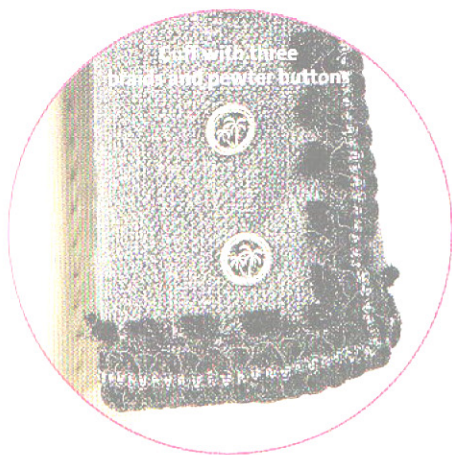


closet

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN SEWING?



Chanel-Inspired Jacket

By Sue McCollough

Sue has had this jacket in mind ever since she read Susan Khalje's article "Inside a Chanel Jacket" in *Threads* no. 131. Then she began poring over couture stories in past *Threads* issues. A friend found the beautiful silk and wool blend gray bouclé, and Sue purchased a gray silk charmeuse for the lining. The jacket became even more of a reality after Sue took one of Susan Khalje's seminars. She learned how to create a muslin, how to fit precisely, and best practices for pattern preparation. Using Simplicity pattern 4241, Sue carefully fit the jacket, cut the fabric, quilted the fabric to the lining, and finally set the sleeves and added the charmeuse-lined pockets—both by hand. For the trim on the jacket edges, pockets, and cuffs she used three different braids, some 15 yards in all. She added pewter buttons to the pockets and cuffs and hid large hooks in the braid and lining for the jacket's closure. For the finishing couture touch, she sewed a gold chain around the jacket's inside bottom edge.

Old Meets New

By Alexandra Reynolds

Alexandra created this outfit as a personal challenge—she wanted to combine garments sewn from contemporary and vintage patterns. The shirt is from current Vogue pattern 8287. It's tailored in a Swiss pima cotton satin batiste and stitched using machine-felled seams. A heavy starching at the cleaners stabilizes the unlinked French cuffs. The skirt was created in silk and rayon Chinese brocade with a considerably shortened Vogue pattern, circa 1945. The corset is based on a design from *Vogue Knitting*, 2004 Holiday. Alexandra chose Alchemy Yarns of Transformation bamboo yarn in pewter for its "wonderful, silklike finish." The double-sided satin ribbon lacing is 100 percent silk. To construct the corset, she used a ¼-inch spiral steel in lieu of plastic feather boning. The bamboo yarn is crocheted around each bone, and the infill is patterned in Tunisian Simple Stitch, per the Vogue pattern.

