

The Jeans Collection

Video 18 - Attaching the waistband

The tools that you will need:

- 1. Your belt loops and waistband that you created in the previous exercise.*
- 2. Sewing threads - Standard sewing and top stitching thread*
- 3. Small sharp scissors for cutting thread ends.*
- 4. A **jeans foot** is required for sewing jeans. Optional, a **walking foot** is an excellent foot for top stitching.*
- 5. Sewing machine needles - 100 or 110 for sewing denim or thick cotton fabrics.*
- 6 Tape measure.*
- 7. Pins.*
- 8. Fabric shears.*

Part 1 - Positioning the belt loops.

The positioning of the belt loops is a very straight forward and easy task. All you have to remember here is to make sure that they are symmetrical on the left and right sides of your jeans. Placing the loops right sides together (you can see the inside of the loop facing you), start off with the front 2 belt loops and position those just after the top stitching of the pocket opening on the side towards the front fly closure. Pin your belt loops to secure.



Pin your first two belt loops in place, either side of the front pockets.

Turn over your jeans so that you can see the back and position belt loop number 3 onto the centre back seam, pin to secure.

Finally position belt loops 4 and 5. These need to sit between the front left loop and the centre back & the front right loop and the centre back. To get the exact position of the final 2 belt loops, measure the distance between one of the front loops and the centre back loop. Divide the measurement in half and position the belt loop at that point. Pin your belt loops to secure.



Stitch close to the top of the jeans catching in all the belt loops as you go, this can be done in one operation.



Part 2 - Attaching the waistband.

With the front closure open, position the right side of the waistband towards the wrong side (the inside) of the jeans make sure it is aligned at the top. Make sure you have an overhang of 2 cm which was the seam allowance that you created for your waistband in the previous exercise. Pin the waistband onto your jeans as you go around the entire top until you reach the other side, again make sure you have an overhang of the 2 cm. Please note to watch the way the side seams are facing as you attach the band.



Make sure you have an overhang of 2 cm on either side of the waistband.



Pin the entire waistband in one operation to the top of the jeans.

Part 3 - Pressing the waistband.

Now that the waistband is attached, before you press it into position make sure that all the seams are lying flat and nothing is distorted.



Pull the waistband so that it is facing upwards and press the seam toward the waistband as in the image below. Using a sleeve board is very useful when it comes to pressing. Press the waistband in its entirety.



With the first part of the waistband pressed, press the other side as well, this needs to be a 1 cm seam as shown in the image below. Press the whole waistband in this way.



With both sides of the waistband pressed, fold the waistband with the right sides together as in the image to the left. Pin the waistband on both sides ready to be stitched.

Stitch across the waistband from the top to the front closure point. The stitch line of the waistband should look like the image to the right. Make sure you do this on both sides of the closure.





Cut across the corners on both sides as shown in the image above, this gives a really nice sharp end when turned through to the correct side.



When the corners are cut, turn the waistband through to face the correct way as shown in the image above.



With the corners turned through to the correct way, position the waistband so that it is ready to be stitched in place. Pin the waistband to secure as shown in the image above. Make sure that the waistband at the front will lay exactly on top of each other when the jeans are in the fastened position at the front closure. This is very important that this part is aligned properly as the front closure is a key focal point on a pair of jeans and if not aligned can be very noticeable.



Stitch the waistband in place using your top stitching thread. You need to stitch along all 4 sides of the waistband which includes the very top, the pinned part, which secures the waistband permanently and the 2 sides. While you stitch the waistband in place be careful as to not catch the belt loops, just hold them out of the way with your fingers as you stitch the waistband in place.

When you have stitched your waistband in place, it should look like the image below.

The image also shows the belt loops pressed, but not attached as this will be done in a later exercise. This concludes the attachment of the waistband to the top of your jeans.



The finished waistband attach to the top of a pair of jeans.