

Tips and Techniques for Sewing Boler Cushions and Curtains

Workshop Description

Come learn how to transform the look of your trailer by making new cushions and curtains. Jessica and Carol will guide you through the process of constructing cushions and curtains. The following topics will be covered: choosing your fabric, drafting the patterns, how much fabric do you need, when to use piping and how to make it, methods of cushion closures, and sewing techniques for cushions and curtains.

Outline for Cushions

- What makes a good fabric choice?
 - Fabric type and fibre content
 - How to deal with patterns/stripes in fabrics and considerations that you need to make if choosing these types of fabrics.
- How to draft your pattern and determine amount of fabric required
 - Methods of creating your patterns: drafting from existing cushions or tracing the fiberglass seats.
 - Laying pattern out on fabric: considerations you need to make if fabric has stripes or prints; and how this affects the amount of fabric required.
 - To Pipe or not to Pipe!
 - How much fabric does it take to make piping?
- Pre-Construction
 - Pre-washing fabric: when is it necessary to pre-wash fabric?
- Construction - Order of operations
 - How to make piping: size of cording, cutting on the bias, how to piece bias stripes.
 - How to sew piping on to cushion pieces.
 - Methods of closure: zippers or Velcro. If using zippers, how to use zipper that is purchased by the yard.
 - How to sew the sides on to the tops and bottoms

Outline for Curtains

- Fabric Choices: to line or not to line
- How to measure for fabric choice: Lightweight fabrics can be fuller than heavier weight fabrics
- Style options

Instructors

Carol Wilkinson

Carol has a degree in Clothing and Textiles and a love for antique furniture which has lead her to completed several upholstered projects; include the cushions in her Boler. Her education in clothing construction and textile science provides her with an excellent background of sewing techniques and an understanding of fiber properties for choosing appropriate fabrics. She has taught workshops in textile design and sewing.

Jessica Janus

Jessica Janus has had a lifelong love affair with all things fabric, fibres, and stitching. This passion eventually led to a Masters Degree in Clothing and Textiles with a focus on historic costuming. Career highlights include home decor seamstress at Chintz and Company and assorted sewing and costuming contracts with the Royal Alberta Museum and Historic Sites. Always crafting and creating, she purchased a 1977 Boler in 2014 and renovated it, including new cushions and curtains.

