

how to use commercial patterns



WATCH THE VIDEO TUTORIAL:



Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6tjfSM9Qgrw>

1. FRONT OF THE ENVELOPE

- 1. Name of the pattern company:** In this case, the name is Simplicity. Other fabric companies include McCall's, Vogue, New Look, and Butterick.
- 2. Pattern number:** Used to order the pattern.
- 3. Sizes** in U.S., Europe, and France.
- 4. Design variations:** Each one is marked with A, B, C, D, E, which will be useful when reading the back of the pattern. The same pattern offers different variations.



5. Sometimes the pattern company will sew up one of the garments in the pattern and model it.

2. BACK OF THE ENVELOPE

facebook.com/simplicitypatterns youtube.com/simplicityvideo @simplicity_creative_group pinterest.com/simplicitypins @tweetsimplicity info@simplicity.com 1-888-588-2700

14 PIECES/PIEZAS
Métrages et instructions de couture en Français à l'intérieur de l'enveloppe.

MISSES' SEVEN SIZES IN ONE

Sizes	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	
European Size	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	
Bust	32½	34	36	38	40	42	44	In
Waist	25	26½	28	30	32	34	37	"
Hip	34½	36	38	40	42	44	46	"
Back-neck to waist	16	16½	16½	16½	17	17½	17½	"

A,B Lining
45** ¼ ¼ ¼ ¼ ¼ 1 Yd
Interfacing- ¾ yd. of 20" to 25" lightweight fusible, such as Pellon®

A
60*** 2½ 2½ 2½ 2½ 2½ 2½ 2½ Yd

B
60*** 2½ 2½ 2½ 2½ 2½ 2½ 2½ Yd

C,D Lining
45** ¼ ¼ ¼ ¼ ¼ ¼ ¼ Yd
Interfacing- 1¼ yd. of 20" to 25" lightweight fusible, such as Pellon®

C
60*** 2½ 2½ 2½ 2½ 2½ 2½ 2½ Yd

D
60*** 2 2 2 2½ 2½ 2½ 2½ Yd

GARMENT MEASUREMENTS
A,B Bust 36 37½ 39½ 41½ 43½ 45½ 47½ In
C,D Bust 34½ 36 38 40 42 44 46 "
Finished back length from base of neck:
A 44 44½ 44½ 44½ 45 45½ 45½ In
B,C 40 40½ 40½ 40½ 41 41½ 41½ "
D 36 36½ 36½ 36½ 37 37½ 37½ "
A Width 89 91 93 95 97 99 101 "
B,C Width 87 88½ 90½ 92½ 94½ 96½ 98½ "
D Width 85 86½ 88½ 90½ 92½ 94½ 96½ "

SUGGESTED FABRICS
Challis, Chambray, Cotton Types, Crepe, Gingham, Lightweight Denim, Linen Types, Lightweight Stretch Wovens. Allow extra fabric for match plaids or stripes.

REQUIREMENTS
Thread. A,B: One 24" invisible zipper.
C,D: Ten ¾" buttons, one 7" invisible zipper, and one skirt hook and eye.

JEUNE FEMME: PATRON SEPT TAILLES / SEÑORITAS: PATRÓN SIETE TALLAS

Tailles / Tallas	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	
Tailles Françaises	38	40	42	44	46	48	50	
Tallas Europeas	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	
Poitrine / Busto	83	87	92	97	102	107	112	cm
Taille / Cintura	64	67	71	76	81	89	94	"
Hanches / Caderas	88	92	97	102	107	112	117	"
Dos (encolure à Taille) / Espalda (escote a cintura)	40.5	41.5	42	42.5	43	44	44	cm

A,B Doublure/Forro
115cm* 0.60 0.60 0.70 0.70 0.80 0.90 0.90 m
Entoilage- 0.30m de 51cm à 64cm, léger, thermocollant tel que Pellon®
Entretela- 0.30m de 51cm à 64cm, légère, adhésive como Pellon®

A 150cm** 2.40 2.50 2.50 2.50 2.50 2.50 2.60 m
B 150cm** 1.90 2.00 2.00 2.00 2.00 2.00 2.00 m

C,D Doublure/Forro
115cm* 0.60 0.60 0.60 0.60 0.70 0.80 0.80 m
Entoilage- 1.20m de 51cm à 64cm, léger, thermocollant tel que Pellon®
Entretela- 1.20m de 51cm à 64cm, légère, adhésive como Pellon®

C 150cm** 2.10 2.10 2.10 2.10 2.10 2.10 2.10 m
D 150cm** 1.90 1.90 1.90 1.90 1.90 1.90 1.90 m

TISSUS SUGGÉRÉS
Étamine, Chambray, Cottonnades, Crêpe, Vichy, Denim léger, Toile de Lin, Tissus Tissés légers. Prévoyez davantage de tissu pour raccorder les écosseis ou les rayures.

MERCERIE
Fil. A,B: Une glissière invisible de 61cm.
C,D: Dix boutons de 2cm, une glissière invisible de 18cm et une agrafe pour jupe.

TELAS SUGERIDAS
Chali, Chambray, Mezclas de Algodones, Crepé, Guingán, Dril ligero, Tela de Lino, Telas tejidas ligeras. Se necesita tela adicional para casar cuadros o rayas.

MERCERÍA
Hilo. A,B: Una cremallera invisible de 61cm.
C,D: Diez botones de 2cm, una cremallera invisible de 18cm y un corchete para jupe.

*sans sens **avec sens ***avec ou sans sens *sin pelusa **con pelusa ***sin o con pelusa

6508
SIZE / TAILLE / TALLA
U.S. 10-22
FR. 36-48
RC 50
7
8

13

6. **Line drawings of each pattern:** This helps to determine the design details.

7. **Fabrics:** The type of fabric you purchase for your clothing is crucial to the success of your article of clothing. As a beginner, follow this closely. The company knows what fabric will work best with this pattern.

8. **Notions you will need for your outfit:** In this instance, thread will be needed for all projects. If you are sewing view "A," then you will need one package of ¼" wide elastic. If you are sewing "A, B, or C," you will need one package of ½" wide single-fold bias tape.

9. **Body measurements:** In this area, Simplicity provides a sizing help website, which is excellent for beginners looking for more information on measuring. The website is www.simplicity.com/sizehelp. Do not choose your pattern size based on ready-to-wear sizes. To use this chart, suppose your measurements are Chest 27", Waist 23-½", Hips 28", Back-neck to waist 12", Approximate height 52", then your pattern size will be 8. If you are making pants, measure your hips and then find your hip size on the chart to determine your size. For example, if your hips are 32", your

pattern size will be 12. If making a top or dress, find your chest measurement, for example, 28-1/2", then your pattern size will be a size 10.

10. Fabric: For example, let's look at D Pants. Underneath the word D Pants is 45" and 60". The 45" and 60" refer to the width of the fabric. You can determine the width of the fabric by measuring it from selvage to selvage or looking on the end of the bolt.

11. Garment measurements: This area provides the finished garment measurements. For instance, if you are a child size 12 (chest size 30"), then the finished garment chest measurement for A is 33-1/2". If the chest measurement is 30" and the finished garment measurement is 33-1/2", it means the top is 3-1/2" bigger in circumference, providing some room between you and the fabric. This is called "ease."

12. *without nap **with nap *with or without nap:** What does nap mean? Fabrics such as velvet, corduroy, or velour have a "nap." The raised fibers of napped fabrics lie in one direction. When cutting out fabrics for patterns, ensure the nap is all going in the same direction. Also, if your pattern calls for fabric "with nap," more yardage will need to be purchased.

- Some pattern companies print the body measurements on the flap of the pattern envelope instead of on the back of the pattern envelope.



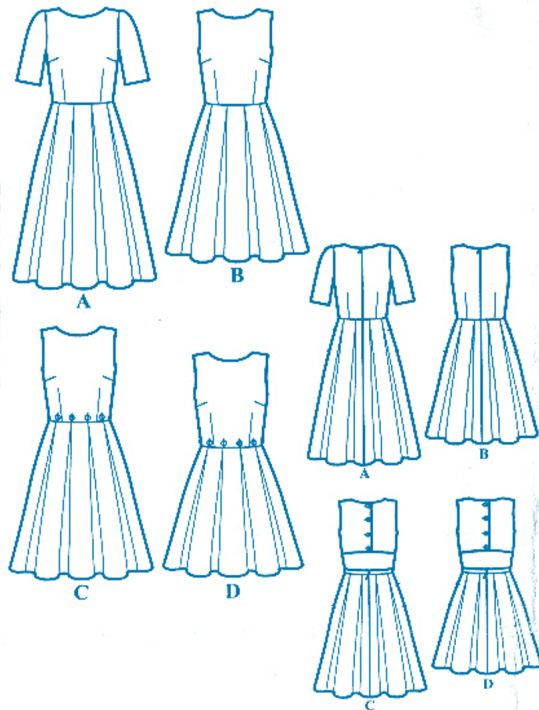
3. INSIDE THE ENVELOPE: INSTRUCTIONS

- The pattern instructions are usually folded together and printed on the front and back of the pages included inside the envelope. The number of pages varies based on the garment, the different options, and the complexity.
- On the first page, there are usually line drawings of the front and back views of each item, labeled with the corresponding letter. You'll use that letter to figure out which pattern pieces you need. The pattern company usually devotes a section of the instructions to a listing of all the pattern pieces, complete with line drawings and numbers.

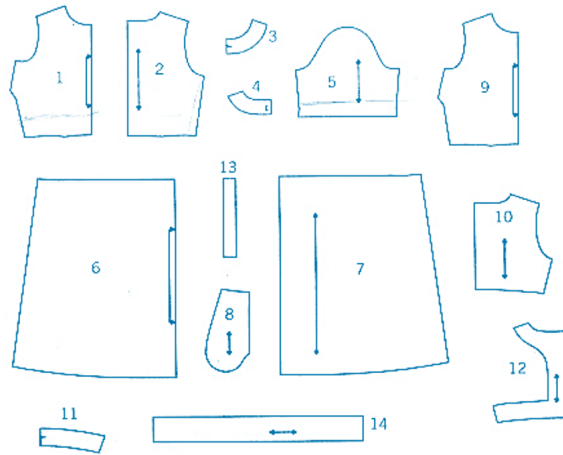
1 of 4
NEWLOOK 6508

www.simplicity.com info@simplicity.com 1-888-588-2700

Thank you for purchasing this New Look pattern.
 We made every effort to provide you with a high quality product.
 Gracias por haber comprado este patrón de New Look.
 Hemos hecho todos los esfuerzos para ofrecerle un producto de alta calidad.

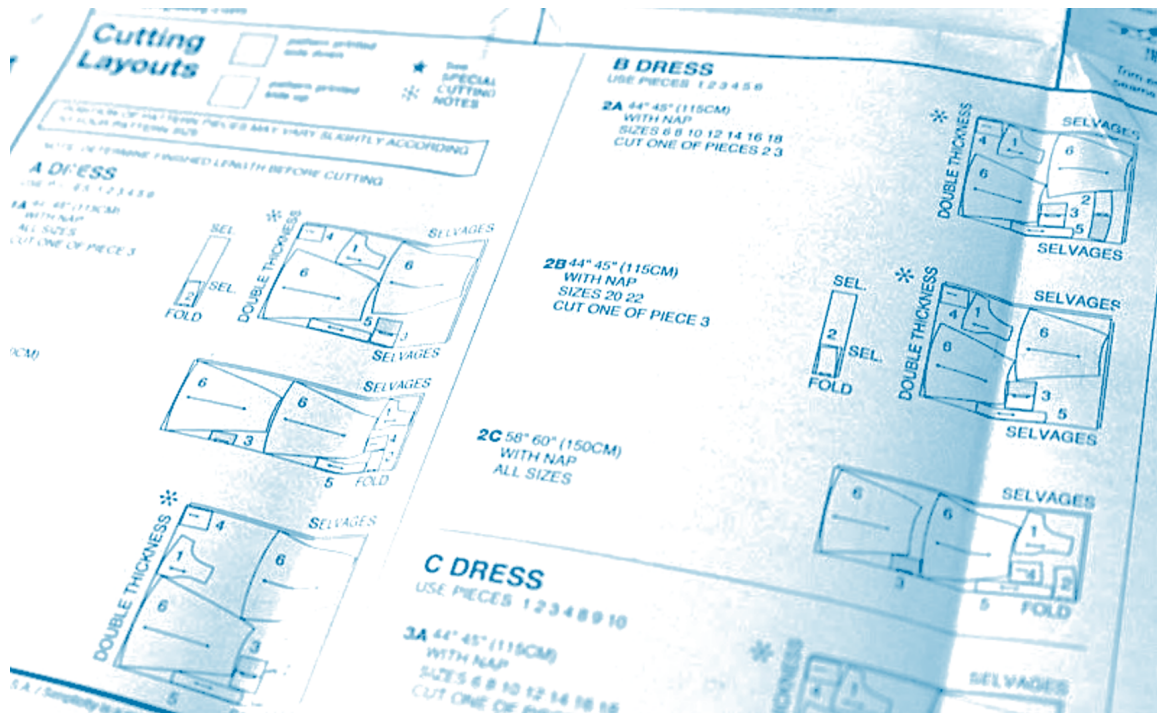


14 PIECES GIVEN



- 1-BODICE FRONT -A,B
- 2-BODICE BACK -A,B
- 3-FRONT NECK INTERFACING -A,B,C,D
- 4-BACK NECK INTERFACING -A,B
- 5-SLEEVE -A
- 6-SKIRT FRONT -A,B,C,D
- 7-SKIRT BACK -A,B,C,D
- 8-POCKET -A,B,C,D
- 9-FRONT -C,D
- 10-BACK -C,D
- 11-FRONT WAIST INTERFACING -C,D
- 12-BACK INTERFACING -C,D
- 13-BUTTONHOLE GUIDE -C,D
- 14-WAISTBAND -C,D

- If you're working with a pattern with many pieces and different garment views, it can be helpful to mark which pattern pieces you'll need. I've noticed that many people skip over the section of general sewing information, but it's full of information that can help with cutting out the pattern, as well as putting it together. This is the place to find out what seam allowance you'll be using, how you should press seams, and things you really want to know before you start cutting. There's also information devoted to the symbols printed on the pattern pieces.
- Every garment option will have a diagram in the Cutting Layout section that shows how you'll make all the pattern pieces fit on the amount of fabric the pattern says you'll need. All the little arrows printed on the pattern pieces correspond to the grain of the fabric, which runs parallel to the fabric selvages. If the line bends at the top and bottom so that the arrowheads point to the edge of a pattern piece, this means you'll cut out that piece on the fold of the fabric.
- Be sure to pay attention to whether a pattern piece is cut on a double layer of fabric or a single layer. Sometimes a cutting layout will even show a combination of double and single layers.

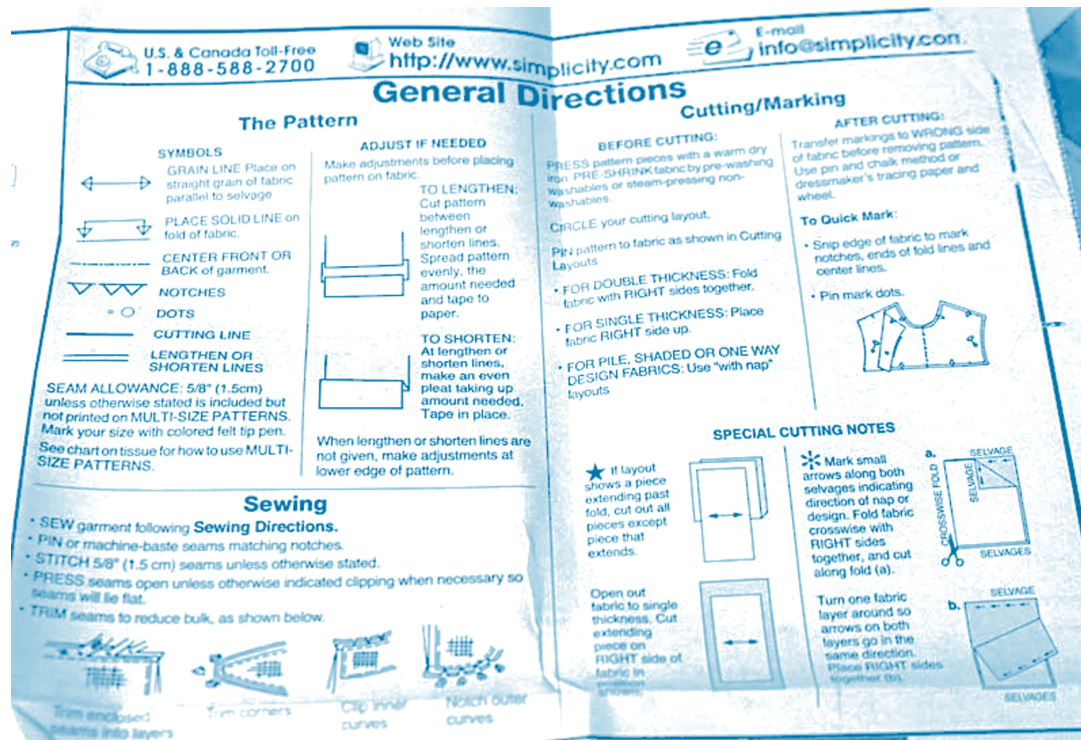


- As you continue through the pages, the instructions begin for actually sewing the garment. It's always a good idea to read the pattern instructions all the way through before you begin sewing and even before you begin cutting. If there are different views or options for the garment, it's a good idea to mark the sections meant for the item you're sewing.

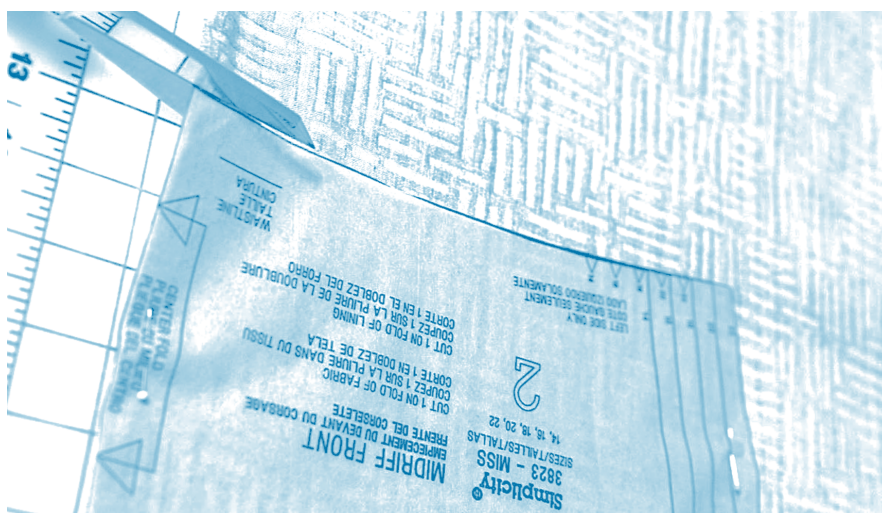
4. INSIDE THE ENVELOPE: THE PATTERN

- The Big Four commercial patterns are printed on tissue paper. It's thin, lightweight, and will pretty much never fold back up and fit in the pattern envelope again. Use the pattern piece guide you marked to help you locate each piece needed for your garment. Cut around each pattern piece to remove it from the sheet, press it flat with an iron on a low setting, then cut out the size you need.
- Or press the pattern sheet and trace each piece using paper and a tracing wheel. Tracing is not as fast as cutting out the pattern directly, but you'll find that it makes it easier to make any pattern modifications to improve the fit. Tracing allows you to preserve the pattern so you can change sizes if you need to go up or down after sewing the mock.
- Whether you trace or cut the pattern pieces, it's important to pay attention to all of the markings on each piece. Lines, notches, arrows, and dots all indicate actions you'll need to take in order to have the garment turn out well.
- You'll want to use a marking pencil or pen, chalk, or other washable marking implement to transfer marks to the fabric, usually on the wrong side. When you're ready to cut out your pattern, ensure all your pattern pieces are ready

(trimmed to size, pressed, and checked against your cutting list). If your fabric is machine washable, have it pre-washed, dried, and lightly pressed to eliminate all wrinkles. Match the fabric, right sides together, using the selvage edges to adjust until the fabric lies flat. The cut edges of the fabric may not match, and that's okay. It's more important to get the fabric even and straight on the grain.



- Use the cutting layout on the pattern instruction sheet to arrange the pattern pieces on your fabric, ensuring the grain line arrows are parallel to the selvage. A clear acrylic ruler can help you measure from the selvage to the grain line marking to ensure your pattern pieces are aligned with the grain. If you are using a directional fabric, double-check that your layout works with your fabric design.



- Pin down each pattern piece with good quality pins; more is always better when it comes to pinning. Transfer any marks and keep your pattern pieces with the fabric to make it easier to keep up with everything when you're ready to sew.
- As you cut, keep the fabric and pattern as flat against the table as possible. This helps you get a clean, close cut and keeps distortion of your pieces at a minimum. Cut around each piece in a manner that's natural and easy for you. If you need to rotate your fabric and pattern piece to help with cutting, go for it—carefully, of course. And make sure your pattern and cut edges line up before you resume cutting.

5. FUSING/ INTERFACING

- Fusing is an adhesive material with a variety of functions that you can use as an alternative to sewing. The material is available in woven or non-woven sheets, shapes, and strips. Each type and use have several benefits, but also a few disadvantages. With fusing, it is simple to create sturdiness in fabric, hemlines, and iron-on designs.
- **Use:** Fusing often serves as an alternative to sew-on interfacing, which strengthens, supports, and adds shape to fabric. To use it, place the glue side of the fusing to the back side of the fabric, and heat it with an iron, no steam. You can use fusing strips for hemming, in which case you sandwich it between the new hem and the back of the fabric before applying the iron. Fusing can also attach patches or designs to various fabrics.
- **Advantages:** Fusing creates firmness, which adds support to medium-weight fabric without the use of a sewing machine.
- **Disadvantages:** Fusing can damage lighter fabrics, especially ones that can't be steamed, such as gauze and seersucker. The material is also destructive to napped fabrics, as the fusing process flattens the napped effect. The fusing process can also make fabrics too stiff once the fusing agent has dried.



6. PATTERN MARKINGS

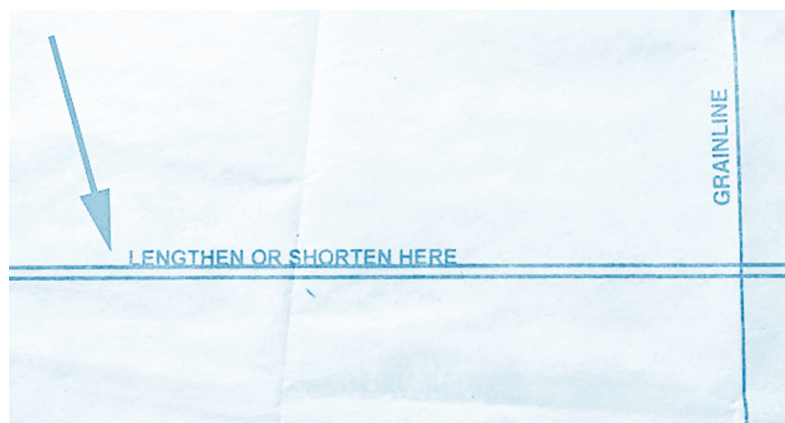
The three general categories are:

- **Fit Adjustments**
- **Cutting Guides**
- **Construction**

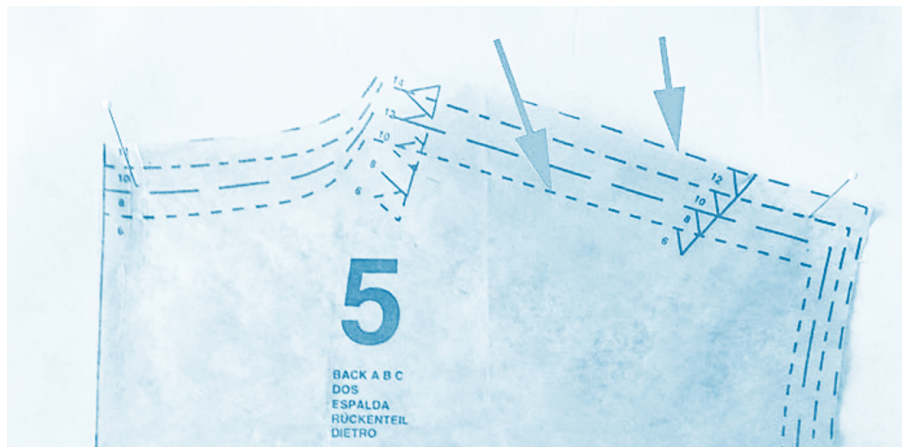
- Markings can be similar across these categories, so it's important to carefully examine your pattern pieces before starting a project and familiarize yourself with the markings. Some markings differ between pattern manufacturers. However, the basics, such as grain lines, fold lines, and notches, which we'll cover here, should be present.

Fit Adjustments:

- Lines are found in all categories. Since you might adjust the fit of your pattern before anything else, the first marks to note are those related to pattern fit adjustments.
- **Lengthen or shorten here:**

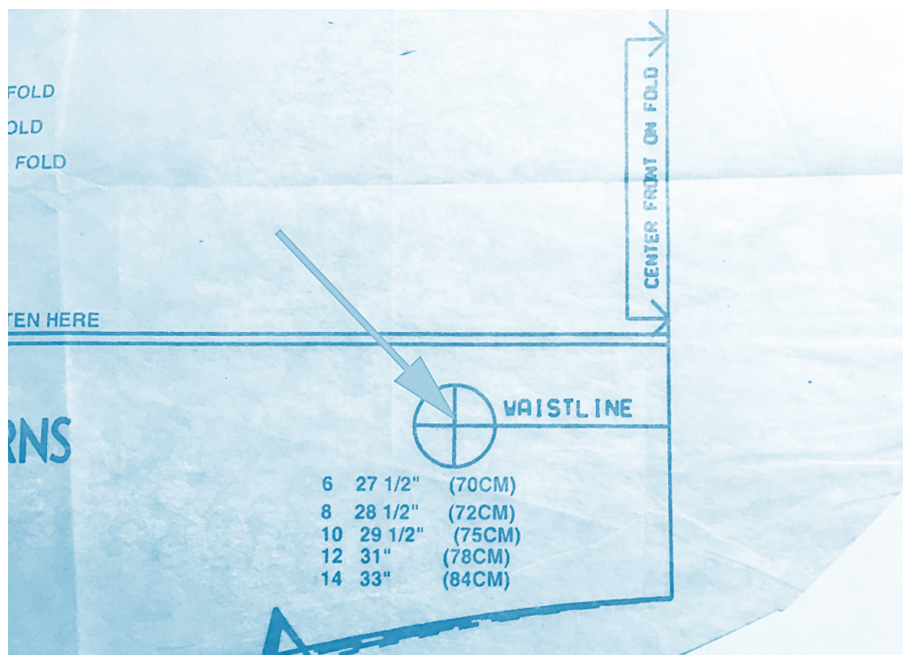


- This mark is a double line parallel to the grain line, used to add or remove length. It's particularly useful on dress bodices, allowing you to adjust the waistline to hit at the correct spot.
- **Size Selection Lines:**
 - Many patterns feature multiple sizes on one pattern tissue or PDF, with different dashed lines indicating size selection. It's helpful to trace over the lines you'll use with a pen. I find colored pencils great for this task as they are soft, mark easily on paper or tissue, and don't bleed through the paper like marking pens.



• Circumference Measurements: Bust, Waist, and Hiplines

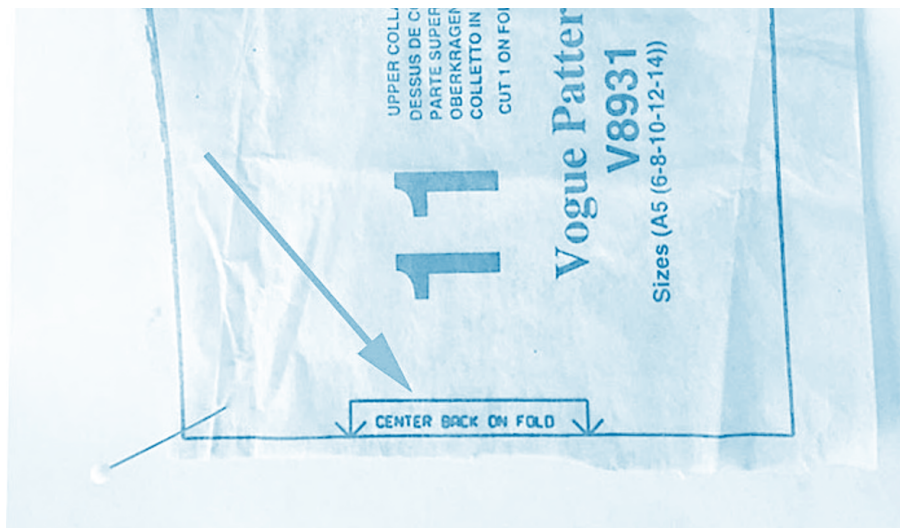
- The circle with crossed lines indicates where the pattern aligns with specific body measurements. These circles mark the bust point, waistline, and hip. Many patterns, but not all, include the actual circumference measurements next to these circles, which is quite helpful. This measurement shows the actual circumference of the finished garment at that point for each size, including design and wearing ease.



Cutting Guides:

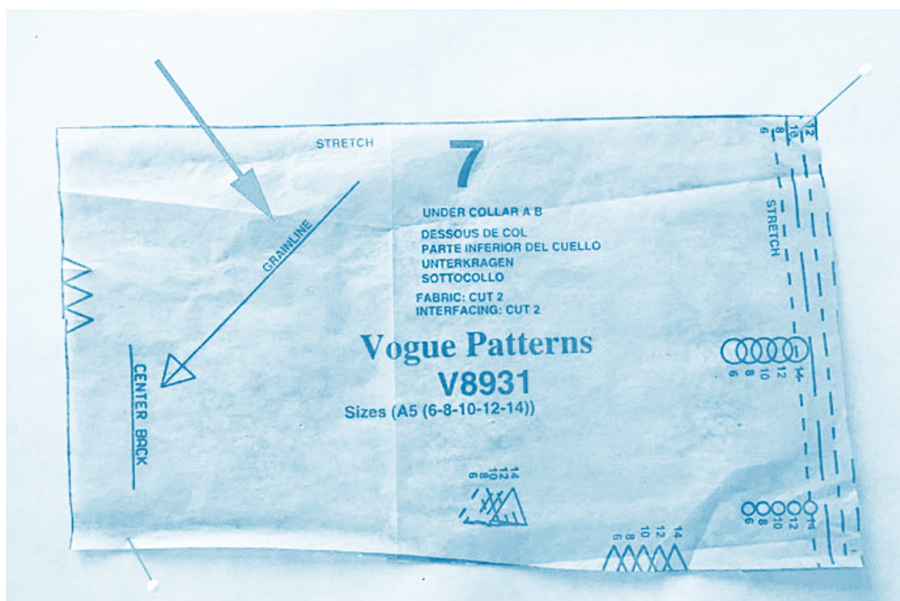
• Cut on Fold:

- Most patterns have one or more pieces labeled "cut on fold." These are often garment backs like shirts and jackets that button or close in the front. In dresses or skirts, the front and their facings are cut on the fold. Pieces cut on the fold eliminate the seam that would otherwise be needed to join pieces.



- **Grain Lines:**

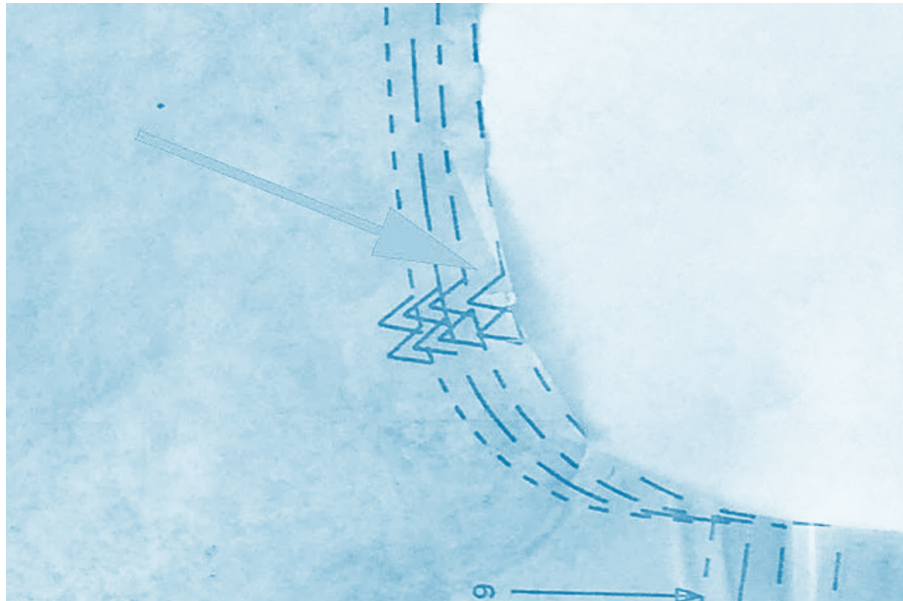
- Grain lines are typically marked on all pattern pieces, indicating how to place the pattern piece on the uncut fabric relative to the selvedge. Grain lines are usually parallel to the selvedge edge of the fabric. For example, an under collar piece might have a grain line diagonal to the center back seam, indicating that the pattern piece is cut on the bias.



Construction:

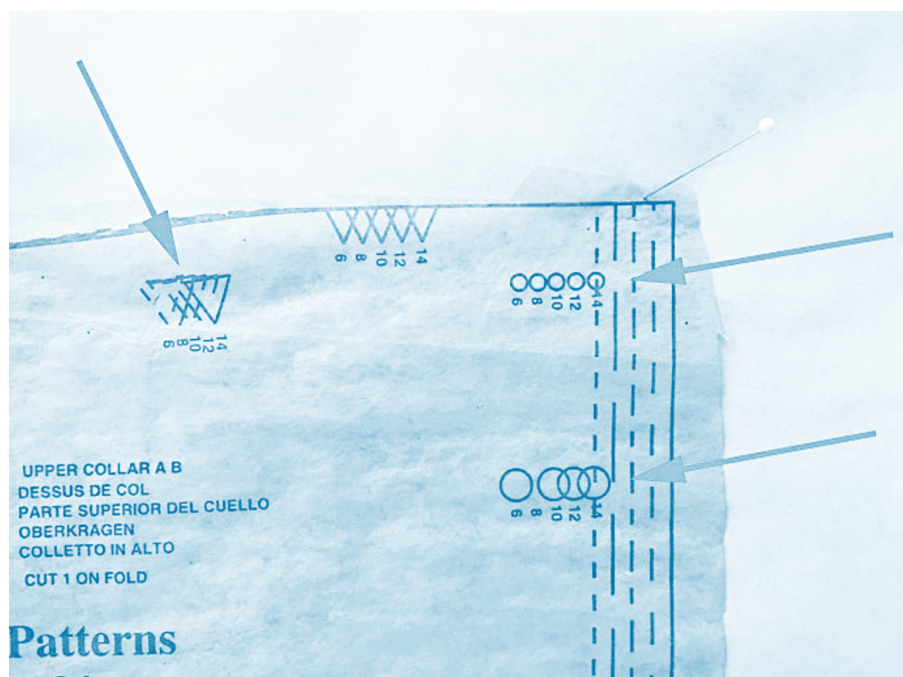
- Pattern markings for garment construction indicate how pattern pieces sew together. They can show how to distribute ease, create darts, where to gather, and even identify which part of the garment you are working on.
- **Notches:**
 - All sewing patterns have some type of notch mark. They can be triangles protruding from the cutting line (common in vintage patterns), and many modern patterns have triangles as shown here. A lot of European patterns use a small line instead of a triangle, but the concept is the same. Your pattern instructions will indicate which notches match up between

components and how to join the cut pieces together. Single notches are mostly found on garment fronts, including the sleeve and armhole front. Double notches appear on sleeve and armhole backs, as well as some back necklines. Triple notches are mostly seen on center back seams.



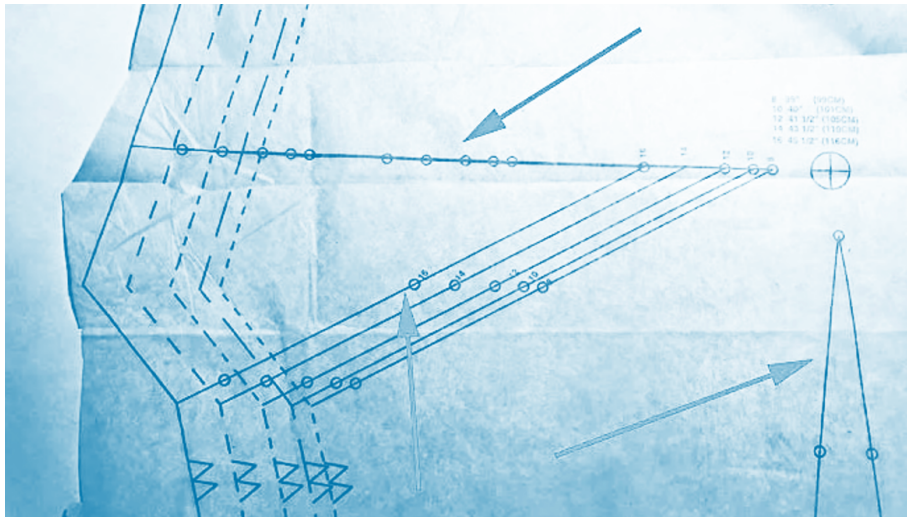
- **Dots, Squares, and Large Triangles:**

- Many sewing patterns feature dots of various sizes, as well as triangles or squares. These are located on the actual stitching line, rather than the cutting edge of the pattern piece. The purpose of these dots is to align with their equivalent dot on another piece, guiding your construction. Large dots often mark a collar and lapel edge. Other dots may indicate where to place pocket lining or how to create a welt pocket. Triangles are commonly found on collars or facings and are usually matched to a shoulder or other seam. Squares are used when the pattern designer has already utilized other markings.



- **Darts:**

- Darts are marked on most patterns by a series of dots forming a triangle or other shape. Some patterns include many dots, while others are more minimal, marking just the legs of the dart and the point where the dart legs intersect. Some darts have shaping, such as vertical darts on a dress or shirt, and the stitching lines for these can indicate where to sew the dart.



- Straight/Single Point Dart:

- Straight darts have only one point with dart legs along the edge of the pattern. They are probably the most common type of dart in home sewing.



- Double Point Dart:

- Double point darts are typically found on dresses at the waist.

