

THE ALBION COMPANION



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INTRODUCTION



“MAKE A TAILORED JACKET OR COAT” is likely to appear on any sewist’s bucket list. Unfortunately, many of us get intimidated and talk ourselves out of actually starting one. Maybe you think next time cold weather approaches you will have better skills, the right tools, or more time. Here are a few reasons we think you need to make one, today:

- 1. You actually need one.** When the weather turns chilly forget about going outside without some extra protection from the elements. Whether it’s a rain resistant jacket for fall and spring, or a cozy and thick winter coat, layering is essential.
- 2. Save money.** Sometimes hand-made garments are more costly than buying off the rack, but high quality coats and jackets truly are more affordable when you make them yourself.
- 3. More wear for your work.** By using the right fabric in combination with durable construction techniques and a little bit of easy tailoring, you can produce a piece of outerwear that lasts an amazingly long time.
- 4. Look stylish.** From jeans and a sweater to a skirt and cozy stockings, a sophisticated coat really pulls an outfit together.
- 5. It’s easier than you think.** No, really! If you have ever made a shirt or a skirt with a lining, you can easily make a jacket or a lined coat.

ABOUT THIS COAT

The Albion coat and jacket serve as a fantastic gateway to the world of outerwear sewing. We gave the body an easy box shape and extended our size range so it fits both men and women. Special details like the three-piece hood, toggle closures, and patch or inseam pockets give it a classic duffel style.

Our goal is not to help you “get through” making one coat or jacket. The skills you learn here will be applicable to many other styles. We hope that by walking you through important construction fundamentals, such as binding seams and installing a lining, you will feel inspired to create a whole collection of jackets and coats.

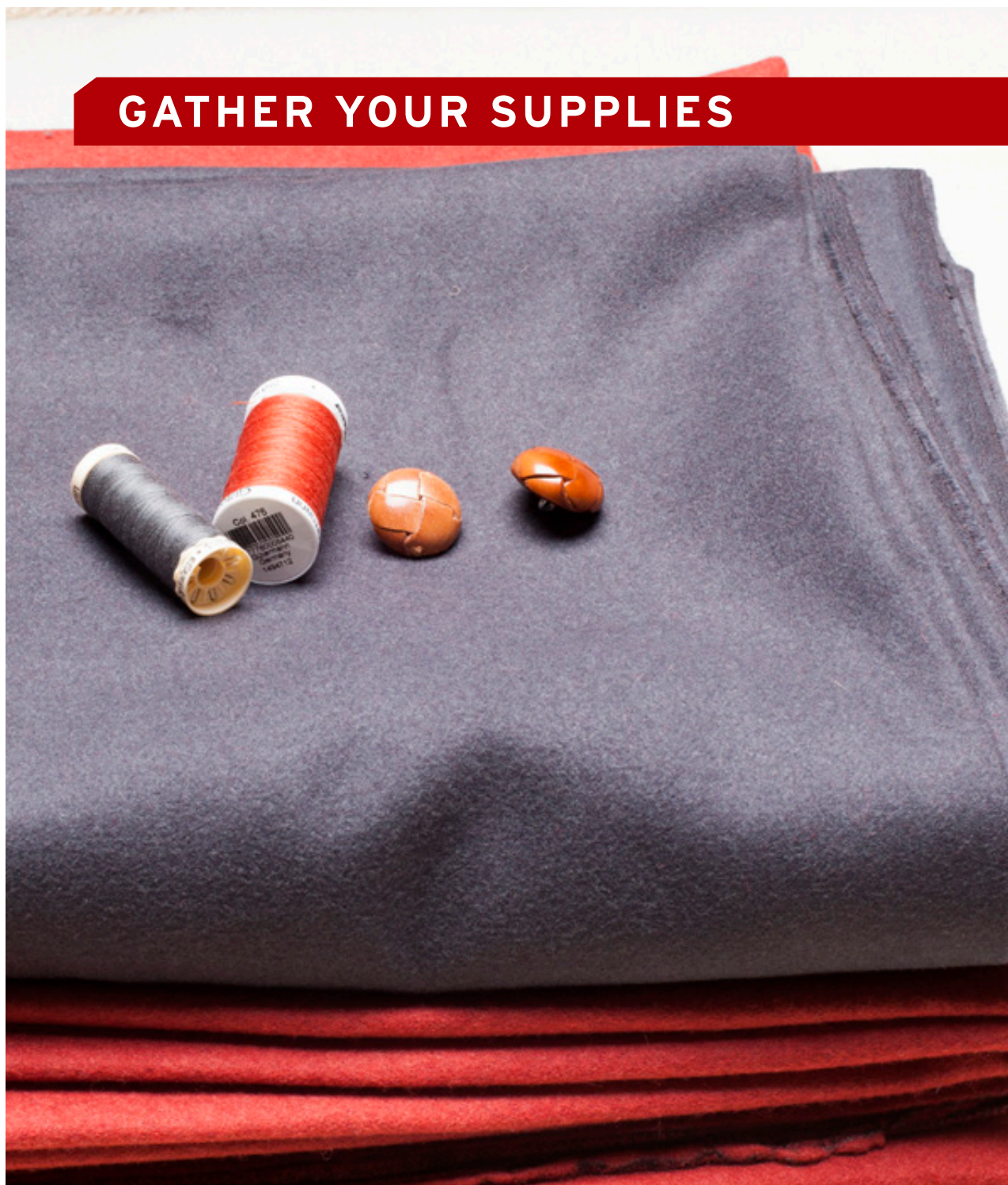
ABOUT THIS BOOK

We like to help people sew.

Though our patterns offer fantastic instructions, we knew there must be more we could do to guide home sewists through their projects. That kind of thinking lead us to start a website where you can join us in sewing projects together at sewalongs.com and to release these companion books.

One of the challenges to sewing is knowing which tools, supplies and techniques to use on any given project. In this book, we will break it all down, from gathering your materials to constructing each Albion variation. Additionally, we will offer up some general sewing tips and resources specific to outerwear, so you’ll feel confident taking on more projects like this in the future. Hopefully by the end, you will see how gratifying sewing your own outerwear can be!

GATHER YOUR SUPPLIES



The good news is that if that if you've already embarked on a few beginner sewing projects you probably have most of the tools you will need on hand for a coat or a jacket. Review the list of necessary and recommended supplies below and use this guide to fill out your toolbox. Then the fun begins; it's time to buy fabric and notions!



TOOLS

- 1. Sewing Shears** - Use sewing shears (also called dressmaker's shears) to cut your fabric. Even if you use a rotary cutter (2) it's a good idea to have these on hand.
- 2. Pinking Shears (Optional)** - Used to finish the edges of your fabric so it won't unravel.
- 3. Rotary Cutter (Optional)** - Not necessary, but it makes cutting your fabric go faster. If you go this route, you'll also need a self-healing mat.
- 4. Point Turner** - A bamboo point turner will help you get sharp points and corners, and also help push out seams so you can press them evenly. You can also use a knitting needle.
- 5. Pins** - You'll want to have a lot of pins on hand. Choose thick pins that won't bend when stuck through multiple layers of thick fabrics.
- 6. Pattern Weights** - Use these to hold the pattern on your fabric while you trace it, or while cutting with a rotary cutter.
- 7. Hand Sewing Needles** - You may be doing some hand stitching, so grab some of these.
- 8. Marking Pens or Chalk** - Choose one that stays put and shows up easily on your fabric, but washes away cleanly.
- 9. Seam Roll (recommended)** - A seam roll helps you to press without the seam allowances showing through. It's also useful for pressing sleeves.
- 10. Tailor's Ham (recommended)** - A tailor's ham is not strictly necessary, but it will make pressing certain parts of the garment much easier.
- 11. Steam Iron (not pictured)** - Pressing is a vital component of sewing, so make sure you have a steam iron and ironing board ready to go.



SUPPLIES

- 1. Main Fabric** - For the coat (Version 1) the first fabric to come to mind is probably wool coating; however a canvas or cotton twill can look just as nice for a heavy coat as it does for a jacket (Version 2). You may also want to research woven performance fleece fabrics which are incredibly soft and warm. The jacket (Version 2) looks great in heavy canvas and cotton twill, as well as soft moleskine.
- 2. Fusible Interfacing (Version 2)** - Choose a weight that will work well with your fabric to give it the right amount of stiffness.
- 3. Lining Fabric (Version 1)** - This is the fabric for the inside of your coat. We highly recommend cotton flannel, which is soft and warm. Choose something that matches, or opt for a fun color or classic print.
- 4. Interlining Fabric (Version 1, Optional)** - Interlining is used to add an extra layer of warmth to coats.
- 5. Test Garment Fabric** - Buy extra muslin so you can make a test garment and fit it before sewing. If you have some inexpensive fabric lying around that more closely matches your main fabric, you could also use that.
- 6. All-Purpose Polyester Thread** - Choose a polyester thread to match your main fabric and a separate spool to match your lining fabric.
- 7. Four Toggles** - Choose any size or shape of toggle you want. You can even try making your own unique toggles with just a few supplies. See step-by-step instructions on p. 51.
- 8. Bias Tape (Version 2)** - Whether you buy it or make it, you can choose either a complimentary or contrasting tape to give the inside of your garment a bit of fun detail.
- 9. 1/4" Shoulder Pads (Version 1, Optional)** - These very thin shoulder pads will help shape the shoulders without adding much bulk.



MAIN FABRIC

- 1. Wool Flannel** - A great weight for the jacket version, but it could be a good option for a lighter coat
- 2. Wool Coating** - A thick wool coating makes the perfect winter coat.
- 3. Heavy Moleskine** - A cotton fabric that is both soft and durable. A heavier weight makes a great jacket fabric.
- 4. Medium to Heavy Cotton Twill** - Look for durable, tightly woven fabrics such as denim, chino, or gabardine.
- 5. Waxed Canvas** - The wax creates a smooth, water-resistant layer and provides the fabric with a unique weathered look.
- 6. Camel Hair** - A luxurious fabric made from (you guessed it) camel's hair. It's natural color is a beautiful warm tan.
- 7. Tweed** - Another durable choice, tweed is known for its heathered appearance. Different colors are woven through-out.
- 8. Heavy water-proof fabrics (not pictured)** - For a rain jacket, look for high-tech performance fabrics that are water-resistant or water-proof.



LINING FABRIC

- 1. Cotton Flannel or Flannelette** - A soft and cozy lining option. Choose a complimentary solid color, or look for a classic plaid pattern for a bit of contrast.
- 2. Light Brushed Twill** - Twill is soft and durable, which makes it a great option for a lining as well as a shell fabric.
- 3. Pre-Quilted Fabrics** - If you need a coat that is guaranteed to keep the cold at bay, consider a heavy weight pre-quilted fabric.
- 4. Waterproof Lining** - If you're not interested in using a water-proof shell fabric, but still want a bit of extra protection from the elements, consider a water-proof lining.
- 5. Faux Fur** - Create an extra warm, snugly lining with faux fur. Keep in mind that a faux fur with a short nap will be easier to work with.
- 6. Interlining** - Use muslin, flannel, or lambswool to add a layer of fabric between your coat shell and the lining for a bit of added warmth.

TECHNIQUES



Before we get started, take the time to review the techniques outlined in this section and study any that you might not be familiar with yet. These skills will help you create a beautiful coat with a sturdy finish that is guaranteed to last for years. You will possess this new and invaluable sewing knowledge long after you've put the finishing touches on your coat.

TOP STITCHING



Topstitching is a straight decorative stitch that serves several purposes. First, it's a quick and easy way to add a professional finish and provide a bit of fun detail, especially if you use a complimentary or contrasting thread color. It will also help your jacket maintain its shape over time, meaning you won't have to constantly press it to keep the corners looking crisp and your linings and shell fabrics in their proper places.



While you can use any thread, for maximum effect use a thicker thread or topstitching thread, which will be more visible on your fabric. To topstitch, slowly stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " next to the seam line.

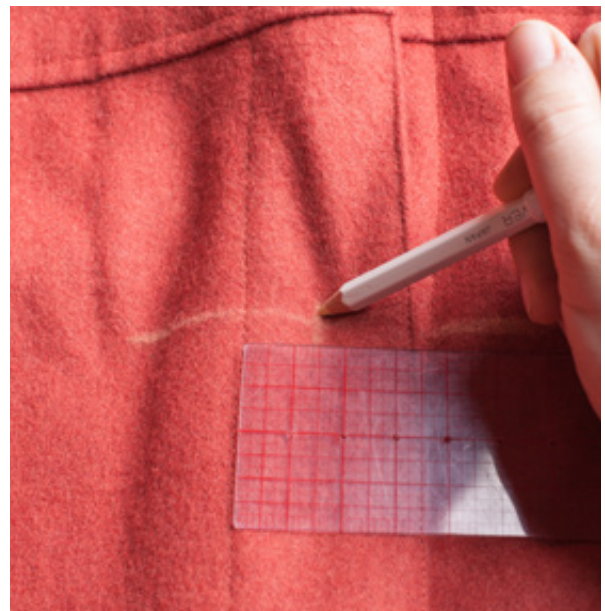


INSTALLING TOGGLES

While installing toggles might seem self-explanatory, it can actually be quite nerve-racking to try and sew all those little leather half-circles without any pinning. The tips below will save you time and make the process much easier the first time around. We highly recommend using topstitching thread and an edgestitching foot for stitching the toggles in place.



1. Lay the coat flat in front of you. Locate the toggle placement lines on the front of the coat.



2. Locate the center of the front extension. This is the point directly in the center between the hood and edge of the extension.



3. Mark the center of the extension at every toggle placement line. This is where your toggle will be aligned. Connect each pair of toggles by slipping the toggle through the loop. Center the toggle over the toggle placement line, making sure that the toggle is on top of the center extension line.

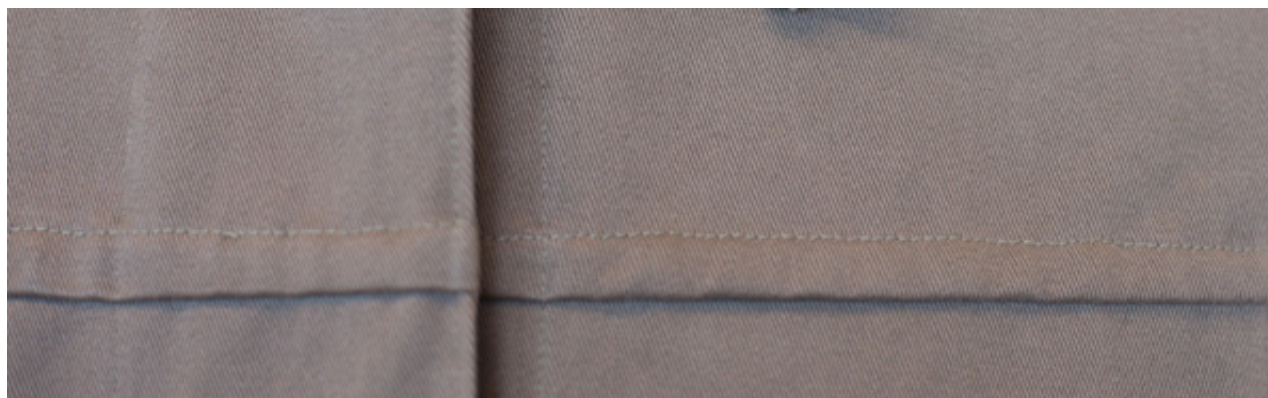


4. Using a marking pen or chalk, trace around each leather tab. Since you can't pin through leather, you will now know where to hold your toggle.



5. Use a leather needle and a long stitch length (3-3.5mm) to stitch the toggle in place.

FLAT-FELLED SEAMS



Flat-felled seams give an attractive finish that looks great on both sides of your garment. There are several ways to flat-fell a seam, but the method below is my favorite.



1. With right sides together, stitch using a $\frac{5}{8}$ " seam allowance.



2. On the back side, trim the seam allowance to $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Trim only the seam allowance on this side.



3. Fold the longer side of the seam allowance over the trimmed side so it aligns with the stitching. Press.



4. Fold the whole seam over and press towards the back. Edgestitch the seam to the back.



Binding seams to finish them is a great way of adding an attractive bit of complimentary or contrasting color to the inside of your garment. Purchase your bias tape, or make your own by following our tutorial on page 18.

We will go over two ways of binding seams; bound open and bound closed. Keep in mind that binding will add some bulk to your garment, so plan accordingly.

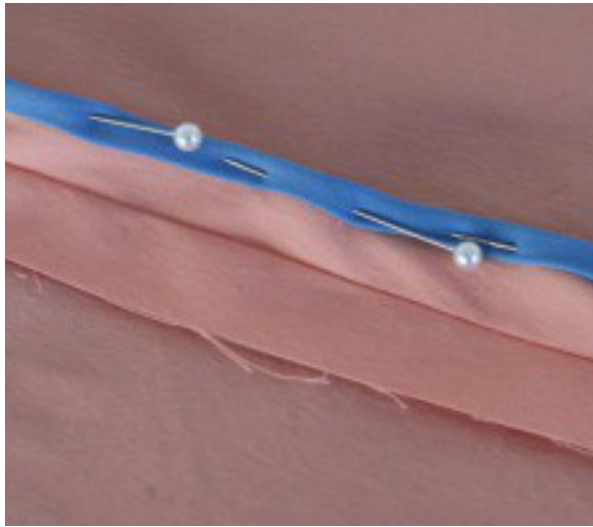
BOUND SEAMS - BOUND OPEN



1. Sew the seam as you would normally.



2. Press the seam open.



- 3.** Pin a strip of bias binding to one of the seam allowances. Press the seam allowance to one side of the garment.



- 4.** Sew the bias binding, being sure the binding is sewn on the back side.
- 5.** Follow steps 3 and 4 for the opposite seam allowance.



- 6.** Press the seam open.

BOUND SEAMS - BOUND TOGETHER



1. Stitch the seams together as you normally would. Press the seam allowance open.



2. Pin the bias tape to the seam allowance. Fold the bias tape in half to cover the raw edges of the seam allowance.



3. Sew the bias binding. Make sure that the back of the bias tape is being sewn down as you go. Once the seam is finished, press it to one side and you're done!



MAKE YOUR OWN BIAS TAPE

While you can always purchase bias tape, making your own means that you can match the bias tape to your shell fabric, or incorporate a cool pattern or color that might not be available in stores. Below I'll show you two different methods for making bias tape: piecing or continuous loop.

CHOOSING FABRIC

For making your own bias tape, you can use your main fabric, or choose a contrasting fabric. If you use a print and want it to be recognizable, we suggest choosing a print with a small scale. Since the binding is only $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide when fully folded, large patterns will be lost and end up looking a little blobby and random.

If you are using your main fabric, you can usually use leftover scraps after cutting your main pieces. To be on the safe side, buy an extra $\frac{1}{4}$ yard of fabric.



DOUBLE FOLD VS. SINGLE FOLD

Generally, bias tape comes in two different varieties: single fold and double fold. Single fold is often used in a way similar to a facing. Double fold can also be used as a binding. For this project, you will be using double fold.



A single strip of one inch bias tape can be used to make $\frac{1}{2}$ " single fold binding, or $\frac{1}{4}$ " double fold binding.

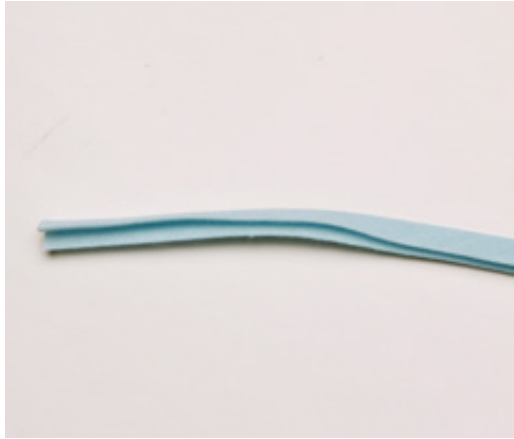


With single fold binding, the lengthwise edges are turned in once and pressed. This is often used as a facing or otherwise stitched flat.



Double fold binding is folded in half once again. This is used to bind edges, but can also be used as a facing, particularly around tight curves.

MAKING BIAS TAPE: THE PIECING METHOD



The first method we're going to go over is the piecing method. This method is good for beginners, since it's easy to grasp if you're new to this process. Another plus is that you can use a rectangle of fabric to make your tape, rather than an even square. This can help you conserve fabric and use odd pieces. The downside is that it takes quite a bit more time than the continuous loop method shown next.

HOW MUCH FABRIC?

You'll be starting with a rectangle of fabric. Multiply the length and width of the square to get the area. Divide that number by the width of the bias strips you will cut.

For example, for all of the projects here, we will be cutting 1 inch strips, which will then be folded to $\frac{1}{2}$ " or $\frac{1}{4}$ ". If we begin with a 10" by 20" rectangle of fabric, we will have 200 square inches in area. If we divide that by 1 (the width of our strips), we find that we will end up with about 200 total inches of bias tape.

Here's a chart showing a few sizes that would produce various lengths of bias tape. You may want to err on the side of making slightly more, since you will often want to discard the small corners and trim ends. Remember, there are many different sizes of rectangles that will work, as long as you have at least the total area. You can also use multiple small rectangles.

SUPPLIES

- 1 rectangle of fabric (see chart)
- 1 pair of sharp sewing shears
- water soluble fabric marker
- pencil or chalk
- ruler
- Clover bias tape marker in $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch size (optional)

SIZE OF FABRIC	TOTAL AREA	LENGTH OF 1 INCH BIAS TAPE
8 in. x 9 in.	72 sq. in.	2 yards
10 in. x 11 in.	108 sq. in.	3 yards
12 in. x 12 in.	144 sq. in.	4 yards
14 in. x 13 in.	180 sq. in.	5 yards
18 in. x 10 in.	180 sq. in.	5 yards
19 in. x 19 in.	361 sq. in.	10 yards



- 1.** Cut out your rectangle of fabric, making sure you cut straight along the grain.



- 2.** Find the bias. To do this, fold your fabric diagonally at a corner so that the two edges meet. Press to form a crease.



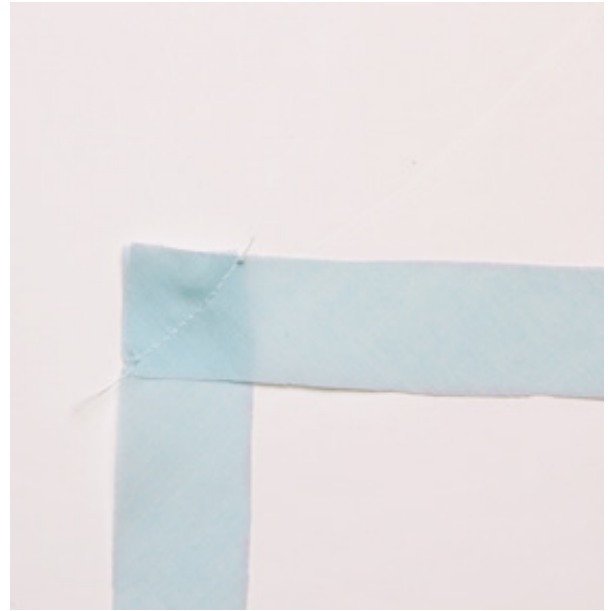
- 3.** Using a water soluble fabric marker, pencil, or chalk, measure diagonal lines 1 inch from each other, beginning at the crease. As you get close to the corners, you'll find the strips getting very short. It's usually best to discard these corners rather than sew such short strips together.



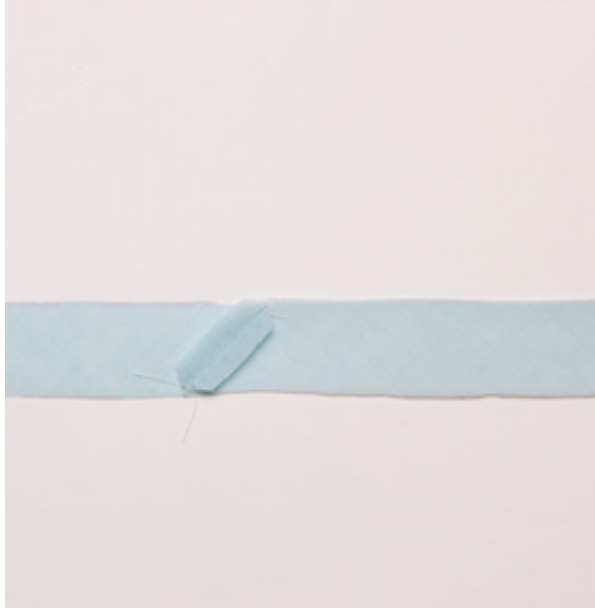
- 4.** Cut the 1" strips along the lines you just drew.



5. Lay the strips flat and trim the pointed ends, so that they form 90 degree angles at each end.



6. With right sides together, place the end of one strip perpendicular to another. Sew diagonally from the corner, as shown. Continue sewing all the strips together to form one long piece.



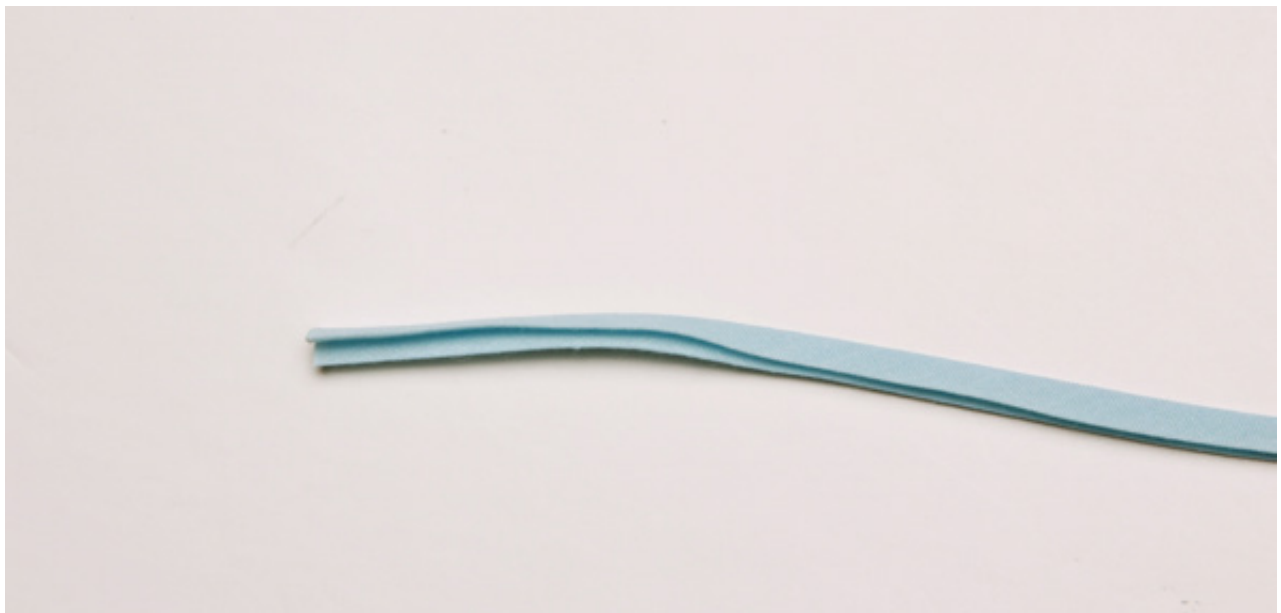
7. Trim the corners of the seam allowance off to form $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowances. Press the seams open.



8. Insert an end of the tape into the Clover bias tape maker, which folds the edges in while you press.



- 9.** An alternate method for pressing bias tape is to fold the edges in at the beginning of the strip so they meet in the middle and press flat. Place a pin in your ironing board cover, pinning over the pressed portion of the tape, as shown. Pull the tape under the pin as you press. The pin will help fold in the edges without burning your fingers.



- 10.** To make double fold bias tape, fold the $\frac{1}{2}$ " bias tape in half lengthwise again and press.

MAKING BIAS TAPE: THE CONTINUOUS LOOP METHOD



The continuous loop method of making bias tape is our preferred method, since it's much faster. It may feel a little tricky the first time you try it, but once you get the hang of it you'll be busting out the custom bias tape left and right.

HOW MUCH FABRIC?

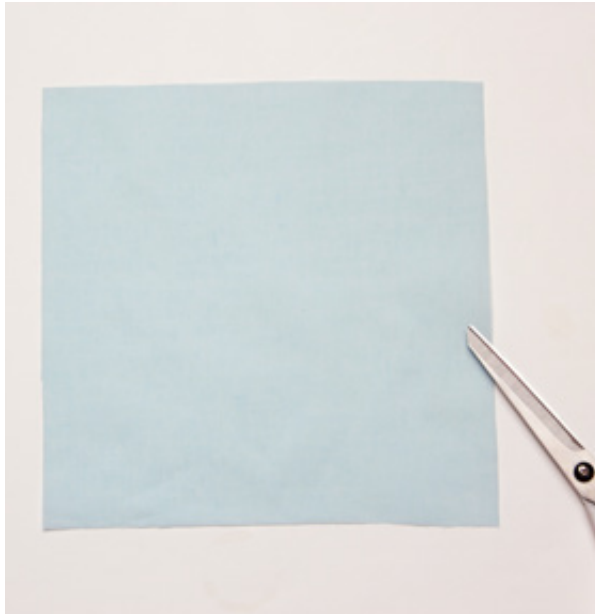
Unlike with the piecing method previously shown, you will need an exact square of fabric to use this method. Again, you can calculate the area of the square and divide it by the width of the bias strips to get an approximate size. Here's a handy chart to give you an approximate idea of how much fabric you'll need for various projects in this book.

Depending on your fabric, you may wish to cut your bias tape from one big square or two smaller squares. If you cut two lengths of bias tape from two different squares, you can simply piece them together once they're cut and before you press, using the piecing method. These err on the side of making slightly more than you'll need, since often you will need to discard the corners or trim a bit off the ends.

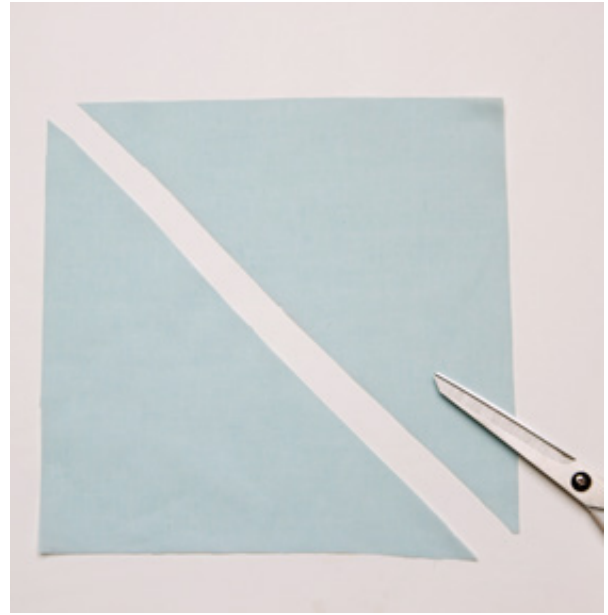
SUPPLIES

- 1 rectangle of fabric (see chart)
- 1 pair of sharp sewing shears
- water soluble fabric marker
- pencil or chalk
- ruler
- Clover bias tape maker in 1/2-inch size (optional)

SIZE OF FABRIC (ONE SQUARE)	SIZE OF FABRIC (TWO SQUARES)	LENGTH OF 1 INCH BIAS TAPE
9 in. square	two 7 in. squares	2 yards
11 in. square	two 8 in. squares	3 yards
13 in. square	two 9 in. squares	4 yards
14 in. square	two 10 in. squares	5 yards
19 in. square	two 14 in. squares	10 yards



- 1.** Cut a square of fabric out, using the chart to measure out the correct size. Be sure to cut straight along the grain.



- 2.** Draw a diagonal line from one corner to the opposite using a ruler. Cut along the line.



- 3.** Pin the two triangles together along the straight grain as shown. Some people say that this looks like a tiny pair of pants, which may help you remember how it goes.



- 4.** Stitch along this seam, using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.



- 5.** Press the seam open. You should now have a parallelogram.



- 6.** Beginning at the edge, mark straight lines 1" apart using a ruler and water-soluble fabric marker, pencil, or chalk. Mark on the wrong side of the fabric.



- 7.** Fold the edge of the fabric in with right sides together to form something resembling a square.



- 8.** Once folded, offset the 1st row and pin in place. Then, match up the following lines while pinning in place with right sides together. Be sure to match the lines at the seamline, $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edges, not at the raw edges. Stitch, using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, and press open.



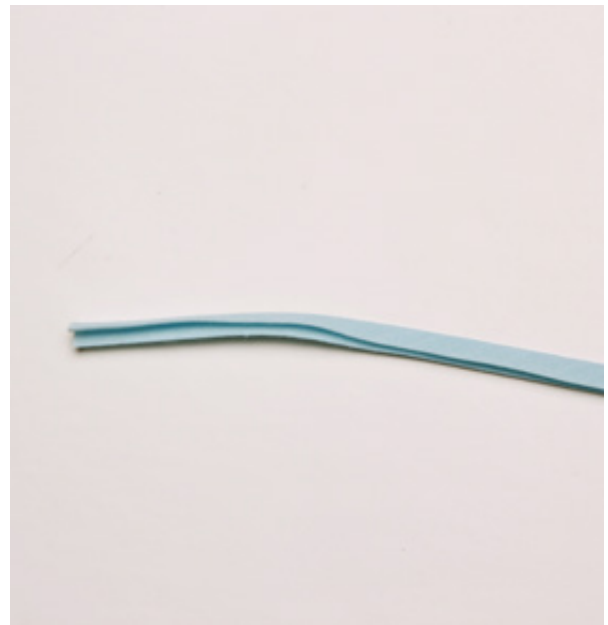
- 9.** Begin cutting along the lines, beginning at the first offset row. You should now have one continuous length of bias tape.



- 10.** Insert an end of the tape into the Clover bias tape maker, which folds the edges in while you press.



- 11.** An alternate method for pressing bias tape is to fold the edges in at the beginning of the strip so they meet in the middle and press flat. Place a pin in your ironing board cover, pinning over the pressed portion of the tape, as shown. Pull the tape under the pin as you press. The pin will help fold in the edges without burning your fingers.



- 12.** To make double fold bias tape, fold the $\frac{1}{2}$ " bias tape in half lengthwise again and press.

FITTING AND TAILORING

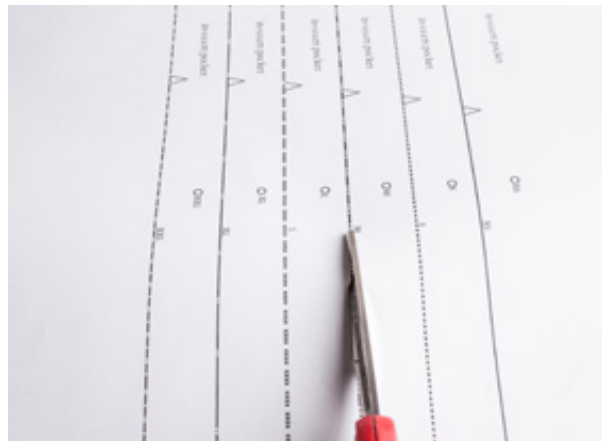


Fitting is where a lot of us face the most difficulty. Fortunately, since Albion is a simple shape you have fewer areas to worry about than with a body skimming coat or jacket. We'll guide you through fitting Albion for both men and women, as well as show you how to make any necessary pattern alterations. You may need to make more than one test garment to get the fit just right.

MAKE A TEST GARMENT

CHOOSE YOUR SIZE

Before cutting your pattern, you'll need to determine the right size. Take a look at the measurement chart for Albion. The most important thing when fitting a jacket or coat is that it fits your shoulders. Because of this, you should choose a size based on your chest measurement. Carefully measure the full circumference of your bust (for women) or the widest part of the chest (for men). Use that to pick the best size for your test garment.



CUT YOUR MUSLIN

Next, cut a test garment from muslin or another inexpensive fabric. A cheap canvas also works well for a coat. You don't need to cut the lining, pockets, or tabs. Just cut the yokes, front, back, sleeve pieces. Transfer all the markings from the pattern.



MACHINE BASTE

Stitch the muslin together. First staystitch the neckline of your muslin. Using a basting stitch, stitch the yokes to the front and back body pieces. Assemble the hood and stitch to the neckline. Join the shoulder and side seams. Next, assemble the sleeves by stitching the lower sleeve to the upper sleeve. Install the sleeves into the armholes.

Press the exposed seam allowances under $\frac{5}{8}$ ". Baste in place.



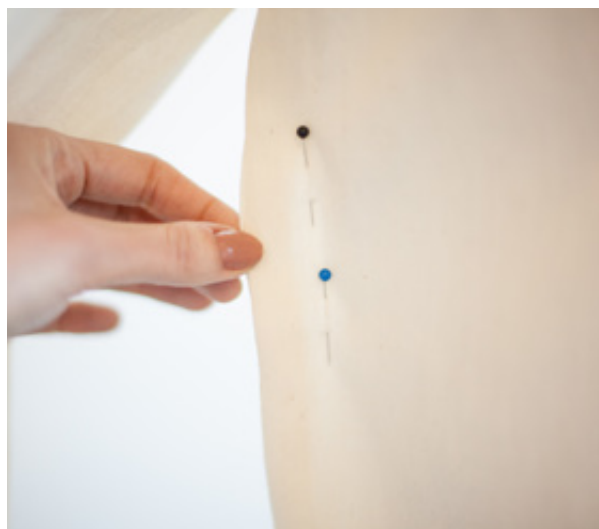
CHECKING THE FIT

Now we are going to check for any fitting issues and correct them before you cut into your real fabric. Try the test garment on over an outfit that you think you will be wearing with the coat. If possible, have a friend or family member help you look for any issues. Use a mirror (or multiple mirrors)!

Don't just stand in one place. Walk around, sit in a chair, bend and straighten your arms. Give someone a hug! It's a great way to test the fit at the shoulders and back and make sure your arms move freely

If an area is too large, pin out any excess fabric. If it's too tight, slash the fabric open. Don't be afraid to cut up your muslin.

If the jacket feels too big or too small everywhere you may need to cut a larger or smaller size. If you're making a lined coat keep in mind that the final garment will be made from multiple layers of fabric, so it will feel much more snug. Err on the side of feeling loose.

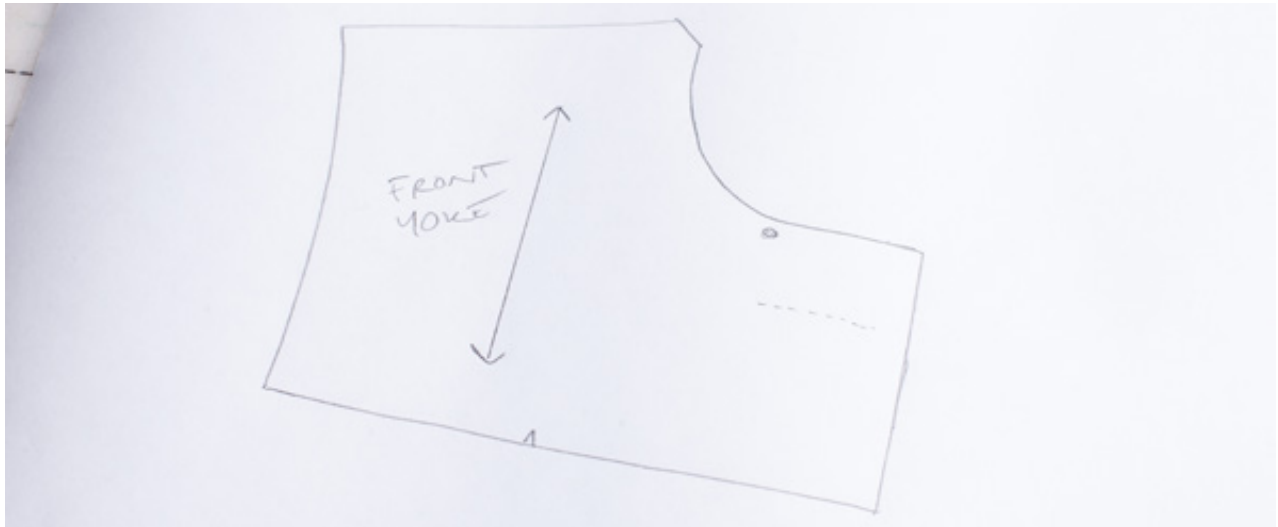


Measure areas you pinned out or slashed to see how big any adjustments need to be. If you have one or more trouble spots, have a look below at our guides to fitting for men and women to determine the best way to tweak your pattern.

The instructions that follow assume a little familiarity with adjusting patterns. If you've never modified a pattern before, you should still be able to follow along. If you're interested in a basic primer on common pattern adjustments, check out the chapter on fitting in *The Colette Sewing Handbook*.

ADJUST THE PATTERN

TRACE THE PATTERN



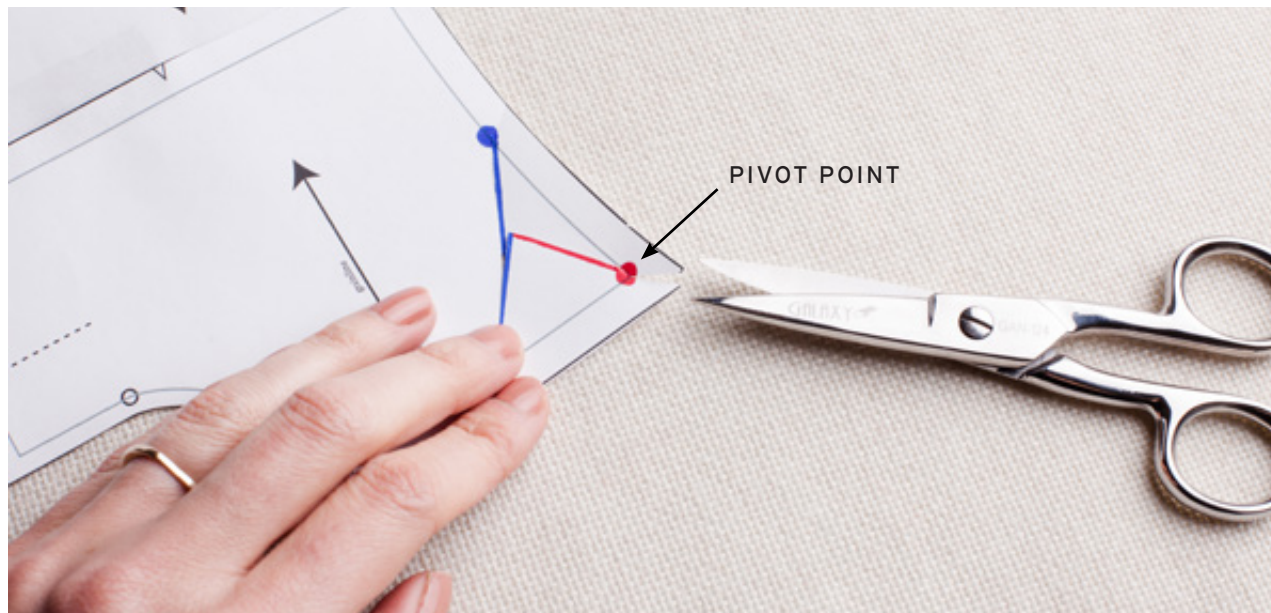
When making adjustments, it's always a good idea to trace the pieces you'll be modifying onto fresh paper, so you don't need to cut up your pattern. You will notice in the photos that follow that the seam allowances are drawn in with grey lines. You'll want to draw them in on your pattern as well. To save time, you don't need to draw them in on the entire pattern. For example, if you know you'll only be adjusting a side seam and a shoulder seam, simply draw the seam allowances in those particular areas.

TAPE THE PATTERN PIECES TOGETHER

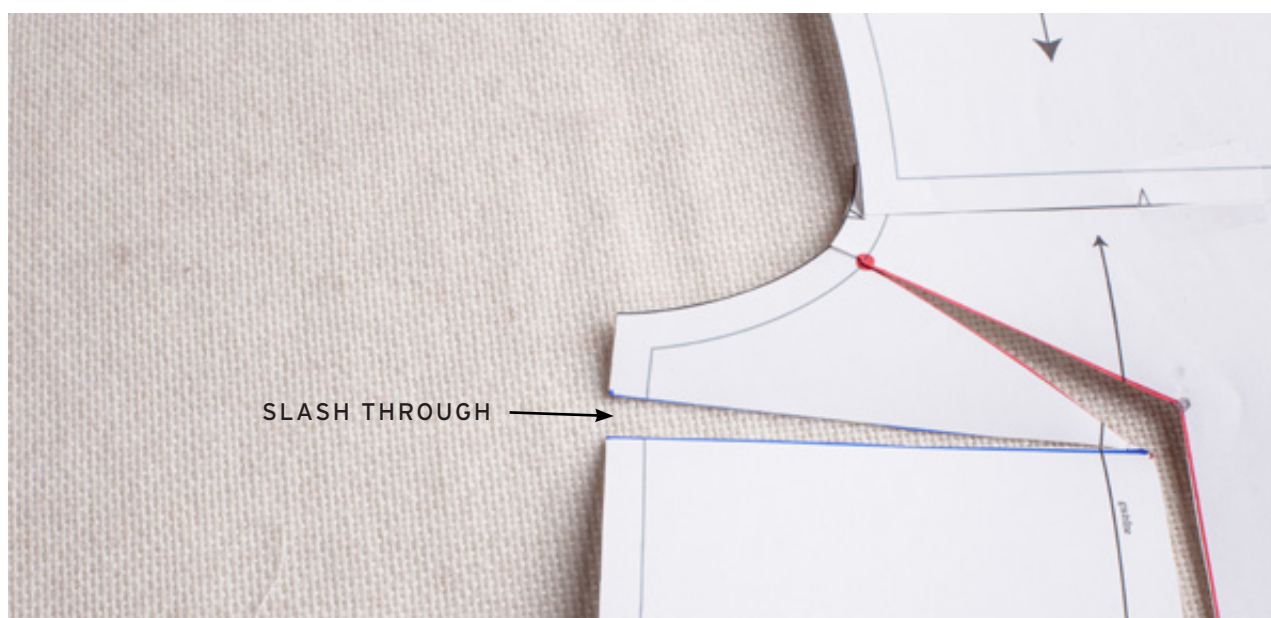


For some adjustments, you may sometimes need to tape the front yoke to the front body and the back yoke to the back body along the yoke seam lines. Be sure to align the seam lines, not the edges of the piece).

PIVOTING



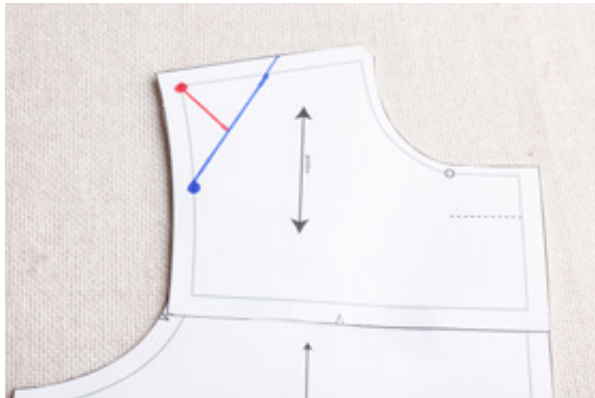
The techniques I'll show you mainly involve pivoting a pattern at a certain point on the seamline. I'll refer to these as "pivot points." These act like little hinges, allowing you to modify the pattern without disrupting the length of the seam. When I instruct you to draw a pivot point, make a little dot on the seamline. Slash up to that point, but not through it. Then clip the seam allowance, also up to the point but not through it. You now have a little hinge for pivoting your pattern around.



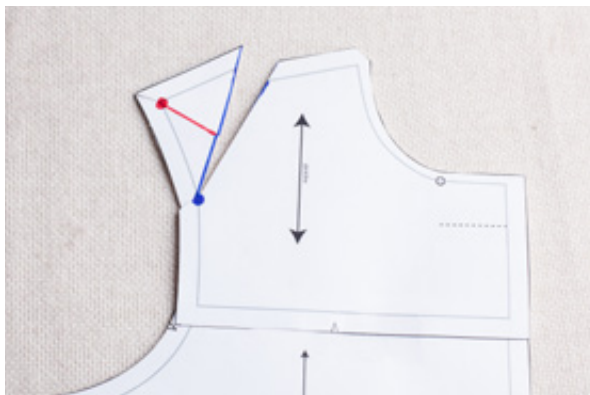
Other times, you will actually need to alter a seam. In this case, there will be no pivot point, and you can slash right through the seam allowance.

PROBLEM: WIDE SHOULDERS

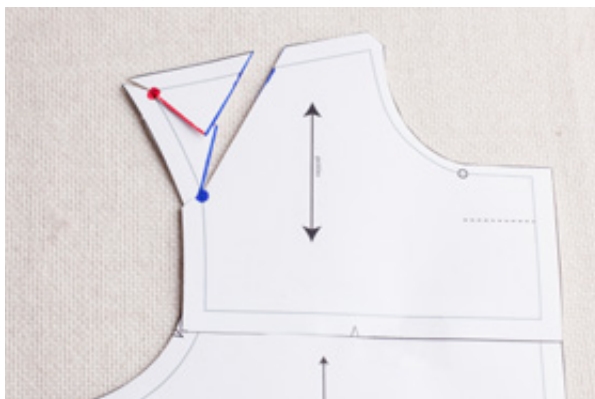
The shoulder is the point from where your coat or jacket hangs, making it the most important part of the jacket to fit for a man since it affects the way the rest of the garment falls. If you have wide shoulders, you may notice that the coat feels tight across the back. In front, you might see pulling at the upper chest and the armholes pulling towards each other. To adjust this, we'll modify the front and back.



1. On the front yoke, draw a pivot point at the low shoulder (red dot), and another along the armhole (blue dot). Draw a line from the armhole point towards the middle of the shoulder (blue line). Draw another line from the first line to the low shoulder pivot point (red line).



2. Slash the lines up to the pivot points and clip into the seam allowances.
3. Pivot the blue line outward to make the shoulder wider.

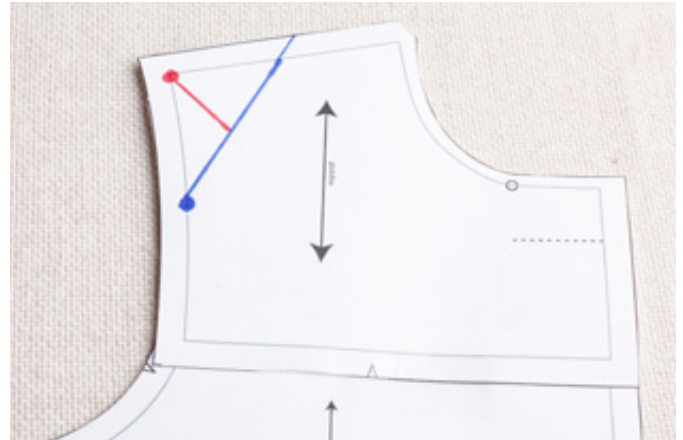


4. Pivot the red line inward to realign the shoulder seam.
5. Repeat steps 1-4 for the back shoulder. For version 1, adjust lining pieces to match.

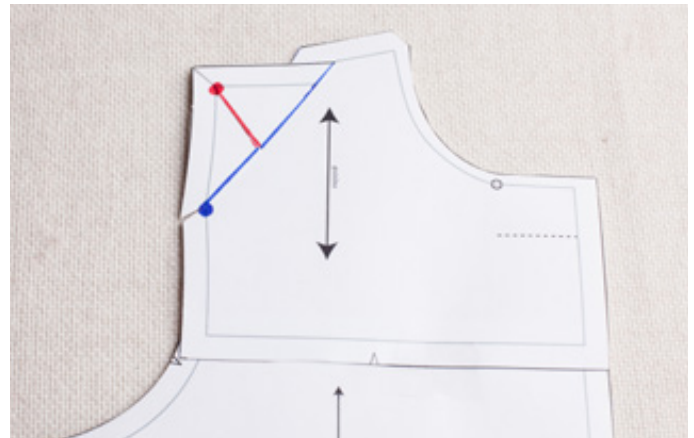
PROBLEM: NARROW SHOULDERS

Some men (and many women) may need to adjust the coat for narrower shoulders. If you find the armholes sitting away from your body and the top of the armhole slipping off your shoulder, try this adjustment.

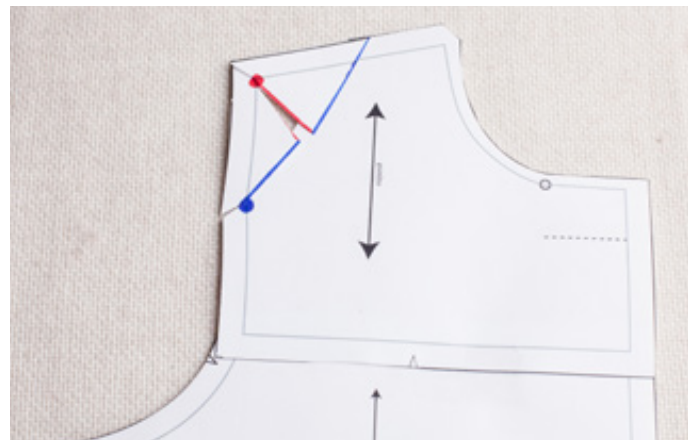
1. Draw a pivot point at the low shoulder (red dot), and another along the armhole (blue dot). Draw a line from the armhole point towards the middle of the shoulder (blue line). Draw another line from the first line to the low shoulder pivot point (red line).



2. Slash the lines up to the pivot points and clip into the seam allowances.
3. Pivot the blue line inward to make the shoulder narrower.



4. Pivot the red line outward to realign the shoulder seam.
5. Repeat steps 1-4 for the back shoulder. For version 1, adjust lining pieces to match.



PROBLEM: ARM LENGTH

Arm length varies greatly from person to person. This small detail can make or break the fit of the jacket, but it's a very easy fix.



1. Locate the “lengthen or shorten here” line on the **upper sleeve (N)** and **lower sleeve (M)**.

2. Slash the pattern across these lines.



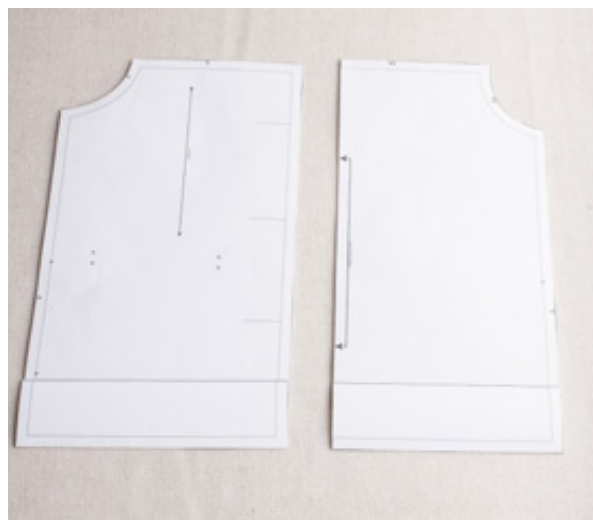
3. To lengthen, spread the pattern apart by the amount of length you'd like to add. To shorten, overlap the pieces. Tape and retrace.

PROBLEM: OVERALL LENGTH



1. Locate the “lengthen or shorten here” line on the **front body (B)** and **back body (C)** pieces.

2. Slash the pattern across these lines.

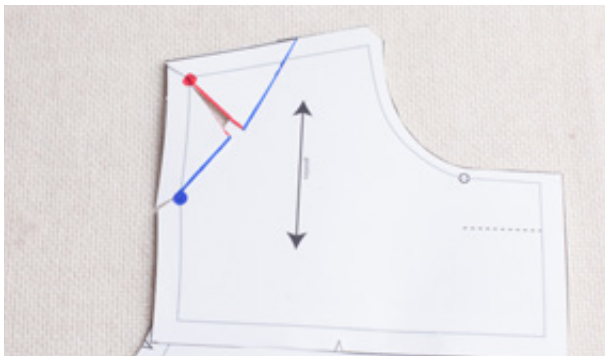


3. To lengthen, spread the pattern apart by the amount of length you’d like to add. To shorten, overlap the pieces. Tape and retrace.
4. For version 1, adjust the lining in the same way.

FITTING AND PATTERN ADJUSTMENTS FOR WOMEN

PROBLEM: NARROW SHOULDERS

Since this pattern is designed for men, you will find that this is the point that you will need to make the most adjustments, since men's shoulders tend to be much broader than women's.



To adjust the shoulders, follow the same instructions on p. 33 for men.

PROBLEM: WAIST DEFINITION



1. Locate the bust line, waistline, and hip line on your muslin. To do this, try on the muslin and measure the coat from the high shoulder point (the point on the shoulder seam closest to your neck) to the apex of your bust, to your waist, and to the widest point on your hips.



2. Transfer the bustline, waistline, and hipline locations to your pattern on both the front and back.

3. Draw a point on your waistline indicating how far you would like to reduce the waist at the side seam.



4. Using a curved ruler, draw a new curve, tapering toward the bust line and hip line.



5. Trim at the waist, maintaining your $\frac{5}{8}$ " seam allowance.
6. For version 1, adjust the lining in the same way.



PROBLEM: ARM LENGTH

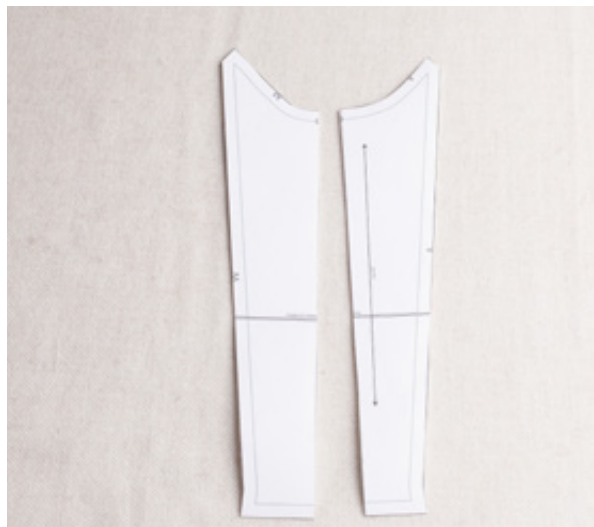
Men tend to have longer arms than women. Fortunately, this is a quick and easy adjustment to make.



To adjust the arm length, follow the same instructions on p. 35 for men.

PROBLEM: SMALLER ARMS

Having too much volume in your sleeves can make your entire garment appear much larger than it actually is. Be aware that using bulkier fabric and adding a lining will take up some of the extra ease you see in your muslin. Also, if you plan to wear heavier clothing like sweaters beneath your jacket or coat, be sure to leave enough room for that by trying your muslin over similar clothing.



1. Draw a lengthwise line down the center of **lower sleeve (M)**. Slash the piece in half along this line.



2. Tape each half of **lower sleeve (M)** to **upper sleeve (N)** along the seam lines. Check the notches to make sure you are taping the back to the back and the front to the front. Your two piece sleeve should now look more like a typical one piece sleeve.



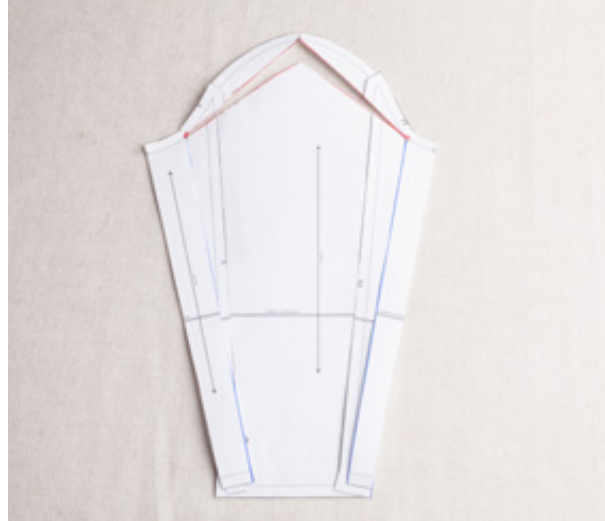
3. Draw a pivot point at the armhole curve of **lower sleeve (N)** on each side, as shown. Draw a line from these points toward the circle marking the top of the sleeve cap (red line).



4. Draw a line from the red circle down to the cuff of the sleeve on each side (blue line).



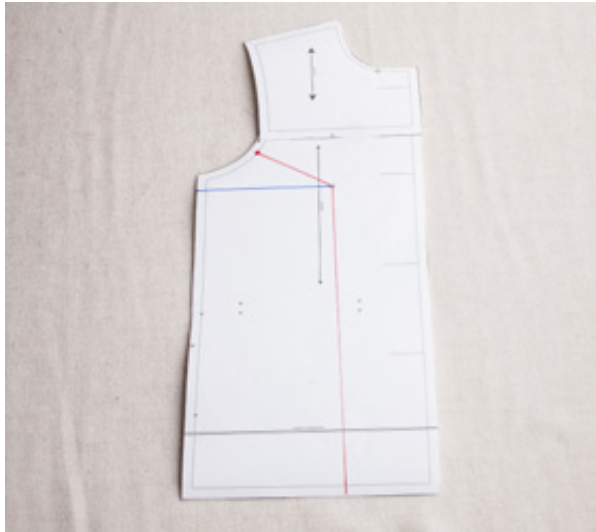
5. Slash the blue line up to the red circle. Turn and slash up to the circle at the top of the sleeve cap. Turn and slash toward the second red circle. Turn once more and slash down the second blue line through the hem. Clip the seam allowance at each red circle and at the circle at the top of the sleeve cap.



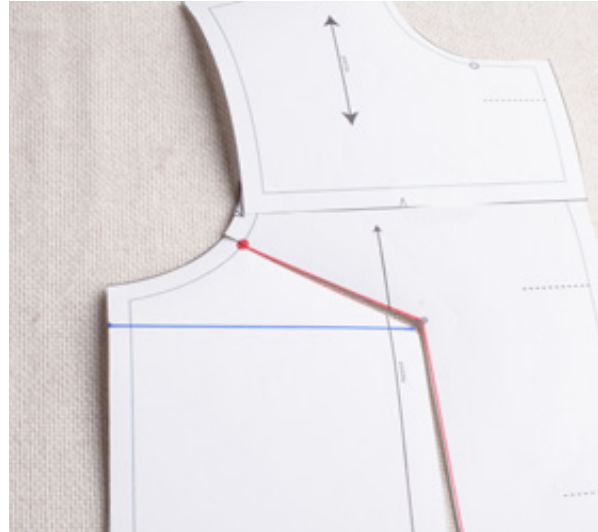
6. Pivot the pattern to raise the height of the sleeve cap, bringing the two red circles closer together. Pivot the sides to maintain their angle with the rest of the sleeve. Your sleeve will now be narrower, with a higher sleeve cap. You do not need to change the armhole.

PROBLEM: FULL BUST

You may find that your muslin fits in the shoulders but seems to strain at the bust. With its boxy cut, there are no darts to adjust here and going up a size might interfere with the fit in other places. In this case, try a full bust adjustment like this one to add more ease through the chest.



1. Draw a pivot point on the underarm portion of the front armhole (red dot). Draw a line from here to the bust apex, then from the apex down through the waist seam (red line). Draw a second line from the apex through the side seam (blue line).



2. Slash the red line from the waist, through the apex, and up to the armhole pivot point. Clip the seam allowance here.



3. Slash the blue line from the side seam toward the apex, leaving a small hinge at the apex. Pivot all the pieces outward, adding the desired width at the bust and keeping the lower portion of the first slash line parallel.



4. Slash from the red line toward the center front. Lower the center front to realign the hem at the bottom.



5. Lengthen the jacket back to match the jacket front at the side seams. Alternately, you can convert the extra length in the front side seam to a bust dart and not lengthen the back. This will be more flattering on a full busted person, but be aware that this will change the style slightly.
6. Adjust the front facing and lining pieces to match.

PROBLEM: TOGGLE PLACEMENT

For many women, the toggle marking is going to hit right at the apex of the bust. This will help control bust gaping, but also may draw attention to that area of the body. If you prefer, you can change the placement of the toggles.

1. With your muslin on, decide where you'd like the chest toggle to be placed. Mark or pin the desired placement.
2. Measure and mark placement of the remaining toggles, so that the toggles are 6 ¹/₄" apart. Transfer new markings to your pattern.



WHEN YOU'RE FINISHED

Now that you've altered your fit and pattern, you may feel like creating another test version. This is entirely up to you and how severe the changes you've made are. For minor changes, you may feel confident moving on to cut your real fabric. For big changes, you may want to give it another test.



Take just a few extra minutes to pay attention to some seemingly small details on your garment and you will have people asking where you bought your coat, not how long it took you to make it. These techniques mainly apply to the lined coat (version 1).

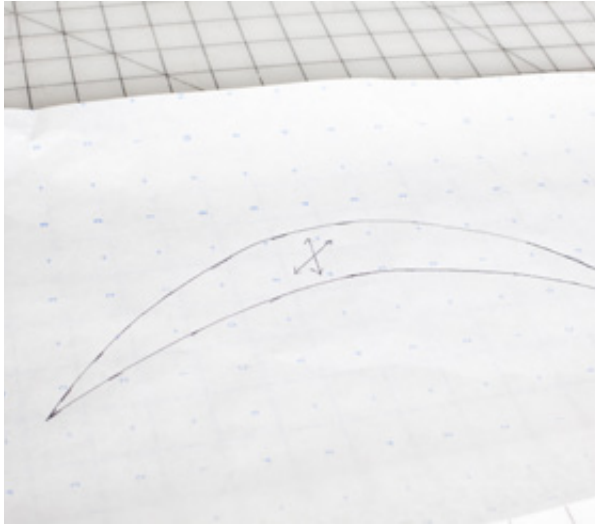
SLEEVE HEADS AND SHOULDER PADS

Sleeve heads are an optional addition, which you can insert before shoulder pads. They will help to structure the armhole of your coat, which you may or may not need depending on your shoulder pad, fabric choice, and your own personal preference. They work especially well for heavier fabrics by preventing the cap of your sleeve from collapsing or dimpling in an unsightly way.

This tutorial will show you how to draft your own from flannel. Some people prefer cotton muslin, fleece, lambswool, or batting. But flannel is easy to find, inexpensive, and works well. Whatever you use, be sure to preshrink your fabric first!

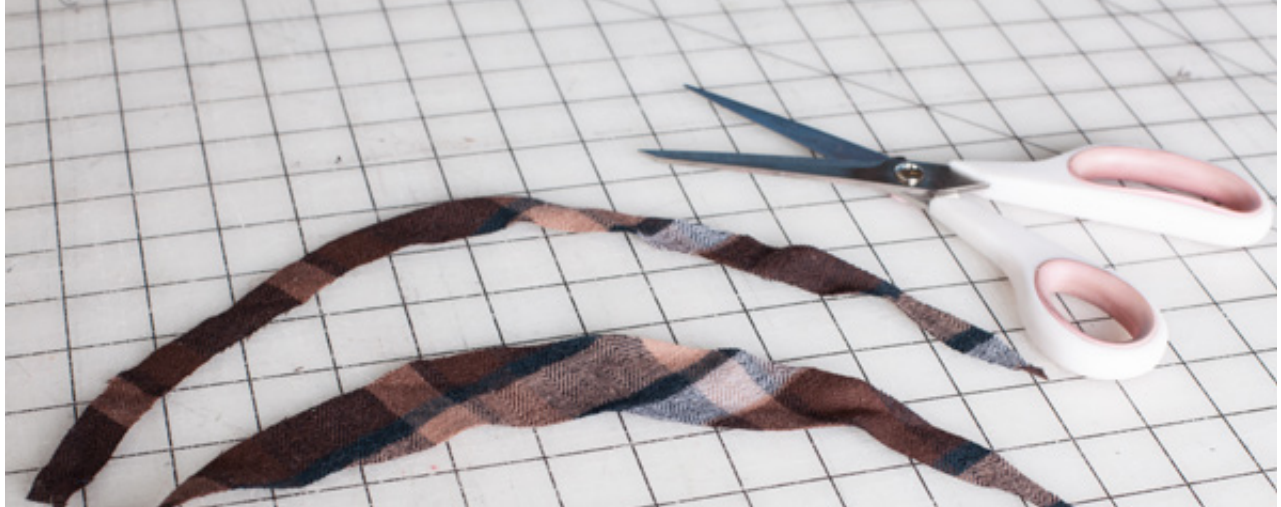


1. Transfer the grainline from the **upper sleeve (M)**, as well as the large circle that marks the shoulder. Use a curved ruler to draw the lower edge of the sleeve head pattern. It should be about 2" at the shoulder, tapering to nothing at the outer edges.



- 2.** Adjust the grainline. Draw a new grainline 45 degrees from the first one. This will place the sleevehead on the bias, giving it more stretch and movement.

- 3.** Cut two sleeveheads from flannel. Remember to cut on the bias grainline (the second one you drew).



- 4.** Trim the seam allowance of the sleeve head from $\frac{5}{8}$ " down to $\frac{3}{8}$ ". This will create less bulk, and also make it easier to sew into the armhole.



- 5.** Baste the sleevehead into the armhole.



- 6.** Try on the jacket along with the shoulder pad pinned in place. You may decide you don't need the sleeve head, or the shoulder pad, or you may decide to make it narrower or alter it in some other way. Once you have it the way you want it, stitch it permanently to the armhole seam allowance.

TRIM THE LINING



A typical home sewing pattern will have you cut the lining from the same pattern pieces as the shell fabric. While sewing the lining of the coat from those same pattern pieces as the shell is acceptable, trimming $\frac{1}{8}$ " from all edges of the pattern pieces that you will use for your lining will help the lining hang better and improve the fit of the garment.

INTERLINING

If you live in a part of the world where temperatures frequently dip below freezing your shell and lining fabrics may not provide enough protection on their own. Interlining will help add an extra layer of warmth to your coat without contributing a lot of extra bulk.

It's common to use muslin for interlining, but you can also utilize your leftover lining fabric. Also consider using a warm, lightweight fabric such as flannel or flannelette.



1. To interline a garment cut the garment body pieces from your interlining fabric. You can interline the sleeves of a garment, but keep in mind it will add some stiffness, especially at the shoulders and elbows.



- 2.** With wrong sides together, using a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance, stitch the interlining pieces to the corresponding body pieces.



- 3.** Trim the seam allowance of the interlining to a scant $\frac{1}{8}$ " to avoid bulking up the seams of the garment.

PRESSING TECHNIQUES

TAILORS HAM

A tailor's ham is useful for achieving a perfect press on curved areas of a garment. For your coat or jacket the tailor's ham will be most useful for the armhole and hood. To use, turn your garment wrong side out. Adjust the tailor's ham to find the end that contours best with the curve of your garment and press, moving the tailor's ham as necessary.



SEAM ROLL



A seam roll is a long, narrow cylinder that is perfect for pressing tight, skinny areas such as sleeves without forming creases on the other side of the garment section. To use, slip the seam roll into the sleeve and press the seam allowance open. Adjust the position of the seam roll as necessary.

CLAPPER

A clapper is a wooden pressing tool that helps form neatly pressed seams in heavy fabric. Many clappers are actually two tools in one. The top narrow edge is a point presser, which is great for pressing narrow and hard to reach seams and points

The bottom, larger edge is the clapper block. It's used to set permanent creases in fabric and form clean edges. Since many of the edges on your coat will be topstitched down, using this edge of the clapper will result in a neat finish. Here's how it works:

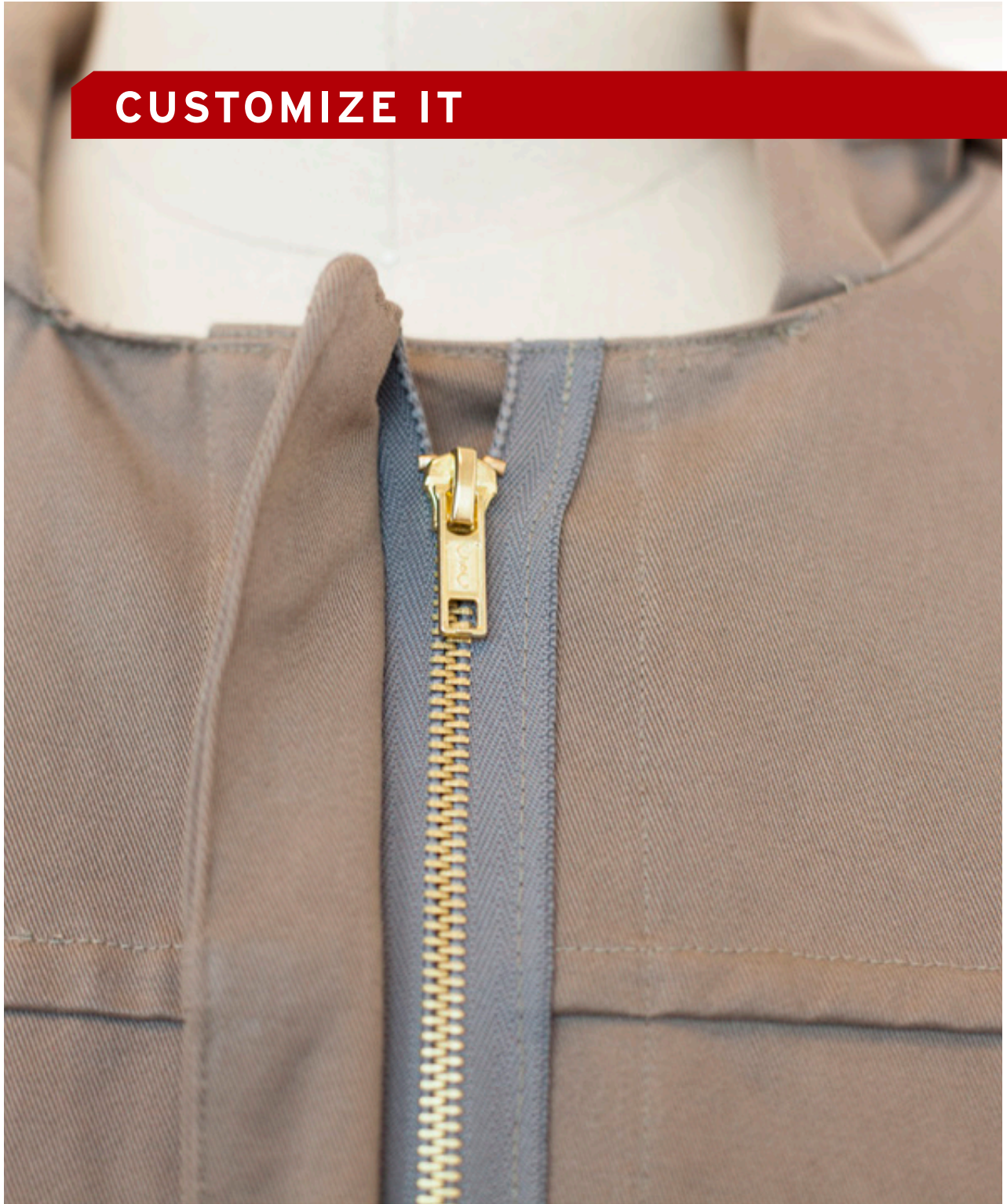


1. Fold or crease your fabric, then apply steam with your iron.



2. Place your fabric under the clapper and press on it firmly, applying as much pressure as you can. Make sure the fabric has cooled sufficiently before removing the clapper.

CUSTOMIZE IT



Add a few special details to your coat or jacket to create a versatile garment that you will want to wear every single day. Flatter your curves with a drawstring waist, explore different closure options, or wax your own canvas to create a weather-proof jacket.

VERSION 1: DRAWSTRING WAIST



Adding a drawstring to the waist of your coat or jacket is a great way to give this straight silhouette a bit of definition.

SUPPLIES

- 1 1/2 yards of cotton cording
- 2 adjustable drawstring closures
- 1 small safety pin
- Marking pen or chalk



1. Locate the point where you would like the drawstring to hit. For most people that will be at their natural waist. Measure from the hem along the side seam to the waistline and note the measurement. Measure 1" above that point and mark.



2. Measure up from the hem on the outside shell of the garment. Use a pencil or chalk to mark the two points of your waistline evenly around the entire outside of the coat. Transfer the markings to the coat lining.



- 3.** Sew the center front facing of the garment according to the instructions. Measure $\frac{1}{4}$ " in on the lining from the center front facing and lining seam. Make a $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide mark between the two points. Repeat for the other side of the lining.



- 4.** Make a buttonhole at each of the points you just marked. Install the lining according to the pattern instructions.



- 5.** Topstitch along each of the lines on the outside of the shell. Make sure that the lining stays even. You may want to pin or baste the lining in place at several points.



- 6.** Pin a small safety pin to the end of the cotton cording. Insert it into one of the buttonholes between the two rows of topstitching. Work the safety pin and cording through the casing.



- 7.** Pull the safety pin through the opposite buttonhole, along with a few inches of the cording.



- 8.** Place a drawstring closure on each end of the cording.



- 9.** Tie a knot at each end of the cording. Trim off any excess from the end.

VERSION 2: DRAWSTRING WAIST



Tip: You can use a scrap of your shell fabric to make the drawstring casing, or use a contrasting color or pattern to brighten up the inside of your jacket.

SUPPLIES

- 1 1/2 yards of cotton cording
- 1/8 yards of scrap shell fabric
- 2 adjustable drawstring closures
- 1 small safety pin
- Marking pen or chalk



1. Locate the point on the outside of your jacket where you would like the drawstring to hit.



2. Transfer the markings to the inside of the jacket with a marking pen or chalk.



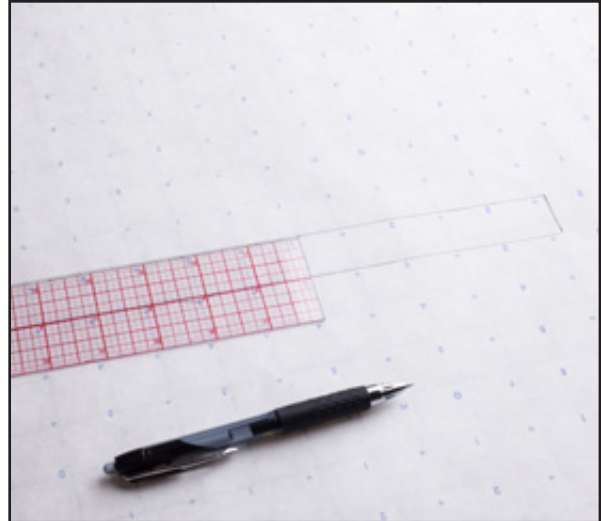
- 3.** Measure 1" up from the point you just made and and mark.



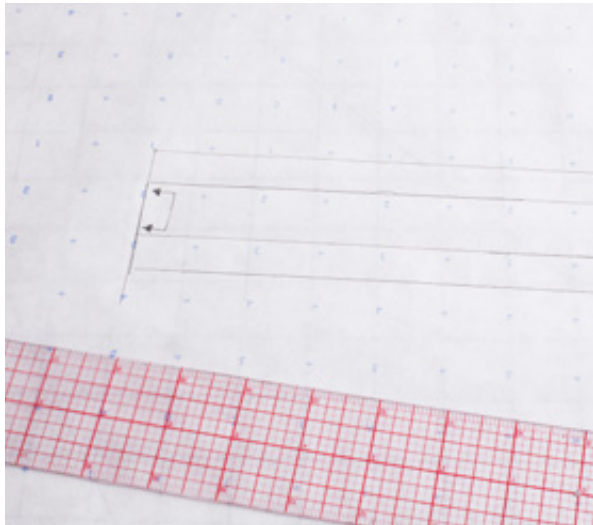
- 4.** Measure up from the hem to the markings you've made and then transfer the points around the entire inside of the jacket. Your marks will form two parallel lines.



- 5.** Measure across the inside of the jacket between the two parallel lines of markings and between the facings.



- 6.** Take the measurement and divide it in half. Draw a rectangle that is 1" wide by your measurement. Add $\frac{5}{8}$ " seam allowance to both of the long sides and one short side.



- 7.** Add $\frac{5}{8}$ " seam allowance to both of the long sides and one short side.



- 8.** Cut out the pattern piece.



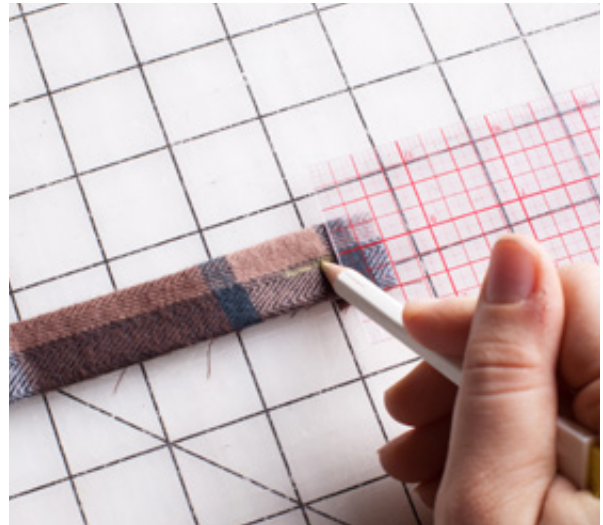
- 9.** Place the pattern piece on the fold of the fabric and cut.



- 10.** Turn under each short end of the fabric $\frac{5}{8}$ ". Press.



- 11.** Turn under each long end of the fabric $\frac{5}{8}$ ". Press.



- 12.** Measure in $\frac{1}{2}$ " from each short end. Mark a $\frac{1}{2}$ " buttonhole in the center of the drawstring casing.



- 13.** Make a buttonhole at the markings on each end of the drawstring casing.



- 14.** With wrong sides together, place the casing between the two parallel rows of markings you made on the inside of the jacket. Pin.



- 15.** Edgestitch along the bottom edge of the drawstring tunnel.



- 16.** Take the drawstring and pull it through the buttonhole to the right side of the casing. Repeat for the other end of the drawstring.



- 17.** Pin the drawstring channel over the draw string. Make sure the drawstring remains even throughout the drawstring channel and not twisted.



- 18.** Edgestitch along each short end of the casing and the top long edge.

VERSION 1: DRAWSTRING HOOD



If you live in a particularly windy part of the world, keeping a hood firmly on your head during those blustery days can be a challenge. Follow this simple tutorial to install a drawstring into the hem of your hood, and it will be guaranteed to stay in place.

SUPPLIES

- 1 yard of cotton cording
- 2 adjustable drawstring closures
- 1 small safety pin
- Marking pen or chalk



1. On the hood side panel, measure 1" in from the hem and 1 1/4" up from the neckline and mark a point. Draw a 1/2" line up from this point. This will be your buttonhole placement.
2. Repeat for the other hood side panel.
3. Make a 1/2" buttonhole at each mark.



4. Sew the hood and install the hood lining according to the pattern directions.



- 5.** Press. Since you trimmed the lining a $\frac{5}{8}$ " hem should form.



- 6.** Stitch in the ditch along the hem of the hood.



- 7.** Pin a small safety pin to one end of the cotton cording. Insert the safety pin into the buttonhole and work the safety pin and cording through the drawstring casing.



- 8.** Pull the safety pin and a few inches of the cording out through the opposite buttonhole.



9. Slip a drawstring closure on each end of the cording.



10. Tie a knot at each end of the cording. Trim any excess from the tail.

VERSION 2: DRAWSTRING HOOD



SUPPLIES

- 1 yard of cotton cording
- 2 adjustable drawstring closures
- 1 small safety pin
- Marking pen or chalk



1. On the hood side panel, measure 1" in from the hem and 1 1/4" up from the neckline and mark a point. Draw a 1/2" line up from this point. This will be your buttonhole placement. Repeat for the other hood side panel.



2. Make a 1/2" buttonhole at each mark.



- 3.** Sew the hood according to the pattern instructions.
- 4.** Press the hood under $\frac{5}{8}$ ", turn the hem and press under $\frac{3}{4}$ ".

- 5.** Edgestitch along the hem of the hood.



- 6.** Pin a small safety pin to one end of the cotton cording. Insert the safety pin into the buttonhole and work the safety pin and cording through the drawstring casing.



- 7.** Pull the safety pin and a few inches of the cording out through the opposite buttonhole. Slip a drawstring closure on each end of the cording.



- 8.** Tie a knot at each end of the cording. Trim any excess from the tail.

WAXING CANVAS

To give yourself a wider selection of colors and weights of canvas to choose from, you can wax fabric yourself.

To wax your canvas you will have to purchase a meltable wax such as Otterwax fabric dressing, paraffin wax, or beeswax, which you will apply to your fabric with a paint brush. If you choose to re-wax your canvas after months of heavy use, you can buy wax that you simply rub onto the surface of your jacket.



SUPPLIES

- Meltable wax (we recommend Otterwax Fabric Dressing)
- Thick canvas fabric
- Rice cooker or crockpot
- Analog thermometer
- Rag or scrap fabric
- Blow dryer
- 1" - 2" paint brush



1. Gather all of your supplies into one place. Place your fabric on top of a few layers of newspaper or cardboard.

2. If using Otterwax Fabric dressing, pop the top of the tin and place it in a rice cooker or crock pot. You must heat the tin using an electric element, do not use a gas stove or other open flame. If using paraffin or beeswax, melt the wax in a double boiler on your stove.



1. Fill the rice cooker or crockpot with water, until the water is about $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the top of the tin. Heat until the temperature of the water reaches 180 degrees Fahrenheit. Do not overheat. Do not stir the wax while it is being heated.



2. When the wax has reached 180 degrees, dip your paint brush into the wax. Let any excess wax on your brush drip back into the tin. Spread a thin coat of wax on the canvas.



3. As you spread the wax with the paint-brush, use the rag or scrap cloth to rub the wax into cloth.

Optional: Repeat steps 4 and 5 for the opposite side of the fabric.



4. Use a credit card or old gift card to scrape the excess wax off of the fabric.



5. Use a blow dryer to target any uneven spots on the fabric. Melt the wax and smooth the wax with your cloth.



6. Set your fabric aside for 24 hours.



7. If the wax layer on your jacket begins to wear off after heavy use, simply re-wax the canvas by rubbing a bar of wax (we recommend Otterwax Heavy Duty Fabric Wax) on the surface of the canvas.

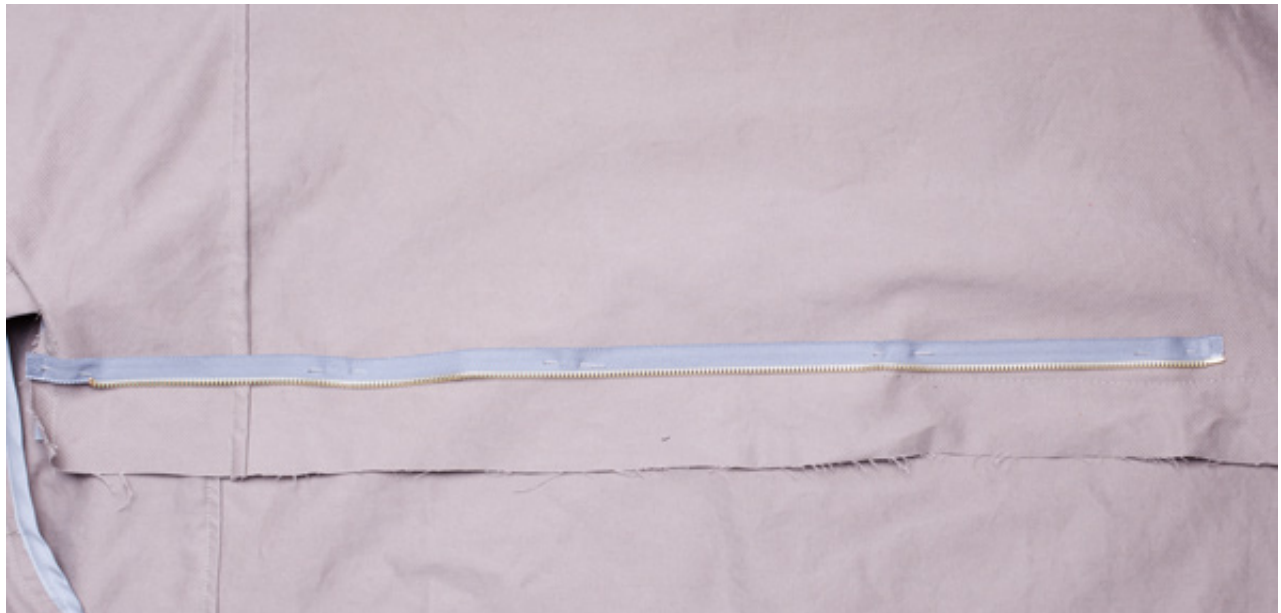
INSTALL A ZIPPER



To stay really warm this winter there's a chance that toggles alone just might not cut it. Try this simple method for installing a zipper for extra security.

SUPPLIES

- One 22" metal separating zipper



1. Center the side of the zipper without the zipper pull on the left front of the jacket or coat shell. The teeth of the zipper should be $1\frac{7}{8}$ " away from the center front. The top of the zipper tape should be flush with the neckline.



- 2.** Center the side of the zipper with the zipper pull on your right side of the center front facing. The zipper pull should be facing down. The teeth of the zipper should be $1 \frac{5}{8}$ " away from the edge of the facing.



- 3.** Stitch each half of the zipper down using a straight stitch, backstitching at each end.



- 4.** Install the facings of the jacket or coat according to the pattern instructions. When you install the facing with the zipper attached make sure that the zipper teeth are facing toward the seam line of the center front facing and the jacket or coat front.

MAKE YOUR OWN TOGGLES



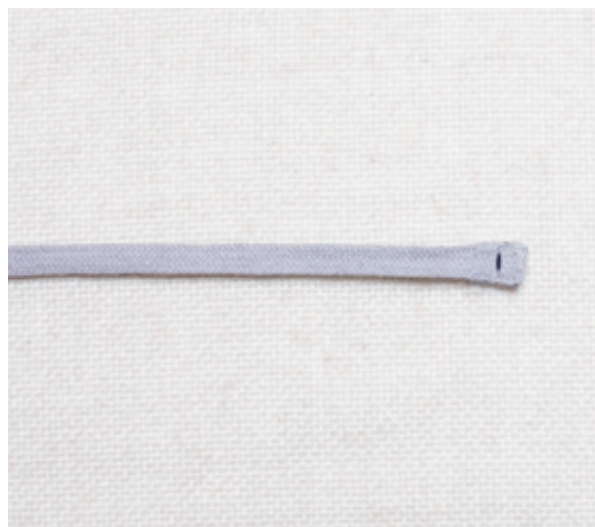
If the price of a single toggle closure at the fabric store makes you wince, give making your own a try. Not only is it cheaper, but you might even wind up saving time by not sewing all of those semi-circles

SUPPLIES

- 1 yard of cotton cording
- 4 toggle buttons



1. Cut eight 7" pieces of cotton cording. Thread a toggle onto the center of four of the pieces of cording.

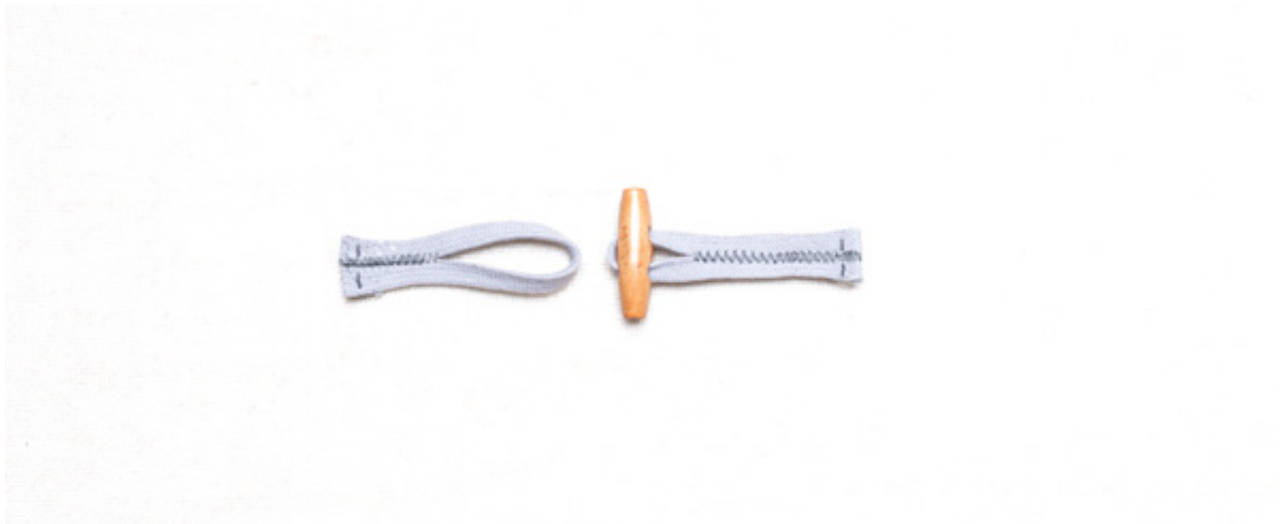


2. Turn each end of each piece of cording under $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Make sure that the turned under edges are all facing the same direction. Tack each end down using a straight or zigzag stitch.



3. Bring the ends the cording with the toggles together and align them so they are even. Use a wide zigzag stitch to sew the two sides together, stopping when the foot of your machine meets the toggle.

If your machine doesn't have a zigzag function, you can tack the legs together by stitching back and forth a few times at a few points along the cording.



4. Repeat for the toggle loops, but only stitch for 1 1/2".

INSTALL BUTTONS INSTEAD OF TOGGLES



It's time to give the hand-carved wooden buttons you've been treasuring a home where they can be admired and appreciated.

SUPPLIES

- 1/2 yard of cotton cording
- Four 1" buttons



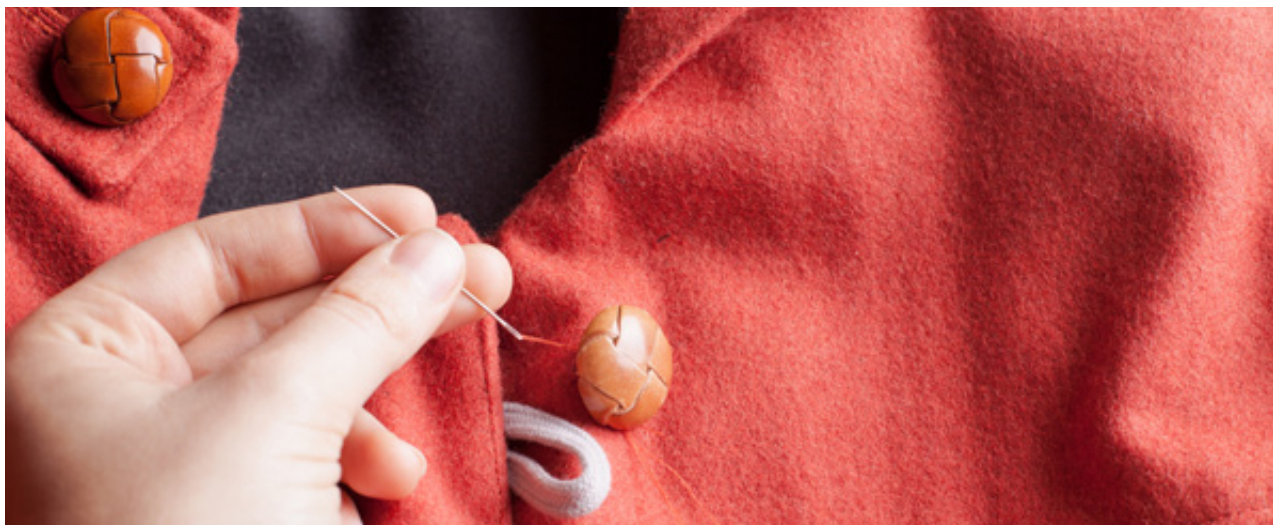
1. Make four toggle loops according to the instructions in the “Make Your Toggles” section on p. 70.



2. Transfer the toggle placement markings from the front of the coat to the right side of the right center front facing. Place a toggle over this marking. 1 1/4" of the loop should be hanging off of the facing.



- 3.** Stitch the toggle onto the facing using a zig zag stitch. Repeat for the remaining 3 toggle loops.
- 4.** Follow the pattern instructions for attaching the facings. Be sure that the toggle loops do not get twisted as you are sewing them between the facing and jacket or coat shell.



- 5.** Place the toggle 1 1/4" away from the center front edge of the facing on the left side of the jacket. Stitch in place.

STEP-BY-STEP



PRE-SHRINKING



Once you have your fabric, you'll need to preshrink it. Preshrinking involves applying moisture and/or heat in order to shrink the fabric before you cut it. The last thing you want is for the fabric to shrink after it's been sewn!

WOOL

Dry cleaning. Take it to the dry cleaners and ask them to preshrink it. This can be expensive and you may need to hunt around for a dry cleaner who understands what you're trying to do.

London shrink. Take a bed sheet and wash it, then lay the damp sheet out flat. Place your wool on top and roll the sheet and wool up together. Let it sit overnight, then unroll it in the morning and let it dry completely. Once it's dry, press the fabric with steam.

Dryer shrink. This tip comes from Pam of the sewing blog [Off the Cuff](#) (link). She recommends placing your wool in the dryer with a damp towel, drying at high heat for 30-40 minutes. You may want to test this with a swatch beforehand, but I've found it a reliable method.

OTHER FABRICS

For other fabrics, such as your lining fabric, simply wash them as you normally would. For silks and rayons, we prefer to hand wash in warm water, then hang dry. Once it's dry, press with steam to remove any wrinkles.

Preshrink any fabric you'll be using to interline your jacket, but don't worry about the muslin you're using for your test garment. Since that's only a temporary garment that you won't be wearing, there's no need to preshrink.

PRESSING

Before you can take your sewing shears to your fabric, you will need to press out any wrinkles. Make sure your iron is set to the appropriate setting such as “wool” or “cotton” and press the fabric as you would your finished garment.



CUTTING AND MARKING



1. You should already have your pattern pieces cut from making your test garment. Now, follow the cutting layouts in your pattern instructions to cut the pieces for all of your fabrics: the main fabric, the lining (version 1), the interlining (optional), and the interfacing (version 2). The cutting layouts included in the pattern will show you exactly which pieces to cut from which fabric.
2. Use your chalk or water-soluble fabric pen to transfer the markings to the wrong side of your fabric.
3. Be sure to transfer the marks on your interfacing and interlining pieces as well. These are the pieces that will be visible on the wrong side while you're sewing, after all.



VERSION 1

STAYSTITCH THE NECKLINE



1. To minimize stretching, staystitch around the neckline on the two **front yokes (A)**, two **back yokes (D)**, two **front linings (O)**, and the **back lining (P)**, stitching a scant $\frac{5}{8}$ " from the raw edge toward the center.

CREATE PATCH POCKETS



1. Fold **patch pocket facing (G)** along the foldline toward the wrong side of the fabric.

Tip: Use a clapper to get a sharp crease.



2. With right sides together, align the tops of **patch pocket facing (G)** and **patch pocket (F)**.



3. Beginning at the folded edge, stitch **patch pocket facing (G)** to **patch pocket (F)** using a $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance. Pivot and stitch across the top edge; pivot again and stitch to the folded edge.



4. Clip the corners of the seam allowance.

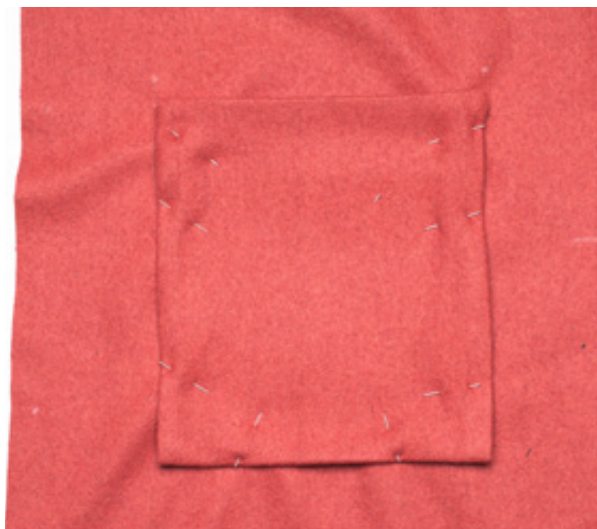


5. Turn **patch pocket facing (G)** right side out. Press.



6. Turn the raw edges of **patch pocket (F)** under $\frac{3}{8}$ ". Press. Repeat for the second pocket.

ATTACH PATCH POCKETS



1. Place **patch pocket (F)** between the lower set of circles on the right side of **front body (B)**.



2. Edgestitch the pocket in place, leaving the top edge open. To reinforce the pocket, stitch small triangles at the top edges. Repeat for the second pocket.

Tip: Use an edgestitching foot to help sew the pocket in place.

CREATE POCKET FLAPS



1. With right sides together, stitch two **patch pocket flap (H)** pieces together using a $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance. Leave one long edge open.



2. Clip the corners and trim the seam allowance.



3. Turn the flap right side out. Press.



4. Topstitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from each of the three sewn edges. Repeat for the second set of flaps.

ATTACH PATCH POCKET FLAPS



1. Align the raw edge of **patch pocket flap (H)** between the upper set of dots on the right side of **front body (B)**, with the sewn edge facing upwards. Stitch along the raw edge at $\frac{1}{4}$ ".



2. Press the flap downward.



3. Topstitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the folded edge.



4. Repeat for the second **patch pocket flap (H)**.

CREATE BACK YOKE



1. With wrong sides together, baste one **back yoke (D)** to the second **back yoke (D)** at the shoulders and sides. This creates a sturdy, underlined **back yoke (D)** unit.



2. With right sides together, stitch **back body (C)** to **back yoke (D)** unit, matching notches.



3. Press seam toward the **back yoke (D)**.



4. On the right side, topstitch the yoke $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the seam line.

ATTACH FRONT YOKES



1. With right sides together and notches aligned, stitch **front yoke (A)** to **front body (B)**.



2. Press seam toward the **front yoke (A)**.



3. On the right side, topstitch the yoke $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the seam line.



4. Repeat for the second set of yoke and body pieces.

SEW SHOULDER SEAMS



1. With right sides together, stitch the **back yoke (D)** to the **front yoke (A)** at the shoulders.



2. Press seam toward the front.



3. On the right side, topstitch the shoulder seam $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the seam line.

ATTACH IN-SEAM POCKETS



1. Place **in-seam pocket (I)** on **front body (B)** between the small circles on side seam. With right sides together, stitch **in-seam pocket (I)** to **front body (B)** between the circles using a $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance.
2. Repeat for the second coat front and back pocket pieces.

SEW SIDE SEAMS



1. Press all pocket pieces away from the coat body.
2. With right sides together, stitch **front body (B)** to **back body (C)** at the side seams. Begin stitching down from the underarm, pivoting at the first circle to stitch around the pocket.



3. Continue $\frac{5}{8}$ " past the seam line where the **in-seam pocket (I)** meets the **front body (B)**.



4. Pivot sharply and stitch up to the second circle.



5. Pivot one last time to stitch down to the hem.



6. Press the finished pocket toward the front. Baste the pocket to the **front body (B)** to hold it in place.

CREATE HOOD SHELL

Tip: If you want to install a hood drawstring reference the directions on p. 59 and start here.



1. With right sides together and notches aligned, stitch **hood side panel (J)** to **hood center panel (K)**.



2. Repeat for the second **hood side panel (J)** piece.



3. Press seams toward the center of the hood shell.



4. On the right side of the hood shell, topstitch the seams $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the seam line along the **hood center panel (K)**.

CREATE HOOD LINING



1. With right sides together and notches aligned, stitch **hood side panel (J)** lining piece to **hood center panel (K)** lining piece.



2. Repeat for the second **hood side panel (J)** lining piece.



3. Press seams toward the center of the hood lining.

ASSEMBLE HOOD



1. With right sides together, stitch the hood lining to the hood shell around the hood opening, leaving the neckline open.



2. Turn the hood right side out so the lining is inside the shell. Because the lining is smaller than the shell, a $\frac{5}{8}$ " hem will form around the hood opening.



3. Press this fold in place.

ATTACH HOOD



1. With right sides together, pin the hood to the neckline between the large circles on the **front yoke (A)** pieces.



2. Stitch lined hood to neckline using a $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance.

CREATE SLEEVE TABS



1. With right sides together, stitch one **tab (L)** piece to another **tab (L)** piece. Stitch along three sides, pivoting at the corners. Leave one short side open.



2. Trim the seam allowance to $\frac{1}{4}$ " and clip the corners.



3. Turn sleeve tabs right side out and press.



4. Topstitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the sewn edges. Repeat to create a second sleeve tab.

CREATE HOOD TABS



1. With right sides together, stitch the two remaining **tab (L)** pieces together, beginning and ending on one of the long sides. Leave a small gap in the stitching so you can later turn the hood tab right side out.

2. Trim the seam allowance to $\frac{1}{4}$ " and clip the corners. Turn hood tab right side out and press.



3. Topstitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the sewn edges, closing the gap left on the long side of the hood tab.

CREATE SLEEVE SHELLS



1. With right sides together, baste sleeve tab to **upper sleeve (N)** between small circles.



2. Repeat for the second sleeve shell.



3. With right sides together, align the single notches of **upper sleeve (N)** to **lower sleeve (M)**. Stitch along the front arm seam.



4. With right sides together, align the double notches of **upper sleeve (N)** and **lower sleeve (M)**. Stitch along the back arm seam.



5. Press seams open.

SET SLEEVE SHELLS



1. Turn sleeve shell right side out and pin to the right side of the armhole, aligning notches. The large circles on the sleeve shell will align with the shoulder and side seams. The back sleeve seam will align with the back yoke seam; the front sleeve seam will align with the front yoke seam. Baste sleeve into armhole, then stitch into place.



2. Press armhole seam allowance toward the sleeve shell. Repeat for the second sleeve shell.

ASSEMBLE BODY LINING

Tip: If you want to install a waist drawstring reference the directions on p. 91 and start here.



1. With right sides together, stitch the **front lining (O)** to the **back lining (P)** at the shoulders.



2. Press seams open.



3. Stitch the **front lining (O)** to the **back lining (P)** at the side seams.



4. Press seams open.

CREATE SLEEVE LINING



1. Trim 1" from the bottom hem of each sleeve lining piece.



2. With right sides together, align the single notches of **upper sleeve (N)** to **lower sleeve (M)**. Stitch along the front arm seam.



3. With right sides together, align the double notches of **upper sleeve (N)** and **lower sleeve (M)**. Stitch along the back arm seam.



4. Press seams open.



5. Turn sleeve shell right side out and pin to the right side of the armhole, aligning notches. The large circles on the sleeve shell will align with the shoulder and side seams. Baste sleeve into lining armhole, then stitch into place.



6. Press armhole seam allowance toward the sleeve shell. Repeat for the second sleeve shell.

ATTACH CENTER FRONT FACING

Tip: If you want to install a zipper, reference the directions on p. 68 and start here.



1. With right sides together, align **center front facing (E)** with **front lining (O)**. The large circle on the **center front facing (E)** will be a few inches above the hem of the **front lining (O)**. The facing will extend past the lining by $1\frac{1}{4}$ ". Stitch the front lining to the facing at the front edge, stopping at the large circle.



2. Press the seam toward the facing. The front lining and the facing will now be sewn into the coat shell as one unit.

INSTALL LINING



- 1.** Turn the lower edge of the coat shell under $\frac{1}{4}$ " and press to form a temporary narrow hem.



- 2.** Baste in place.



- 3.** With right sides together, stitch the body lining to the coat at the neckline using a $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance. The hood will be sandwiched between the coat and the body lining.



4. Stitch the **center front facing (E)** to the shell down the front edge.



5. When you reach 1" from the bottom pivot and stitch across the facing.



6. Clip the corner at the hem to reduce bulk.

ATTACH SLEEVE LINING TO SLEEVE SHELL



1. To stitch the sleeve lining to the sleeve shell, fold a few inches of the sleeve lining back at the sleeve hem. This will form a cuff. With wrong sides of lining and shell facing out, slip a few inches of the bottom of the sleeve lining into the sleeve hem, making sure that the sleeve remains evenly cuffed.



2. Align the hems of the sleeve shell and lining, with right sides together.



3. Using a ¼" seam allowance, carefully stitch these two hems together. Repeat for the second sleeve shell and lining.



4. From the lower part of the coat, reach between the two layers and turn the sleeves right side out. Because the lining was trimmed, the sleeve should form a 1" cuff when the lining is pulled to the inside. Press the cuff.

HEM COAT



1. Turn the shell hem up 1" and press, tucking the lining inside the coat hem.



2. Machine stitch the hem in place.

TOPSTITCH THE CENTER FRONT



1. Press the center front. Topstitch around all edges of the **center front facing (E)**, stitching $\frac{1}{4}$ " from each edge. Be sure to catch the edge of **in-seam pocket (I)** to secure it in place.

ATTACH CLOSURES



1. Stitch toggles to the front of the coat, centering them over the placement marks on pieces A and B.



2. Create a buttonhole at the placement mark on each of the two sleeve tabs.



- 3.** Attach buttons to sleeves beneath buttonholes.



- 4.** Create two buttonholes at the placement marks on the hood tab.



- 5.** Attach two buttons at the placement marks on the hood.



- 6.** Remove any remaining basting stitches.



VERSION 2

STAYSTITCH THE NECKLINE



1. To minimize stretching, staystitch around the neckline on **front yoke (A)** and the **back yoke (D)** pieces, stitching a scant $\frac{5}{8}$ " from the raw edge toward the center.

APPLY INTERFACING



1. Apply fusible interfacing to the wrong sides of two **tab (L)** and **center front facing (E)** pieces.

CREATE YOKE



1. With right sides together, stitch one **back yoke (D)** piece to the **front yoke (A)** pieces at the shoulders.



2. Place the right side of the other **back yoke (D)** piece facing the wrong side of **back body (C)**. Match notches and stitch together at the yoke seam. Do not press this seam yet.



3. Roll the **back body (C)** piece up toward the yoke seam to keep it out of the way, as shown.



4. With right sides together, place the other **back yoke (D)** directly on top of this **back yoke (D)**, matching all edges.



5. Stitch the two **back yoke (D)** pieces together at the yoke seam and at the shoulders. The front yokes and the **back body (C)** should all be neatly rolled inside between these two pieces.



6. Reach through the middle to turn the piece right side out. Press. The back yoke now has a clean finish with the yoke and shoulder seams tucked inside.



7. Press the yoke.

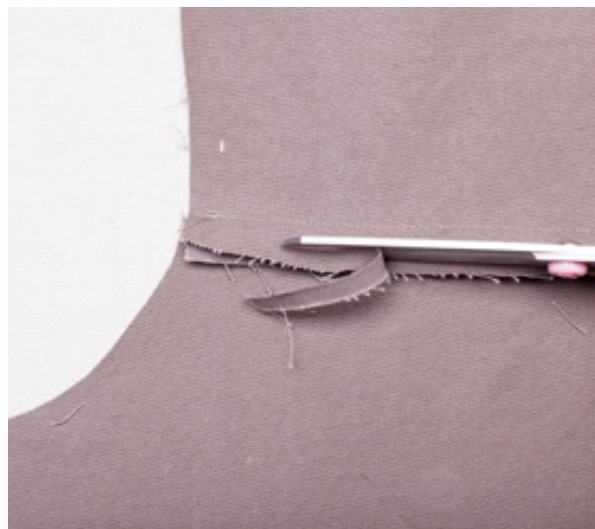


8. Topstitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the seam line on the back yoke.

ATTACH FRONT YOKES



1. With right sides together and notches aligned, stitch **front yoke (A)** to **front body (B)**. Press seam toward the **front yoke (A)**.



2. Finish with a flat-felled seam. To do this, trim one of the seam allowances to $\frac{1}{4}$ ".



3. Fold the longer side of the seam allowance over the trimmed side so that it aligns with the stitching. Press.



4. Fold the whole seam over and press to the back.



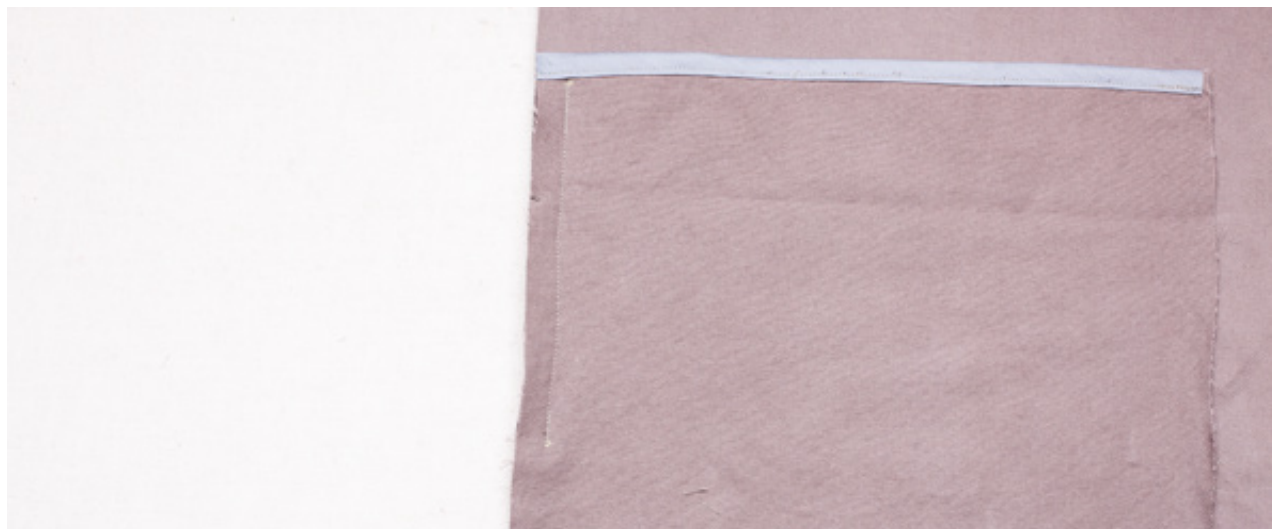
5. Edgestitch in place. Repeat for the second set of yoke and body pieces.

CREATE IN-SEAM POCKETS

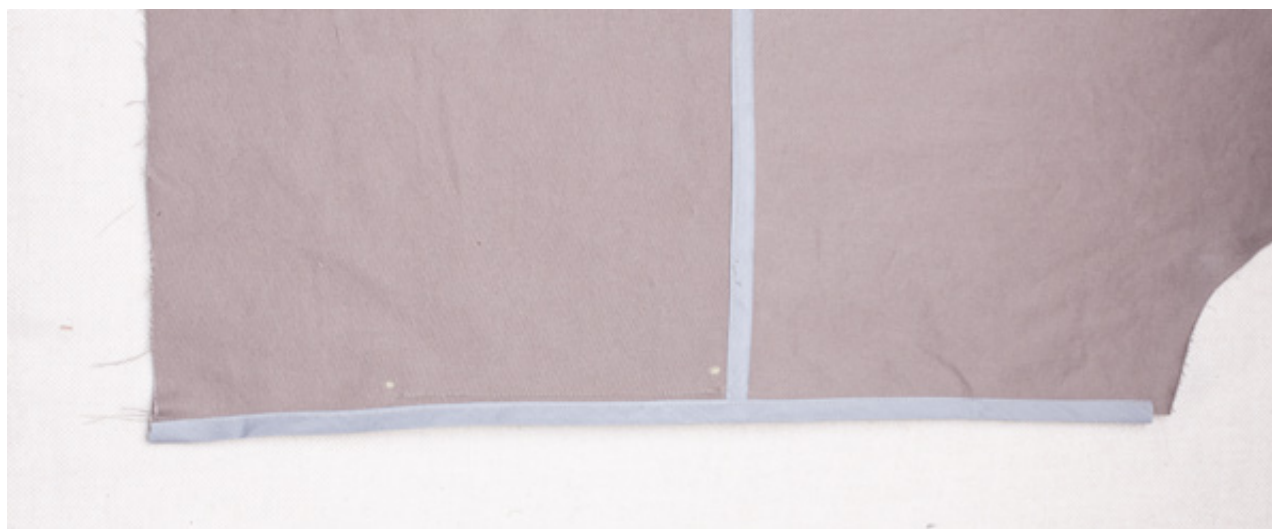


1. Finish the upper edge of each **in-seam pocket (I)** piece separately by binding the edges with bias tape.

ATTACH IN-SEAM POCKETS

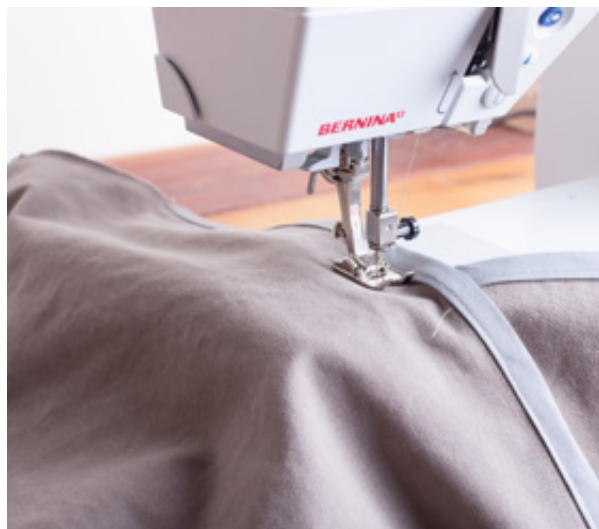


1. Place **in-seam pocket (I)** on **front body (B)** between the small circles on side seam. With right sides together, stitch **in-seam pocket (I)** to **front body (B)** between the circles using a $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance. Repeat for the second jacket body piece.



2. Finish the side seam edges of **front body (B)** with bias tape.
3. Repeat steps 1 and 2 for **back body (C)**.

SEW SIDE SEAMS



1. Press all pocket pieces away from the jacket body. With right sides together, begin to stitch **front body (B)** to **back body (C)** at the side seams. Start by stitching down from the underarm.



2. Pivot at the first circle to stitch around the pocket.



3. Continue $\frac{5}{8}$ " past the seam line where the **in-seam pocket (I)** meets the **front body (B)**. Pivot sharply and stitch up to the second circle, then pivot one last time to stitch down to the hem.



4. Press the finished pocket toward the front. Baste the front edge of **in-seam pocket (I)** to the **front body (B)** to hold it in place.

SEW HOOD

Tip: If you want to install a hood drawstring reference the directions on p. 59 and start here.



1. With right sides together and notches aligned, stitch **hood side panel (J)** to **hood center panel (K)**. Repeat for the second **hood side panel (J)** piece.



2. Flat-fell each seam allowance to finish.



3. Turn the edge of the hood opening under $\frac{5}{8}$ " and press.



4. Turn again $\frac{5}{8}$ " and press. Stitch in place to form a hem on the hood opening.

ATTACH HOOD



1. With right sides together, pin the hood to the neckline between the large circles on **front yoke (A)** pieces. Stitch hood to neckline using a $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance.



2. Finish neckline seam where the hood meets the body with bias tape. Extend the bias tape about 2" from the edge of the hood on either side. This will be covered later by the facing.

TURN HEM



1. Turn the lower edge of the jacket under $\frac{1}{4}$ " and press to form a temporary narrow hem.



2. Baste in place.

ATTACH CENTER FRONT FACING

Tip: If you want to install a zipper or install buttons instead of toggles reference the directions on p. 68 and start here.



1. With right sides together, stitch **center front facing (E)** to the jacket.



2. Press seam open, pressing the **center front facing (E)** away from the jacket.



3. Turn the long raw edge of **center front facing (E)** under $\frac{5}{8}$ " and press.



4. Turn the facing back in. With right sides together, stitch the **center front facing (E)** to the jacket at the neckline, using a $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance. The fold of the facing should stop right where the hood begins on the neckline. If not, adjust the fold to fit the neckline.



5. Stitch the facing to the jacket at the hem, using a 1" seam allowance.



6. Clip this corner to reduce bulk. Turn the facing to the inside and press.



7. Turn the hem up 1". Press.



8. Stitch the hem in place, making sure the bottom edge of **in-seam pocket (I)** is secured in the hem.



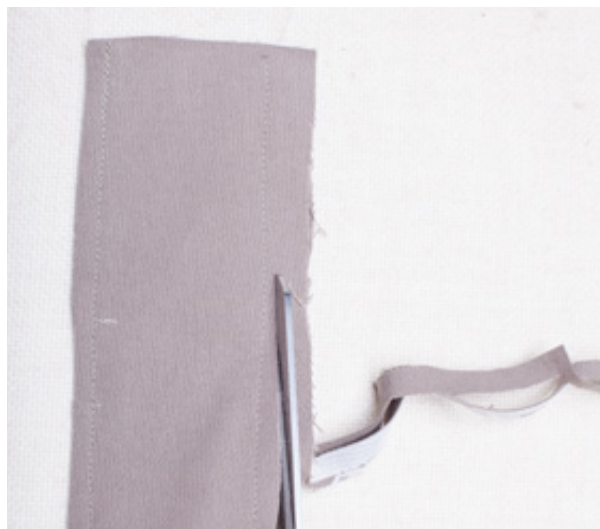
9. Topstitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " around all edges of the **center front facing (E)**. Be sure to catch the edge of **in-seam pocket (I)** and the ends of the bias tape to secure it in place. Repeat for the second front facing.

Tip: If you want to install a waist drawstring reference the directions on p. 72 and start here.

CREATE SLEEVE TABS



1. With right sides together, stitch one **tab (L)** piece to another **tab (L)** piece. Stitch along three sides, pivoting at the corners. Leave one short side open.



2. Trim the seam allowance to $\frac{1}{4}$ " and clip corners.



3. Turn the sleeve tab right side out and press.



4. Topstitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the sewn edges.

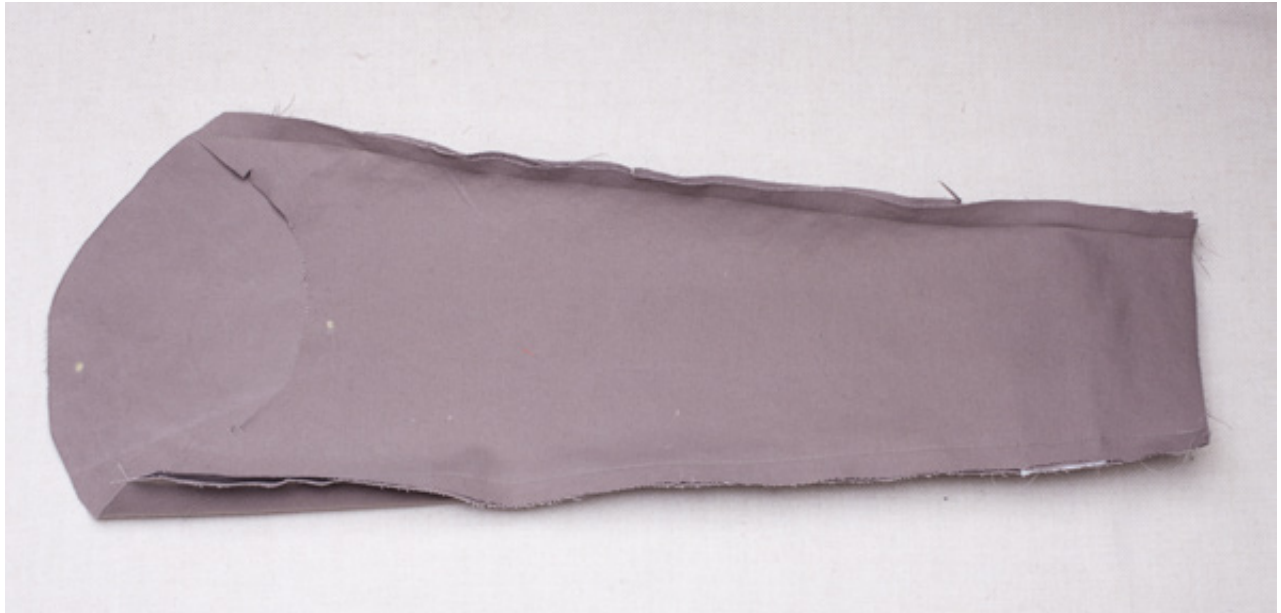


5. With right sides together, baste tab to **upper sleeve (N)** between the small circles. Repeat for the second sleeve tab.

CREATE SLEEVES



1. With right sides together, align the single notches of **upper sleeve (N)** to **lower sleeve (M)**. Stitch along the front arm seam.



2. With right sides together, align the double notches of **upper sleeve (N)** and **lower sleeve (M)**. Stitch along the back arm seam.



3. Press the seams toward the lower sleeve.



4. Bind the seams to finish.

SET SLEEVES



1. Turn sleeve shell right side out and pin to the right side of the armhole, aligning notches. The large circles on the sleeve shell will align with the shoulder and side seams. The back sleeve seam will align with the back yoke seam; the front sleeve seam will align with the front yoke seam. Baste sleeve into armhole, then stitch into place.



2. Press armhole seam allowance toward the sleeve. Bind the seam with bias tape to finish. Repeat for the second sleeve.

HEM SLEEVES



1. Turn the lower edge of the jacket sleeve under $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Press.



2. Turn the lower edge of the sleeve under $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Press.



3. Stitch the hem in place. Repeat for second sleeve.

ATTACH CLOSURES



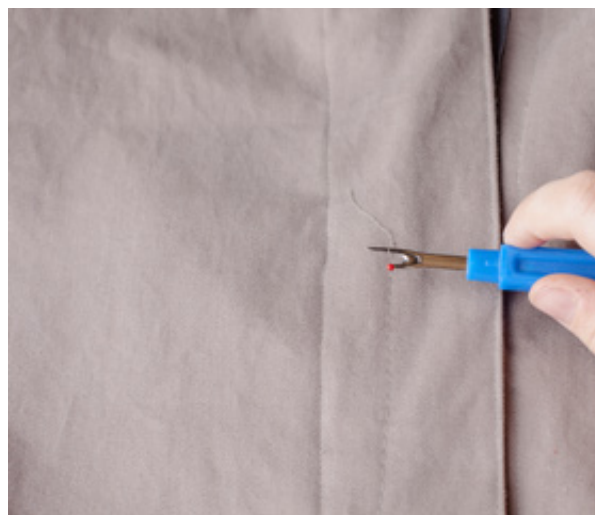
1. Stitch toggles to the front of the jacket, centering them over the placement marks on pieces A and B. Attach toggles by edgestitching around the toggle tabs.



2. Create a buttonhole at the placement mark on each of the two **sleeve tabs (L)**.



3. Attach buttons to sleeves beneath buttonholes.



4. Remove any remaining basting stitches.