

TRANSPARENT CORSET IN JUST 3 HOURS.

Let's sew the lacing bars in place.

I turn the first lacing bar wrong side up and put the central back piece over its wider half wrong side down so as to make the bone pass right along the pressed fold line of the lacing bar.

I make a row of strengthening stitches along the outer side of the bone, close to the fold line.

Please note that I don't make any bar tacks in the beginning or at the end of stitching. The fact is there will be many rows of stitches in this area anyway and you don't want bar tacks to make it even thicker.





Let me secure the lacing bar on the piece. I make a row of joining stitches along the edge of the bar. I sew right over the face side of the see-through central back piece.





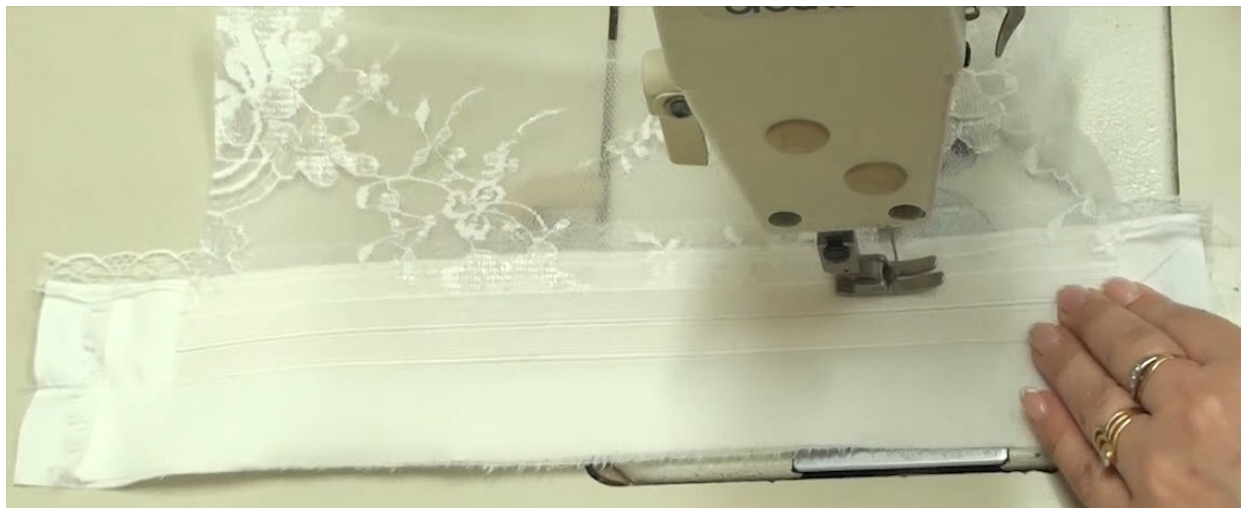
At this stage, the piece looks like this:



I lay an additional wide Rigilene bone next to the first one and sew it on with two rows of parallel stitches.







Then I fold the lacing bar and sew it on moving with the presser foot along the edge of the attached bone. This way the stitches are made 2-3mm below the edge of the bar. To pull the lacing bar tighter, I shift its top narrow half 0.5cm forward against the bottom wider half and then start stitching.



The lacing bars are perfectly even.



I need to make tunnels to reinforce them with plastic bones. When you lace up a corset, the greatest pressure is put on the lacing bars and it's a big pity when it causes their deformation: they fail to hold in place and the corset doesn't look good anymore.

I basically stitch along the edge of the first bone to make a tunnel.





Both tunnels are ready.



I trim the lacing bars and compare their lengths.



The central back pieces now have lacing bars on them.





Let's continue working on the corset.

As I have said before, it doesn't really matter in which order you join the corset pieces: you can either move from the centre to the sides or start from one of the back pieces and basically go round in a circle.

As for me, I prefer assembling it in the following order: first I join the pieces of the back (namely, the central back pieces and the side back pieces), then I assemble the front, and then I sew the side seams.

Please note how the process of sewing this corset is peculiar in that you put the pieces together underside to underside (or mesh to mesh) to join them while the lace overlay stays on top.



I stitch from up to down. If you have a hard time joining the pieces without pinning them

together, **feel free to secure them with pins along the waistline** after aligning the notches. **My advice:** practice sewing vertical princess seams without pinning the pieces together! It's a very important skill which allows you to speed up the sewing process and improve your overall competence.



I assemble the back of the corset. I still don't make any bar tacks.





And now I need to topstitch the seam allowance of the joining seam from the face.

The question is: where should I direct the folded seam allowance? Toward the centre of the back or toward the side? The seam allowance will later get overlaid by a Rigilene bone. Therefore, your decision will simultaneously determine the placement of the bone with respect to the princess seam. In other words, it will determine whether the bone will be placed on the side or on the central piece of the back. The right answer depends on the style and on the width of the pieces.



I will turn the seam allowance toward the centre of the back. Instead of stitching right over the seam allowance, I stitch from the other side, over the piece. Make sure to keep spreading

out the pieces as you stitch.





I trim the seam allowance down to 7-8mm.



Next I join the central front piece with the intermediate front pieces along their vertical

edges, topstitch the seam allowances, fold them toward the centre, and trim them as well. In this rather simple corset it doesn't really matter where you direct the seam allowances before topstitching.











I sew the side pieces to the front along their vertical edges, turn the seam allowances toward the centre again, topstitch them, and trim them.







Please note the way I join the pieces: I even out their top edges and start stitching from up to down and then I make a stop, even out the bottom edges, and continue stitching. This way both the top edges and the bottom edges of the pieces are perfectly aligned. If you fail to achieve the same effect, don't look for an error in the pattern. It simply means you have joined the pieces incorrectly. They must be perfectly aligned!



I trim the seam allowances.



And then I join the front and the back of the corset by sewing the side seams. I direct the

seam allowances of the side seams toward the back of the corset. I find my way of assembling corsets very convenient because I deal with separate pieces and not with the whole garment at once.









Although I never made any bar tacks in the beginning or at the end of sewing, the topstitching has made the seams very robust.



The skeleton of the corset is ready.

