

NOT YOUR GRANDMOTHER'S TWEED

July 2004

Design Inspiration

The inspiration for this suit came from innovatively trimmed suits seen on a trip to Seoul, and a *Threads* article on lining and underlining in one step. The idea was to turn the lining into an embellishment by using lapped raw-edged seams. The lining, which is cut on the bias, peeks out from behind edges of the fashion fabric to become an additional trim on the suit. The bias raw edge of the lining does not fray, and contrasts in color and texture with the fringed edges of the silk tweed.

Fabrics

Jacket and skirt: 100 % silk tweed.

Lining/underlining: 100% silk organza.

Embellishments

Jacket and skirt: Lapped raw-edge seams, with fringed fabric and bias underlay.

Patterns

Jacket: McCalls 4311

Skirt: original design.

Special Sewing Techniques

All pattern pieces have been cut from both the silk tweed and the silk organza. Those from the latter have been cut on the bias, so that any exposed raw edges would not fray. For all pattern pieces where lapped seams have been used, the underlap side has been clean finished by seaming the tweed and the organza. Both fabrics are then treated as one. The overlap side is lapped and stitched to the underlap side. The silk tweed layer is trimmed and fringed so that some of the bias organza layer is visible. For the jacket front edges and collar, the piece and its facing are placed wrong sides together, topstitched and the tweed is trimmed and fringed as for the seams. For the jacket and skirt hems, the tweed is topstitched to the organza underlining and trimmed and fringed as before. The jacket and skirt are completely clean finished inside, and very lightweight with a minimal number of layers.

