

# WHITE

## Dainty Blouse

By Alix Graham-Michel, Education Consultant

Use a Twin needle and decorative stitches to create this beautiful panel to insert in the front of a basic blouse.

### Sewing Supplies:

Blouse pattern of your choice with jewel neckline and plain front

Fabric for blouse plus 3/8 yard for front panel (linen or linen-like)

Sulky 12 wt cotton thread (2 colors)

3/4 wide Insertion Lace (2 pieces the length of the front of the blouse)

Sewing thread to match

Universal needle 80/12 for your machine

Schmetz Topstitch needle # 18

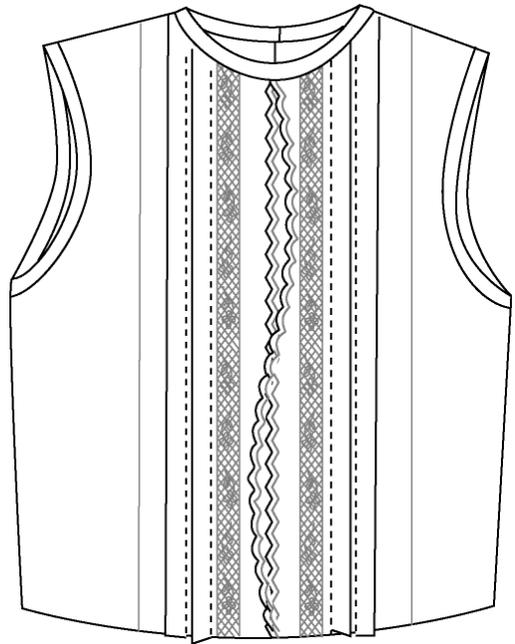
Schmetz Zwing needle #100 (Twin wing)

Gadget Girls template "Remarkable Shells and Swirls"

Water soluble Marking Pen

Omnigrid Ruler

Havels Applique scissors



### Cutting:

#### From Linen:

Measure the length of the blouse front pattern and add 5" to this measurement.

Cut a piece of linen 12" wide by the blouse front measurement

### Construction:

1. Fold the 12" piece in half widthwise. With the water-soluble pen, trace a line down the center of that piece.
2. Insert the Zwing needle and thread your sewing machine with the 12wt Sulky cotton threads.

3. Set your sewing machine for a zigzag stitch: SL 3.0 and SW 1.5 and slightly decrease the bobbin tension. Stitch down on the centerline. Press.
4. Using the Shells and Swirls template, trace a swirl line over the center line as shown. Stitch down this line following the curves. Press.
5. Measure  $\frac{1}{2}$  from the curved line on both sides of the piece and trace a line down. Place the edge of the Insertion lace on that line. Pin in place. Change the needle to a Schmetz Topstitch needle #18 and thread your sewing machine with a matching thread to your fabric and lace. Stitch both headers of the insertion lace down using a zigzag stitch SL: 1.5 and SW: 1.5.
6. Using your applique scissors carefully cut fabric underneath the lace. Press.
7. Measure  $\frac{3}{4}$  from the lace on both sides, and using your water soluble pen, draw a line. Fold on the line and press. Insert a Universal needle in your sewing machine – thread with regular sewing thread - move your needle to the left – place folded edge even with the right edge of the foot and stitch. This will create a wide tuck. From the stitching line of the tuck, measure  $\frac{3}{4}$  and draw a line. Create a second tuck as you did for the first. Press tucks away from the lace. (You can add more tucks using the same measurement).



Now you are ready to insert your beautiful heirloom piece into blouse. Continue constructing the blouse according to the pattern instructions. Use this technique for pillows, lingerie bag, or your preferred project. Happy Heirloomming!