

Sew Caroline's **AFTERNOON SKIRT**

This skirt can easily be sewn in an array of different fabric and features a button-down front closure and must-sew pockets!

Project **CAROLINE HULSE**

Photography **SARAH DELANIE**

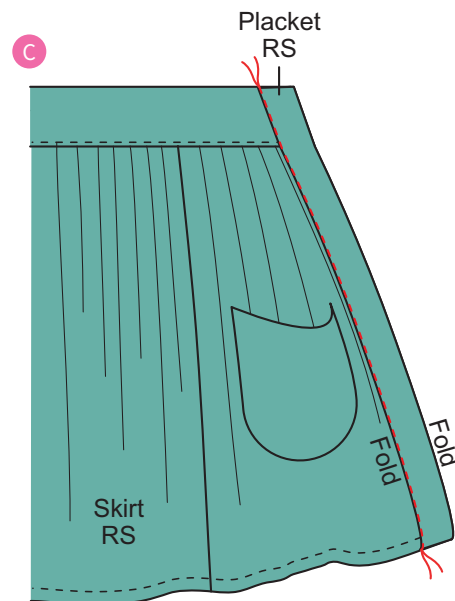
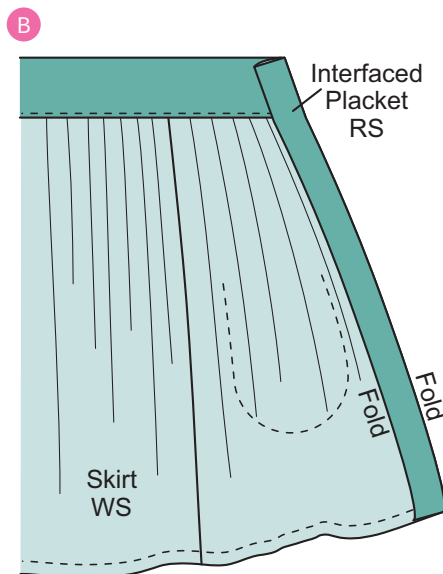
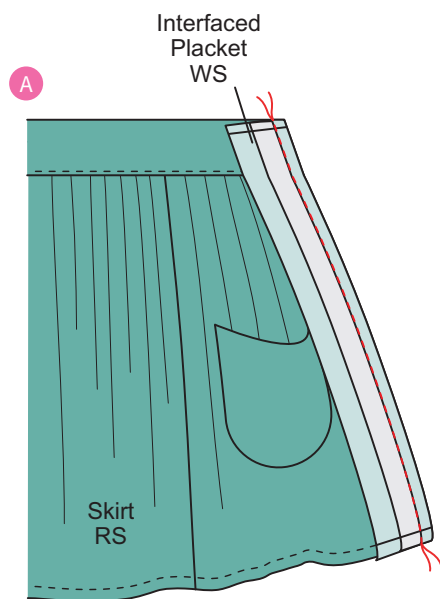
Illustrations **SUE FRIEND & CAROLINE HULSE**



Shopping WE USED



Coming Home cotton
voile in Spring, April
Rhodes for Art Gallery
Fabrics, see www.hantex.co.uk/mystockist for
your local retailer



SIZING:

	X Small	Small	Medium	Large	X Large	XX Large
Bust	31"	33¾"	36½"	39½"	42"	44¾"
	78cm	85cm	92cm	100cm	107cm	114cm
Waist	24½"	27½"	30"	32¾"	35½"	38¼"
	62cm	69cm	76cm	84cm	91cm	98cm
Hips	34"	36¾"	39½"	42¼"	45"	47¾"
	86cm	93cm	100cm	108cm	115cm	122cm

Skill level ♥♥

MATERIALS:

- ♥ 2 yards 44"-wide fabric or XS-M, 1½ yards 54"-wide fabric or L-XXL, 1¾ yards 54"-wide fabric
- ♥ ½ yard 20"-wide fusible interfacing
- ♥ buttonhole foot
- ♥ 6 ½" buttons
- ♥ templates downloaded from www.lovesewingmag.co.uk

NOTES:

Light to medium-weight woven fabric such as quilting cotton, chambray, lightweight denim, rayon or voile are recommended

How to make:

1 Lay the skirt back piece RS up and align the skirt front pieces so the skirt back and skirt fronts are RS together and the outer edges align. Pin the side seams in place. Stitch along the pinned edges with a 1.5cm seam allowance (use this same allowance unless told otherwise). Finish the seams using a zigzag stitch or overlocker.

2 Stitch two rows of basting stitches at ⅛" and ¼" along the top edge of the skirt. Gather the skirt using the waistband as

a guide for how wide the top of the skirt should be. Wrap the gathering thread around the pins to temporarily hold the gathering. Align the two marks/notches on the waistband with the side seams of the skirt.

3 Align the waistband front to the top of the skirt with RST. Adjust the gathering evenly around the skirt as needed, pin it in place and stitch. Press the waistband and seam allowance up.

4 Press the bottom edge of the waistband lining toward the WS at ¼". Pin it with the unfolded edge aligned with the top edge of the waistband front, RS together. Stitch along the pinned edge and press this seam allowance toward the waistband.

5 Flip the waistband lining toward the inside of the skirt and press the top seam for a nice flat finish. The folded edge of the waistband lining should fall just below the waistband stitch line. Pin the waistband in place and flip the skirt to the RS. Stitch in the ditch of the waistband, being sure to catch the waistband lining on the WS. Remove pins as you go.

6 Press all edges of the pocket (except for the top) toward the WS at ¼". Fold the top edge of a pocket piece down ¼" and again ¼". Press and top-stitch in place. Repeat for the second pocket.

7 Lay the pockets on the skirt on top of the designated markers. Pin them and edge-stitch in place along the sides and bottom. Hem the skirt by folding and pressing the bottom hem toward the WS at 1" and again at 1". Top-stitch in place. Be sure to catch the edge of the hem on the WS of the skirt.

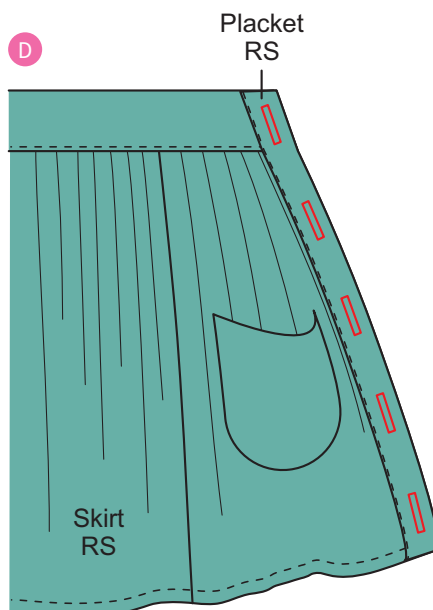
8 Add interfacing to one of the plackets following the manufacturer's instructions. Align the interfaced placket piece with the RS (left side as you are facing) of the skirt with RST. Pin and stitch it in place at ⅜". Press this seam allowance toward the placket. (See Pic A.)

9 Fold and press the opposite edge of the placket at ⅜" toward the WS.

10 Flip the placket toward the inside of the skirt along the placket's centre line and press the edge seam for a nice flat finish. The inner folded edge of the placket should fall just to the right of the placket stitch line. (See Pic B.) Pin the placket in place and flip the skirt to the RS. Stitch in the ditch of the placket, being sure to catch the placket lining on the WS. Remove pins as you go. (See Pic C.) Repeat steps 8 to 10 for the left side of the skirt. You will use the non-interfaced placket piece.

Top tip!

On thicker fabric, try zigzagging over a piece of cord. Then simply pull the cord to gather more easily



11 Press the placket and transfer the buttonhole markings from the buttonhole marker template to the right placket (left as you are facing). Using the buttonhole foot on your sewing machine, sew the buttonholes. Use a seam ripper to very carefully make slits in the buttonholes. (See Pic D.) Mark on the left side (right as you are facing) the button placement and attach the buttons by using your button attachment foot on your sewing machine or by hand-sewing them to your skirt.

Further information



Sew Caroline - Weekend Style, available now priced £18 (Fons & Porter).

Masterclass BEAUTIFUL BUTTONHOLES

Sometimes the pressure feels like it's mounting when buttonholes are the last thing to make on a garment and you're not confident they'll go to plan. Here are three tips and tool suggestions to help ease your mind

1 MARKING

Take your time when measuring and use a fine fabric pen to mark the button position. If you need a little extra help, try a Simflex Expanding Sewing Gauge £18.40, www.quiltdirect.co.uk

2 SEWING

Practise with scraps of fabric, ensuring they are folded or interfaced in the same way your garment is to accurately reproduce what you'll encounter. Make sure the thread in the top and bottom bobbins is the same as any difference can lead to tension issues. Finally, it's worth investing in a machine with one-step buttonholes if you're going to sew

them regularly – you load in your button, line up your fabric and press the pedal. The machine will do the rest to create the perfect buttonhole.

3 CUTTING

If you feel a little nervous, place a pin crosswise at each end of your buttonhole just inside the stitching. This will stop you accidentally ripping through the ends as you open the buttonhole. For a precise and quick method try a Clover Buttonhole Cutter £9, www.sewessential.co.uk



afternoon skirt

PRINT THE PDF

1. Open this pattern sheet PDF pages using Adobe Acrobat Reader X or higher. This is a free download available at <http://www.adobe.com/products/reader.html>
2. When preparing to print the PDF, make sure that you are printing it at "Actual Size" (100%) and that there is no scaling. Check the settings for page scaling (should be "None") and check the preview to make sure that you will be printing at full size. Make sure that the box labeled "Auto-Rotate and Center" is unchecked. (These instructions apply specifically to Adobe Reader. If you're using another PDF reader, check for similar settings.)
3. To ensure that the pattern prints at the correct scale, start by printing only this first page (Page 1), and check the size of the 1" square. This square should measure 1" x 1" (2.54cm x 2.54cm) when printed.
4. Print the remaining pattern sheet PDF pages once you've confirmed the size of the square.



This square should measure 1" x 1"
(2.54cm x 2.54cm) when printed.



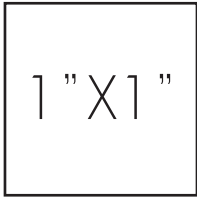
ASSEMBLE THE PDF

1. Cut off or fold back the dotted margin around each page.
2. Begin assembling each pattern sheet by lining up the page edges and taping them together. Use the illustrated guide on the following page (Page 2) to match each piece properly.

FIND AND TRACE YOUR PIECES

1. In the top left corner of the fully assembled pattern sheet, you'll see a box that has instructions for finding each of the pattern pieces you need.
2. Trace the pattern pieces onto pattern paper and copy all markings and seam numbers onto your new paper pattern pieces. Check them against the drawings in the instructions to ensure they were copied correctly.



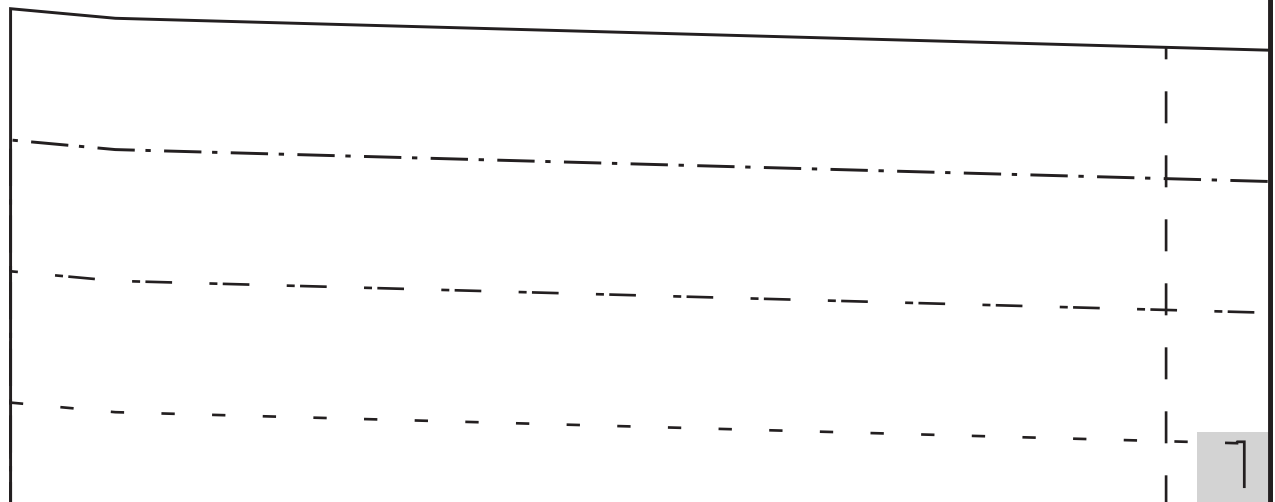


5CM X 5CM

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4	- - - - -
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8	· · · · ·
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22	=====



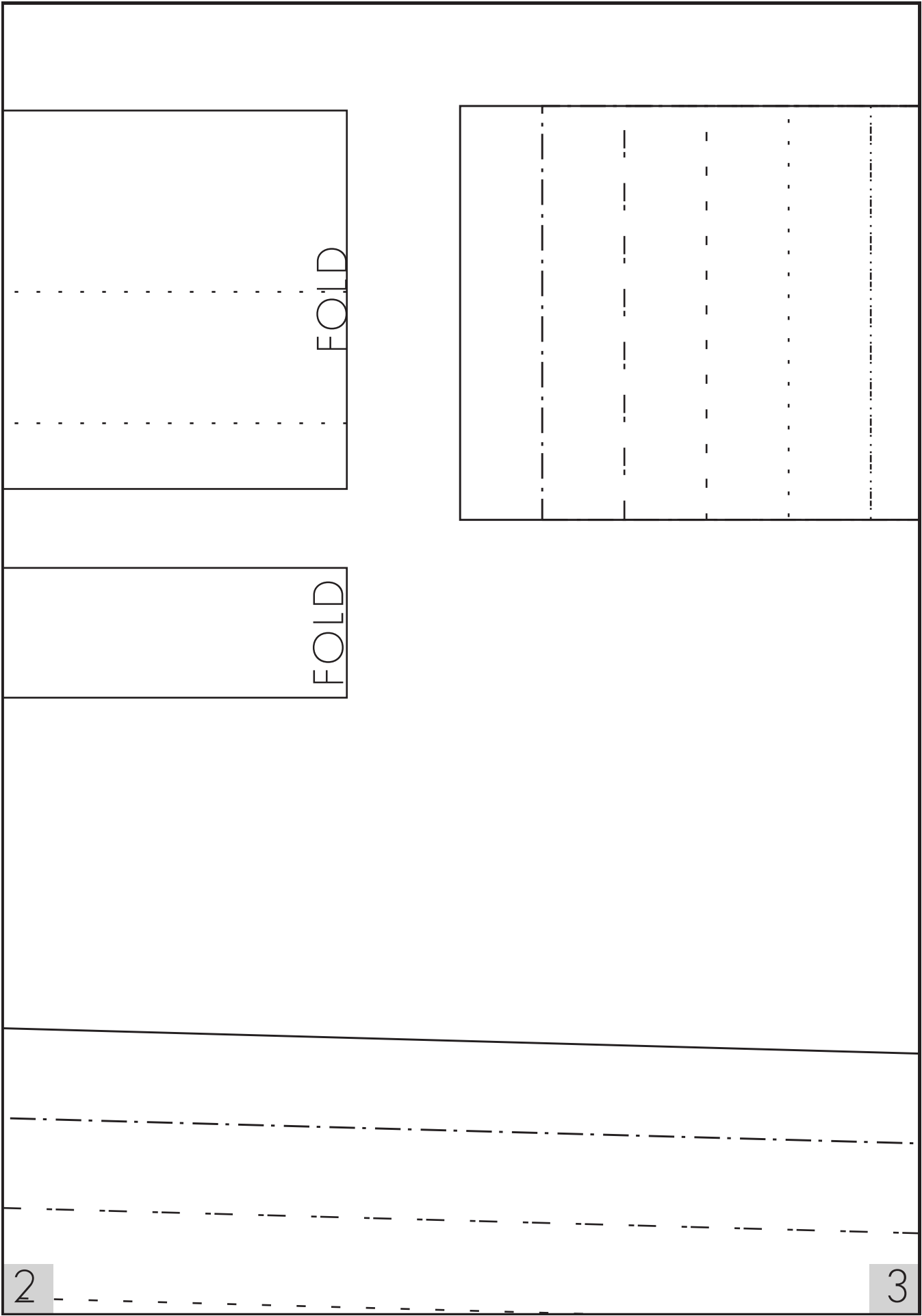
AFTERNOON SKIRT
INTERFACING



←→
AFTERNOON SKIRT
BUTTON PLACKET
CUT TWO ON FOLD

CUT ONE ON FOLD





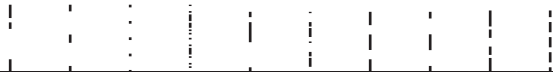
AFTER
WAISTBAND &
CUT TV

| !

3

4

AFTERNOON SKIRT
& WAISTBAND LINING
CUT TWO ON FOLD



AFTERNOON SKIRT
POCKET
CUT TWO



0-6

8-14

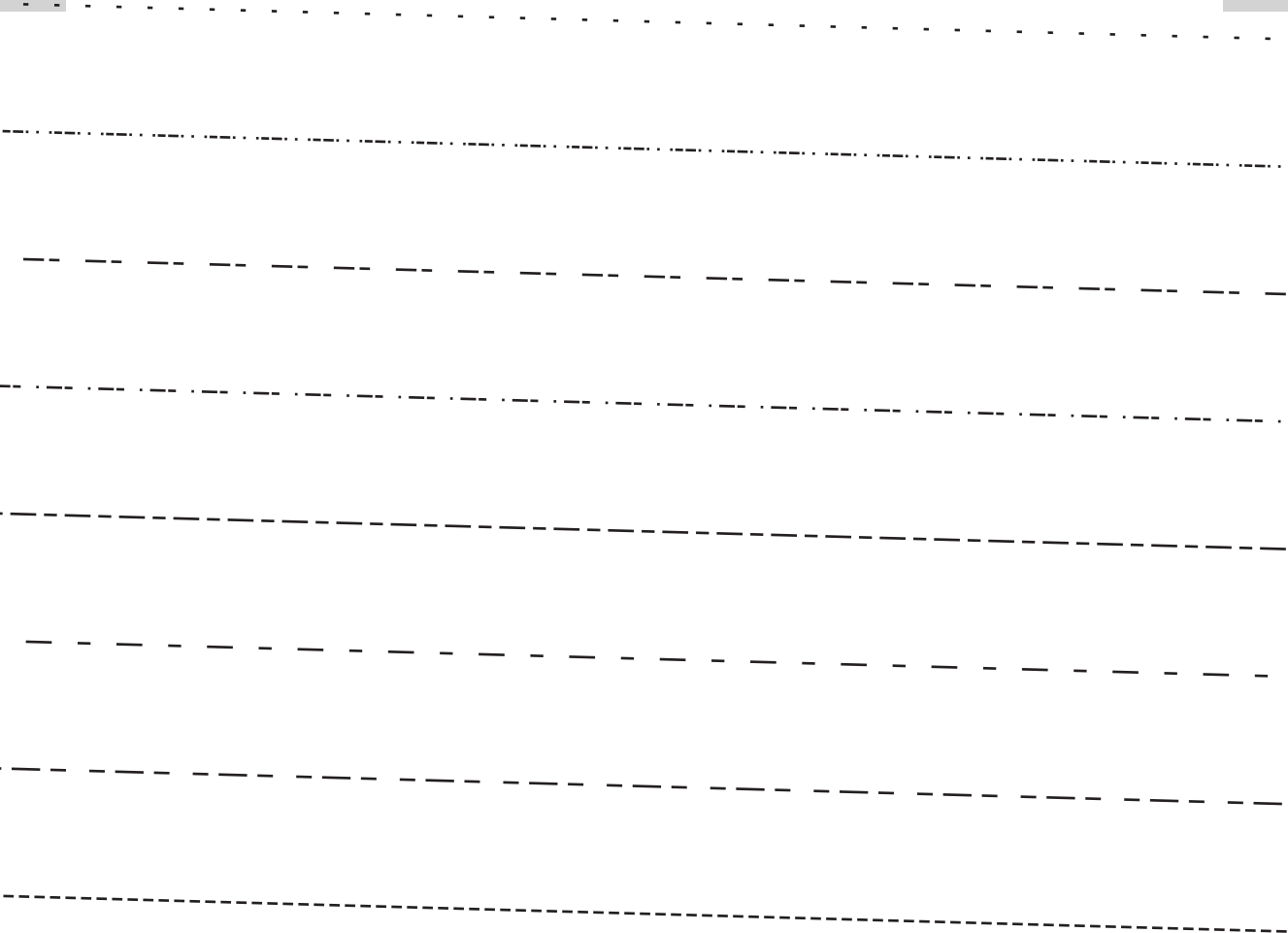
16-22

FOLD

SHORTEN/LENGTHEN LINE

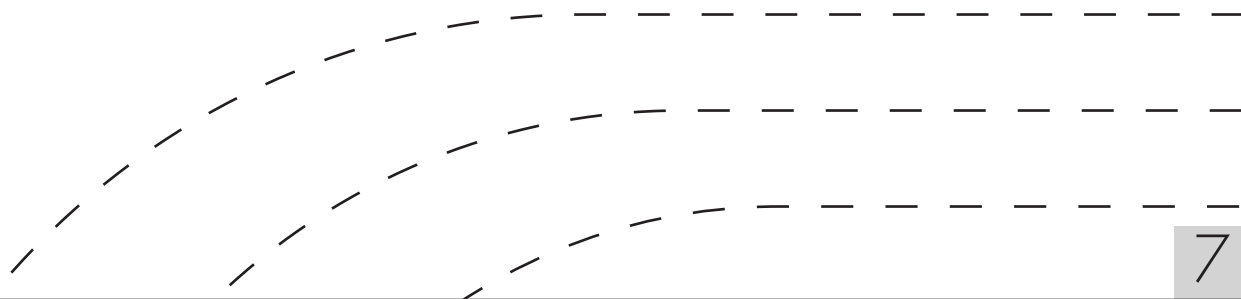
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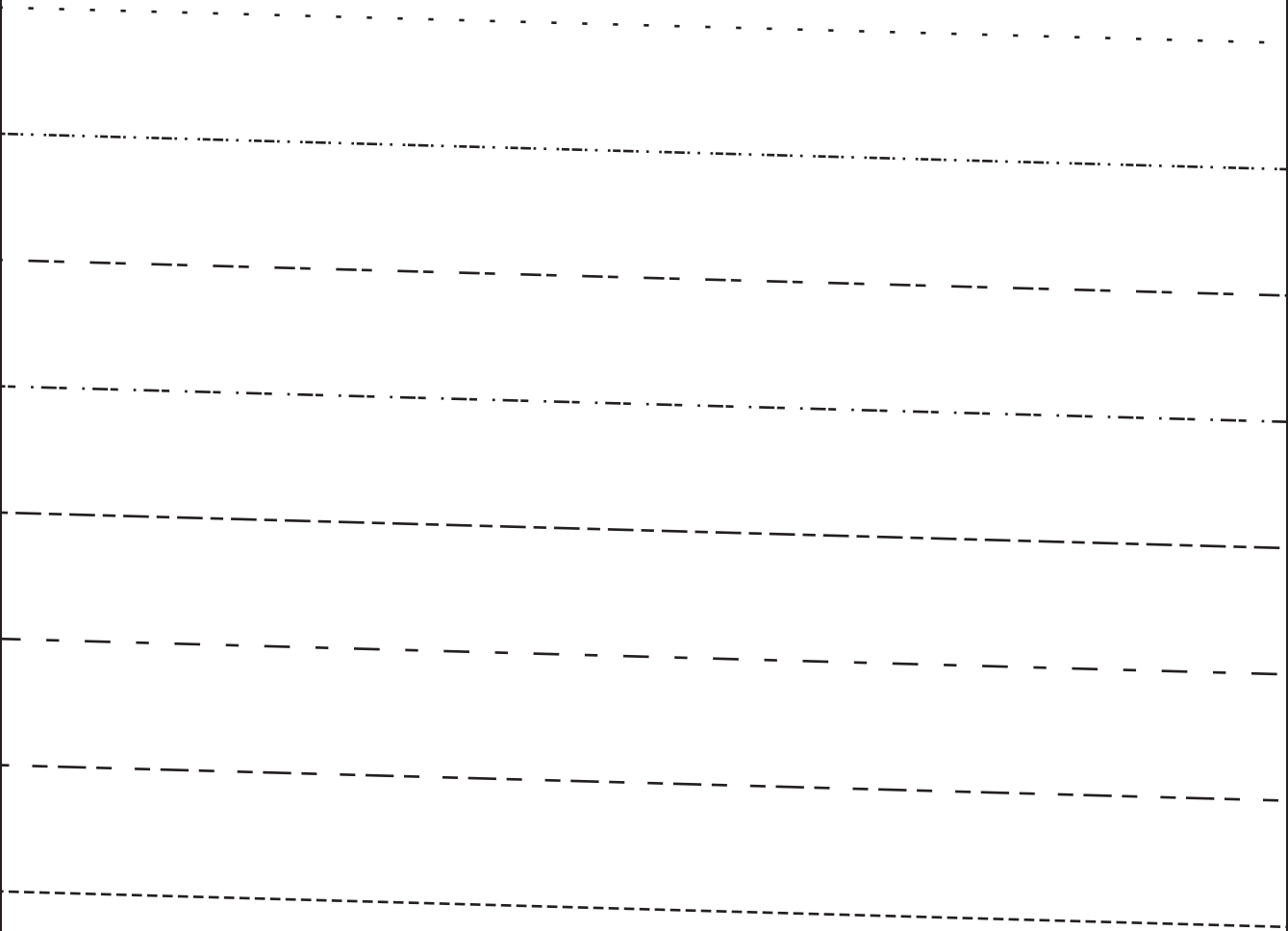
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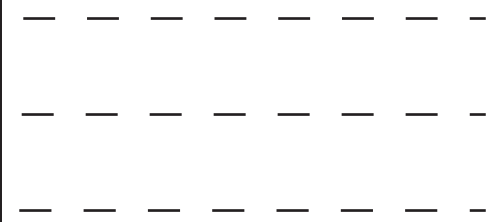
3



FRONT: CUT
BACK: CUT

7

8



3

4

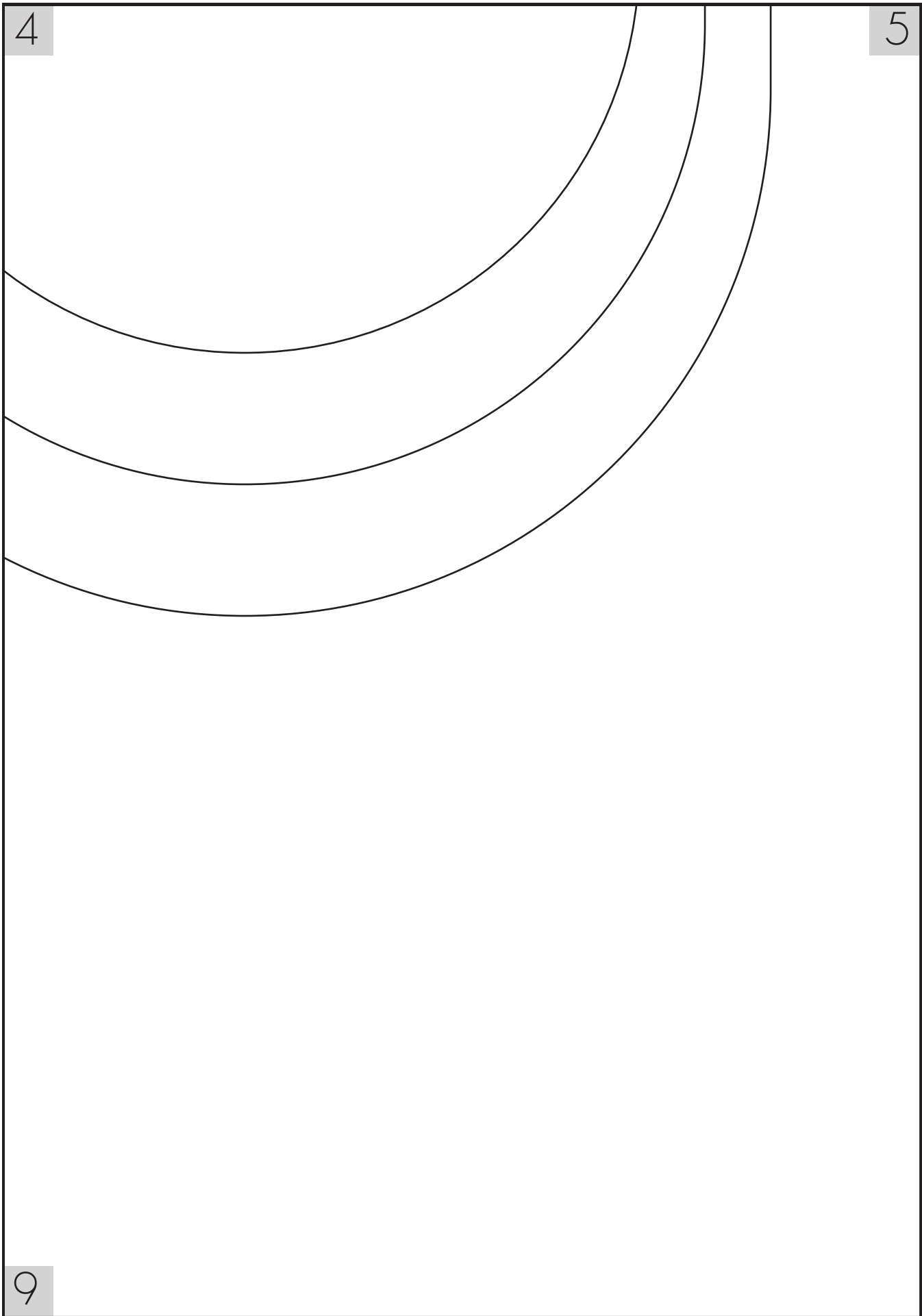
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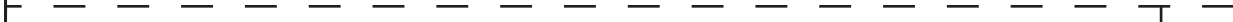
9

4

5

9





7

6

16-22 FRONT ONLY
8-14 FRONT ONLY
0-6 FRONT ONLY

NE FOR FRONT
LINE FOR BACK

8

AFTERNOON SKIRT
FRONT AND BACK
TWO MIRORED - SOLID LINE
ONE ON FOLD - DASHED LINE

7

STITCHING FOR
STITCHING FOR
STITCHING FOR 0-6
CUT LINE FOR
FOLD LINE

8

9
