



Children grow so quickly, as anyone with little ones knows all too well. Trousers hems can fast become too short, just weeks after they were purchased – but don't despair and throw away those favourite jeans. Save money and get creative by lengthening the hems of trousers with decorative fabric scraps, whilst adding a unique look too.

sewsupplies

Fabric scraps, at least twice as wide as the trouser leg

Anchor cotton: a selection of spools in different colours and finishes, for example Alcazar and Metallic

Zips: metallic Opti zips, two (optional – select length according to the circumference of the trouser leg)

Sewing machine with decorative stitches

Measurements

This project is custom sized.

stitch tips

GET EXTRA WEAR OUT OF THOSE SUMMER SLACKS BY ADDING COLOURFUL PANELS TO TROUSER HEMS



1 Measure the jeans against your child to determine how much length needs to be added. Cut strips of fabric, making

sure they are at least as wide as the circumference of each leg hem (this is a great opportunity to use up odds and ends from your stash) – these will be stitched on to give added length. Select which decorative machine stitches you would like to use, and which threads, and plan your design. You can even add Opti Zips between the strips of fabric to create a unique fashionable effect.



2 Select a compact decorative stitch design on your machine and with Anchor thread, stitch

along the edge of the fabric to embroider it. Once finished, cut carefully along the stitched edge to neaten, making sure not to snip into the stitch line.



3 Using a length of strong Coats Cotton, apply an Opti Zip between each of the fabric strips (don't forget to switch to a zip foot to get a neat

finish when working this step).



4 Decorate the strips of fabric with your selected design, adding strips and zips as you go to create the length needed.



5 Using Coats Cotton, sew the completed leg extension into a tube (with right sides together), ready to attach to the hem of the

jeans. Place the tube over the bottom of the trouser hem, matching up the side seam with the join of the tube, and using Anchor thread sew the two together using a decorative over stitch.



WHY NOT USE YOUR FREE COATS DUEL THREAD TO EMBELLISH THIS PRETTY PROJECT?

Alternatively, Anchor offer a huge variety of threads to suit your work, available in a myriad of colours and finishes, whatever the job in hand. With fibres such as Rayon, cotton, metallic fibres and more there's sure to be one to match your project. For more information, call Coats Crafts on 01484 681881 or visit www.coatscrafts.co.uk