

### The Winter 2011 Collection



Tab Front Jacket

Every time Livingsoft releases a seasonal pattern collection, support is added for some new style or fashion trend that has proven popular that season. These new patterns often provide the basis for major new design enhancements that get incorporated into all patterns in the Dress Shop catalog. At least one of the new patterns developed for The Winter 2011 Collection has already made that leap - with this jacket. If you look under "Outerwear - Coats and Jackets", you should see the new "Cape, Collaring" entry with the usual variety of collars, necklines, and collar options. Be sure to check the "Options - Shaping and Finish" dialog for armhole and shaping options.

The Winter 2011 Collection brings you much more than just the new cloaks, though.

### All About The Winter 2011 Collection by Karen Hoback

Ah... The Winter 2011 Collection we had so much fun with this year. Cloaks, coats and ponchos with various closures and options, mock sleeves that are capped, cape sleeves, long and luxurious with open side seams, welt openings for hands, short and frisky ponchos. For the classic city evening wear try an opera cape with a hood and velvet trim... oh, fun, fun, fun.

I fell hard for the Cape Sleeve cape and twisted some in this black cashmere knit - yes - it does feel yummy with long hair flaring from.

It was fun taking pictures out at Ravalli's Courtyard at Lake Lake Vegas early on Thanksgiving morning.



### Cloaks

While you may not necessarily be an opera fan, the trendy Opera Cloak can keep you warm and dry on any evening and it is a nice touch you need to protect from inclement weather. The Opera Cloak:

- Includes hood to protect your hair as well.
- Can be any length from waist to floor.
- Has a shawl-like built in to provide a closer, more dressy look than the simple cape.
- Is narrower and has less hemline curve than a cape as well.
- With the other cloaks included in the Winter 2011 Collection, it provides a variety of options for your arms including:
  - Wetted hand openings
  - Open side seam
  - Cape Sleeve!

The Cape Sleeve Cape has mock sleeves and you can handle this any way you wish. Sew the shoulder and over arm seams open close to the sleeve point. Then leave the option of sewing the side sleeve below the sleeve hem down to the cape hem or leaving it open. The Cape may be fully lined, lined, or use the Satin. You will also find a single line which mocks the sleeve's remaining open to the body of the cape. This can be ignored, stitched, or even slashed open with finished raw edges.

**Linings!** Several of the new capes and cloaks in this collection needed linings and those with currently only being offered with jackets. You can now add linings to almost any vest, cape, cloak, or other outerwear that might need them. Vests with panels currently do not yet have lining support, but almost any other outerwear does. See "Options - Shaping and Finish" to select them.



### Boleros

The curved center front of the bolero pattern has inspired a number of variations and we decided to include several of those in this new collection. The standard Bolero can be the classic Malabar length (Above Waist) as well as waist length and in length. The 2-Button Bolero pictured at left can be up to breast length. Be sure to check the Advanced Closure settings for adjustments to the shape of the jacket front. You can make an incredible variety of shapes using the Bolero settings in that dialog.

### Tab Front Jacket

This new jacket has a buttoned opening at the top, opening down to an open front at the bottom. This elegant jacket makes a fashion statement with a simple, easy to make design.



### Turtleneck Poncho

Ponchos are just plain sheer fun and possibly the simplest pattern to cut and sew in entire Dress Shop catalog. But, add a collar and with the right fabric, you can get a great overcoat. Nancy did the Turtleneck Poncho while Luc's Poncho has a separate scarf rather than the turtleneck.



### Yoked Skirts

The problem with yokes for skirts has always been that the shaping needed between the waist and the hip can sometimes be too much for the side seam of a skirt. The angle of the side seam is just too extreme and hard to sew. With these new yoked skirt patterns, we added shaping to the yoke piece so you can get great look but still have data to provide the shaping and if you might need. You can also add extra width below the yoke for pleating or gathers and get a great variety of looks from this simple new design element.

### Skirt Yoke Options

Select Yoke Options	Yoke Width
<input type="checkbox"/> No Yoke	<input type="checkbox"/> View Skirt
<input type="checkbox"/> Back Yoke	<input type="checkbox"/> Extra fabric for pattern
<input type="checkbox"/> Front and Back Yoke	<input type="checkbox"/> Total skirt width

There are many more patterns in this exciting new collection, so do come by the Livingsoft web site and check out more customer photos of what's included. [Click here to see more!](#)

### Sewing With Fur by Karen Hoback

The Fur Vest pattern included in the Winter 2011 Collection is incredibly simple with just two shoulder seams and 2 side seams, optional trim, from each side. But, if you do make one with fur or if you use fur with any jacket, cape, cloak, or other outerwear, there are some things to be taken into consideration.

The Fur Vest was designed with some extra room due to the density of the "fabric". You will see that an allowance for a shoulder pad is in the pattern. We don't expect you to use the shoulder pad, but it was a quick easy way to add extra room due to the density of the fur.



A few faux fur sewing tips: If planning on using fur for trim or the body of your garment, know that fur with a knit backing can be torn rather than cut, greatly reducing the damage and loss of "hairs". The trick is to minimize the amount of damaged "hairs" while cutting.



Lay your pattern out on the wrong side of the fur, and chalk the outline. Use just the top of your scissors and cut through only the knit backing leaving the hairs undamaged on the right side. If at all possible cut outside the house or in the garage to minimize the cleanup! Inside keep your vacuum cleaner handy! An electric shaver can shave off the fur hairs in the seam allowance and reduce the bulk under the machine needle. Check your creaser foot tension if you can, and lengthen your stitch length at least 1/4 inch. Real fur needs some extra grooming and effort.

To line faux fur cut the lining a scant 1/8th inch smaller than the fashion piece. This will put the edge towards the lining and keep it tight and secure.

Fur hooks available by Dritz and others are wonderful closures if desired. They disappear into the fur and are a great substitute for buttons.

**To see more customer photos from this collection, or to purchase, please click here.**

### Dress Shop Upgrade Discounts Extended!

The Winter 2011 collection (and all other Dress Shop collections to come in the future) require ownership of Dress Shop 8 or later. Owners of Dress Shop versions prior to version 8 will need to upgrade to continue receiving program enhancements, new collections, and new patterns in the future.

Livingsoft has had a number of inquiries in the past few days regarding the upgrade discount offer. To avoid contributing to holiday stress and frustration, we are extending the upgrade offers through December 31, 2011.

This will be the last chance for these upgrade rates, though, so do check them out before they expire.

**Click here to see what comes with an upgrade.**

Upgrade Dress Shop 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 Standard to Dress Shop 9 Standard for just \$50!

[Add to Cart](#)

**BEST BARGAIN!** Upgrade any non-Pro version of Dress Shop to Dress Shop 9 Pro for \$200!

[Add to Cart](#)

Upgrade any version of Dress Shop Pro whatsoever to Dress Shop 9 Pro for \$80!

[Add to Cart](#)

### More Holiday Specials!

**Half Price For Winters Past!**

To keep the LivingsoftNW web site somewhat tidy, we have been removing older collections as new ones are released. At any given time, only the most recent 4 seasonal collections are being offered. Those older collections are not necessarily dated and useless, though. The prior Winter Collections have some creative designer coat, jackets, dress, and blouse patterns in them, so we will occasionally bring one back for a limited time release.

Through January 15, 2012, the Winter 2008 and Winter 2010 Collections are back and available at 50% off!

**50% OFF!**

Winter 2008 Collection For a limited time only \$25!

[Add to Cart](#)

See what is included.

Winter 2010 Collection For a limited time only \$30!

[Add to Cart](#)

See what is included.