

G-L Trio, Spring 1955

This 3-piece dress was offered by Gautier-Languereau in their catalog of ready-made clothing for *Bleurette* in 1955. The 2-piece dress was “congo blue” linen, the blouse white linen. It is decorated with two buttons, two embroidery-trimmed pockets, and top-stitching. The V-neck vest is separate from the skirt; both close in the back. The blouse, skirt and vest make up a trio of handy separates for *Bleurette*’s wardrobe, or, together, a smart ensemble.

Finish the seams as (or if) you wish; pinking is a good choice for this time period. Probably the G-L original would not have had any seam finishes, but that is your choice. Closures are also left up to you. In this pattern, the collar and vest are lined for ease of finishing, but the G-L original would most likely have employed a simple turn-under and top-stitch finish.

Blouse

Sew shoulder seams. Gather sleeve cap to fit open armhole of blouse and stitch sleeve into it. Gather sleeve bottom to fit sleeve band and stitch them together. In one long seam, stitch sleeve underarm and blouse side seam. Hem sleeve band on inside of blouse. If you prefer, hem the band first, and stitch the side seam last.

Seam bottom edge of collar to its facing, clip, turn, and press, leaving top edge open. Baste top of collar to blouse neckline between marks shown on pattern, clipping as needed. Sew bias strip over entire neckline, turn, press, and tack down to make facing. Fold fronts to inside on foldline and hem to inside. Apply blouse closures of your choice, lapping right side over left.

Vest

With right sides together, stitch lining and vest together around the neckline and center back edges, and around the open armholes, leaving bottom of vest free. Clip and turn, pushing backs through the “tube” of the shoulders, and press. With right sides together, sew side seam of vest and lining in one long seam. Press. Turn bottom edges of vest and lining to the inside along the seam allowance, press, and topstitch along edge by hand or machine to finish the hem. Add your choice of back closures. Make vest pocket by pressing under all edges, embroidering the trim in stem or chain stitch (or sew on tiny soutache braid) as marked, and topstitching to vest’s left shoulder.

Skirt

Make skirt pocket in the same way as the vest pocket and topstitch to skirt at right of center, as marked on the pattern. Hem back edges of skirt, top to bottom. Check fit of waistband on your *Bleurette*, measuring over blouse, vest and any undergarments. Gather top of skirt to fit waistband between end seams, and sew together. (Sample shows soft pleating, another option.) Turn raw edges of waistband to inside and hem. Sew center back seam as marked on pattern. Hem skirt. Add closure to waistband. Sew decorative buttons to waistband as marked, on either side of center front.