

TUTORIAL : TRANSFORMING 2 PAIRS OF JEANS INTO AN OVERALL (e.g. for a fancy party)



Material:

2 jeans (!), hereafter called Jeans#1 for the base and Jeans#2 for the one that will be sacrificed/sliced/cut.

IMPORTANT: Jeans #1 MUST be a pair of jeans with an elastic belt (elastic with buttonholes at the back)

1-inch elastic (about 8 inches)

Thread, sewing-machine and a SEAMRIPPER!

Seam allowance is 5/8in.

First step : Cutting Jeans#2

Cut your jeans legs, just below the crotch seam.

In one of the legs, you will cut the bib. To do so, cut one leg in the length and open it.



In order to minimize your sewing time, try to have the top of the bib corresponding to the hem of Jeans#2. I eyeballed the armscye cut.



In the second leg, you will cut the suspenders: 4 rectangles (20in by 2.5in) and 2 rectangles (14in by 2.5in). You will also cut 2 pentagons (one side=2.5in).

Second step : Sewing the suspenders



Sew all your suspenders' pieces, RS together.

Turn, press and topstich (only if needed).



Insert the elastic into the smallest rectangle.

Baste it so it will be easier for our further manipulations!



Turn and press a 0.5in seam on the WS of the pentagons.



Take one of the pentagons and position one of the long rectangles, RS together. Sew. Do the same with the other one.



RS together, sew the other pentagon on top of the former. Stitch on 4 sides, turn and press.

You should now have something like this





Insert the elastic piece in the remaining spot. Topstitch to close the opening. That's it! Your suspenders are (nearly) done. Time to add buttons, snaps etc.

Third step : taking away Jeans#1's waist belt !

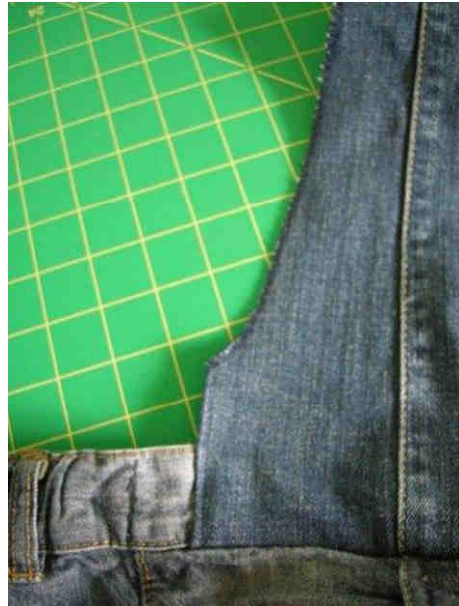


Using your seam ripper and starting at the front, begin to unstitch the waist belt. Stop about 1 in. BEFORE the side seam.



Fourth step : sewing the bib

RS together, sew the bib to the front of Jeans#1, trying to cover the remaining tiny bit of waist belt. You now understand why I told you to have a pair of jeans with elastic at the back because by doing so, you condemn the opening of the jeans. And thus, your back elastic will be your sole means to adjust the overall!!!



Turn and topstitch

Stitch the back suspender.

If your 2 pairs of jeans were of different colors (you can see that was my case!), dye them (I used Dylon 19 Deep Blue). Et voila!

