

Colette
PATTERNS

1030
MYRTLE
BEGINNER



SPECIAL
INSTRUCTIONS
• • • • •
WOVEN FABRICS

This version of the Myrtle instructions will take any guesswork out of substituting a woven for a knit fabric when you make this versatile dress pattern. The updated instructions feature alternative step-by-step directions for making your project with a woven fabric, including where to finish and press seams, where to apply interfacing, installing the elastic, and hemming. It also features an updated supplies list and woven fabric suggestions.

MYRTLE has a beautifully draped cowl neckline, a comfortable and figure-skimming elasticized waist, and a flowing, gathered skirt with in-seam pockets. The skirt of Version 1 falls just below the knee. Version 2 features adjustable button-on shoulder tabs and an above-the-knee hemline.

SUPPLIES: All-purpose thread, 1 1/2 yards of 1-inch elastic, 1 1/2 yards of 1/4" double fold bias tape. Version 2: Two 1/4-inch buttons, fusible interfacing.

MAIN FABRIC: Cotton voile, lawn, rayon challis, batiste, dotted swiss, georgette, light-weight silk crepe, silk habotai.

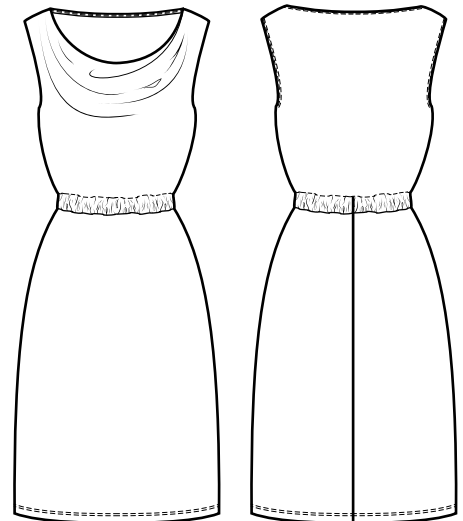
	XS	S	M	L	XL	2X	3X
	0-2	4-6	8-10	12-14	16-18	20-22	24-26
BODY MEASUREMENTS (INCHES)							
BUST	33-34	35-36	37-38 1/2	40-42	44-46	48-50	52- 54
WAIST	25-26	27-28	29-30 1/2	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46
HIPS	35-36	37-38	39-40 1/2	42-44	46-48	50-52	54-56
FABRIC REQUIRED (YARDS)							
VERSION 1							
45"	3	3	3 1/8	3 3/8	3 1/2		
60"	2 5/8	2 3/4	2 3/4	2 7/8	3	3 3/8	3 1/2
VERSION 2							
45"	2 3/4	2 3/4	2 7/8	3 1/4	3 3/8		
60"	2 1/4	2 5/8	2 5/8	2 3/4	2 7/8	3 1/8	3 1/4
FINISHED GARMENT, UNSTRETCHED (INCHES)							
BUST*	36	38	40	43 1/2	47	51	55
WAIST*	24	26	28	31	35	39	43
HIPS	42	44	46	49	53	57	61
BACK LENGTH** (V.1)	37 1/2	38	38 1/2	39	39 1/2	40	40 1/2
BACK LENGTH** (V.2)	33 1/2	34	34 1/2	35	35 1/2	36	36 1/2
HEM CIRCUMFERENCE (V.1)	78	80	82	85	89	91	95
HEM CIRCUMFERENCE (V.2)	68	70	72	75	79	81	85

Sizes 2X-3X require fabric with a minimum width of 54".

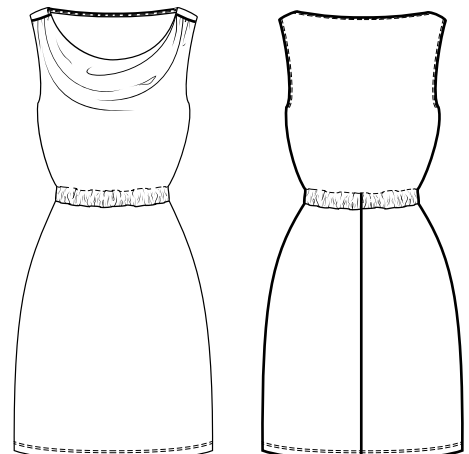
* Due to the design of this garment, the final garment will have positive ease in the bust and negative ease in the waist. Choose your size based on body measurements.

** Back length is measured from the back of your neck to the hem.

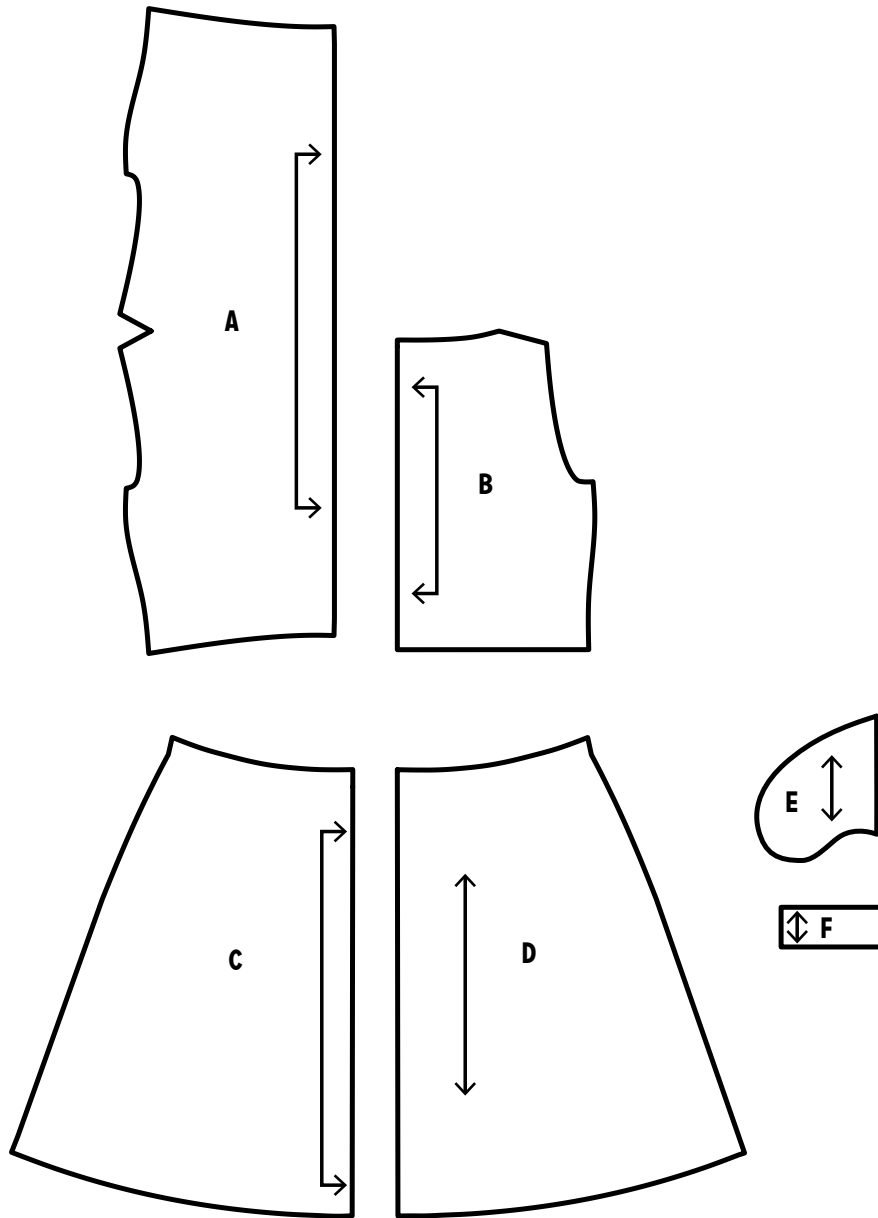
VERSION 1



VERSION 2



PATTERN INVENTORY



- A** *bodice front* (ALL VERSIONS)
- B** *bodice back* (ALL VERSIONS)
- C** *skirt front* (ALL VERSIONS)
- D** *skirt back* (ALL VERSIONS)
- E** *pocket* (ALL VERSIONS)
- F** *shoulder tab* (VERSION 2)

You will love the way you feel in this breezy, beautiful, classic dress.

Myrtle features a loose, flowing fit with an elasticized waist, keeping you comfortable without sacrificing your style. A cowl neckline lends a feminine drape and enhances your curves. Version 1 is a knee-length dress. Version 2 is a shorter style that hits above the knee and features button-on shoulder tabs.

Best of all, *Myrtle* can be sewn in either a knit or a woven fabric, making it extremely versatile, as well as the perfect choice for those new to sewing with knits. Try it both ways and you will learn about sewing with different types of fabrics, all while making beautiful, wearable dresses.

Myrtle is your new favorite for sewing with a wide range of pretty fabrics. Simple and versatile, it sews up quickly. And with its easy fit, you're sure to wear it all year long.

1

FIND YOUR SIZE. Use the body measurements chart on the back cover to determine your size. If you are between sizes, choose the larger size. It is always a good idea to make a test version first to adjust the fit.

2

LAY IT OUT. Lay out the pattern pieces as shown in the cutting layout diagrams. Start by placing the pieces that go along the fold. Then lay out the other pieces, making sure the grainline arrow is parallel to the selvage. (Measure from each end of the arrow to the fold. Position is correct when distances are exactly the same.)

3

TRANSFER MARKINGS. Use your marking pen, pencil, or chalk to transfer the markings (such as circles, buttonholes, and fold lines) to the wrong side of the fabric. Mark the center front of pieces cut on the fold, as this will help you to align pieces accurately.

4

TRACE PIECES. If you are using fabric shears, trace the outlines of the pattern pieces onto your fabric. If you are using a rotary cutter, skip this step.

5

CUT FABRIC. If you are using a rotary cutter, cut out the pattern pieces. If you are using fabric shears, remove the pattern and cut along the outlines you traced, cutting away any pen, pencil, or chalk lines. Remember to cut out any notches that appear on the edges. These markings help line up the pieces when you assemble the garment.

CUTTING LAYOUTS

■ right side of fabric

▨ wrong side of pattern

□ wrong side of fabric

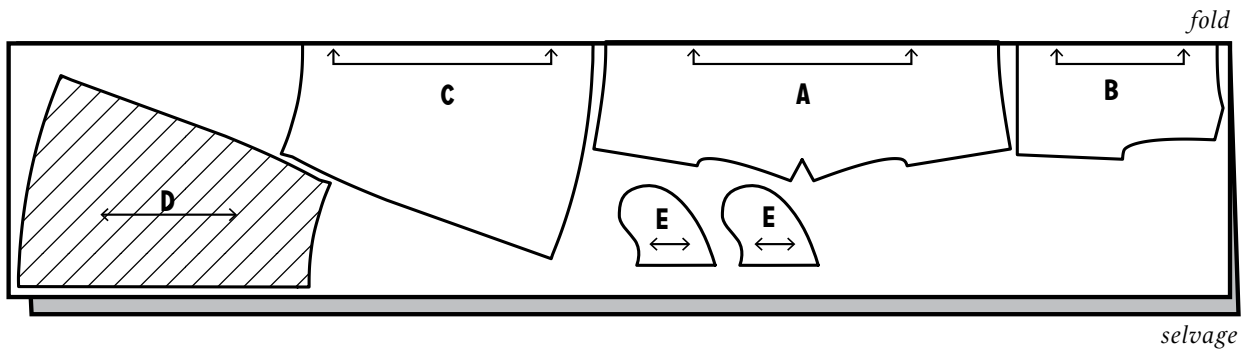
▤ right (non-adhesive side) of interfacing

SEAM ALLOWANCES ARE INCLUDED IN THE PATTERN. THEY ARE A STANDARD $\frac{3}{8}$ " FOR ALL SEAMS, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED IN THE INSTRUCTIONS.

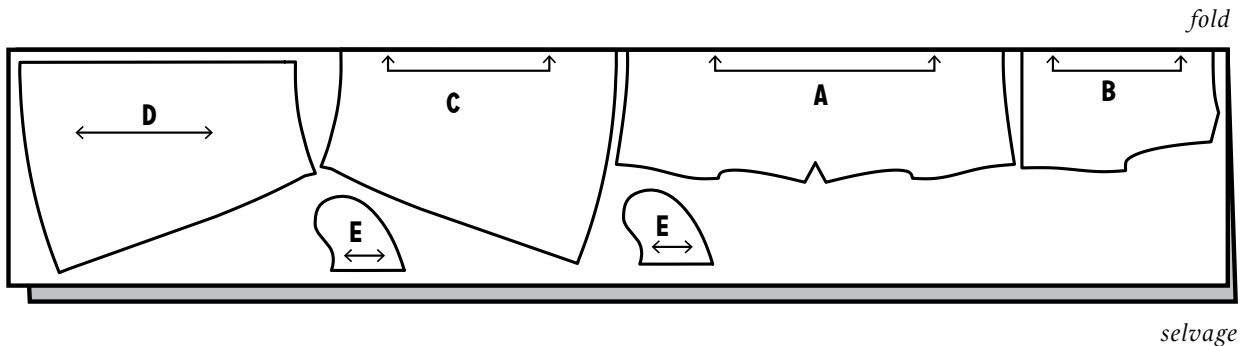
SIZES 2X - 3X REQUIRE FABRIC WITH A MINIMUM WIDTH OF 54".

VERSION 1 LONG DRESS

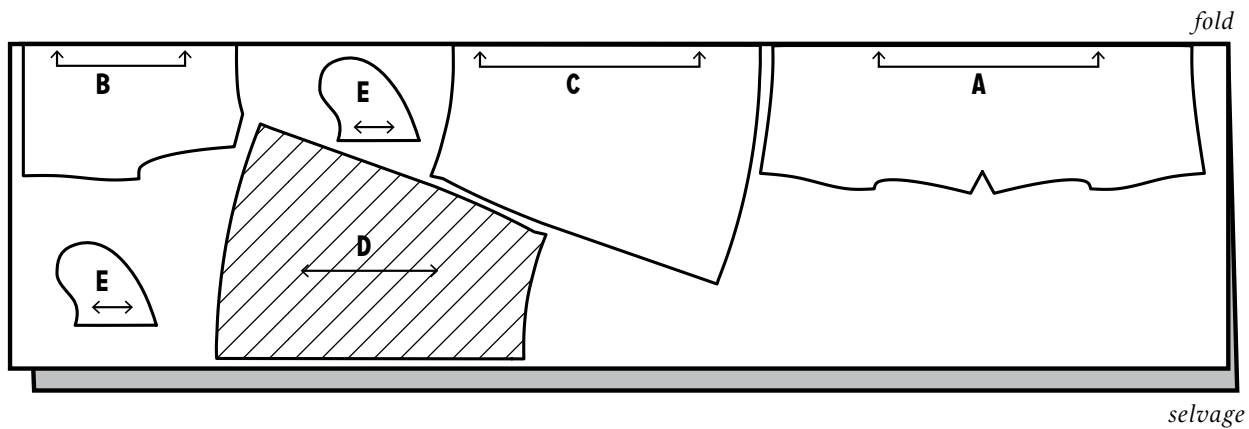
MAIN FABRIC (45") SIZES XS - M



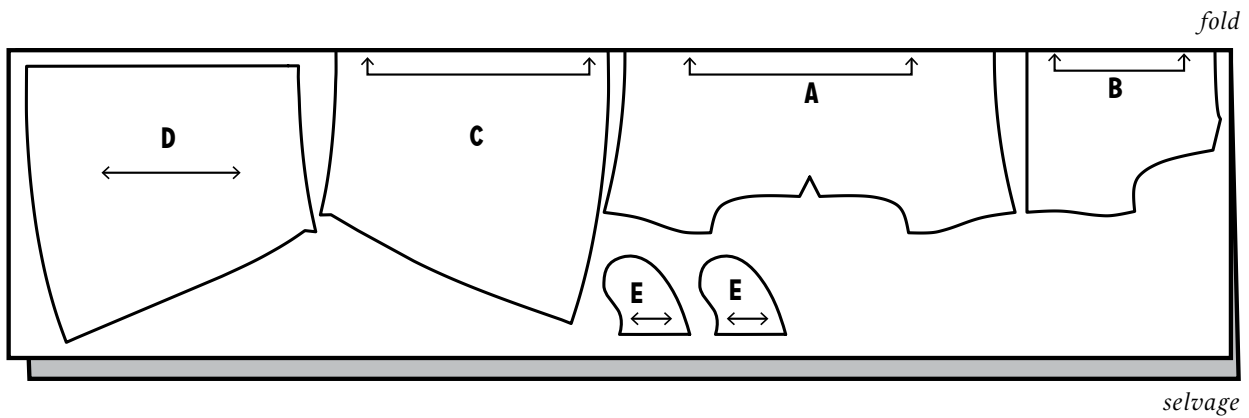
MAIN FABRIC (45") SIZES L - XL



MAIN FABRIC (60") SIZES XS - XL

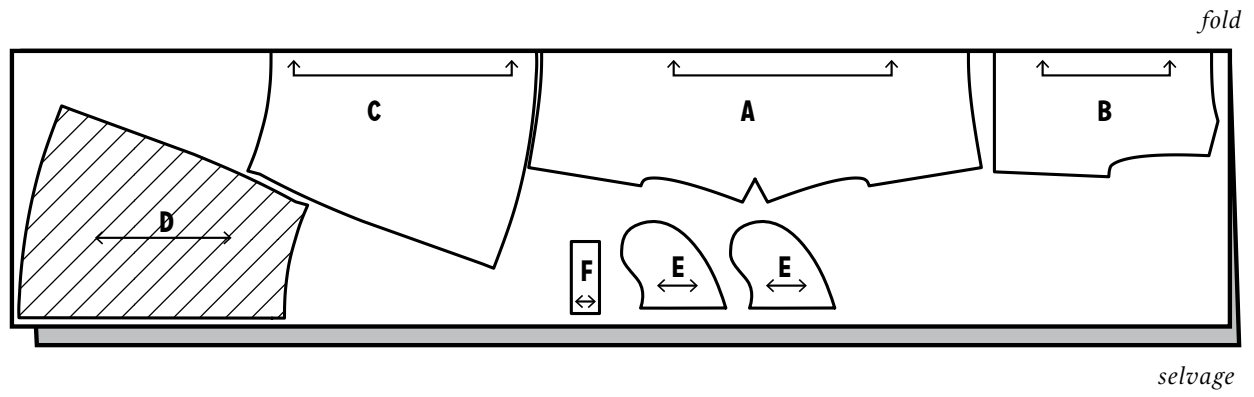


MAIN FABRIC (60") SIZES 2X - 3X

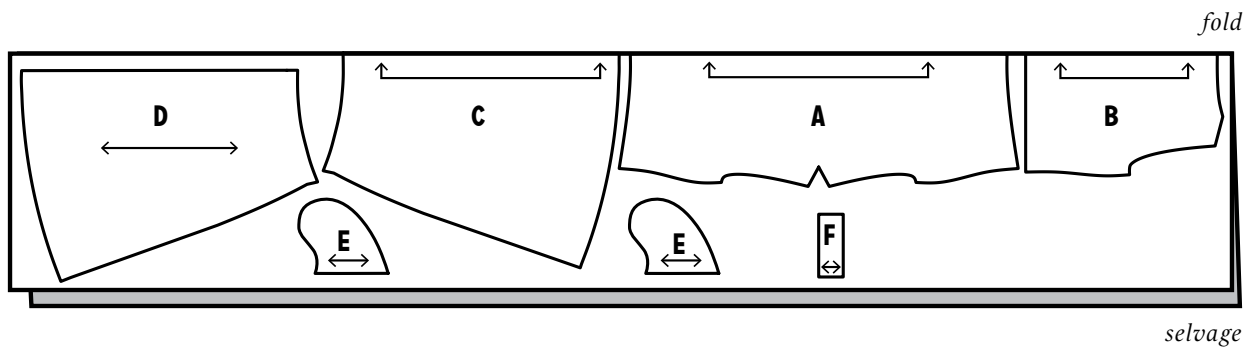


VERSION **2** SHORT DRESS

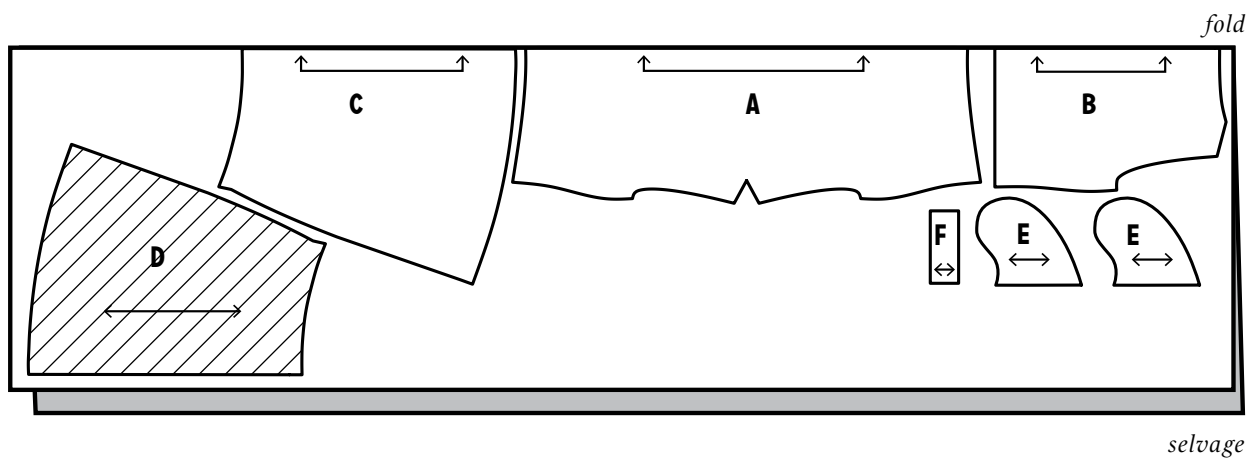
MAIN FABRIC (45") SIZES XS - M



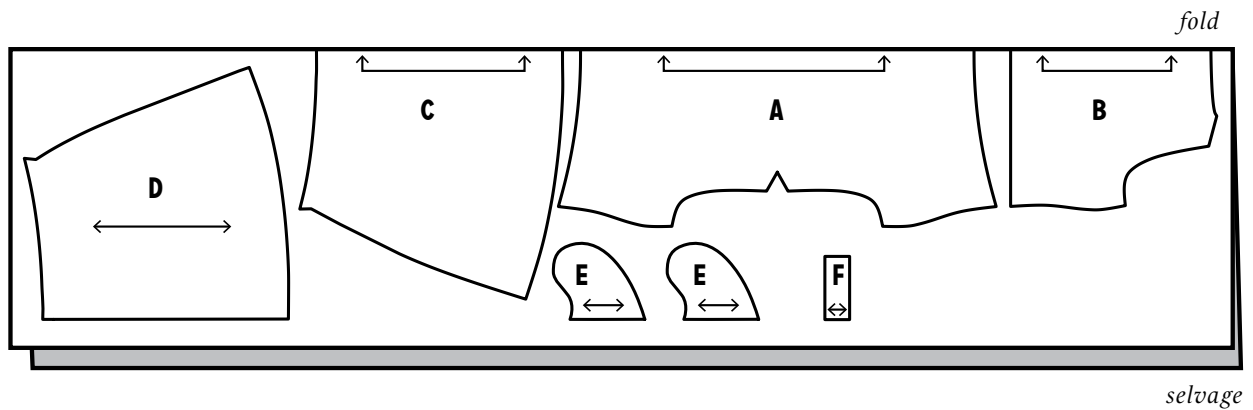
MAIN FABRIC (45") SIZES L - XL



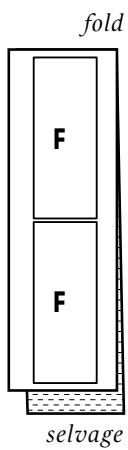
MAIN FABRIC (60") SIZES XS - XL



MAIN FABRIC (60") SIZES 2X - 3X



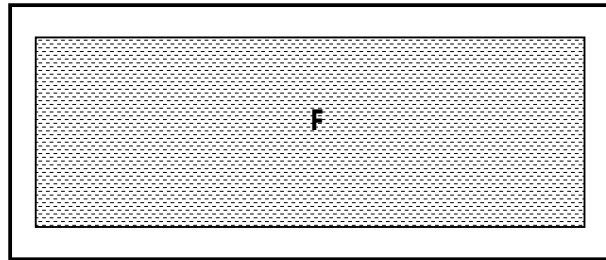
INTERFACING (25") SIZES XS - 3X



SEE WHAT OTHER PEOPLE ARE MAKING AT COLETTEPATTERNS.COM/GO/GALLERY!

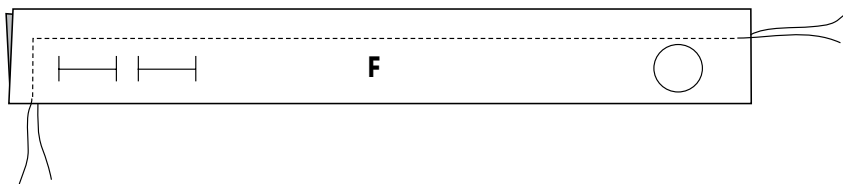
VERSION 2 SHORT DRESS

APPLY INTERFACING



1. Apply fusible interfacing to the wrong side of each **shoulder tab (F)** piece.

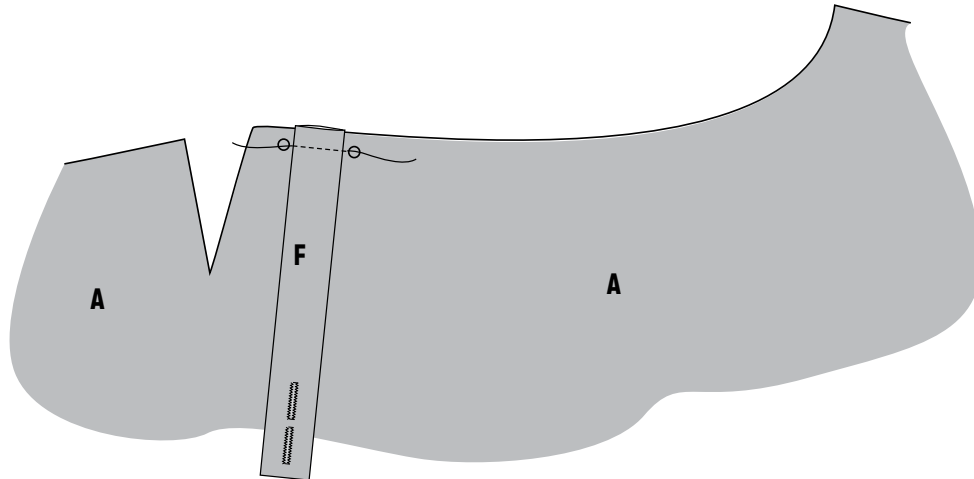
ATTACH SHOULDER TABS



1. With right sides together, fold one of the **shoulder tab (F)** pieces in half lengthwise. Stitch along the long raw edge. Stitch across the short edge closest to the buttonhole placement marks.
2. Trim the seam allowance along the sewn edges to $\frac{1}{4}$ ".
3. Clip the corners of the **sleeve tab (F)**.



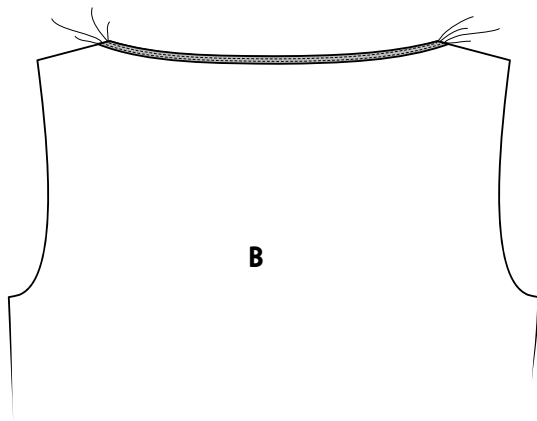
4. Turn the **shoulder tab (F)** right side out.
5. Create two buttonholes on **shoulder tab (F)** at the buttonhole placement marks.



6. Align the **shoulder tab (F)** between the two small circles on the right side of the **bodice front (A)**, matching the raw edges. Stitch in place between the small circles.
7. Press the **shoulder tab (F)** toward the bodice. Pin in place to keep the tab out of the way while assembling the bodice. When you finish the front armholes on page 14, the raw edges of the **shoulder tab (F)** will be sewn into the armhole.
8. Repeat steps 1 - 6 for the second **shoulder tab (F)** piece.

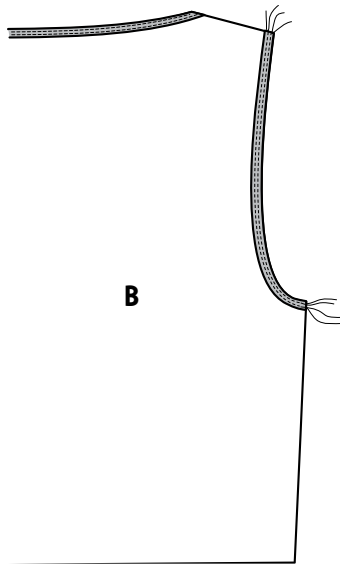
..... ALL VERSIONS

FINISH BACK NECKLINE



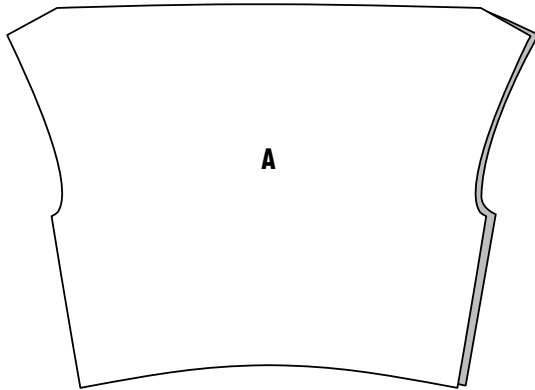
1. With right sides facing, unfold the $\frac{1}{4}$ " bias tape and match the edges along the neckline.
2. Stitch along the fold closest to the neckline.
3. Flip the bias tape to the inside of the garment, wrong sides facing. Press.
4. Edgestitch along the fold of the bias tape.

FINISH BACK ARMHOLES



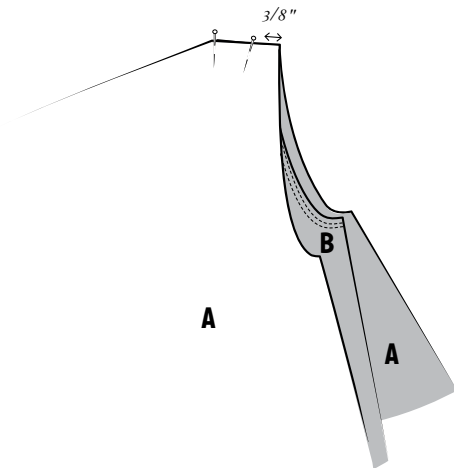
1. With right sides facing, unfold the $\frac{1}{4}$ " bias tape and match the edges along the back armhole.
2. Stitch along the fold closest to the armhole.
3. Flip the bias tape to the inside of the garment, wrong sides facing. Press.
4. Edgestitch along the fold of the bias tape.
5. Repeat for the second armhole.

FINISH BACK ARMHOLES

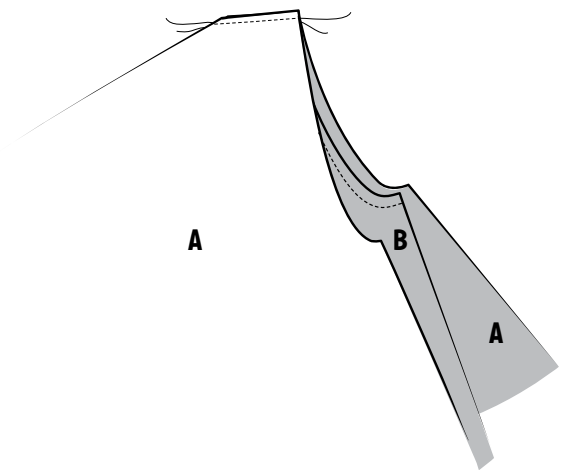


1. With right sides together, fold the **bodice front (A)** in half along the dashed shoulder fold line. This is the self-lined bodice front.

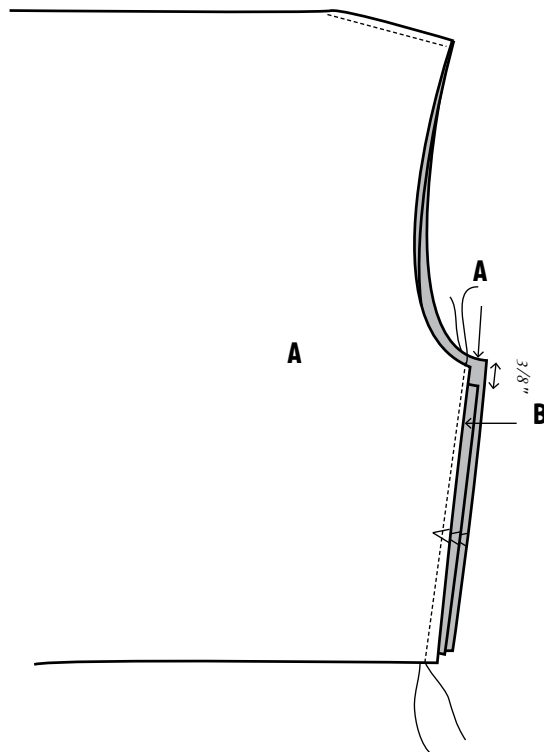
2. Sandwich one of the shoulder seams of the **bodice back (B)** so that the raw edge is flush with the shoulder fold line of the **bodice front (A)**. The armhole of **bodice back (B)** should be positioned so that it is $\frac{3}{8}$ " away from the raw edge of the armholes of the **bodice front (A)**. Pin.



3. Stitch along the shoulder seam, making sure that the **bodice back (B)** remains evenly tucked between the shoulder seams of **bodice front (A)**.
4. Repeat steps 2 - 3 for the second shoulder seam.

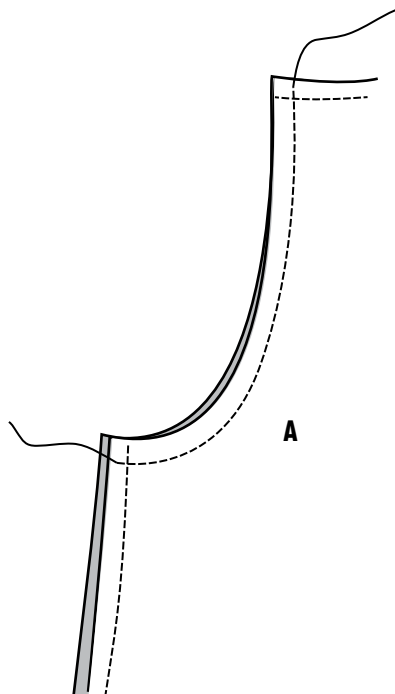


JOIN BODICE SIDE SEAMS



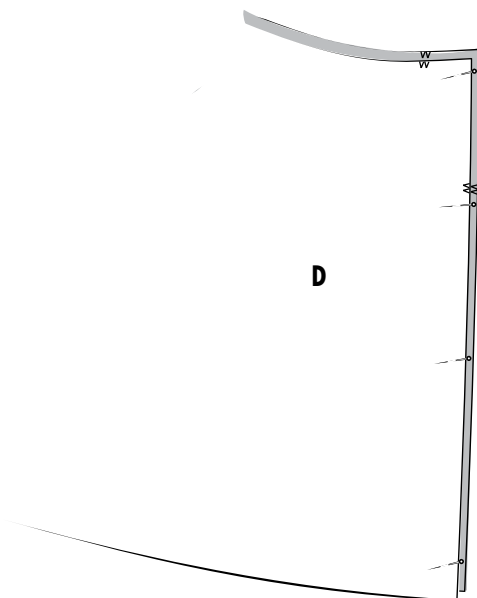
1. With notches aligned, sandwich the side seam of the **bodice back (B)** between the side seams of the shell and lining of the **bodice front (A)**. The wrong sides of the **bodice front (A)** pieces should face outward. The **bodice back (B)** should be positioned so that it is a $\frac{3}{8}$ " below from the armhole edge. Pin.
2. Stitch along the side seam, making sure that the **back bodice (B)** remains evenly tucked between the side seams of the **bodice front (A)** shell and lining.
3. Finish the seam and press open.
4. Repeat steps 1 - 3 for the second side seam.

FINISH FRONT ARMHOLES



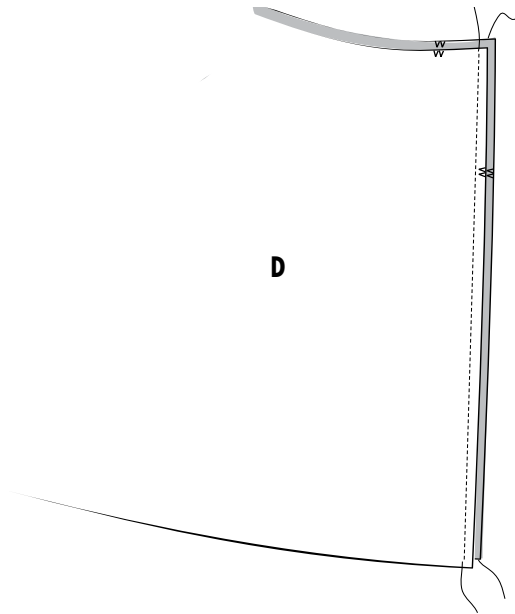
1. With the right sides of the **bodice front (A)** lining and shell pieces together, stitch along the armhole. Be careful not to catch the **back bodice (B)** in the seam.
2. Finish the seam.
3. Repeat for the second armhole.
4. Turn the bodice right side out.

JOIN SKIRT BACKS

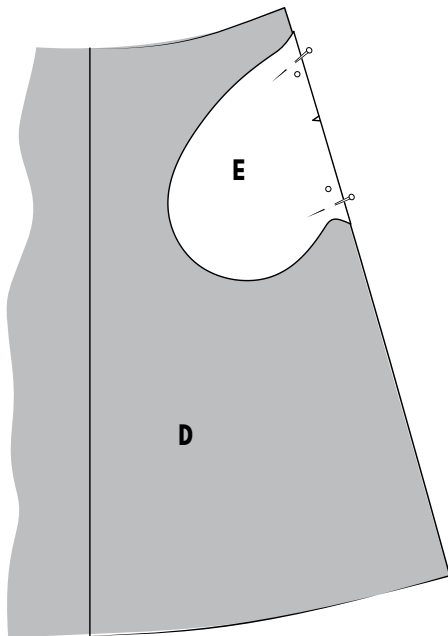


1. With right sides together, match the notches and align the two **skirt back (D)** pieces together along the center back seam. Pin.

2. Stitch along the center back seam.
3. Finish the seam and press open.

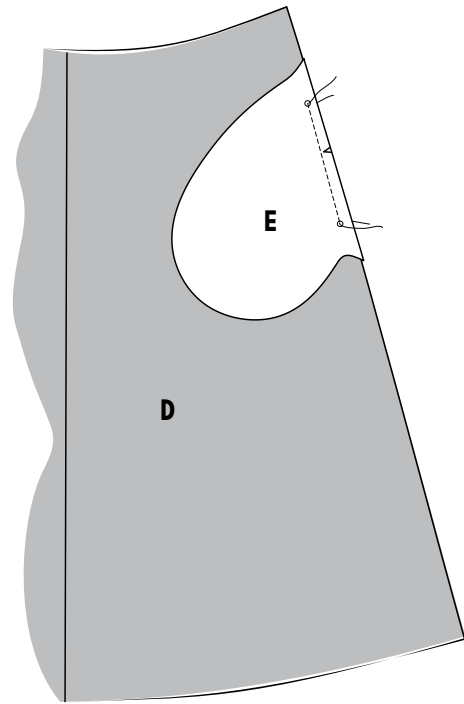


ATTACH POCKETS TO SKIRT BACK

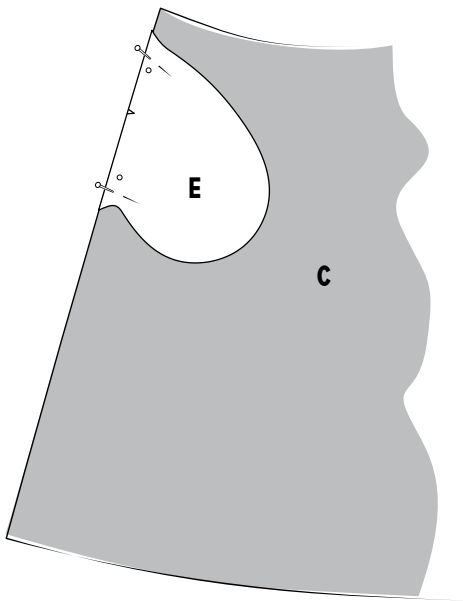


1. Finish both edges of each side seam on the **skirt back (D)** unit.
2. Finish the straight edges of two **pocket (E)** pieces.
3. Place one **pocket (E)** piece, wrong side up, on the right side of the **skirt back (D)**. Align the small circles and notches.

4. Stitch between the two circles at $\frac{3}{8}$ " along the side seam from the top to the bottom of the **pocket (E)** pieces.
5. Repeat steps 3 - 4 to attach the second **pocket (E)** piece to the opposite side of **skirt back (D)**.

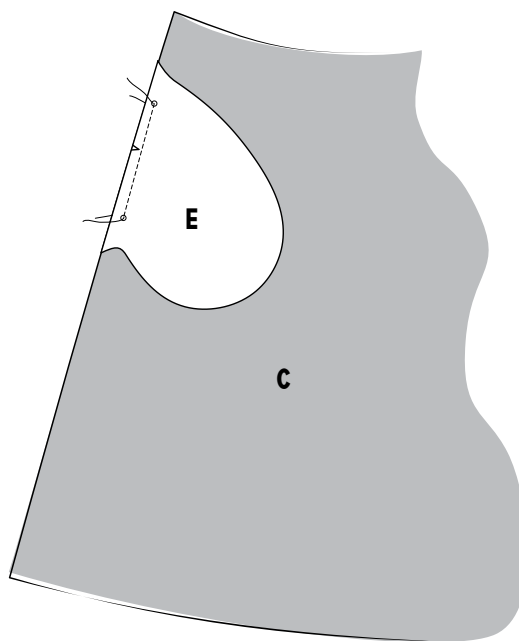


ATTACH POCKETS TO SKIRT FRONT

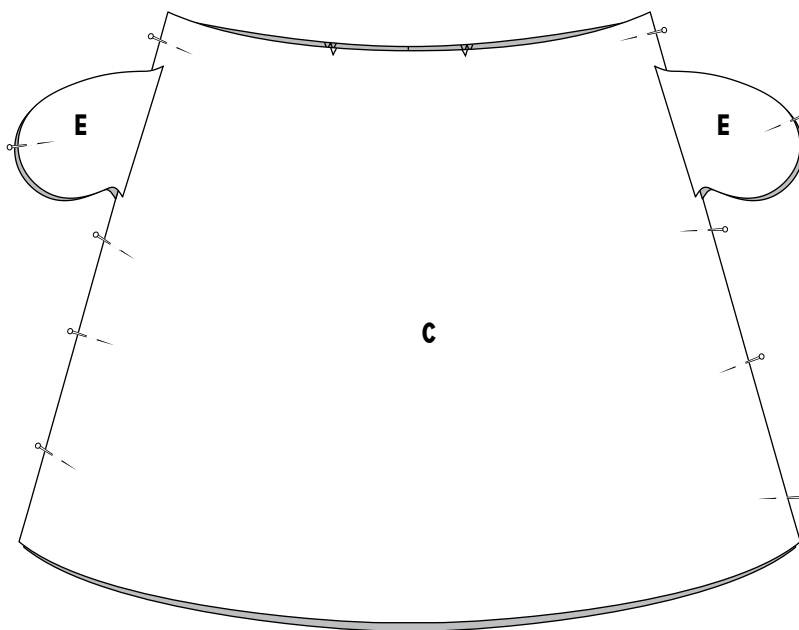


1. Finish both edges of each side seam on the **skirt back (D)** unit.
2. Finish the straight edges of two **pocket (E)** pieces.
3. Place one **pocket (E)** piece, wrong side up, on the right side of the **skirt front (C)**. Align the small circles and notches.

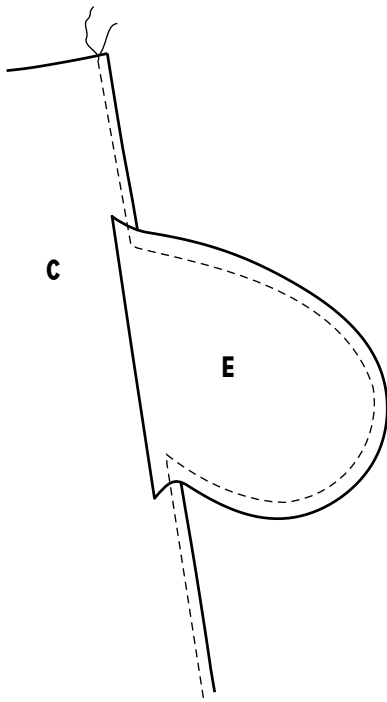
4. Stitch between the two circles at $\frac{3}{8}$ " along the side seam from the top to the bottom of the **pocket (E)** pieces.
5. Repeat steps 3 - 4 to attach another **pocket (E)** piece to the opposite side of **skirt front (C)**.



SEW SIDE SEAMS OF SKIRT

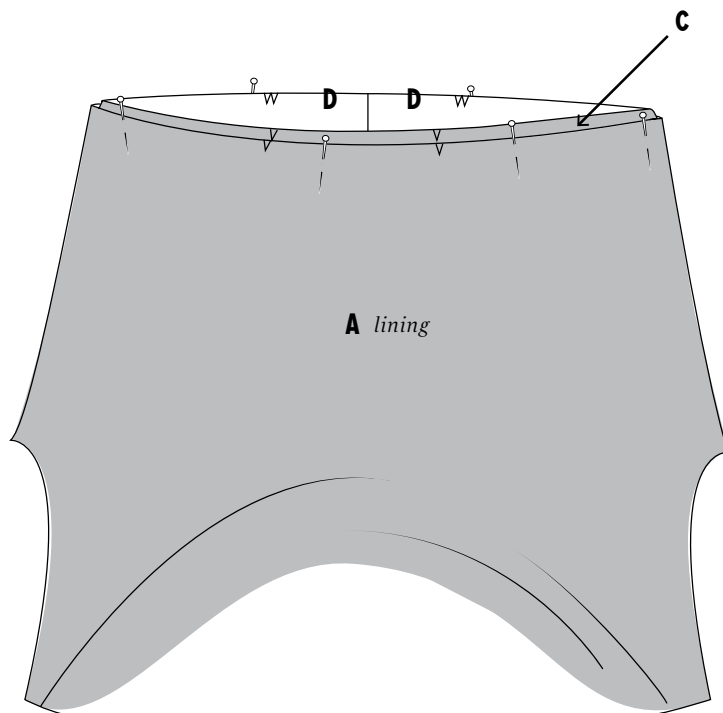


1. With right sides together, match the side seams of the **skirt front (C)** and **skirt back (D)**, aligning the notches and pockets. Pin.



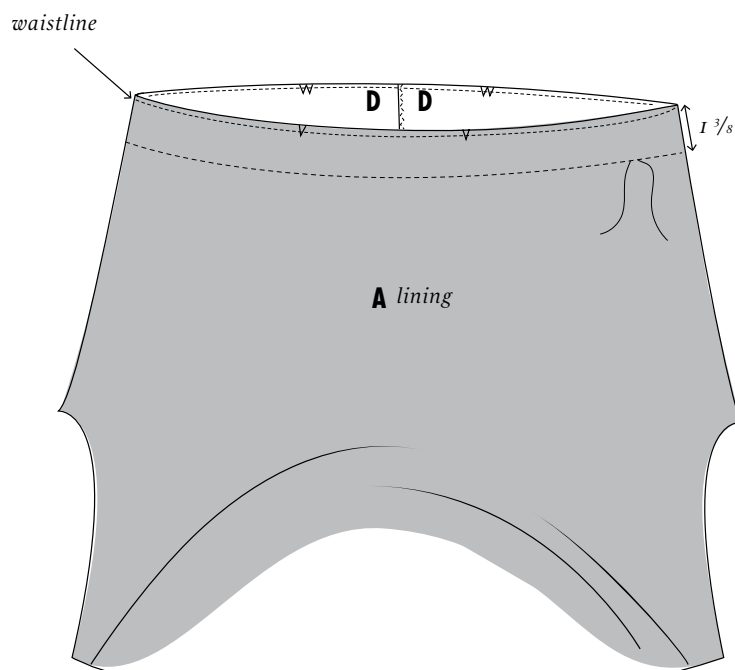
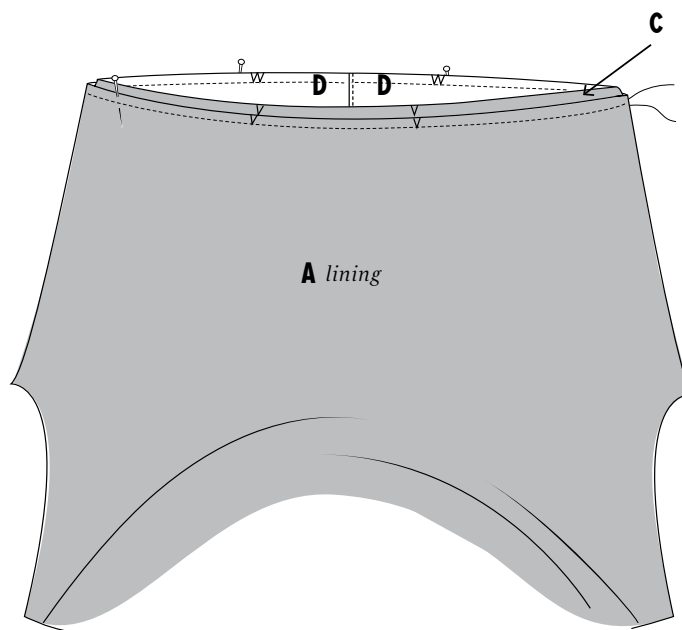
2. Stitch skirt front (C) and skirt back (D) together along the side seams. Stitch in a continuous line around the curve of the pocket and down towards the bottom of the skirt, pivoting at each corner.
3. Press the side seam open.

ATTACH SKIRT TO BODICE

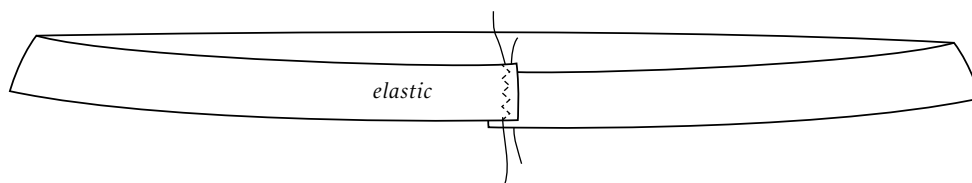


1. With right sides together, align the skirt with the bodice shell, matching the fronts and backs at the waistline and aligning the side seams and the notches. The front bodice shell will now be sandwiched between the bodice lining and skirt. Pin.

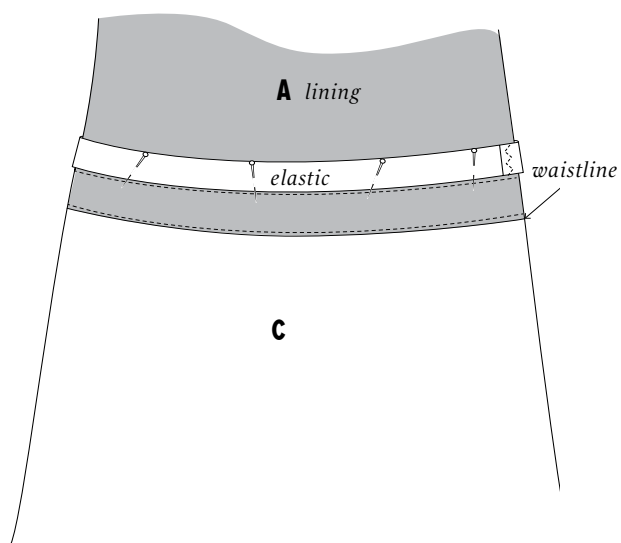
2. Stitch the bodice to the skirt around the waistline. Finish the seam.



3. With the right sides of the bodice shell and skirt together, sew $1\frac{3}{8}$ " away from the waist seamline through all layers of fabric.



1. Measure a length of unstretched elastic to fit around your waist, adding an extra $\frac{3}{8}$ " on each end for seam allowance. Subtract approximately 2"-3" from the total length to create the amount of negative ease desired.
2. Join the elastic into a circle. Overlap $\frac{3}{8}$ " and secure using a zigzag stitch.

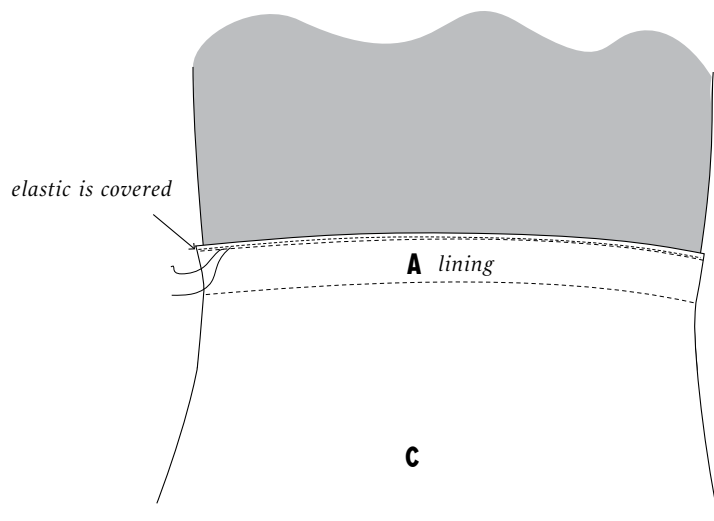
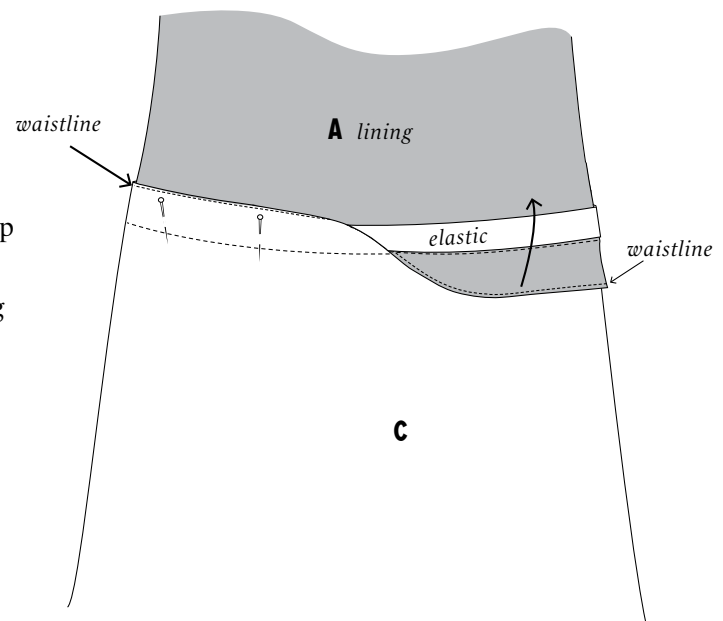


3. Align the edge of the elastic so that it is directly above the line you stitched on the bodice. You will need to stretch the elastic to fit the waist. Pin.

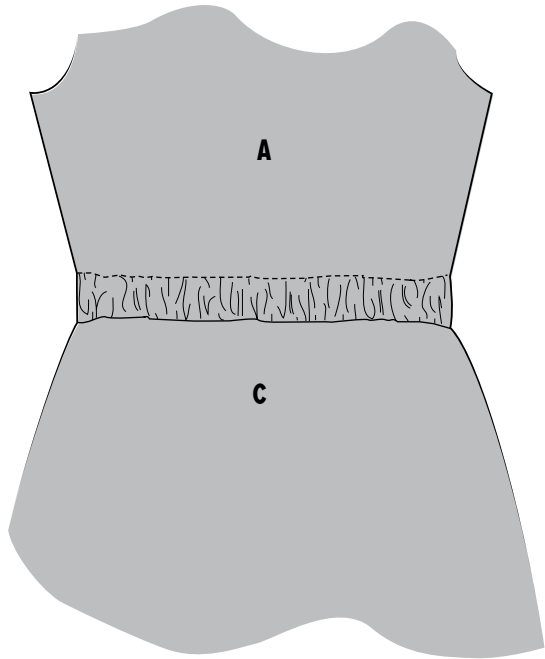
INSTALLING ELASTIC

Our step-by-step video tutorial will show you just how easy it is to create an elastic waistband. Visit: COLETTEPATTERNS.COM/GO/ELASTIC-WAISTBAND

4. Take the $1\frac{3}{8}$ " fold of fabric and fold it up so that it is covering the elastic. Pin the fabric in place at the waistline removing pins from the elastic as you go.

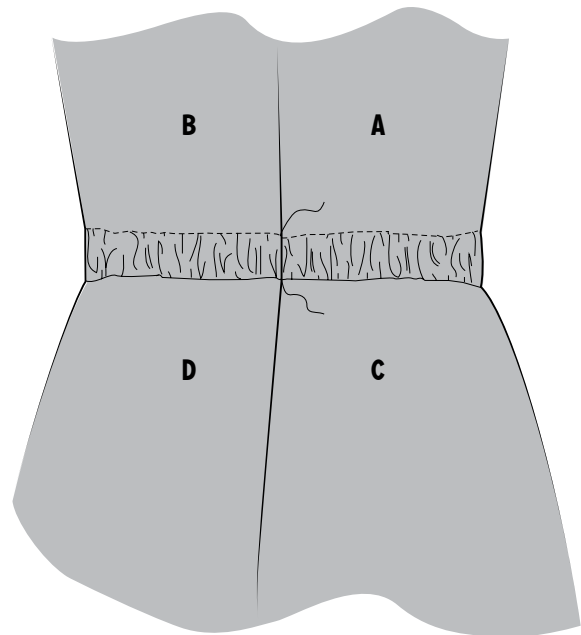


5. The elastic is now completely covered. Edgestitch along the waistline seam allowance to encase the elastic. Be sure not to catch the elastic as you sew.



6. Turn the dress right side out. The elastic is now encased in the waistline. Adjust the elastic and skirt as needed to evenly distribute the gathers across the skirt and bodice.

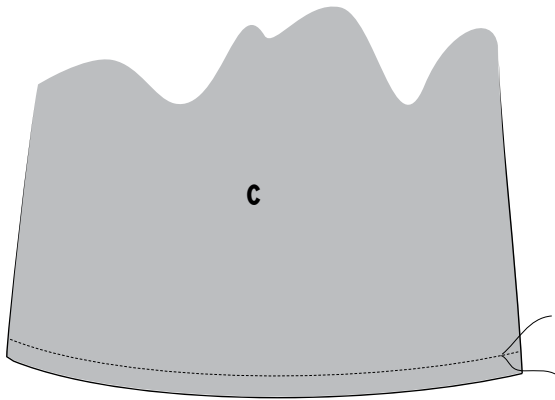
7. Stitch in the ditch at each side seam to secure the elastic.



STITCH IN THE DITCH

Stitching in the ditch is an easy way to secure the waistband in place without the stitch line showing. To do this, simply use a single needle to stitch directly into the seam line.

HEM THE DRESS



1. Press the bottom of the skirt under $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Pin.
2. Press under again at $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Pin.
3. Machine stitch in place.

VERSION 2 SHORT DRESS

FINISH THE SHOULDER TABS



1. Stitch a button to the **shoulder tab (F)** at the button placement mark.
2. Wrap the **shoulder tab (F)** around the shoulder and fasten the button.

GET IDEAS, INSPIRATION, AND HELPFUL HINTS ON OUR BLOG: COLETTERIE.COM

BASTE Long stitches done by hand or machine that temporarily hold fabric in place before sewing. They are removed once the final seam is in place.

CLIP To help flatten a curved seam, snip at even intervals along the inner curve, being careful not to cut into the stitch line.

EASE To sew a longer edge to a shorter edge, resulting in slight fullness. First, stitch two parallel rows using a long stitch length. Next, leave long thread tails: tug to adjust length of longer edge before sewing.

EDGE STITCH Adding a second row of stitches close to the seam line on the right side of the fabric. This is done very close to the stitches of the seam line and on the right side of the fabric.

FINISH SEAM There are many ways to finish a seam or raw edge to get a neat look and prevent fraying. For sturdy fabrics, just trim seams with pinking shears. For lighter fabrics, use a zigzag stitch along the seam. Other methods of finishing include turned-under seams, bound edges, and serged edges.

GATHER To sew a longer edge to a shorter edge, resulting in significant fullness. Use a long stitch length and stitch two rows parallel to each other. Leave long thread tails which can be tugged to adjust ease before you sew.

GRADE SEAM Reducing the bulk in seams that are pressed in a single direction. After the seam is sewn, trim the seam allowance in half. Then, identify which seam allowance will be laying against the fabric once it is pressed, and trim this one in half.

NOTCH The notches on a pattern help align the pattern pieces when you sew them together. Another type of notch is one that is added by the sewist when sewing an outside curved seam. These notches are added by cutting edge shapes into the seam allowance at even intervals, being careful not to cut into the stitching.

**RIGHT SIDE/
WRONG SIDE** The right side of the fabric will show on a finished garment; the wrong side will be on the inside.

STAYSTITCH Stitching that stabilizes a piece of fabric before it is sewn to prevent the edge from being stretched or distorted.

TOPSTITCH Stitching on the outside of a garment that is parallel to, and 1/4-inch from, the seam. Sew through fabric and seam allowance after pressing to help the seam lay flat. Similar to edgestitching, but more noticeable.

UNDERSTITCH Stitching that helps seams lie flat and prevents facings and linings from rolling to the outside of the garment. Press the seam towards your facing, then stitch the facing to the seam, very close to the seam line.

See COLETTEPATTERNS.COM/GO/UNDERSTITCH

