

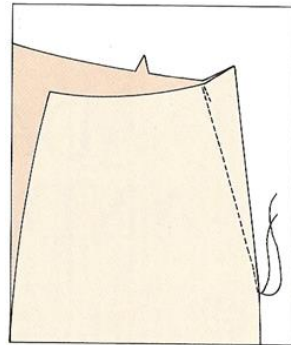
Replicate Your Clothes: What Next?

Fantastic you now have a copy of your garment. The next step is to make your pattern up to see how it fits. The following instructions will give the BASIC order of construction.

These are for simple trousers, skirt and “bodice”.

Skirt: Basic Order of Construction

1. Sew up front waist darts. Press darts to the CF (centre front).
2. Sew up back waist darts. Press darts to the CB (centre back).



N.B Remember you have a left and right side of a skirt!

3. If you have a zip opening, sew this in next. It is best to sew in the zip whilst everything is flat, rather than when the skirt is sewn up!
4. Pockets: If your skirt has patch pockets, add these next. If you have in-seam pockets, add these before you sew up side seams).
5. Sew up side seams (including any other seams you have e.g CF or CB seams).
6. Add waistband or facings.
7. Sew up hem of skirt.

Your garment may have additional steps depending on the complexity of your garment. They can be quite complex to explain. Book yourself into a sewing class and we can take you through the process.

Trousers: Basic Order of Construction

1. Sew up front waist darts. Press darts to the CF (centre front).
2. Sew up back waist darts. Press darts to the CB (centre back).

N.B Remember you have a left and right side.

3. If you have a zip opening or fly zip, sew this in next. It is best to sew in the zip whilst everything is flat, rather than when the trousers are sewn up!
4. Pockets: If your trouser has patch pockets, add these next. If you have in-seam pockets, add these before you sew up side seams).

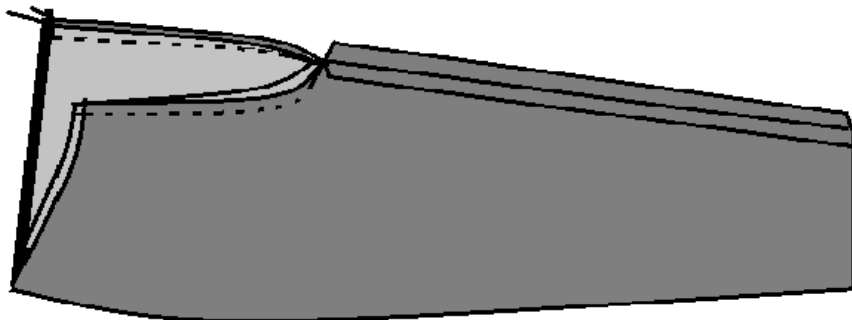
Legs Next

5. Sew front right side seam to back right side seam.
6. Sew front right inside leg to back right inside leg.

Repeat for left leg. You will now have two legs.

7. Pin crotch seams together and sew up.

An easy way is to turn one of the legs inside out and place the other leg inside it. The inside leg should be the right side up. Pin and sew up crotch.

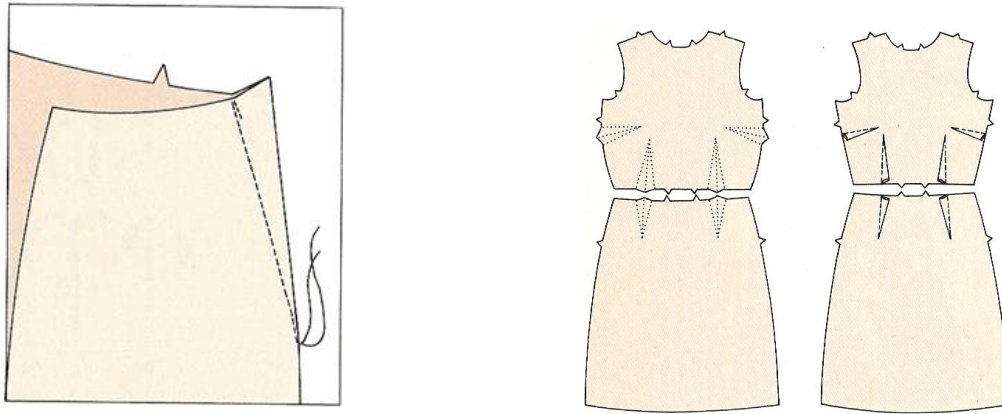


8. Pin and sew waistband to waist of trousers.
9. Finish hem.

Your garment may have additional steps depending on the complexity of your garment. They can be quite complex to explain. Book yourself into a sewing class and we can take you through the process.

Bodice: Basic Order of Construction

1. Bust Darts: Sew bust darts and press towards the CF (centre front).
2. Waist Darts: Press darts towards the centre front of garment.



Fold dart in half and sew from widest point to tip of dart Garment with waist seam and darts

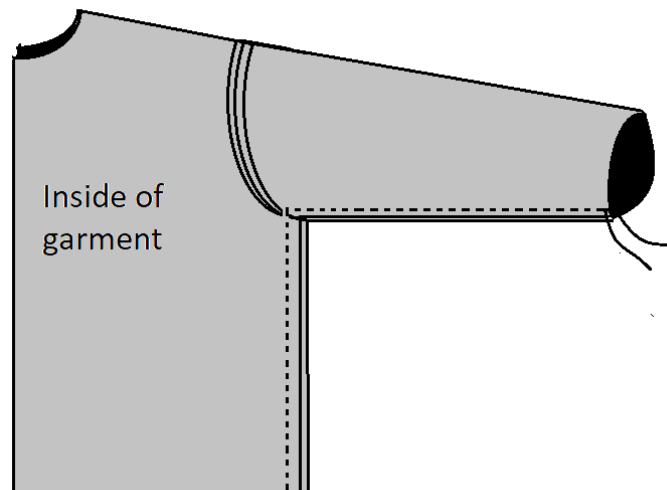
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5. Pockets: If your garment has patch pockets, add these next. If you have in-seam pockets, add these before you sew up the side seams).
6. Pin side seams together and sew. If you have CF or CB seams, pin and sew.
7. Finish neckline and armholes. There are different ways to finish off these areas. Your garment may have either a bound edge or a faced edge. If your garment has sleeves, see below.

Sleeves

8. Sew up the side seam of sleeves. Pin sleeve head into armhole. If your pattern has front and back notches on the armhole, match, and pin these with the ones on your sleeve head. Stitch.
9. Finish hem/cuff.

There are other ways of sewing a sleeve into an armhole. A simpler way is as follows:

Sew up shoulder seams of garment and leave side seams open. Pin sleeve head into armhole (leave sleeve side seams open). Fold garment in half inside out. Sew along side-seam of sleeve and side-seam of garment (see next page). This is method use for casual wear or shirts/blouses but NOT jackets as these require more tailored finish.



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How Much Fabric Will I Need?

Fabrics come in a number of different widths; generally this can be between 100cm to 140 cm. The width of the fabric will determine how much fabric you will need to buy. On a commercial pattern it will usually give you two widths e.g. 115cm, 140cm.

The instruction will then show you how you will lay your pattern pieces on that width of fabric. This is called a fabric lay. As you have created your own patterns you will need to work out how much fabric you will need and how to create your own fabric lay.

Below is an example of a fabric lay:

Creating Your Own Fabric Lay

1. Find out what the width of your fabric. If you have some already measure the width of the fabric, selvedge edge to selvedge edge. If you do not, make up two fabric widths, let's say 115cm and 140cm.
2. Next, on a table or floor, measure out half the width of the fabric. So if it is 115cm, measure out 57.5cm. If it is 140cm, measure out 70cm. This can be done with masking tape, sellotape, rulers or books, from this line (grey line) create another line of tape at right angles to the first line. This second line will be your FOLD line (black line). It sounds complex but it is not, see diagram below.

3. Next, take your pattern pieces and lay them within these taped lines. Remember some pattern pieces may have to be placed on the fold, other pattern pieces will need to be cut in two.

Where your last pattern piece lays, will be the end of your “Fabric”.

Measure from the start of the line (marked in black) to the edge of the final pattern piece; this will give you length of fabric you will need to make your garment. It is good to allow some space (about 10cm) at the start of the fabric and after the last pattern piece.

Extra Fabric! Checks and Large Patterns

If you are using a check fabric you will need to compensate for matching the checks.

Because plaids and stripes require exact placement of the pattern pieces, you almost always need a little extra fabric. The rule of thumb is that for small plaids, get at least an extra 30 cms, and for large plaids go with up to 50cms.

Also, if you are using a fabric with a printed design, ask yourself...is the print directional? A directional print is a print that can only be worn in a particular way, see below.



If it is directional you can only place your pattern pieces in one way. Check the layout plan for the view you are using of your pattern – does it have an option for ‘with nap’ (nap is the pile on velvet, cord etc)? If so this is the one you’ll want to use for your one way print as all the pattern pieces will be laid and cut the same way up. Then when you are laying your pattern pieces on the fabric, follow this and make sure the print is the correct way up, so you don’t have upside down flowers on your skirt!

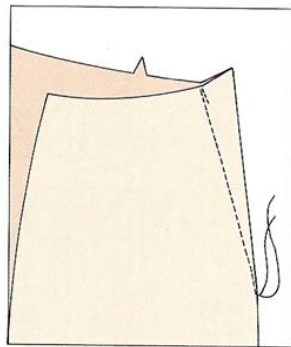
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8. Sew up front waist darts. Press darts to the CF (centre front).
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- 10.If you have a zip opening, sew this in next. It is best to sew in the zip whilst everything is flat, rather than when the skirt is sewn up!
- 11.Pockets: If your skirt has patch pockets, add these next. If you have in-seam pockets, add these before you sew up the side seams).
- 12.Sew up the side seams (including any other seams you have e.g CF or CB seams).
- 13.Add waistband or facings.
- 14.Sew up hem of skirt.

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Trousers: Basic Order of Construction

- 10.Sew up front waist darts. Press darts to the CF (centre front).
- 11.Sew up back waist darts. Press darts to CB (centre back).

N.B Remember you have a left and right side.

12. If you have a zip opening or fly zip, sew this in next. It is best to sew in the zip whilst everything is flat, rather than when the trousers are sewn up!

13. Pockets: If your trouser has patch pockets, add these next. If you have in-seam pockets, add these before you sew up the side seams).

Legs Next

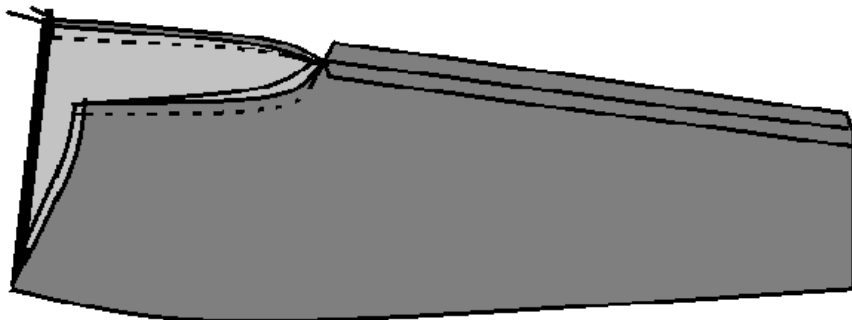
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Repeat for left leg. You will now have two legs.

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17. Pin and sew waistband to waist of trousers.

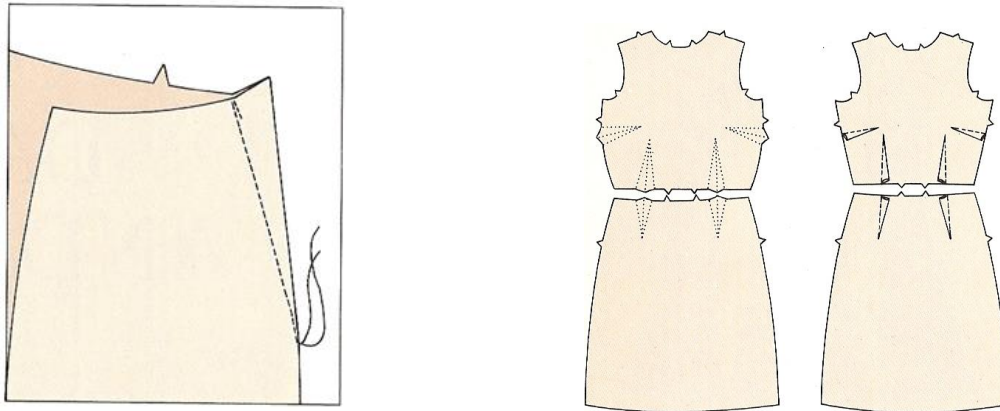
18. Finish hem.

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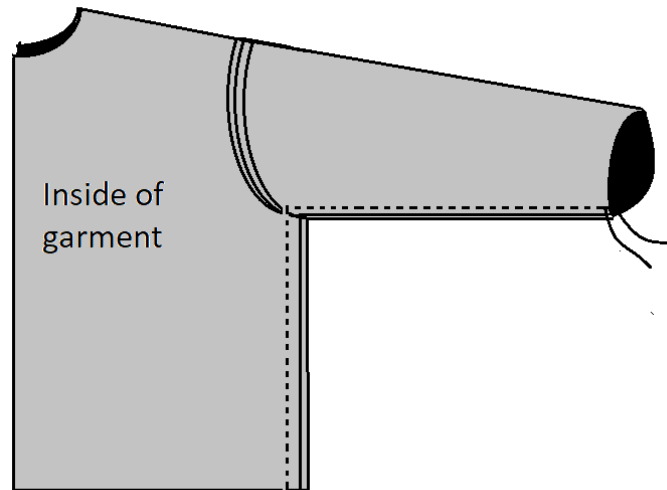
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