Every time Lisel grabs her pattern notcher she’s connected to family. The punch, used for matching pattern pieces, was a gift from her grandmother, a former needlework instructor who studied fashion design.

“I use it all the time,” says Liesl. “It’s a connection for both of us.”

The oldest of five girls, Liesl remembers watching her mom lay out patterns as she sewed for her daughters. Although Liesl absorbed much watching her mom work, it wasn’t until she’d been out of college for ten years that she pursued fashion. Jobs at Ralph Lauren and Tommy Hilfiger taught her about fabric and styling details. But when daughter “S” was born (Liesl uses just her initial to protect her privacy), Liesl chose to stay home, leaving the fashion industry behind.

As S grew, Lisel shared on her blog, Disdressed (http://disdressed.blogspot.com/), the dresses she stitched for her daughter. Readers’ responses, along with comments from passerby on the streets of her New York City home, encouraged her to create and sell patterns. “I thought it was something I could do while she napped,” Liesl laughs.

Business has definitely outgrown naptime. In just three years, Oliver + S has 16 patterns under its neatly buckled belt and Liesl is designing fabric for Moda. Family ties have grown, too: Liesl’s husband, Todd, now oversees the company’s business side while she focuses on creative development. And “S” contributes, too. “I look at what she’s wearing, at how it moves on her before I finalize styles,” says Liesl. “She inspires a lot of what I do.”
Patterns

Classic Picnic Blouse and Shorts
#OS 025CP1/G Size: 6M-4T
#OS 025CP2/G Size: 5-12

Seashore Sundress
#OS 024SE1/G Size: 6M-4T
#OS 024SE2/G Size: 5-12

Family Reunion Dress
#OS 023FR1/G Size: 6M-4T
#OS 023FR2/G Size: 5-12

Music Box Jumper
#OS 021MB1 Size: 6M-4T
#OS 021MB2 Size: 5-12

Nature Walk Pullover and Knit Pants
#OS 022NW1 Size: 6M-4T
#OS 022NW2 Size: 5-12

Hopscotch Skirt & Tee
#OS 020HS1 Size: 6M-4T
#OS 020HS2 Size: 5-12

School Photo Dress
#OS 0195C1 Size: 6M-4T
#OS 0195C2 Size: 5-12

April Delivery
SKUS: 32 PRINTS, 3 COATED, 6 INTERLOCK
CONTENT: 100% COTTON

- ASST. 11170-15 15 YARDS OF EACH
- ASST. 11170-10 10 YARDS OF EACH
- ASST. 11170-10H 10 YARDS OF 16 SKUS*
- 11170AB BUNDLE: 32 SKUS 18” x 22”
- 11170JR JELLYROLL
  (40) 2½” x 45” STRIPS – PK 4
- 11170LC LAYER CAKE
  (42) 10” x 10” SQUARES – PK 4
- 11170PP (42) 5” x 5” SQUARES – PK 12
- PS11170 PROJECT SHEET – PK 25

*JR’s, LC’s and PP’s include two of:
1174, 11175 and 11171-11.