

White ruffle smock - sewing instructions

EU 36 . 11 pieces . seam allowance 10 mm

0. Paper first

Print the pack at 100% scale, then measure the square on page 3 of the A4 pattern with a ruler. If it is not 100 mm, DO NOT CUT. Trim the sheets along the LEFT and TOP edges, overlap them until the corner targets (a cross in a circle) of neighbouring sheets sit exactly on each other, and tape. The page map is on page 2 of the A4 pattern.

Shirred band (elastic thread)

The band (FRONT SASH, BACK SASH) is cut 1193.3 mm round in total (FRONT SASH 596.6 mm (cut on fold, opened); BACK SASH 298.3 mm each of 2) and is worn shorter. Elastic thread is wound on the bobbin; test the stitch length and tension on the swatch. Rows are measured down from the top seam line.

Top edge (bust seam): finished 745.8 mm round (FRONT SASH 372.9 mm (cut on fold, opened); BACK SASH 186.4 mm each of 2); the bust pieces (1193.3 mm round) are gathered 1.60 times onto it. Bottom edge (tier seam, 124.8 mm down): finished 680.0 mm round (FRONT SASH 340.0 mm (cut on fold, opened); BACK SASH 170.0 mm each of 2) = waist 660.0 mm + 20.0 mm ease.

Row 1: 8.0 mm below the top seam line; target after steaming 741.6 mm round = FRONT SASH 370.8 mm (cut on fold, opened); BACK SASH 185.4 mm each of 2.

Row 2: 20.1 mm below the top seam line; target after steaming 735.2 mm round = FRONT SASH 367.6 mm (cut on fold, opened); BACK SASH 183.8 mm each of 2.

Row 3: 32.2 mm below the top seam line; target after steaming 728.8 mm round = FRONT SASH 364.4 mm (cut on fold, opened); BACK SASH 182.2 mm each of 2.

Row 4: 44.3 mm below the top seam line; target after steaming 722.5 mm round = FRONT SASH 361.2 mm (cut on fold, opened); BACK SASH 180.6 mm each of 2.

Row 5: 56.4 mm below the top seam line; target after steaming 716.1 mm round = FRONT SASH 358.0 mm (cut on fold, opened); BACK SASH 179.0 mm each of 2.

Row 6: 68.4 mm below the top seam line; target after steaming 709.7 mm round = FRONT SASH 354.9 mm (cut on fold, opened); BACK SASH 177.4 mm each of 2.

Row 7: 80.5 mm below the top seam line; target after steaming 703.3 mm round = FRONT SASH 351.7 mm (cut on fold, opened); BACK SASH 175.8 mm each of 2.

Row 8: 92.6 mm below the top seam line; target after steaming 697.0 mm round = FRONT SASH 348.5 mm (cut on fold, opened); BACK SASH 174.2 mm each of 2.

Row 9: 104.7 mm below the top seam line; target after steaming 690.6 mm round = FRONT SASH 345.3 mm (cut on fold, opened); BACK SASH 172.6 mm each of 2.

Row 10: 116.8 mm below the top seam line; target after steaming 684.2 mm round = FRONT SASH 342.1 mm (cut on fold, opened); BACK SASH 171.1 mm each of 2.

SWATCH FIRST: cut a 298.0 mm wide strip of the dress cloth, sew the same rows with the same elastic thread and tension, steam it and measure. It must gather by at least 1.75 (cut / finished at the tightest row). If it does not, change the thread, tension or spacing on the swatch before cutting; this pattern has NOT measured the elastic and gives no elastic cut length. No stretch is credited for wearing: the zip lets the dress on. Confirm the fit in a toile.

FRONT UNDERSKIRT + BACK UNDERSKIRT: cut 1360.0 mm round, gathered onto the finished 680.0 mm band edge (2.00 times).

FRONT OVERSKIRT + BACK OVERSKIRT: cut 1360.0 mm round, gathered onto the finished 680.0 mm band edge (2.00 times).

Order: (1) sew and steam the swatch as above. (2) On each FLAT band piece, before any seam, sew the rows from the top row down; steam; check each piece against its row targets above (not the whole-garment number). (3) The rows do not reach the edges (last row 116.8 mm, edge 124.8 mm): run a gathering basting line on each piece's top and bottom edge and draw it up to that piece's finished top and bottom lengths; it is secured in the attaching seams. (4) Gather the bust pieces to the band's finished top and sew them. (5) Gather the tiers to the band's finished bottom edge and sew them. (6) Sew the side seams across the row ends, backstitching them into the seam; the zip goes in last.

Body and finished garment measurements

EU 36: standard size-table body, not your personal measurements. All circumferences below are in cm; garment minus body is the constructed ease. Seam allowances are excluded.

Bust: body 84.0 / garment not measured / ease not measured cm.

Waist: body 66.0 / garment 68.0 / ease 2.0 cm.

Hip: body 90.0 / garment not measured / ease not measured cm.

Skirt join (finished shirred band): garment 68.0 cm round. Both skirt layers are gathered separately to this same loop; open the zip fully to put the dress on.

Finished length

EU 36, standard size-table body: centre front 61.2 cm from the neck edge to the hem, centre back 72.5 cm. The hem sits 38.0 cm below the waist, 20.0 cm above the knee. The hem position was read from the photograph, not measured.

To change the length, measure your own waist-to-hem length first. Add or take off the same amount at the hem of every piece: extend (or shorten) each seam line straight on in its own direction and redraw the hem parallel to the printed one, square to each seam.

Fabric and ease decisions

Fabric mechanics are unmeasured. The existing pattern uses its recorded default ease; this is not a fabric-specific fit approval. Sample evidence applies only to its stated load, direction, method and time. It does not establish seam elasticity, movement, pressure, comfort or physical fit. Test a toile and your actual cloth before final cutting.

Derived, not seen

The back is not visible in the photograph, so it was derived: a plain back and a centre-back seam, cut to match the front.

1. Cutting

Cut along the OUTER line; the default 10 mm seam allowance is inside it, except where a different edge allowance is printed. The inner fine line is the stitching line. The arrow on each piece (grainline) must lie PARALLEL to the straight grain of the fabric - set it askew and the garment will twist on the body. A piece marked "ON FOLD" is placed against the folded edge and is never cut along it.

- #1 FRONT BODICE: CUT 1X ON FOLD
- #2 BACK BODICE: CUT 2X MIRRORED
- #3 SLEEVE: CUT 2X MIRRORED
- #4 FRONT RUFFLE: CUT 1X ON FOLD
- #5 FRONT SASH: CUT 1X ON FOLD
- #6 BACK SASH: CUT 2X MIRRORED
- #7 FRONT UNDERSKIRT: CUT 1X ON FOLD
- #8 BACK UNDERSKIRT: CUT 2X MIRRORED
- #9 FRONT OVERSKIRT: CUT 1X ON FOLD

- #10 BACK OVERSKIRT: CUT 2X MIRRORED
- #11 SLEEVE RUFFLE: CUT 2X MIRRORED

2. Markings

Notches (the small ticks on an edge) tell you where two pieces meet. Cut each piece out on its solid line first; then, at every tick, snip 3 mm straight into the allowance from the cut edge, along the tick (a double tick is two snips). The tick is printed 7 mm long only so that you find it; it stops 3 mm short of the stitching line, so a 3 mm snip never reaches the seam. On a piece cut with no allowance (a binding strip) mark the tick with chalk instead of snipping. A single tick marks a FRONT edge, two ticks close together mark a BACK edge (Tilly: "two notches together usually indicates the back of a pattern piece"). A seam that joins a front piece to a back piece (a side seam) carries a single tick on BOTH pieces, so the two ticks you match always look the same. A single tick that meets a seam of the other piece (the top of the sleeve cap) has no partner tick: it goes to that seam line. Each seam step below names its notches piece by piece, with the distance along the edge.

2b. Staystitching

Before any seam is sewn, staystitch every edge that will be faced (ARMHOLE, NECK): a regular straight stitch 4 mm from the raw edge, inside the 6 mm allowance, so the curve cannot stretch while it waits through the seams, the zip and the fitting. Sew in one direction on each side: a neck edge from the shoulder or strap corner towards the centre, an armhole from the shoulder or strap corner down to the underarm. Handle these edges as little as possible until they are finished.

3. Sewing order

This order is not invented: it is the topological order of the stitch graph. The seams that keep the work FLAT come first; the seams that close a ring and turn flat work into a tube come after them (flat construction).

Seam allowances: after stitching each seam, neaten each raw allowance edge on its own with an overlock (serger) or a narrow zigzag close to the edge, so the cloth cannot fray inside the garment; then press as the step says. Where a step says to finish the two allowances together, neaten them as one. Bound edges, hem turns and fold lines need nothing extra.

1. FRONT BODICE <-> BACK BODICE (SHOULDER) - plain seam, 10 mm allowance, press the allowances open.

shoulder seam: shoulder edge <-> shoulder edge, neck <-> neck

2. FRONT RUFFLE <-> FRONT BODICE (FRONT RUFFLE SEAM) - gathered seam, 10 mm allowance: do not press it open. Finish the two allowances together; pressed toward the FRONT RUFFLE the gathers stand up, pressed toward the FRONT BODICE they lie in flatter folds.

GATHER, ratio 1.50: the longer side is cut 50% longer than the side it is sewn to. Run two rows of long stitches along it, pull the threads until it matches the shorter side, spread the fullness evenly between the notches, then sew. The gathers stay visible - that is the point.

3. FRONT SASH <-> FRONT BODICE (FRONT SASH JOIN) - gathered seam, 10 mm allowance: do not press it open.

Finish the two allowances together; pressed toward the FRONT BODICE the gathers stand up, pressed toward the FRONT SASH they lie in flatter folds.

SHIRRED JOIN: first sew and steam the elastic rows and baste the band top to its finished target (Shirred band section). Gather FRONT BODICE, ratio 1.60, onto that finished edge: 186.4 mm for this half-pattern seam, doubled for a piece cut on the fold. Match notches and sew; do not gather the flat band onto the ungathered bust.

notches - FRONT SASH top edge (298 mm seam): single notch at 149 mm from its centre-line end (149 mm from its outer end); FRONT BODICE on gogus alti edge (298 mm seam): single notch at 149 mm from its centre-line end (149 mm from its outer end). Match the ticks; the two sides line up there.

4. BACK SASH <-> BACK BODICE (BACK SASH JOIN) - gathered seam, 10 mm allowance: do not press it open. Finish the two allowances together; pressed toward the BACK BODICE the gathers stand up, pressed toward the BACK SASH they lie in flatter folds.

SHIRRED JOIN: first sew and steam the elastic rows and baste the band top to its finished target (Shirred band section). Gather BACK BODICE, ratio 1.60, onto that finished edge: 186.4 mm for this half-pattern seam, doubled for a piece cut on the fold. Match notches and sew; do not gather the flat band onto the ungathered bust.

notches - BACK SASH top edge (298 mm seam): double notch at 149 mm from its centre-line end (149 mm from its outer end); BACK BODICE arka gogus alti edge (298 mm seam): double notch at 149 mm from its centre-line end (149 mm from its outer end). Match the single ticks to the single ticks and the double ticks to the double ticks; the two sides line up there.

5. FRONT UNDERSKIRT <-> FRONT SASH + FRONT OVERSKIRT (FRONT SKIRT JOIN) - layered seam, 10 mm allowance; prepare each layer separately and join at one stitch line.

GATHER ONTO FINISHED BAND: gather FRONT UNDERSKIRT, ratio 2.00, to 170.0 mm for this half-pattern seam, doubled for a piece cut on the fold. The elastic rows and edge basting must already hold that finished length. Do not use the band's ungathered cut length as the sewing target.

Additional layer FRONT OVERSKIRT: Gather this layer independently to the finished band edge, 170.0 mm per half-pattern seam (double on fold), cut/sewn ratio 2.00. Baste to FRONT UNDERSKIRT, matching the notches; all layers share this single stitch line. Keep the free lower hems separate.

notches - FRONT UNDERSKIRT top edge (340 mm seam): single notch at 170 mm from its centre-line end (170 mm from its outer end); FRONT SASH hem edge (298 mm seam): single notch at 149 mm from its outer end (149 mm from its centre-line end). Match the ticks; the two sides line up there.

6. BACK UNDERSKIRT <-> BACK SASH + BACK OVERSKIRT (BACK SKIRT JOIN) - layered seam, 10 mm allowance; prepare each layer separately and join at one stitch line.

GATHER ONTO FINISHED BAND: gather BACK UNDERSKIRT, ratio 2.00, to 170.0 mm for this half-pattern seam, doubled for a piece cut on the fold. The elastic rows and edge basting must already hold that finished length. Do not use the band's ungathered cut length as the sewing target.

Additional layer BACK OVERSKIRT: Gather this layer independently to the finished band edge, 170.0 mm per half-pattern seam (double on fold), cut/sewn ratio 2.00. Baste to BACK UNDERSKIRT, matching the notches; all layers share this single stitch line. Keep the free lower hems separate.

notches - BACK UNDERSKIRT top edge (340 mm seam): double notch at 170 mm from its centre-line end (170 mm from its outer end); BACK SASH hem edge (298 mm seam): double notch at 149 mm from its outer end (149 mm from its centre-line end). Match the single ticks to the single ticks and the double ticks to the double ticks; the two sides line up there.

7. SLEEVE RUFFLE <-> SLEEVE (SLEEVE RUFFLE JOIN) - gathered seam, 10 mm allowance: do not press it open. Finish the two allowances together; pressed toward the SLEEVE RUFFLE the gathers stand up, pressed toward the SLEEVE they lie in flatter folds.

GATHER, ratio 1.50: the longer side is cut 50% longer than the side it is sewn to. Run two rows of long stitches along it, pull the threads until it matches the shorter side, spread the fullness evenly between the notches, then sew. The gathers stay visible - that is the point.

notches - SLEEVE RUFFLE top edge (417 mm seam): single notch at 208 mm from its centre-line end (208 mm from its outer end); SLEEVE hem edge (278 mm seam): single notch at 139 mm from its centre-line end (139 mm from its outer end). Match the ticks; the two sides line up there.

8. SLEEVE <-> BACK BODICE + FRONT BODICE (ARMHOLE) - gathered seam, 10 mm allowance: do not press it open. Finish the two allowances together; pressed toward the SLEEVE the gathers stand up, pressed toward the BACK BODICE + FRONT BODICE they lie in flatter folds.

Sew the cap only between the small ticks on the FRONT and BACK armhole, its lower corners exactly on them; stop and backstitch there.

Below the ticks the armhole is not sewn to the sleeve: its free part is finished on its own (UNDERARM FRONT and UNDERARM BACK, section 3c); the sleeve's lower edge is sewn to the SLEEVE RUFFLE (step 7), it is not bound. Clip the armhole allowance to the stitching at each tick so the free part lies flat.

GATHER, ratio 1.33: the longer side is cut 33% longer than the side it is sewn to. Run two rows of long stitches along it, pull the threads until it matches the shorter side, spread the fullness evenly between the notches, then sew. The gathers stay visible - that is the point.

FRONT BODICE: this seam starts at the small tick on its armhole edge; before the tick the edge is free (finished, not sewn to another piece).

BACK BODICE: this seam starts at the small tick on its armhole edge; before the tick the edge is free (finished, not sewn to another piece).

notches - SLEEVE front sleeve cap edge (151 mm of this piece's 347 mm seam): single notch at 0 mm, single notch at 64 mm from its centre-line end; the notch at 0 mm goes to the SHOULDER seam line (no partner tick); SLEEVE back sleeve cap edge (196 mm of this piece's 347 mm seam): double notch at 87 mm from its outer end; BACK BODICE armhole edge (148 mm seam): double notch at 65 mm from its lower end (82 mm from its upper end); FRONT BODICE armhole edge (114 mm seam): single notch at 65 mm from its lower end (48 mm from its upper end). Match the single ticks to the single ticks and the double ticks to the double ticks; the two sides line up there. The remaining 8 seams each close a ring - sew them after the flat work above, in this order.

9. BACK SASH <-> BACK SASH (BACK SASH) - CLOSING SEAM: this one closes a ring, so flat work becomes a tube. 10 mm allowance, press the allowances open.

ZIP OPENING: along the whole seam (125 mm); machine-baste the opening shut on the seam line, neaten both allowances and press the seam open. Prepare the remaining zip openings before inserting the single zip in the final zip step.

10. BACK BODICE <-> BACK BODICE (BACK CENTRE BODICE) - CLOSING SEAM: this one closes a ring, so flat work becomes a tube. 10 mm allowance, press the allowances open.

ZIP OPENING: along the whole seam (220 mm); machine-baste the opening shut on the seam line, neaten both allowances and press the seam open. Prepare the remaining zip openings before inserting the single zip in the final zip step.

11. BACK OVERSKIRT <-> BACK OVERSKIRT (OVERSKIRT CENTRE BACK) - CLOSING SEAM: this one closes a ring, so flat work becomes a tube. 10 mm allowance, press the allowances open.

ZIP OPENING: from 34% to 100% of its length (190 mm); sew the other 100 mm of this seam with a normal stitch, backstitching at the zip stop, machine-baste the opening shut on the seam line, neaten both allowances and press the seam open. This opening overlaps the parallel layer (UNDERSKIRT CENTRE BACK): baste both layers together only inside the shared zip zone and fit one zip through them. Keep their seams below the zip stop separate. Install the zip after both layer openings are prepared, as section 3b describes.

notches - BACK OVERSKIRT centre back edge (290 mm seam): double notch at 100 mm from its lower end (190 mm from its upper end). Match the single ticks to the single ticks and the double ticks to the double ticks; the two sides line up there.

12. BACK UNDERSKIRT <-> BACK UNDERSKIRT (UNDERSKIRT CENTRE BACK) - CLOSING SEAM: this one closes a ring, so flat work becomes a tube. 10 mm allowance, press the allowances open.

ZIP OPENING: from 50% to 100% of its length (190 mm); sew the other 190 mm of this seam with a normal stitch, backstitching at the zip stop, machine-baste the opening shut on the seam line, neaten both allowances and press the seam open. This opening overlaps the parallel layer (OVERSKIRT CENTRE BACK): baste both layers together only inside the shared zip zone and fit one zip through them. Keep their seams below the zip stop separate. Install the zip after both layer openings are prepared, as section 3b describes.

notches - BACK UNDERSKIRT centre back edge (380 mm seam): double notch at 190 mm from its lower end (190 mm from its upper end). Match the single ticks to the single ticks and the double ticks to the double ticks; the two sides line up there.

13. FRONT UNDERSKIRT <-> BACK UNDERSKIRT (UNDERSKIRT SIDE SEAM) - CLOSING SEAM: this one closes a ring, so flat work becomes a tube. 10 mm allowance, press the allowances open.

14. FRONT OVERSKIRT <-> BACK OVERSKIRT (OVERSKIRT SIDE SEAM) - CLOSING SEAM: this one closes a ring, so flat work becomes a tube. 10 mm allowance, press the allowances open.

15. FRONT SASH <-> BACK SASH (SASH SIDE) - CLOSING SEAM: this one closes a ring, so flat work becomes a tube. 10 mm allowance, press the allowances open.

16. BACK BODICE <-> FRONT BODICE (BODICE SIDE SEAM) - CLOSING SEAM: this one closes a ring, so flat work becomes a tube. 10 mm allowance, press the allowances open.

3b. Zip and pieces sewn onto the surface

Zip: a centred zip, as the views show - the opening is 535 mm; buy a 55 cm zip. It is longer than the opening: put it in with its top stop at the neck as below; at the opening's lower end whip-stitch a new stop by hand across the teeth (8-10 stitches) and cut the zip 20 mm below it. With the zip opening machine-basted shut on the seam line, neaten and pressed open (steps above), lay the zip face down on the allowances, teeth centred on the seam, top stop 13 mm below the raw neck edge so it clears the neck seam. From the right side stitch 6.5 mm either side of the seam and straight across just below the stop, then unpick the basting. Put it in before the seams that cross its lower end are closed, then finish the neck edge over the tape ends. Where the zip crosses a layered join (gathered BACK UNDERSKIRT + flat BACK SASH + gathered BACK OVERSKIRT), grade the allowances first: trim BACK OVERSKIRT's to 5 mm and BACK UNDERSKIRT's to 7 mm across the zip, press them toward the bodice, and stitch slowly over the bulk.

3c. Complete edge finishes

HEM (FRONT UNDERSKIRT + BACK UNDERSKIRT): one, finished edge 1360 mm. Design assumption, not a measured source detail.

The cutting pattern includes exactly 6 mm on this edge. Turn the raw edge 3 mm to the wrong side, then turn another 3 mm; the second fold is the drawn finished edge. Press and stitch close to the inner fold. Distribute any extra length evenly without pleats; test the hem turn on the toile before cutting the final fabric.

HEM (FRONT OVERSKIRT + BACK OVERSKIRT): one, finished edge 1360 mm. Design assumption, not a measured

source detail.

The cutting pattern includes exactly 6 mm on this edge. Turn the raw edge 3 mm to the wrong side, then turn another 3 mm; the second fold is the drawn finished edge. Press and stitch close to the inner fold. Distribute any extra length evenly without pleats; test the hem turn on the toile before cutting the final fabric.

SLEEVE RUFFLE EDGE: one, the edge as printed on the piece. Design assumption, not a measured source detail.

The cutting pattern includes exactly 6 mm on this edge. Turn the raw edge 3 mm to the wrong side, then turn another 3 mm; the second fold is the drawn finished edge. Press and stitch close to the inner fold. Distribute any extra length evenly without pleats; test the hem turn on the toile before cutting the final fabric.

NECK RUFFLE EDGE: one, the edge as printed on the piece. Design assumption, not a measured source detail.

The cutting pattern includes exactly 6 mm on this edge. Turn the raw edge 3 mm to the wrong side, then turn another 3 mm; the second fold is the drawn finished edge. Press and stitch close to the inner fold. Distribute any extra length evenly without pleats; test the hem turn on the toile before cutting the final fabric.

UNDERARM FRONT (FRONT BODICE): 2 edges, 78 mm each. Design assumption, not a measured source detail.

Use ready-made single-fold bias tape, 10 mm wide (21 mm unfolded), in a colour that matches the cloth: it turns fully to the inside and is not seen from outside. Cut 98 mm for each of 2 edges: measured length + two 10 mm end turns. This is a purchased notion, not included in the cloth layout.

The cutting pattern includes 6 mm seam allowance on this edge. Fold each short end under 10 mm first. Unfold one long edge of the tape and lay it on the right side of the edge, raw edges together; stitch along the tape's crease, 6 mm from the edge. Trim the allowance to 3 mm and clip inward curves every 10 mm up to the stitching (not through it). Press tape and allowance away from the garment and understitch them together 2 mm from the seam. Turn the tape fully to the inside, rolling the seam 1 mm inward so it cannot be seen, and press. Do not topstitch: the edge shows no stitching from outside. Pin the tape flat to the inside and slipstitch its folded edge by hand, catching only one or two threads of the garment cloth with each stitch, and tack it to every seam allowance it crosses.

UNDERARM BACK (BACK BODICE): 2 edges, 56 mm each. Design assumption, not a measured source detail.

Use ready-made single-fold bias tape, 10 mm wide (21 mm unfolded), in a colour that matches the cloth: it turns fully to the inside and is not seen from outside. Cut 76 mm for each of 2 edges: measured length + two 10 mm end turns. This is a purchased notion, not included in the cloth layout.

The cutting pattern includes 6 mm seam allowance on this edge. Fold each short end under 10 mm first. Unfold one long edge of the tape and lay it on the right side of the edge, raw edges together; stitch along the tape's crease, 6 mm from the edge. Trim the allowance to 3 mm and clip inward curves every 10 mm up to the stitching (not through it). Press tape and allowance away from the garment and understitch them together 2 mm from the seam. Turn the tape fully to the inside, rolling the seam 1 mm inward so it cannot be seen, and press. Do not topstitch: the edge shows no stitching from outside. Pin the tape flat to the inside and slipstitch its folded edge by hand, catching only one or two threads of the garment cloth with each stitch, and tack it to every seam allowance it crosses.

BACK NECK: 2 edges, 142 mm each. Design assumption, not a measured source detail.

Use ready-made single-fold bias tape, 10 mm wide (21 mm unfolded), in a colour that matches the cloth: it turns fully to the inside and is not seen from outside. Cut 324 mm for one edge: measured length + two 10 mm end turns. This is a purchased notion, not included in the cloth layout.

The cutting pattern includes 6 mm seam allowance on this edge. Fold each short end under 10 mm first. Unfold one long edge of the tape and lay it on the right side of the edge, raw edges together; stitch along the tape's crease, 6 mm from the edge. Trim the allowance to 3 mm and clip inward curves every 10 mm up to the stitching (not through it). Press tape and allowance away from the garment and understitch them together 2 mm from the seam. Turn the tape fully to the inside, rolling the seam 1 mm inward so it cannot be seen, and press. Do not topstitch: the edge shows no stitching from outside. Pin the tape flat to the inside and slipstitch its folded edge by hand, catching only one or two threads of the garment cloth with each stitch, and tack it to every seam allowance it crosses.

4. Machine, needle and thread

Fabric mechanics have not been verified for this pattern. These are general examples. Pick your fabric first, then read your row from the table below.

For a light cotton: Universal needle 80/12, all-purpose polyester thread, stitch length 2.5 mm.

Choose the row for your actual cloth and test on a scrap:

- cotton and other light wovens (lawn, poplin, gingham, voile): Universal 70/10 - 90/14
- fine and sheer (chiffon, organza, silk): Microtex (or Universal) 60/8 - 70/10
- linen: Universal 70/10 - 90/14
- woven wool and tweed: Universal 80/12 - 90/14
- cotton twill / denim: Jeans 70/10 - 110/18
- jersey and knits: Jersey (ball point) 60/8 - 80/12
- very stretchy knits: Stretch 75/11 or 90/14
- satin, silk, microfibre: Microtex 60/8 - 90/14

Interfacing: choose a type compatible with your actual cloth and test a scrap first. Follow its manufacturer instructions for temperature, moisture, pressing time and cooling. The printed appearance does not identify the fabric or its interfacing requirements.

Needle and stitch-length figures: Schmetz "Needles by Fabric Type"; thread: Gutermann Sew-all No. 100; stitch length: Deer & Doe; interfacing: Vlieseline.