

work-from-home
success stories

Sew Far, Sew Good

Working From Home Suits Pattern Maker Well

BY SANDY LARSON

Sarah Doyle has been working from home before working from home was considered fashionable. In 1974, the pattern making instructor and author started Sew With Sarah from her Pensacola, Florida home. Since then, she has taught hundreds of pattern making classes, seminars, and workshops, and she has written over 25 pattern making, sewing, and craft books.

Sarah got interested in pattern making while on a military assignment in Taiwan, where she learned a unique and highly precise approach to the craft. After returning to the United States, she wanted to share her newly acquired knowledge with others. "I saw a real need for custom fitted clothing and patterns," she comments. "Because individual people can be tall, short, heavy, thin, etc., it is next to impossible for a certain size to fit all figure types."

Sarah went on to launch her home-based business with the intention of helping others get their clothes to fit perfectly. She quickly became recognized for her excellent pattern making skills. Although she is proud of this recognition, she says, "The greatest achievement personally is to read letters of thanks from mothers who have finally been able to make 'trendy' clothes for their overweight children, or from the petite or plus-size adults who have finally gotten certain items of clothing to fit, just when they were ready to give up."

Today, Sarah offers online pattern making and sewing classes on her web site, www.SewWithSarah.com. Select courses are free, while lengthier ones can be purchased and



Sarah Doyle, of Pensacola, Florida, offers online sewing, craft, and pattern making classes.

downloaded immediately. The classes are designed at the beginning to intermediate level and can be taken at any time during the day.

The best advantage of working from home, according to Sarah, is being able to set your own hours. "I personally work best early in the morning, and I usually get up around 4 am," says Sarah. "It is surprising how much work can be done when it's quiet and before the daily activities begin and the phone starts to ring." With this kind of dedication, it's easy to see how Sarah has created her own pattern for home-based success.

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