PATCHY JEANS

SEWING PATTERN INCLUDES:
Instructions to create your own Patchy Jeans.

Fabrics designed by Amy Butler for Rowan.
All prints are from Amy’s Soul Blossoms collection.

Designs by Amy Butler
Instructions and construction by Nichole Redinger

There’s no reason to get rid of your favorite jeans because of a little wear and tear. In fact, that can be the springboard to a great new fashion! With fabric scraps and a few simple techniques, your vintage wear becomes a palette for your personal embellishment. Follow these creative starters and develop your own spin. All you need is imagination and a few cool bits!

• Distressing - To distress your jeans for a more authentic broken-in look, use sandpaper to make worn areas and holes you can patch.

• Patching - Your favorite fabric scraps make great patches or use denim from an old pair of jeans! Lay the patches on your jeans or shorts in a few different places, overlapping some and others set alone. Once you have a design you like, use fusible webbing like Wonder-Under® from Pellon® to press your patches in place. Sew around each patch by hand or machine.

• Reverse Patching - You can make a “reverse patch” by placing your fabric on the inside of a hole in your jeans. First draw the desired shape and size of the hole you want directly on your jeans and cut it out. Then cut a fabric patch a 1/2" larger than the hole. Finally, cut a piece of lightweight fusible interfacing 1/2" larger than the patch. Turn your jeans inside out and center the patch face down over the hole. Place the interfacing fusible side down over the patch. Use a damp pressing cloth and a hot iron to fuse all the layers in place. Turn your jeans RIGHT side out and use a decorative machine or hand stitch to add pretty detail.

Embellish your patches with these techniques!

• Embroidery - Use different colors of embroidery floss to add interesting design touches to your pockets and patches. These are some of the stitches used to embellish the jeans in the project photos.
  ~ Whipstitch: Whipstitch around the cut edge of a patch to frame it in.
  ~ Blanket stitch: Make a border around a patch; add detail to a seam or the edge of a pocket.
  ~ Stitch large X’s with embroidery floss between your patches, along the edge of your pockets or on a belt loop.
  ~ French knots: Stitch a cluster of French knots running off the side of a patch or enhance the detail in your fabric design.
  ~ Running stitch: Add a running stitch to outline the shapes of patched holes or add detail to patches.

• Beads / Buttons - Sew some beads and buttons on your jeans in small groups or try embellishing the design on one of your patches. HINT: Don’t sew anything too large on the back pocket area or it will be uncomfortable to sit on.

Visit my friend’s websites below to see some excellent step-by-step instructions that makes sewing any of the stitches super easy!

www.craftandfabriclinks.com/stitches/free_embroidery_stitches.html
www.needlenthread.com/2006/06/basic-embroidery-stitches-line-stitches.html

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