

Information for Students Attending the Palmer/Pletsch
5-Day Sew Jeans That Fit Workshop
Richland, Michigan

Dear Attendee,

Here is information about the schedule, what to bring, the hotel, and a little information about the area.

Our Michigan workshops are held at



Fabric Warehouse

8709 Gull Road, Suite B

Richland, MI 49083

269-629-0305

www.fabricationsonline.com

info@fabricationsonline.com



Hotels: Our “ideal suggested schedule” while you are here is to arrive the day before the workshop and get settled into the hotel. Both hotels offer free hot breakfast.

We highly recommend the [Comfort Inn Plainwell](http://www.comfortinn.com) (269-685-9891), which is about 12 miles from the shop. Restaurants and shopping are nearby. An added bonus is being able to stop at the Plainwell Ice Cream Company for what the locals contend is the best ice cream in the country!

The [Comfort Inn Kalamazoo](http://www.comfortinn.com) (269-384-2800), located about 5 miles from the [Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport](http://www.kalamazooairport.com), may be more convenient if you are flying. If arriving by air, Uber and Lyft are available options for getting around if you have not rented a car. The hotel is located at the edge of downtown Kalamazoo, within several blocks of numerous restaurants and shops.

Lunches: We will be offering lunches as well as snacks, water, coffee, and tea. If you have any major food allergies, e-mail janet@fabricationsonline.com and tell her foods you have to avoid and the dates of your class. Do this at least one week in advance. Thank you.

Please do not wear perfume. We have found that some students have allergies to it.

Thank you and see you soon!

Janet Dwyer *Pati Palmer*

Instructor

Janet Dapson is a Palmer/Pletsch Certified Sewing Instructor (CSI) and has attained the Palmer/Pletsch master level of Educational Associate, specializing in bodice/skirt/dress/pant fitting and tailoring techniques. She offers basic to advanced sewing classes, including garment fitting and construction, at her specialty fabric store (Fabrications Fabric Warehouse) located near Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Although she has been sewing for over 50 years, much of her skill was learned on her own. With a degree in biology, sewing was a creative diversion from her career in the biomedical field; it also enabled her to create the professional wardrobe required for her job.

Janet eventually decided to begin a career change, turning her sewing passion into a business. After taking in-depth courses with Pati Palmer and her colleagues in Portland, Oregon, Janet spent several years teaching sewing at her home and at the local Bernina store. In 2003, Janet, her husband (Dick) and daughter (Christine) opened Fabrications. Although most of the classes are now held at Fabrications, Janet occasionally travels throughout the midwest to present lectures and seminars on the Palmer/Pletsch methods.



Tour the Area

If you have time to tour our beautiful region before or after the workshop, or if you have a companion with you who came to tour, there are suggestions at the hotel websites and at discoverkalamazoo.com. A few area attractions are: Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo Valley Museum, Kalamazoo Nature Center, Kellogg Bird Sanctuary, Kalamazoo Air Zoo, and Gilmore Car Museum. A one-hour's drive north to the Grand Rapids area takes you to the Tanger Outlet Mall, Gerald R. Ford Museum, Grand Rapids Children's Museum and the Frederick Meijer Gardens. Or, take a one-hour drive west to Lake Michigan and its small communities: PawPaw is known for the St. Julian winery; Saugatuck, Douglas, Holland and South Haven are popular beach get-aways for the locals. Thanks to the internet, you can find more information about all of these attractions online.

Palmer/Pletsch Certified Sewing Instructors: This workshop will give you 50 PDUs.



Palmer/Pletsch Sew Jeans That Fit Workshop Schedule — Michigan

On the first day, bring alteration supplies and your fabric, if you have it for us to check. There will be time to shop for fabric, but your denim needs to be washed 3 times, so plan accordingly. You can always shop for your next pairs! You will not need your sewing machine the first day.

Much time is spent altering patterns standing at a cutting table, which is tall enough that you do not need to bend over as you would at a kitchen table. It is a good idea to wear very comfortable shoes. The floor is concrete, so bring a cushioned pad to stand on if you wish.

Plan to leave your hotel at 8:30 every morning to allow for possible traffic delays. Parking is available near the entrance to the Fabrications Fabric Warehouse.

DAY 1:

9:00 am Introductions. Slide overview. Measure for size. Tissue-fit jeans.
12:30 pm Lunch
1:30 pm Tissue fitting and/or pattern alterations.
6:00 pm Class ends for the day.

DAY 2:

9:00 am Class begins. Recheck fit if necessary. Cut out jeans.
12:30 pm Lunch
1:30 pm Demos: sewing pockets, zipper (including how to shorten a metal zipper), seams and topstitching. Begin sewing and machine basting to prepare for the first fabric fitting.
6:00 pm Class ends for the day.

DAY 3:

9:00 am Class begins. Continue fitting and sewing jeans.
12:30 pm Lunch
1:30 pm Demos: attaching back pockets, finishing side seams, inseams and crotch.
6:00 pm Class ends for the day.

DAY 4:

9:00 am Class begins. Continue fitting and sewing jeans.
12:30 pm Lunch
1:30 pm Fitting and sewing your perfect waistband, straight or curved.
6:00 pm Class ends for the day.

DAY 5:

9:00 am Class begins. Continue sewing, address length, hemming, belt loops and bar tacks. Adjustment of tissue from alterations in fabric.
12:30 pm Lunch
1:30 pm Class continues.
4:00 pm Clean up. Graduation certificates, share experiences, show off your jeans!
5:00 pm Workshop ends. Settle bill with store.

Bring the following to the Jeans Workshop:

Fabrications, the location of our workshop, carries sewing supplies (except weighted tape dispensers and pencils/pens) and gives you a discount on everything you buy during the workshop.

- Comfortable, easy-to-change-out-of clothes and comfortable shoes. Layering allows for adjustment to temperature fluctuations in the classroom. Sleeves shouldn't interfere with sewing.
- A note pad and pen
- Sewing machine. Bring your own, along with extra bobbins, zipper foot, and needles. If you cannot bring your machine, you may request the use of a basic classroom machine in advance; we have two available.
- If you have a favorite pair of ready-to-wear jeans, bring them for comparison to pattern. They can be a huge help, even if you love only one aspect of them.
- Sewing supplies: (most are available at Fabrications.)
 - ___ 1 3/8" extra fine glass head pins (.5mm size is best—it will not bend when piercing cardboard surfaces) and a magnetic pin cushion
 - ___ One large hand sewing needle
 - ___ Paper scissors or rotary cutter for trimming patterns (we have mats) and sharp fabric shears
 - ___ 1/2" Scotch Brand Magic Tape and a weighted dispenser. Fabrications carries 1/2" tape.
 - ___ Thread clips or embroidery scissors, tape measure, 6" hem gauge, seam ripper
 - ___ A package of Perfect Pattern Paper
 - ___ A see-through, gridded plastic ruler
 - ___ Denim fabric that has been washed and dried 3 times.
 - ___ 1/2 yard of prewashed cotton fabric for pocket linings. Choose fun print or solid.
 - ___ Sta-tape for waistband if you are using a stretch denim
 - ___ 1/8" wide double-stick basting tape for applying zipper
 - ___ A soft lead pencil (#2-4) or Crayola pencil that won't go through tissue. Also, bring a red and green or blue fine-tip permanent marker to mark final alterations for left and right sides of body.
 - ___ 1" non-roll elastic cut a little longer than your waist with ends lapped and pinned with a safety pin or Velcro sewn to ends. (Write your name on it.)
 - ___ Chalk for marking fabric
 - ___ PerfectFuse Sheer interfacing for pocket tops and fly, and Medium interfacing for waistbands, preshrunk.
 - ___ Metal zipper size 4.5 (this is the size of the teeth and tab) 7" or 9" OR 9" standard poly coil zipper
 - ___ Thread for seams and basting, thread for topstitching.
 - ___ Denim or Microtex machine needle size 100/16 and Topstitching needle size 100/16.
- Book: *Fit and Sew Custom Jeans* is available at Fabrications. *Pants for Real People* 2nd Edition is also an excellent reference.
- You may wish to bring a covered, refillable water bottle labeled with your name to limit single-use plastic.

Mark your supplies with your name before class.

We will provide: Our Palmer/Pletsch jeans pattern Butterick B6840.