

TRANSPARENT CORSET IN JUST 3 HOURS.



Let's finish the top edge of the corset.

I lay a narrow Rigilene bone about 2-3mm below the top edge of the corset, from the face side, and sew it on. The ends of bones are all taped with pieces of masking tape. I stitch along the inner side of the bone.





And I make another row of strengthening stitches through the bone.



I even out the top edge.



And then I sew the prepared 3.5cm wide strap along the top edge of the corset from the inside. I place this strap face down at the top edge of the corset.



Next I fold the strap over the edge and sew it on from the face side.







The top edge of the other half of the corset is finished just the same way.









Now I need to finish the curved area of the neckline.



There are various tricks you can use for finishing such curved areas. For example, you can do it with the help of a narrow Rigilene bone by shaping it accordingly. Bones sewn at the top and bottom of the corset are responsible for the stiff skeleton construction of the corset and for making its edges smooth and even. Various ways of finishing corset necklines (both their straight and curved areas) are explained in detail in my See-Through Corsets course.

Let me show you a simple method of finishing curved areas of a corset neckline with a trimming. I will use bone casing as the trimming. It is the kind you usually sew onto round cups for inserting underwires. This bone casing settles very well in curved areas and is not any worse than narrow Rigilene boning when it comes to reinforcing edges.

I sew it on along the curved area of the neckline.









And then I wrap it in the same kind of a 3.5cm wide fabric strap.









The neckline of the corset is finished.



Now, before I can hem the corset, I need to insert hard plastic or metal spiral bones into the tunnels.



I start by inserting plastic bones into the tunnels on the lacing bars and then gradually

move to the centre of the corset. I recommend you insert symmetric bones on both halves of the corset instead of doing it first on one half and then on the other.

I measure the required length of the bone: it is supposed to be about 1.5cm shorter than the tunnel.



I make the cut-off end of the bone round.



I prepare a total of four bones of the same length and push them inside the tunnels on the two lacing bars. I help myself with a screwdriver where needed.







Then I measure and cut two bones for the princess seams at the back and insert them in the tunnels.



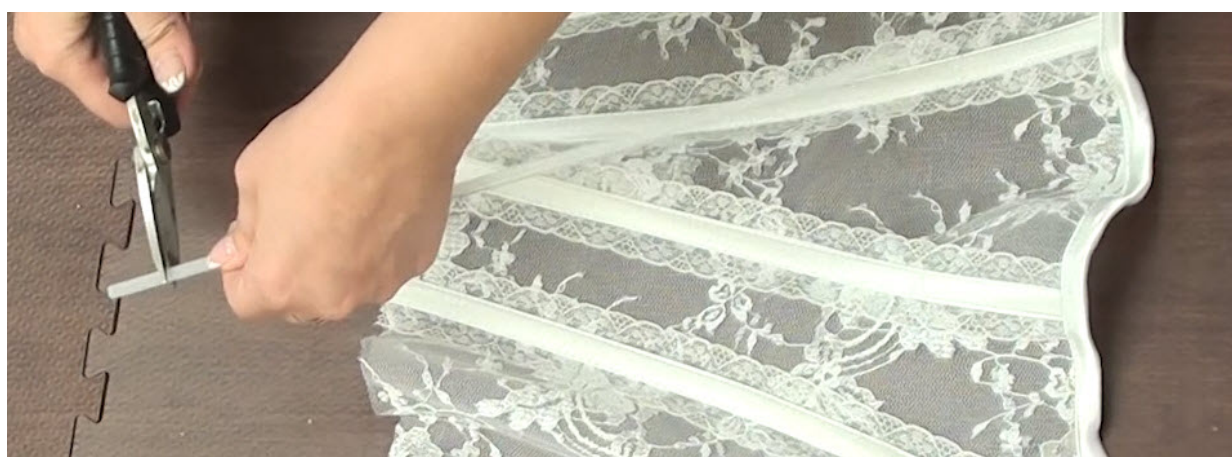


I insert the prepared bones into the tunnels of the side seams.





I insert bones into the intermediate princess seams of the front.





And I insert bones into the central princess seams of the front.

I have made horizontal bar tacks about 7cm below the top edge on the Rigilene bones which overlay the central princess seams. This won't let the plastic bones in the tunnels of the central princess seams reach to the very top edge and flatten the cups. The Rigilene bones reaching to the middle of the cups won't make them flat, but hard plastic bones would have created unnecessary tension. It's why the plastic bones of the central princess seams only reach the under-bust line level.





I have inserted all plastic bones into the corset.



The same kind of a corset sewn without plastic bones will be more of a decorative than a functional garment! Rigilene bones overlaying the joining seams will start to break, unable to handle the pressure. It is, however, still a good way to practice, to sew your very first corset, if you happen to have no plastic bones at hand at the moment! In addition, I would like to give you a piece of advice: don't wait until you collect a full set of working tools before you start learning to sew! Make progress gradually! If you have an iron and a sewing machine, you can safely start sewing! Besides, you don't need large quantities of expensive materials for making corsets. You can always practice with cotton fabrics or any leftover patches of fabric which any DIY-enthusiast has in stock. The corset is composed of relatively small pieces which can be cut from separate small bits of fabric.

Needless to say that the look of your corset transforms entirely after you insert plastic bones into the tunnels! Its princess seams acquire their proper shape and the corset itself – necessary stiffness!



The bottom edge of the corset is finished in the same fashion as the top edge. I sew a narrow Rigilene bone along the bottom edge of the corset, from the face side, and then wrap it

in a fabric strap for a pencil-edge look. Make sure to compare the lengths of the two halves of the corset back before finishing the bottom edge.





I trim away any messy bits sticking from behind the bone at the bottom of the corset.



Do not hesitate to put the corset on the dress-form and adjust the placement of the bottom bone if the hem doesn't seem to look very even and neat.



I wrap the bottom bone with a 3.5cm wide fabric strap just like I did with the bone at the top of the corset. I keep pulling the strap on quite tight as I stitch.







It's a lovely corset, decorated with lace and with neatly finished edges at the top and

down the bottom. Even though the cups are still missing, you can already wear it – with a romantic poet blouse, for example.

