fabric  (cut rectangles: one 12 by 5½ inches one 6 by 5½ inches)
B – Inner and belt fabric  (cut rectangles: one 18 by 5½ inches one 1¼ by 5½ inches)

Using ¼-inch seam, sew the small B rectangle in between the two A rectangles to create a 5½ by 18-inch rectangle, trim as needed. Sew the two long rectangles together around three sides, leaving open at the end with shorter Fabric B rectangle. Turn right side out and fold raw edges of open end to inside and press. (Rectangle measures 5" x 17½")

Folding Instructions: Press each fold as you go.



1. With Fabric B facing up, fold and press up 1 inch on end opposite the belt.
2. Fold up to a line 2" inches down from the top
3. Fold corners down to meet in center. This creates the collar.
4. Fold fabric back and down on a line 3 inches down from the top, even with the edge of the collar
5. Fold right side to center to form sleeve.
6. Open right sleeve forming shoulder triangle
7. Repeat for other side.
8. Tuck shoulders under the collar. Tie a narrow ribbon around waist.

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