

# Understanding a Paper Pattern

**A pattern is more than an envelope of paper. Even before you look inside, the outer envelope is printed with useful information. Below we show you how to 'read' the envelope to find out all you need to know about the designs included.**

## Envelope Front

As well as photographs or illustrations of the garments included, information shown includes the pattern number, the size range (patterns are multi-sized) included in the envelope and the sewing rating: *Very Easy, Easy, Fast-to-Sew, Average, Advanced.*



## Envelope Back

This is where you will find everything you need to know about the pattern.

BODY MEASUREMENTS/MESURES/MEDIDAS DEL CUERPO										
SIZES	Misses'					Women's				
	Bust	31½	32½	34	36	38	40	42	44	46
Waist	24	25	26½	28	30	33	35	37	39	Ins.
Hip	33½	34½	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	Ins.
Back Waist Length	15½	16	16½	16½	16½	17½	17½	17½	17½	Ins.
TAILLES/TALLAS										
	Jeune Femme/ Jóvenes y Señoras					Femme/ Damas				
	Poitrine/Busto	80	83	87	92	97	102	107	112	117
Taille/Cintura	61	64	67	71	76	84	89	94	99	cm
Hanches/Caderas	85	88	92	97	102	107	112	117	122	cm
Longueur dos/Largo espalda	40	40.5	41.5	42	42.5	43.5	44	44	44.5	cm

## M7533

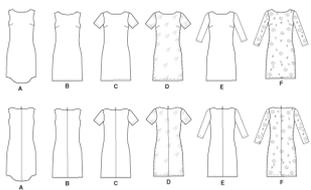
**MISSSES/WOMEN'S DRESSES:** Fitted dresses have back invisible zipper and sleeve variations. A: Shaped hemline.

**SUGGESTED FABRICS:** Challis, Crepe, Stable Knits, D, F; Sheers, Lace, Lining D, F; Lining Fabrics.

SIZES	Misses'					Women's				
	A 45****	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2
B 45****	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	Yds.
C 45****	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	Yds.
D 45****	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	Yds.
E 45****	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	Yds.
F 45****	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	Yds.

FINISHED GARMENT MEASUREMENTS										
A thru F	35 1/2	36 1/2	38	40	42	44 1/2	46 1/2	48 1/2	50 1/2	Ins.
A thru F	38 1/2	39 1/2	41	43	45	48	50	52	54	"
A thru F	43	44	45 1/2	47 1/2	49 1/2	52 1/2	54 1/2	56 1/2	58 1/2	"
A thru F	38 1/2	39	39 1/2	39 1/2	39 1/2	39 1/2	39 1/2	39 1/2	40 1/2	"
B thru F	34 1/2	35	35 1/2	35 1/2	35 1/2	35 1/2	35 1/2	36	36 1/2	"

\*With Nap \*\*Without Nap \*\*\*With or Without Nap



## Body Measurements/Sizing

On the envelope flap and/or top left column, size ranges for the pattern are shown. These body measurements — bust, waist, hips and back waist length (nape of neck to waist) are needed to decide which size to select. For **tops, dresses and jackets** use your **bust measurement**. For **trousers and skirts** use your **hip measurement**. Patterns are multi-sized so if you are between sizes, you can cut from one size line to another.

See *Pattern Sizing Know-How: How to Choose your Pattern Size* for more information on sizing.

## Garment Description

At the top of the envelope is a brief description of the garments. This may include information regarding the fit — 'close fitting', 'fitted' etc. It will also say if garments are lined and any other special features.

## Suggested Fabrics

A list of recommended fabric types for that pattern. This will help you decide what is suitable. It is not exclusive and you can use alternatives.

## Fabric Requirements

Each garment in the pattern is known as a 'View' and identified by a letter. The amount of fabric needed to make each View and size is shown. It is shown in yards on the left of the envelope and metres on the right.

Requirements for different fabric widths are shown.

Asterisks \* \*\* \*\*\* after the fabric width indicate quantities for fabric with nap, without nap, with or without nap

*NB: Nap is the pile or sheen of a fabric. Fabrics 'with nap' have a sheen or pile and all pattern pieces need to be laid top to toe in the same direction.*

Following the fabric requirements, interfacing and/or lining requirements are shown.

## Notions

The haberdashery items needed for each of the Views. We recommend you buy everything needed before you begin sewing.

## Finished Garment Measurements

Often overlooked — this information will help you decide which size to make. Compare the Finished Garment Measurements with the body measurements of the size you plan to use to see how much 'ease' is included.

Ease is the amount of room needed to wear a garment comfortably, as well as designer's intended fit.

A close fitting garment may have as little as 12mm (½") whereas a very loose fitting garment may have 20cm (8").

The pattern tissue pieces may also show the Finished Garment Measurements printed at bust, waist, hip and/or bicep.

## Line Drawings

These show the front and back of the garments and the position of seams, darts and zips.

Having selected your chosen size and purchased fabric and notions, you are ready to delve into the pattern envelope. It includes the step-by-step pattern instruction sheets and paper pattern.

### Inside the Envelope

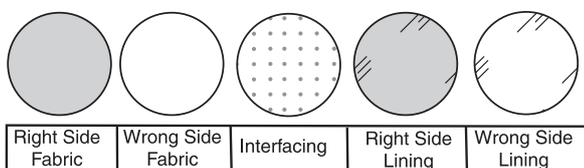
Even experienced sewers recommend taking time to read the step by step pattern instruction sheet. Take special note of the fabric layout and instructions for the View you wish to make. Having an idea of how the garment comes together before you begin helps the construction go smoothly.

### General Sewing Information and Glossary

Every pattern includes general sewing information that is useful to know. It includes a key to the illustration shading – e.g. whether the fabric is right sides together; if pattern pieces are placed face down; seam width allowance; how to clip and notch seams and a glossary of common sewing techniques.

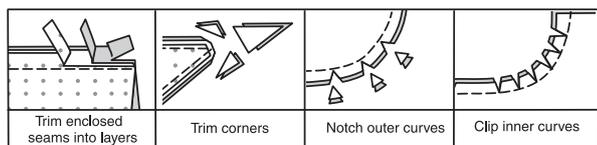
## SEWING INFORMATION

### FABRIC KEY



### SEAM ALLOWANCES

Use 5/8" (1.5cm) seam allowances unless otherwise indicated.



### PIN AND FIT

Pin or baste seams, RIGHT SIDE TOGETHER, matching notches. Fit garment before stitching major seams.

### PRESS

Press seam allowances flat; then open unless otherwise stated. Clip where necessary so they lie flat.

## GLOSSARY

Sewing terms appearing in **BOLD TYPE** in Sewing Instructions are explained below.

**EASESTITCH** - Stitch along seamline, using long machine stitches. Pull thread ends when adjusting to fit.

**NOTE:** For sleeve caps, make a second row of long machine stitches 1/4" (6mm) away in seam allowance for more control.

**FINISH** - Stitch 1/4" (6mm) from raw edge and finish with one of the following: (1) Pink OR (2) Overcast OR (3) Turn in along stitching and stitch close to fold OR (4) Overlock.

**OPTIONAL FOR HEMS:** Apply Seam Binding.

**NARROW HEM** - Turn in hem; press, easing in fullness if necessary. Open out hem. Turn in again so raw edge is along crease; press. Turn in along crease; stitch.

**TOPSTITCH** - On outside, stitch 1/4" (6mm) from edge, seam or previous stitching, using presser foot as guide, or stitch where indicated in instructions.

**UNDERSTITCH** - Open out facing or underside of garment; stitch to seam allowance close to seam.

## Pattern Markings

The instruction sheets include general pattern marking symbols that are used on the tissue and in the instructions. We recommend you familiarise yourself with these.

### PATTERN MARKINGS

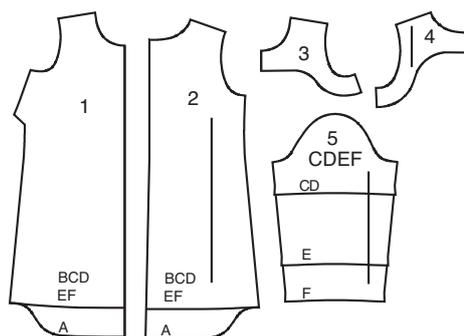


## Pattern Pieces

Take a look at the line drawings of the pattern pieces included. You will see how many pattern pieces there are, and which is needed for each of the Views. All are numbered for easy identification.

### 5 PATTERN PIECES

#### 5 PIEZAS DE PATRON



### DRESS A, B, C, D, E, F

- 1 FRONT
- 2 BACK
- 3 FRONT FACING
- 4 BACK FACING
- 5 SLEEVE C D E F

### VESTIDO A, B, C, D, E, F

- 1 FRENTE
- 2 ESPALDA
- 3 VISTA DEL FRENTE
- 4 VISTA DE LA ESPALDA
- 5 MANGA C D E F

## The Tissue

Determine the pattern pieces needed for your View choice and cut them out roughly from the big tissue sheets. Take care to cut the pieces you need for your size — on occasion there may be two of the same pattern piece but for different sizes. Each tissue piece is marked with:

- The pattern number
- The View and pattern piece number
- How many pieces to cut in fabric, interfacing and possibly lining
- Around the edges are the cutting lines – there may be up to lines for the different sizes. Each size line is slightly different – solid line, dot and dash, long dash etc

- There will be circles, squares and triangles. These are used to help match pieces accurately when sewing.
- On a bodice piece there may be a bust-point mark. This is where the apex (fullest part of the bust) should fall. It may also include the finished garment measurements at this point. Check against your body measurements to ensure there will be enough 'ease/room' in the garment. On a skirt or dress, there may be waist and hip points shown on the tissue with the corresponding Finished Garment Measurements.
- A grainline – a straight line with arrow head at one or both ends. This should be parallel to the selvage when placed on the fabric.



- A line with right angles and arrow heads on the short ends indicates the pattern piece is to be placed on the fold of fabric.



*Having collated the pieces you need, cut more carefully around the size you are making.*

**TIP:** if you are larger at the waist than the size chosen for a dress, you can graduate from one size line to another smoothly to accommodate this.

*If pattern pieces are creased, press on a cool-iron to flatten them.*

### Pattern/Fabric Layouts – Instruction Sheet

Each view has a choice of layouts showing how to fold the fabric and then place the pattern pieces on to it. Layouts for 115cm (45") wide and 150cm (60") wide fabric are shown. There may also be different layouts for different sizes. It's a good idea to mark the layout you are following so that, should you get distracted during the process, you don't inadvertently start following a different one.

At the top will be the View garment name and letter, for example: DRESS B. Then a list of the pattern pieces needed.

Some pieces may be laid against the fold of the fabric so that when opened out, you get one piece with mirrored right and left. Some pieces need to be placed face down.

**TIP:** Generally speaking and where possible, lay all pieces 'top to toe' in the same direction just in case your fabric has a nap that is not easily seen in artificial light.

Always cut OUT around the triangle notches. These are used to match pieces together, front to back, sleeve into the correct armhole etc. Cutting outwards ensures that if you do need to pinch a bit of seam allowance if a garment feels too snug, you will be able to do so.

**TIP:** Remember that it is very important that the grain line on the pattern piece is parallel to the selvage of the fabric. If pieces are not cut 'on grain' you may get twisted or rippling seams.

### Preparing to sew

Once pieces are cut out, transfer pattern markings from the tissue to the fabric. These will be placement of zips, pockets, dart shaping etc. If you have laid out the fabric, right sides together, it is easy to use a marking pen or chalk pencil to do this. Pierce the tissue with a pin and then mark the wrong side of the fabric through the tissue at the placement points. Push the pin through to the under layer and again mark the position.

**TIP:** Unpin pattern from fabric once markings are transferred but keep the tissue folded with the fabric in case you wish to refer to it again during construction.

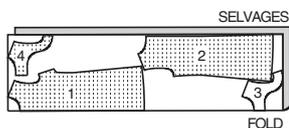
### Sewing Directions

You are now ready to start the garment construction, following the illustrated step by step instructions. Each step is numbered and illustrated with a diagram that has the same number. Follow the steps to make your garment with confidence.

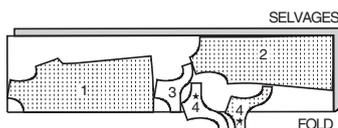
## DRESS B / VESTIDO B

use pieces/use piezas: 1, 2, 3 & 4

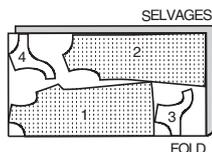
45" (115 cm)  
with or without nap  
con o sin pelillo  
sizes/tallas 8-10-12-14



45" (115 cm)  
with or without nap  
con o sin pelillo  
sizes/tallas 16-18W-20W-22W-24W



60" (150 cm)  
with or without nap  
con o sin pelillo  
sizes/tallas 8-10-12-14-16-18W-20W-22W



60" (150 cm)  
with or without nap  
con o sin pelillo  
size/talla 24W

