

Vintage-inspired pussybow blouse

Essentials

- Chiffon, 3m, 150cm wide or 3.5m, 114cm wide
- Very lightweight sew-in or bias interfacing, 10cm
- Buttons, 12mm-15mm, 11
- Coordinating sewing thread

Dimensions

Finished Measurements	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
Bust (cm)	102cm	107cm	112cm	117cm	124cm	129cm	135cm
Waist (cm)	97cm	102cm	107cm	112cm	118cm	124cm	130cm
Hip (cm)	106cm	110cm	116cm	121cm	127cm	133cm	139cm

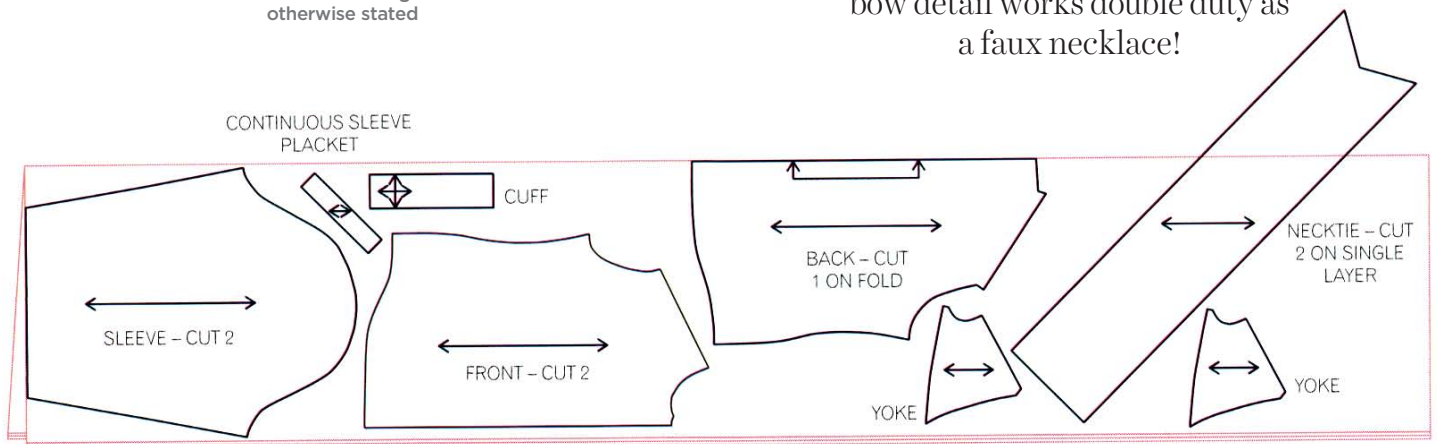
Cutting guide

Front, cut two
Back, cut one on fold
Yoke, cut four
Necktie, cut two
Sleeve, cut two

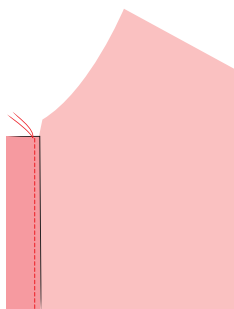
Continuous sleeve placket, cut two
Cuff, cut two in fabric and two in interfacing
A 1.5cm seam allowance is included throughout unless otherwise stated

Feel feminine in a silk retro revival style

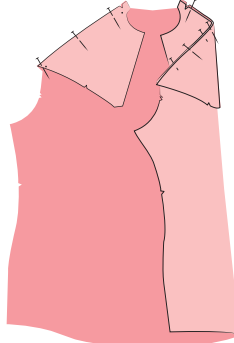
Inspired by the elegant and feminine blouses of the 1970s, this classic pussybow blouse has been made up in luxurious chiffon. The full sleeves are gathered at the wrist onto a buttoned cuff, and the front of the blouse gathers softly onto a yoke. Worn with a pair of smart tailored trousers, this makes an elegant boardroom outfit that works just as well worn on a night out. And there's no need to accessorise, as the bow detail works double duty as a faux necklace!



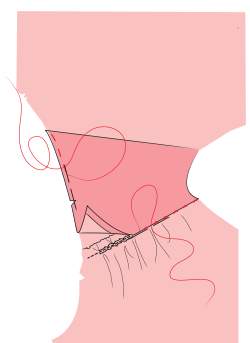
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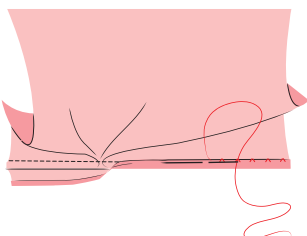
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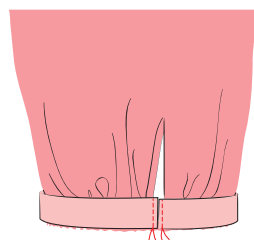
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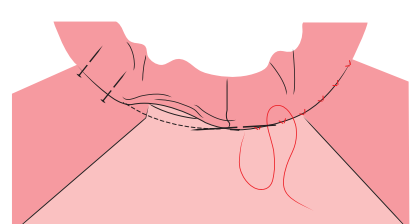
4



5



6



MAKE UP IN
LACE, CHIFFON,
CRÊPE DE CHINE
OR CHARMEUSE

sew a blouse

1 Visit www.sewmag.co.uk to download and print the pattern. Trace off the pieces and cut out from fabric, transferring any pattern markings. Along the front edges of the front pieces, fold under and press 2cm to the wrong side. Hand tack across the top and bottom.

2 Fold under and press another 2cm to the wrong side, so that all the raw edges are encased. This forms the button stand. Turn the second fold back to the right side. Machine stitch across the top of the fold from the centre front to the outside edge. Make a small snip from the neck edge to the stitches.

3 Turn the button stand through to the wrong side and re-press the front edge. You should have a finished 'step' at the top of the button stand and the raw edge should be completely encased. Edge stitch 3mm from the inner folded edge, securing the button stand in place [1]. Repeat on the opposite front piece.

4 Set your sewing machine to a long stitch length. Working on the right side between the circles, sew a row of stitches inside the seam allowance at the front shoulders, a fraction away from the seam line, about 1.2cm from the edge. Start with a back stitch, but don't finish the row of stitches with one. Sew a second parallel row of stitches still inside the seam allowance, a little way from the first row.

5 Working on the wrong side, pull on the bobbin threads, sliding the fabric along until it is the same length as the front edge of the yoke. Once the correct length, draw the threads through to the wrong side and knot them or wrap them around a pin in a figure-of-eight. With right sides together, pin the longer edges of two of the yokes to the back of the blouse, matching up the notches and circles.

6 Lay the second yoke pieces, which act as facings, over the pinned seams, with the right side of these yoke pieces against the wrong side of the back shoulder seam, effectively sandwiching the back between two yoke layers. Pin in place [2]. Stitch the back shoulder seams, sewing through all three layers. Press the yoke pieces away from the back, so that the seam allowances are sandwiched in between the two. Press under a 1.5cm fold on the front edge of the yoke facing piece.



French connection

French seams are enclosed seams that are stitched twice, so there are no visible raw edges either on the inside or outside of the garment, making them very robust.

7 With right sides together and matching up the circles, pin the gathered front seam to the front edge of the yoke piece. Stitch the front yoke seam; your stitches should be just to the left of the rows of gathering. Repeat on the opposite side of the front. Pin the previously pressed edge of the yoke facing over the gathered front shoulder, lining up the folded edge with the seam line. Slip stitch it in place. Hand tack around the armhole edge of the yokes [3]. These two layers will now be treated as a single piece.

8 Fold the blouse in half at the shoulders, so that the right side is facing outwards. Pin the side seams wrong sides together and sew, taking a 1cm seam allowance; this is only part of the total seam allowance, as French seams are sewn twice. Trim the seam allowance down to 3mm. Press the seam open, then press it to one side. Re-fold the fabric so that the right sides are now together, with the previous seam line on the folded edge, then press the seam flat. Pin 5mm from the outside edge, then sew. Press the seam towards the back of the blouse.

9 Sew two rows of gathering stitches around the head of each sleeve, between the marked circles. Reinforce the marked slash line at the lower edge of both the sleeves by stitching closely around it in a V shape. Slash the opening to a narrow point. Fold under and press 6mm along one long edge of the sleeve placket, then press the second placket in the same way.

10 Open up the bottom of the sleeve opening, so that it lies in a straight line. With right sides together, pin and tack the unpressed edge of the placket to the sleeve along the length of the slashed edge. Machine stitch along the unfolded edge of the placket. Press the seam allowance in towards the placket. Fold the pressed edge of the placket over to the wrong side of the sleeve and pin over the seam allowance. Slip stitch the placket in place [4].

11 Working from the inside, fold the sleeve in half, aligning the short ends of the placket, and sew a short diagonal row of stitching across the top edge of the placket from the fold closest to the sleeve across to the other side of the placket. This reinforces the opening. Join the underarm seam of the sleeves with a French seam. Repeat for the other sleeve.

12 Apply interfacing to the wrong side of the two cuff pieces, hand tacking it inside the seam allowances. Fold under and press 1.5cm along one long edge of the sleeve cuff. Gather up the lower edge of the sleeve to fit the cuff. With right sides together, aligning the raw edges, pin and stitch the cuff to the bottom of the sleeve, leaving 1.5cm

overhanging at either end. Press the seam allowance towards the cuff.

13 Fold the cuff in half, with right sides together and the long, folded edge aligned with the seam line. Machine stitch across the short ends from the previous seam line to the lower folded edge [5]. Turn the cuff through to the wrong side, work out the corners and press well. Slip stitch the cuff on the inside of the sleeve along the previous seam line.

14 Turn the sleeves right side out and slip them through the armholes so that the right sides are together. Match up the underarm seams with the side seams, the shoulder seam with the circle on the yoke, and the double and single notches. Pin around the armhole from one end of the gathering around to the underarm seam and up to the opposite end. Pull the gathering threads until the sleeve head fits into the top of the armhole, then pin and stitch it in place. Trim the armhole seam allowance to 1cm and neaten.

15 With right sides together, pin then stitch the two necktie pieces together at the centre. Neaten the seam and press open. With right sides together, fold the necktie in half lengthways. Stitch around the edge, leaving an opening in the middle between the two circles. Turn out and press well.



get
the
book



For this and many more great garment patterns, check out *The Great British Sewing Bee: Fashion with Fabric* by Claire-Louise Hardie (£25, Quadrille). Photography by Charlotte Melicott.

16 With right sides together, pin one side of the unstitched section of the necktie to the neckline. Stitch in place, then press the neckline seam allowances inside the necktie. Matching up the centre back seams, fold the necktie over to the inside of the neckline, so the finished edge sits just over the previous seam line. Pin and slip stitch it to the seam line around the neck [6]. The neckline should now be neatly covered by the folded necktie.

17 Making a total hem allowance of 1cm, turn under a narrow double hem around the bottom of the blouse and edge stitch in place. Mark the position of the buttonholes, spacing them evenly. Sew them on the right front, then stitch the buttons onto the left. Make a buttonhole on one side of the cuffs, and sew on a corresponding button.

the haberdashery



Sheer fabric

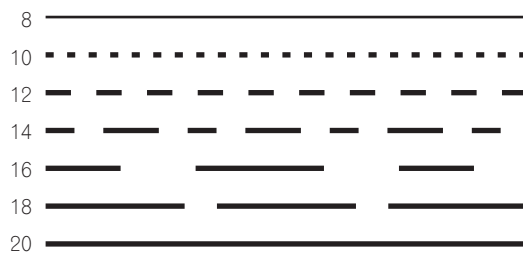
This blouse is perfect for using sheer fabrics like this cationic chiffon in Mocha, priced £3.99 per metre, www.calicolaine.co.uk



Vintage Inspired Blouse

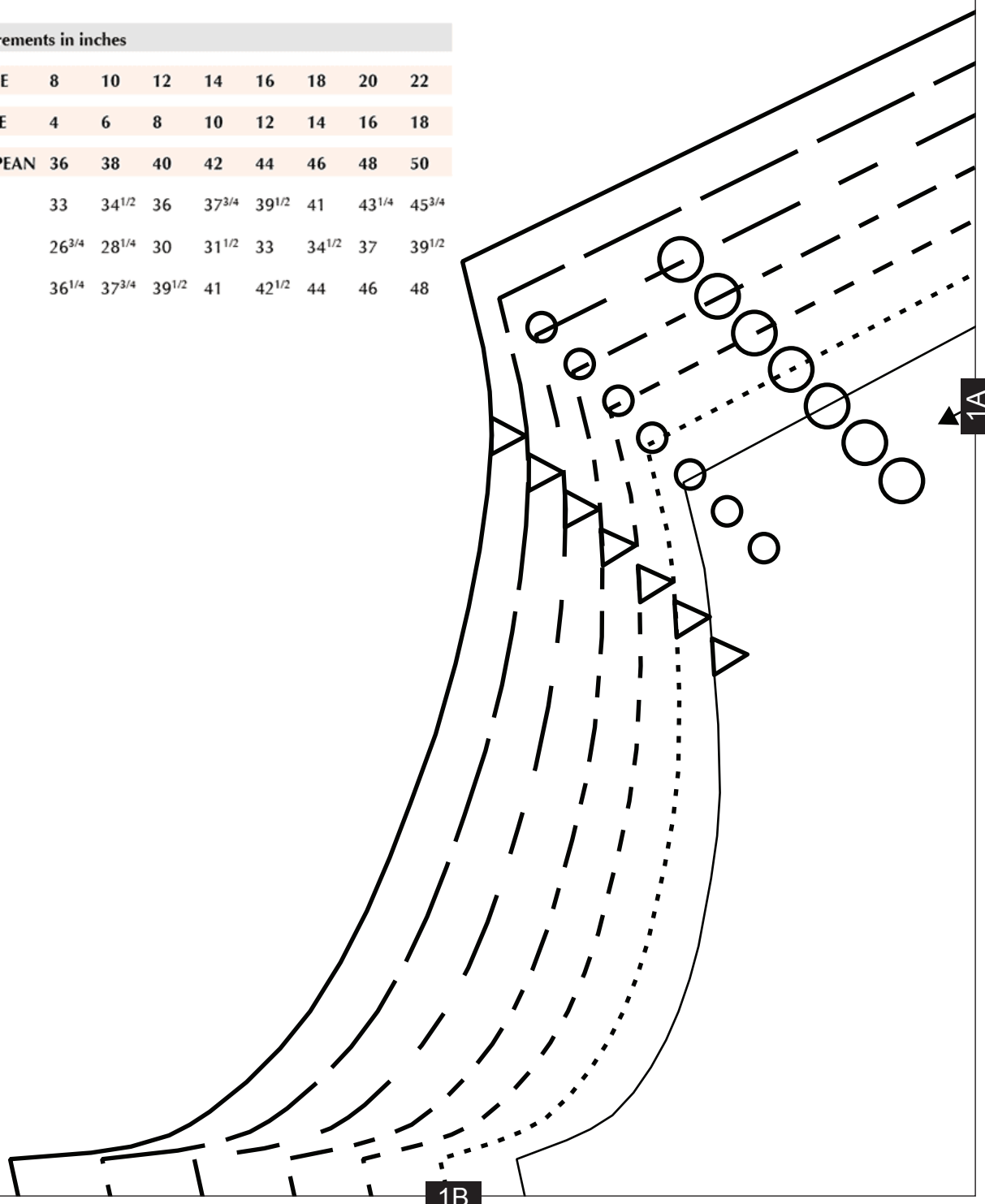
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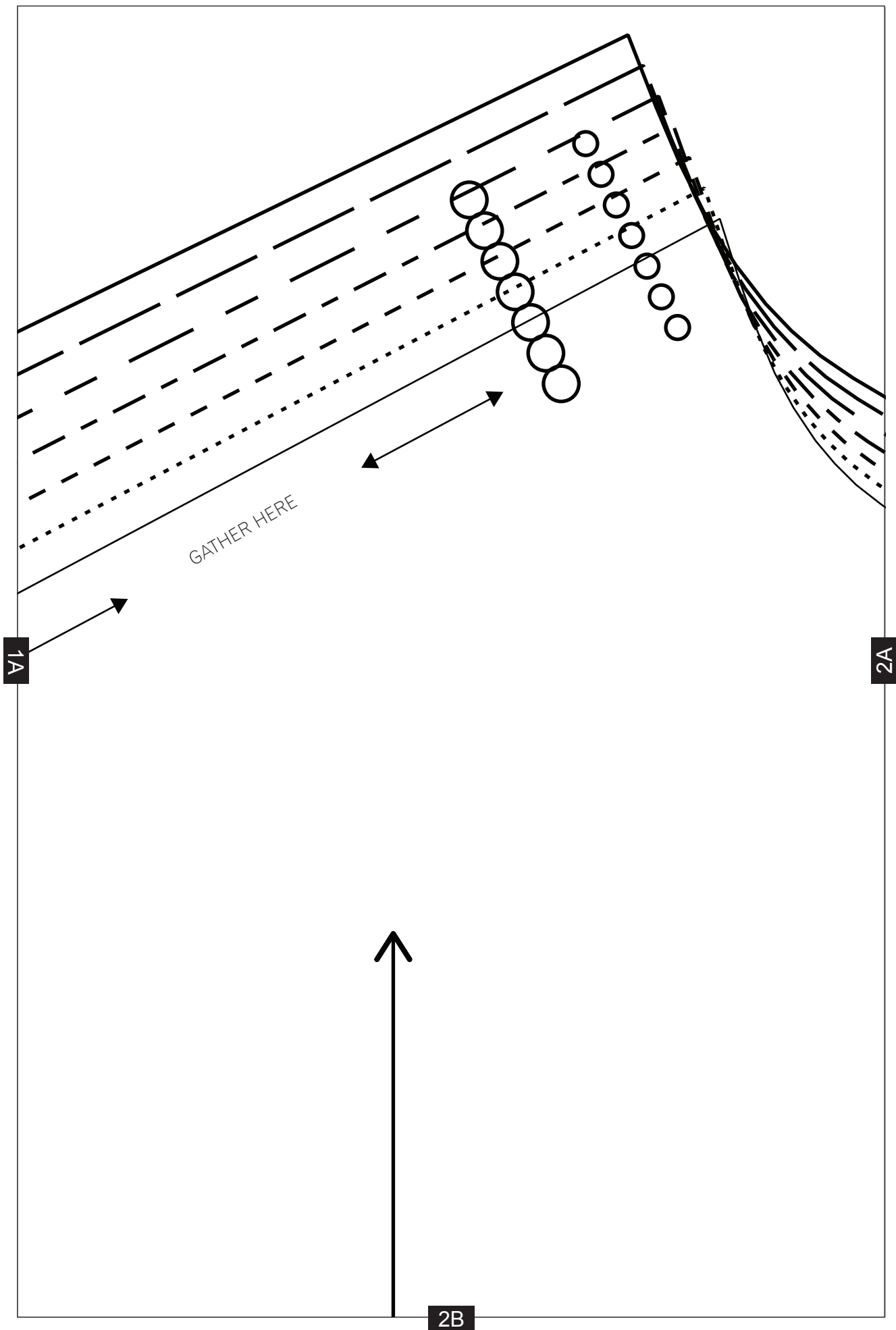
Measurements in inches

UK SIZE	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22
US SIZE	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18
EUROPEAN	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	50
BUST	33	34 ^{1/2}	36	37 ^{3/4}	39 ^{1/2}	41	43 ^{1/4}	45 ^{3/4}
WAIST	26 ^{3/4}	28 ^{1/4}	30	31 ^{1/2}	33	34 ^{1/2}	37	39 ^{1/2}
HIPS	36 ^{1/4}	37 ^{3/4}	39 ^{1/2}	41	42 ^{1/2}	44	46	48

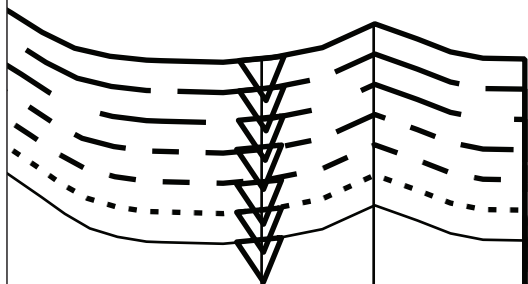


1B

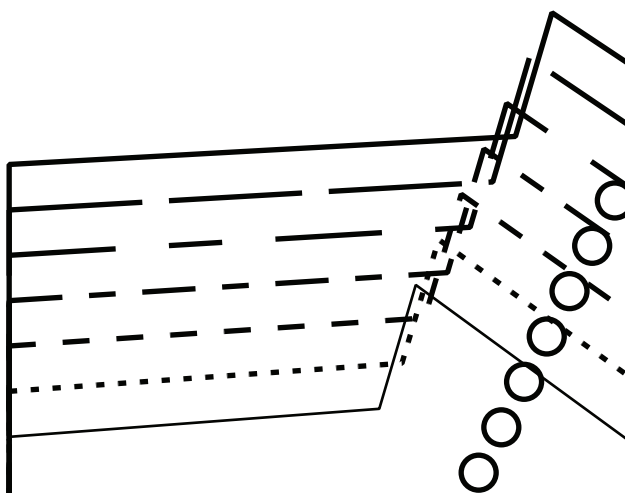
1A



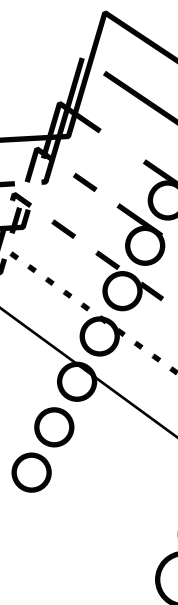
2A

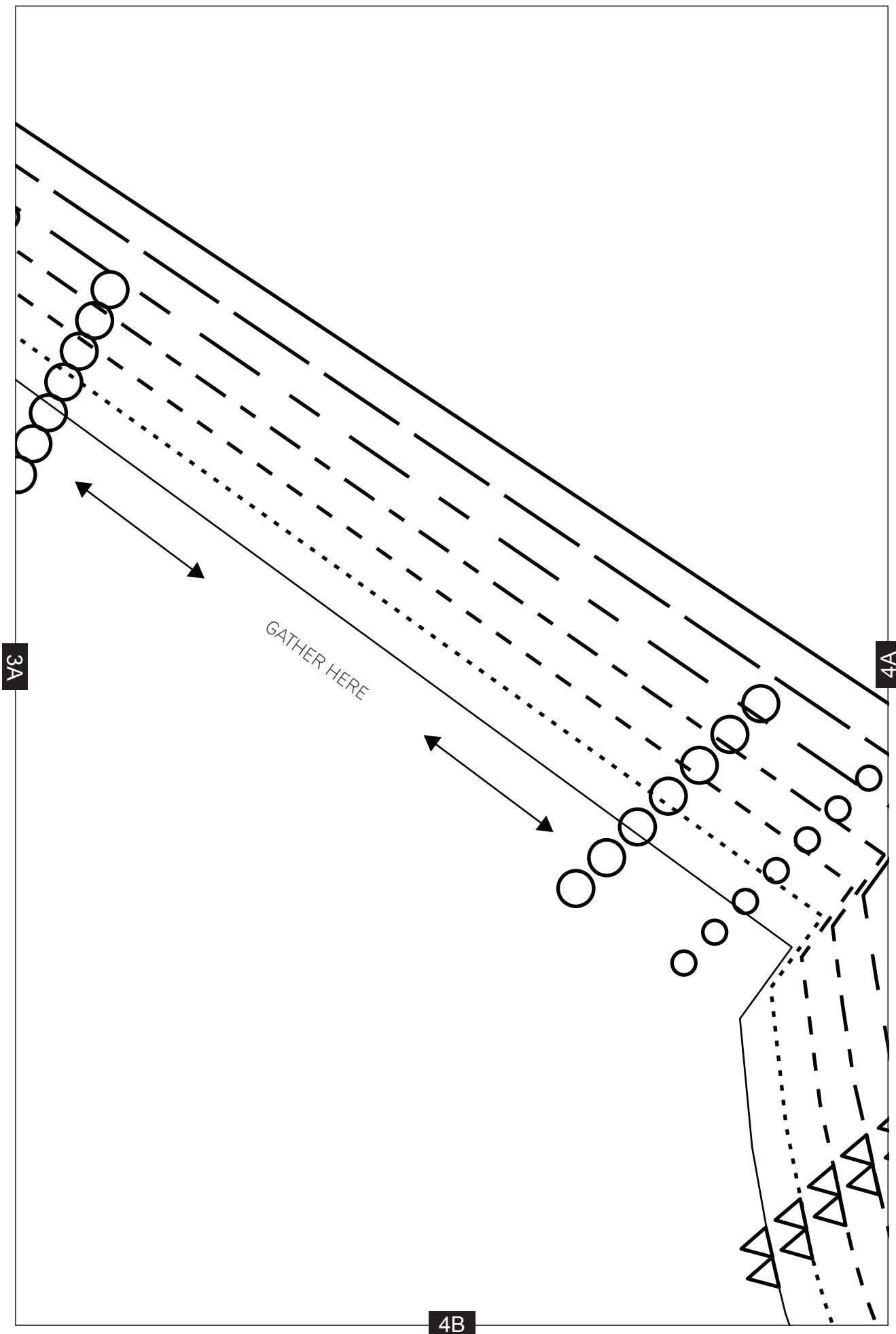


3B

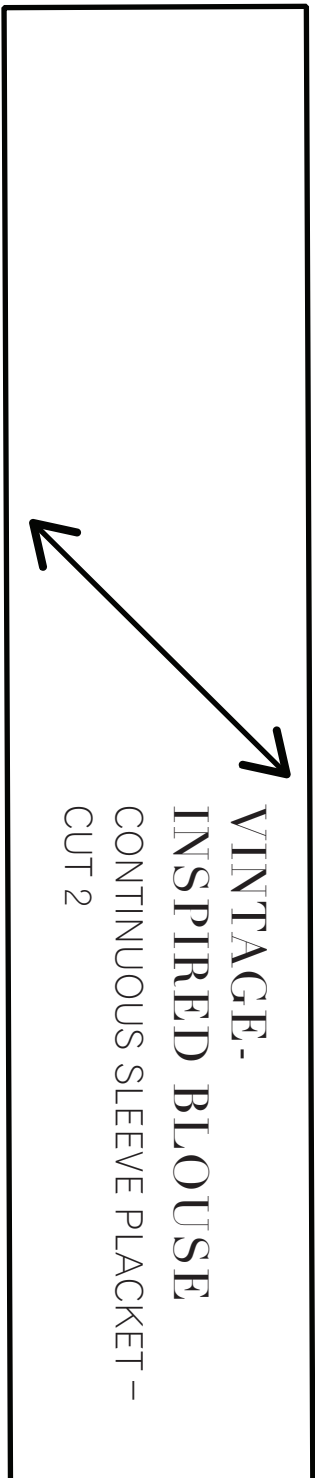


3A



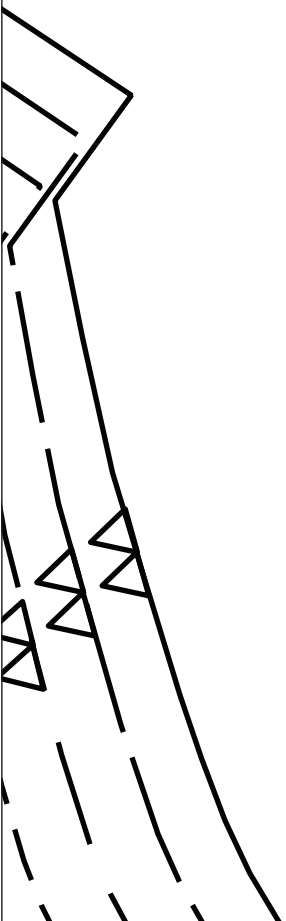


5A

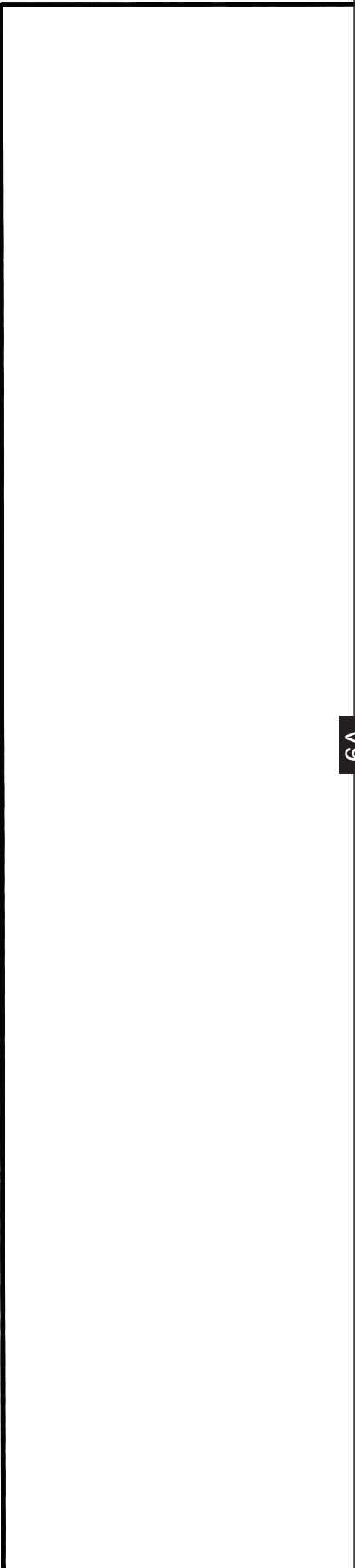


5B

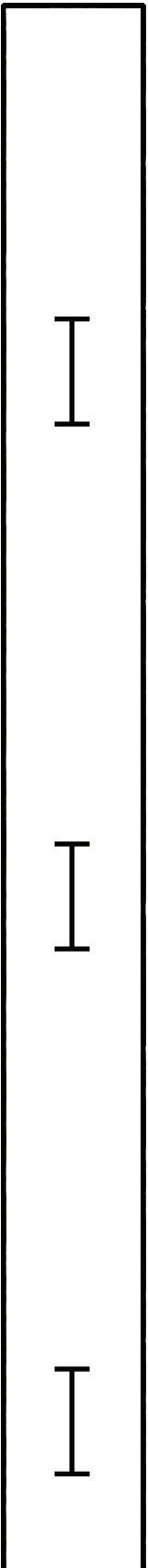
4A



6A

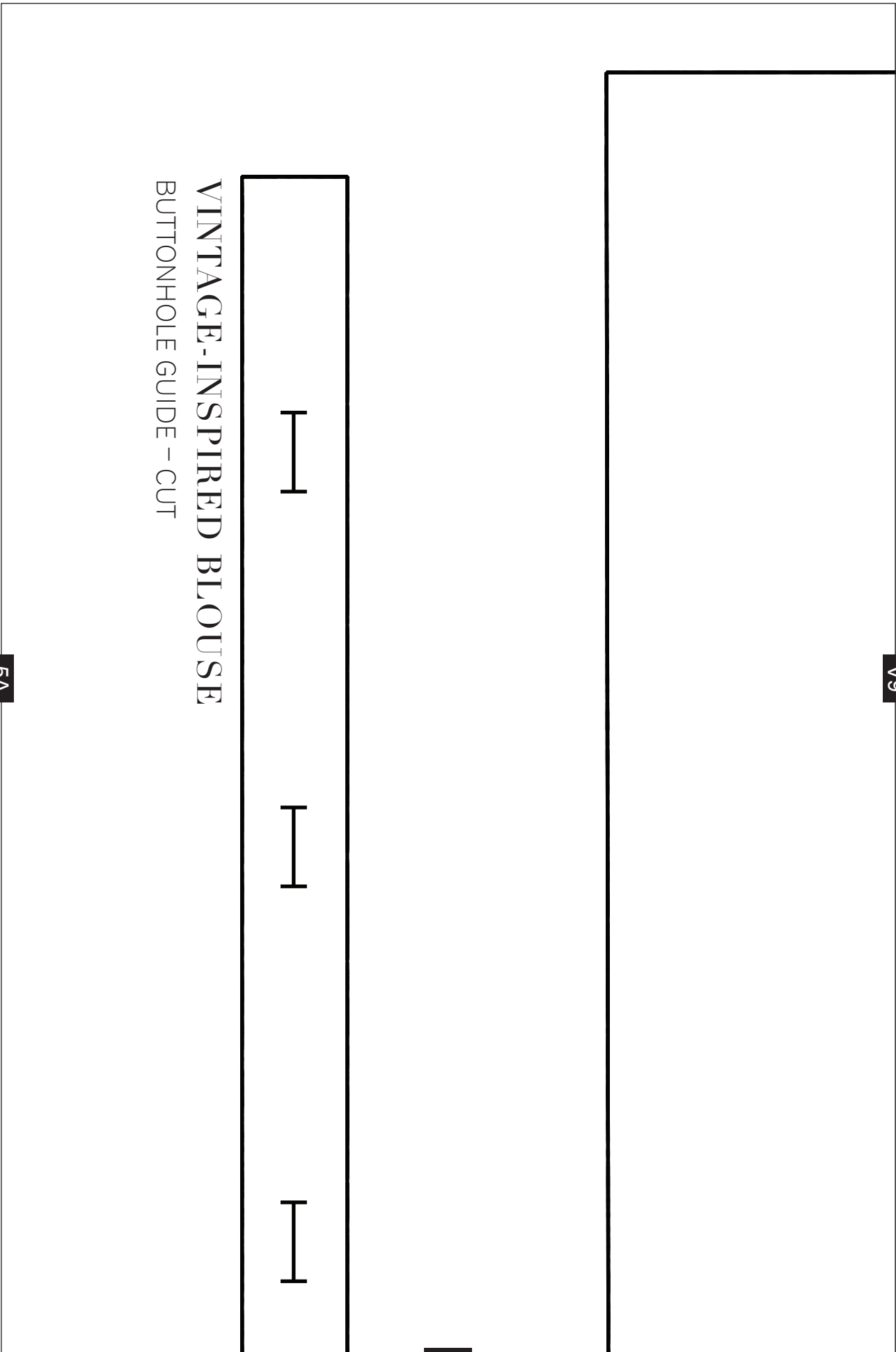


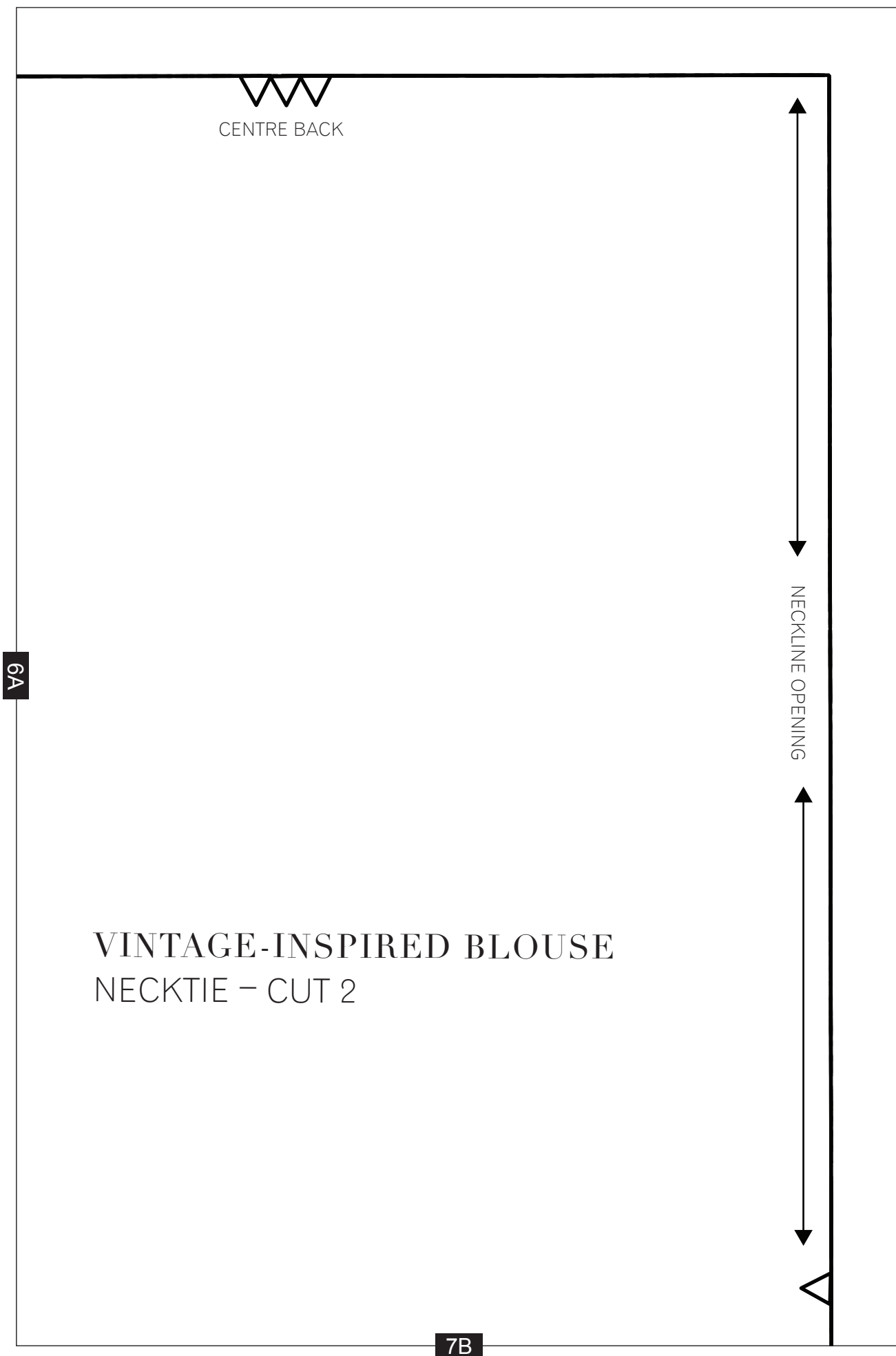
6B

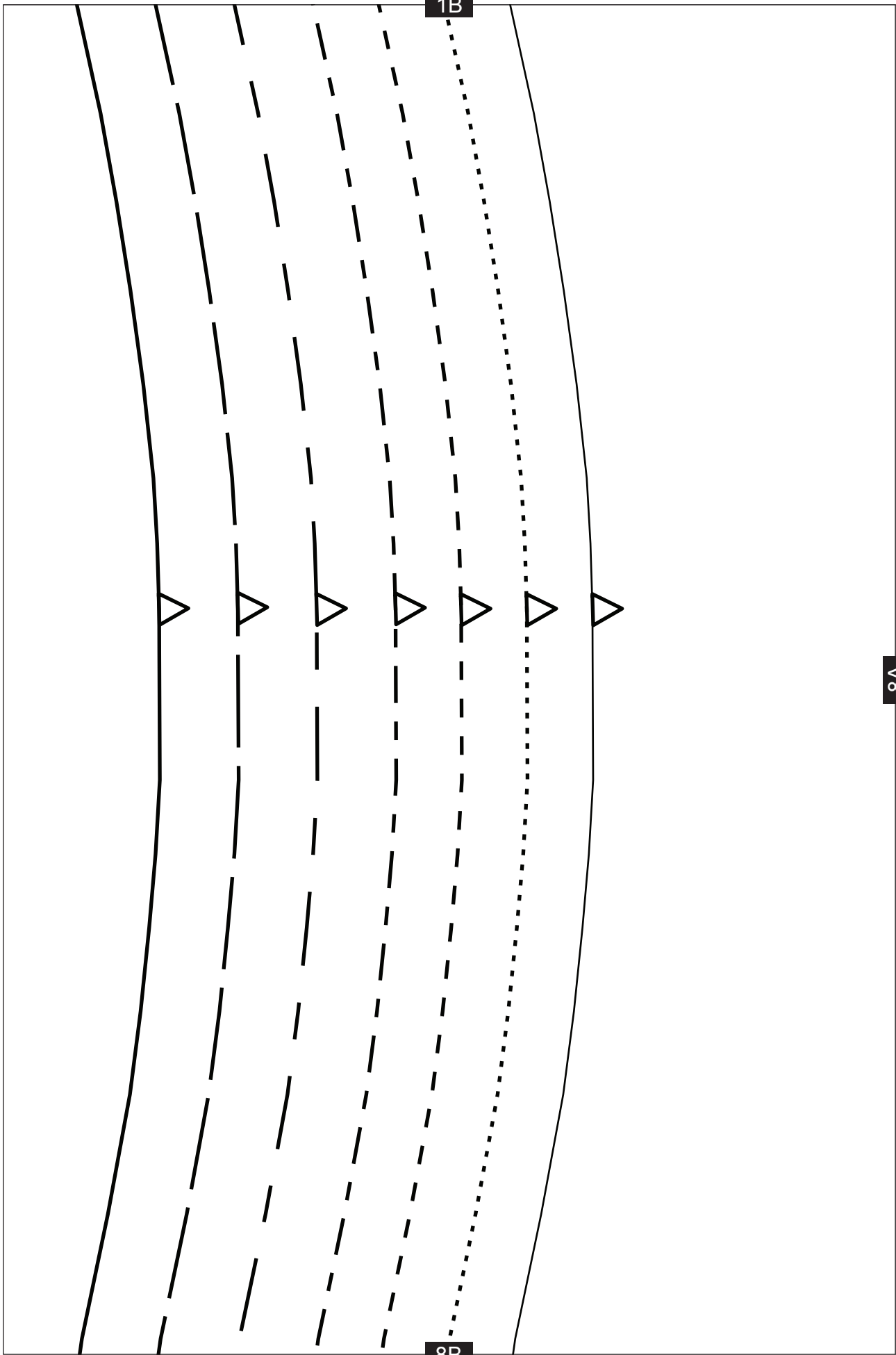


VINTAGE-INSPIRED BLOUSE
BUTTONHOLE GUIDE – CUT

5A







1B

8B

8A

8A

2B

9A

9B

9A

CENTRE FRONT

FOLDED EDGE LINE

FOLDED EDGE LINE

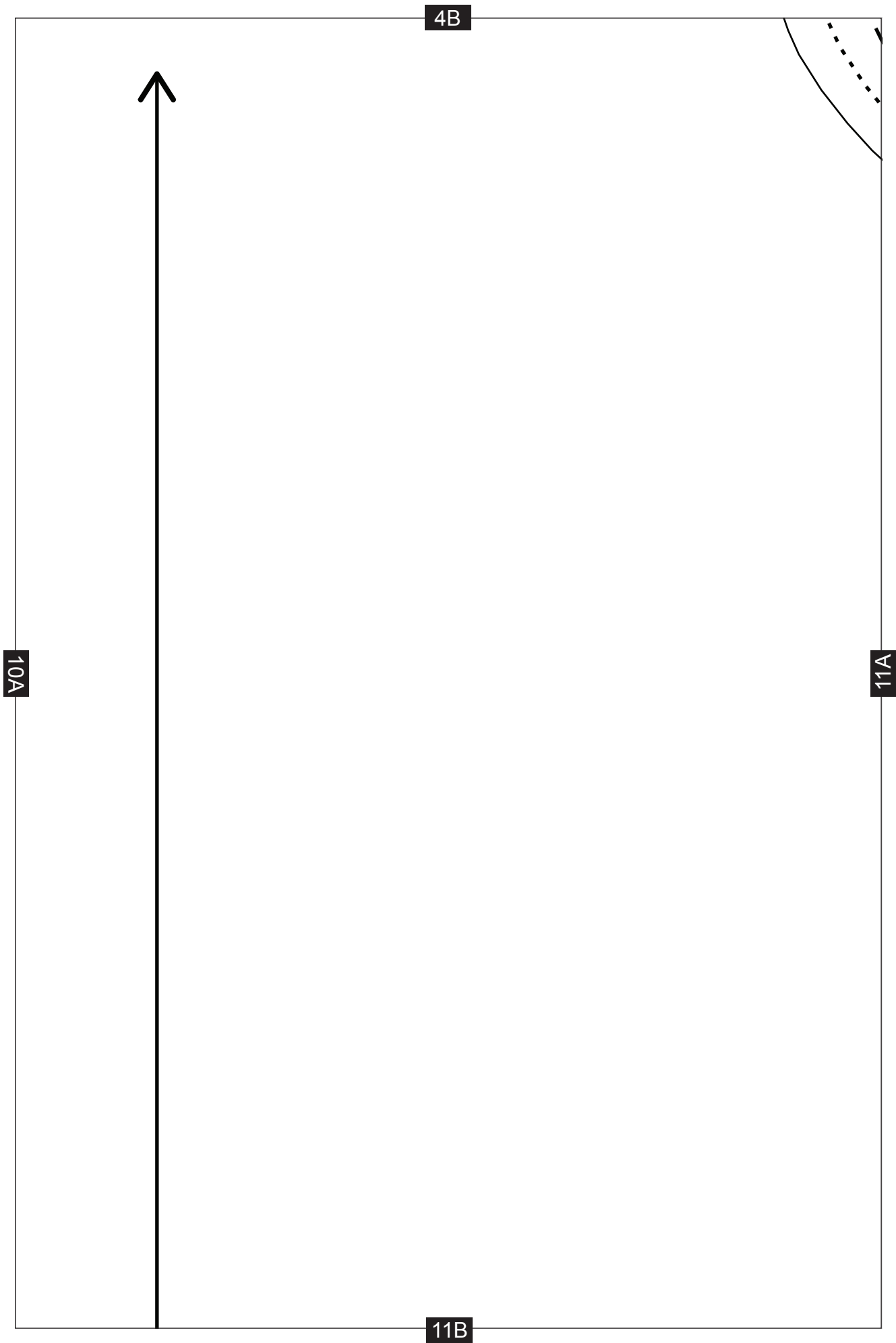
10B

3B

CENTRE BACK

PLACE TO FOLD

10A

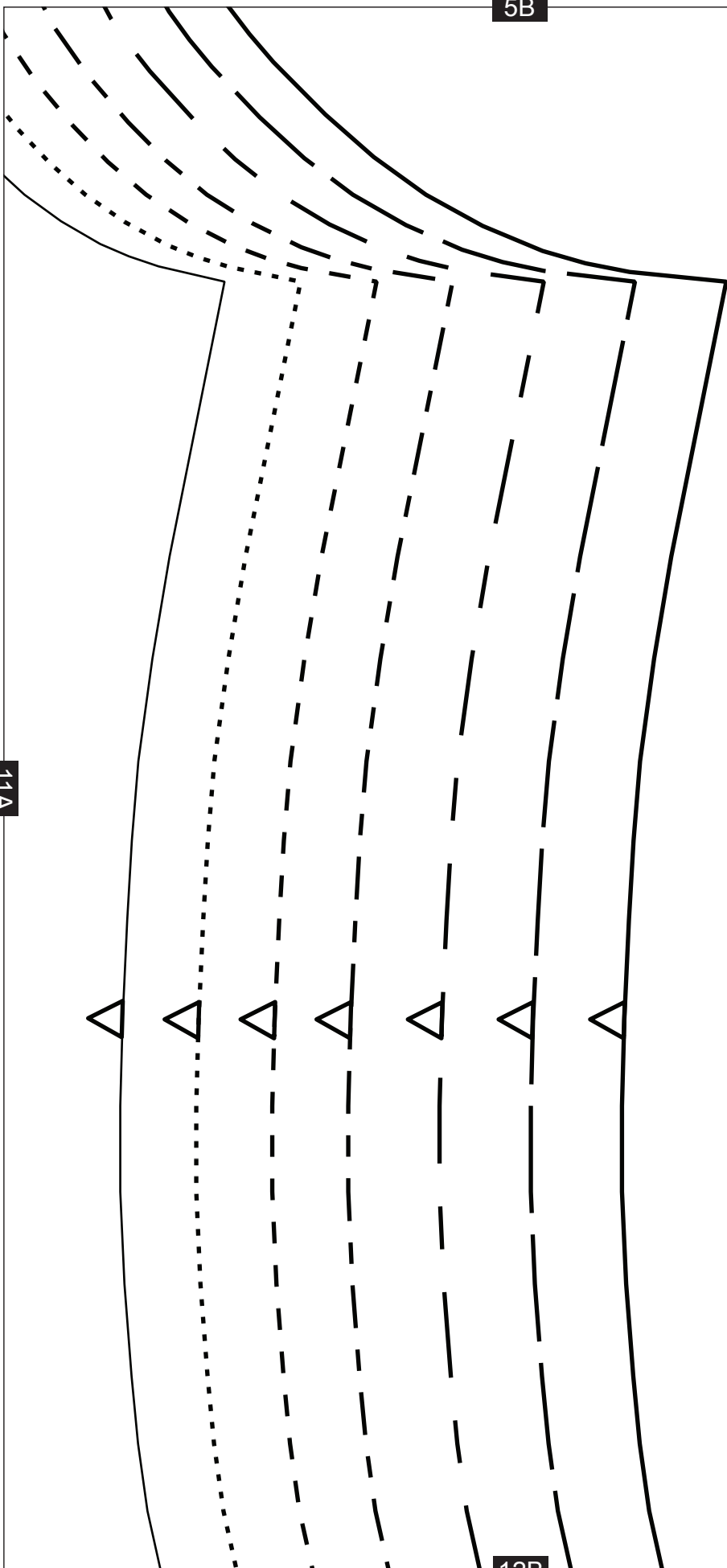


5B

12A

11A

12B



	I I I		

12A

6B

13A

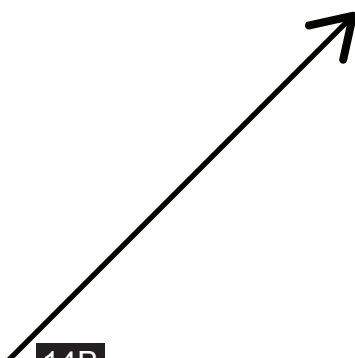
13B

7B

TEST SQUARE
10cm × 10cm
4 inches × 4 inches

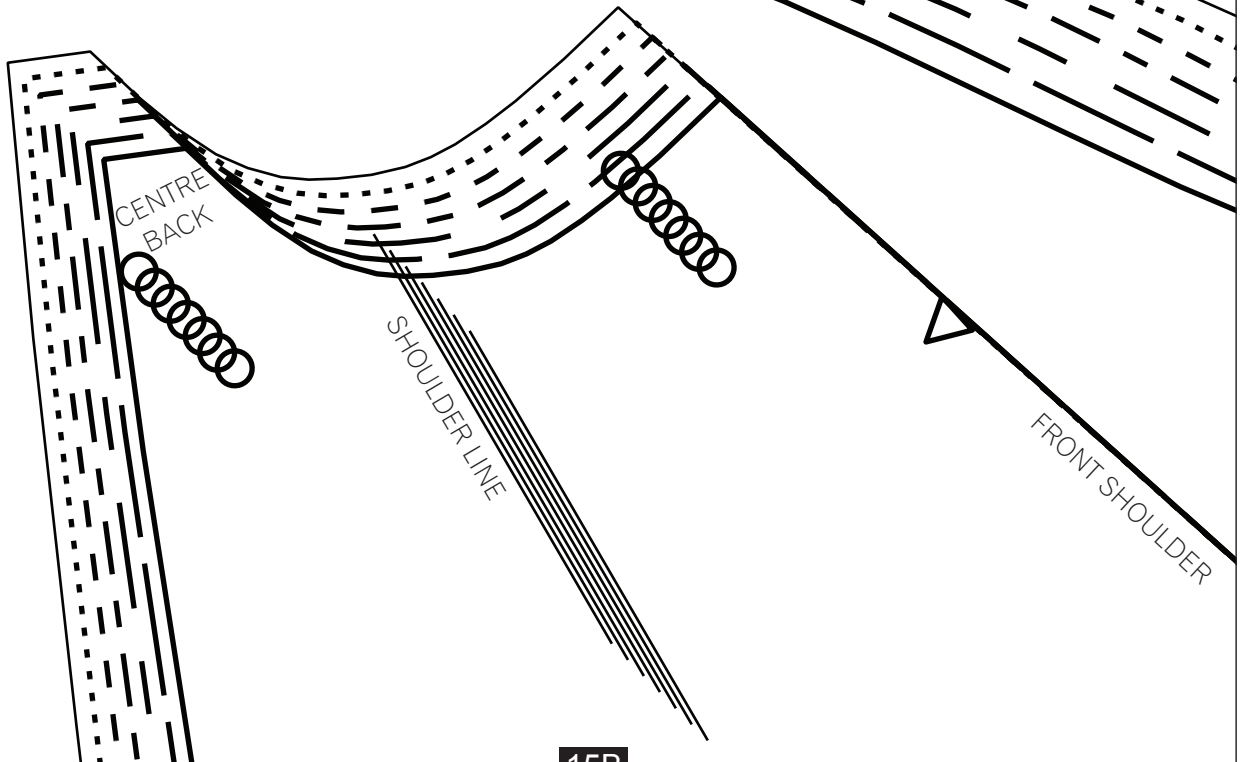
13A

14B



8B

15A



15B

9B

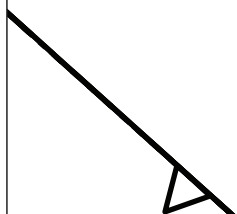
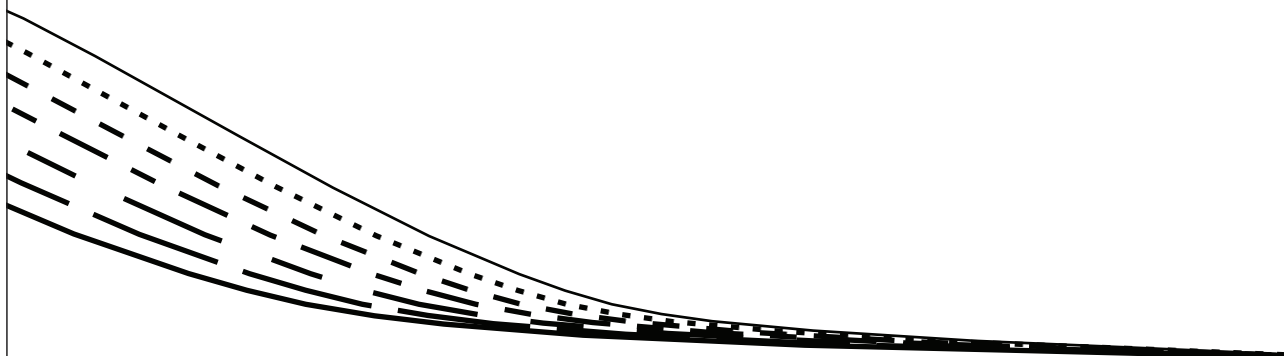


VINTAGE-INSPIRED BLOUSE

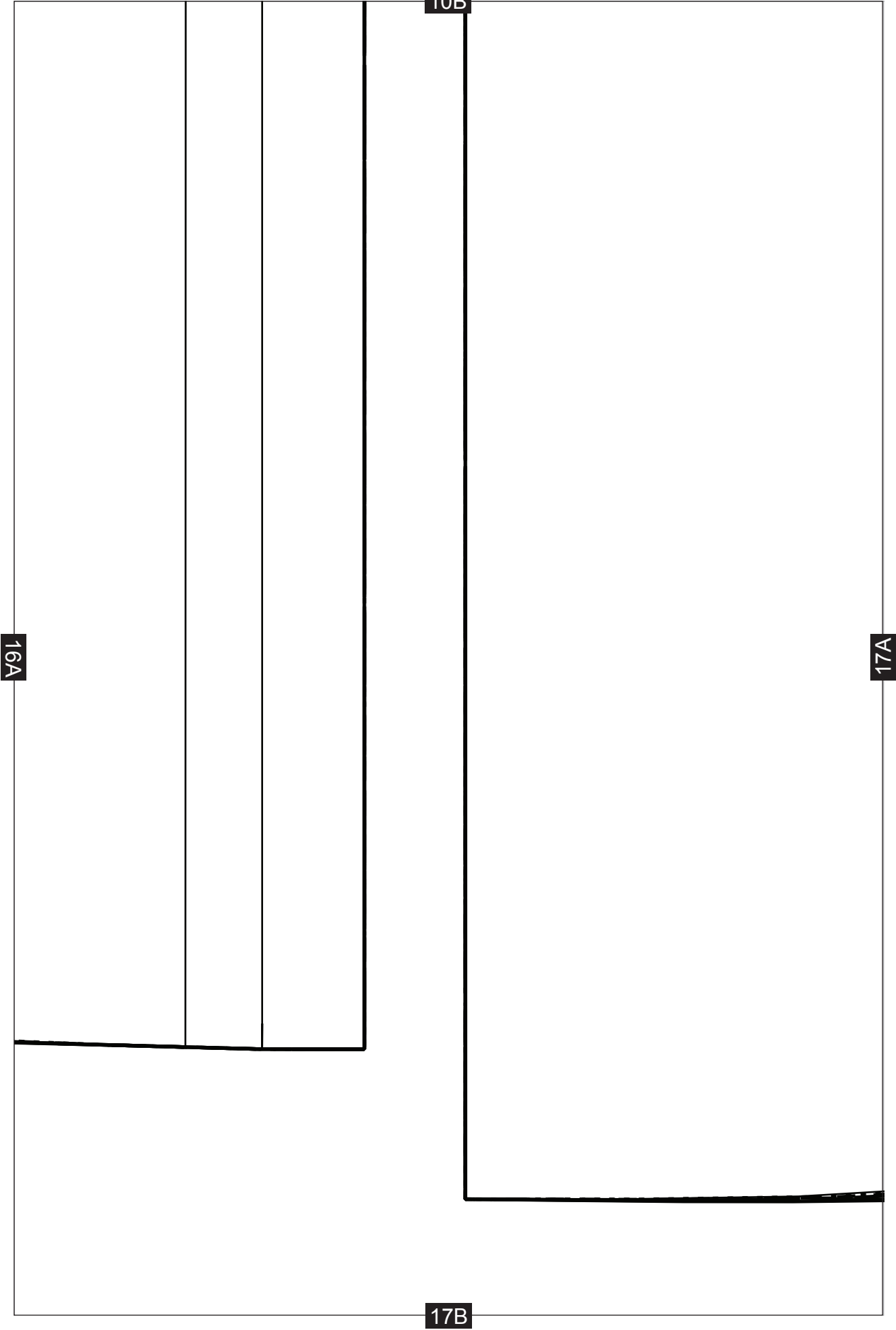
FRONT – CUT 2

15A

16A



16B



11B

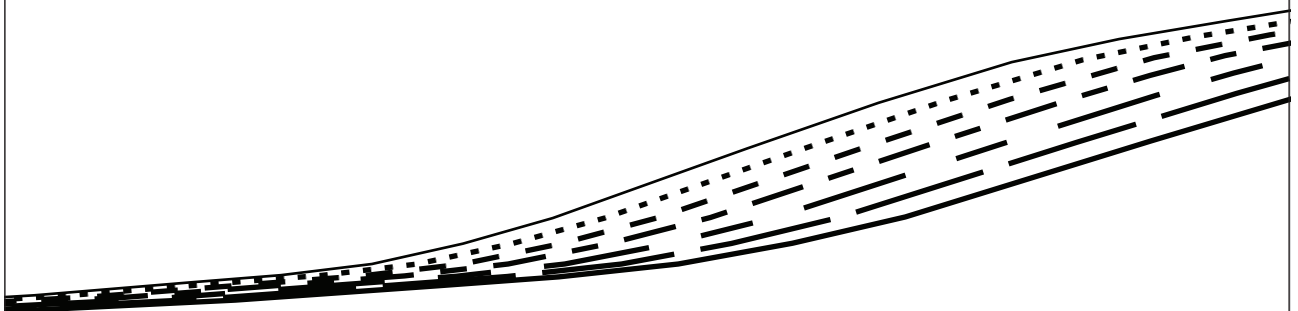


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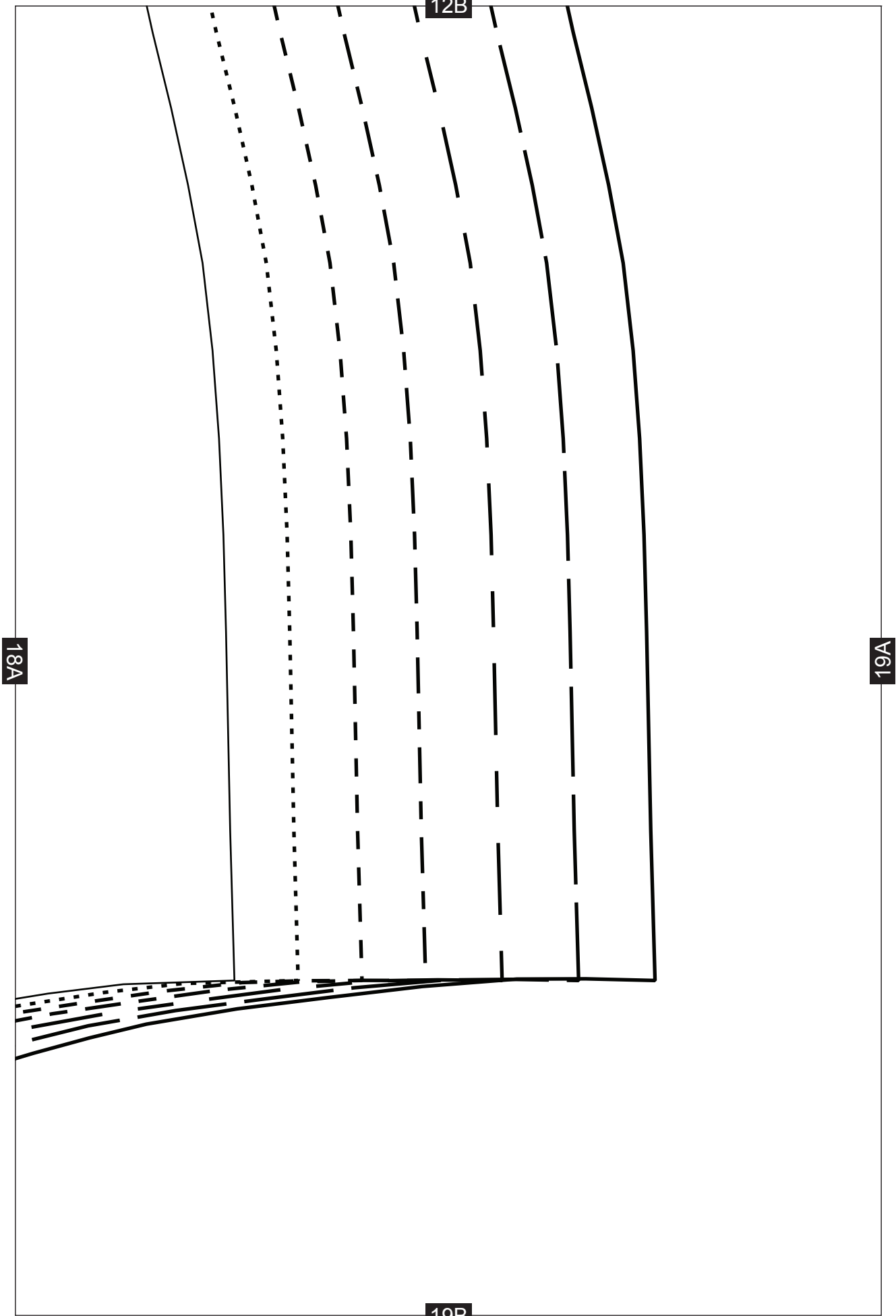
BACK – CUT ON FOLD

17A

18A



18B

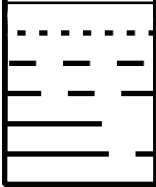


19A

13B

20A

20B



14B



20A

21B

15B

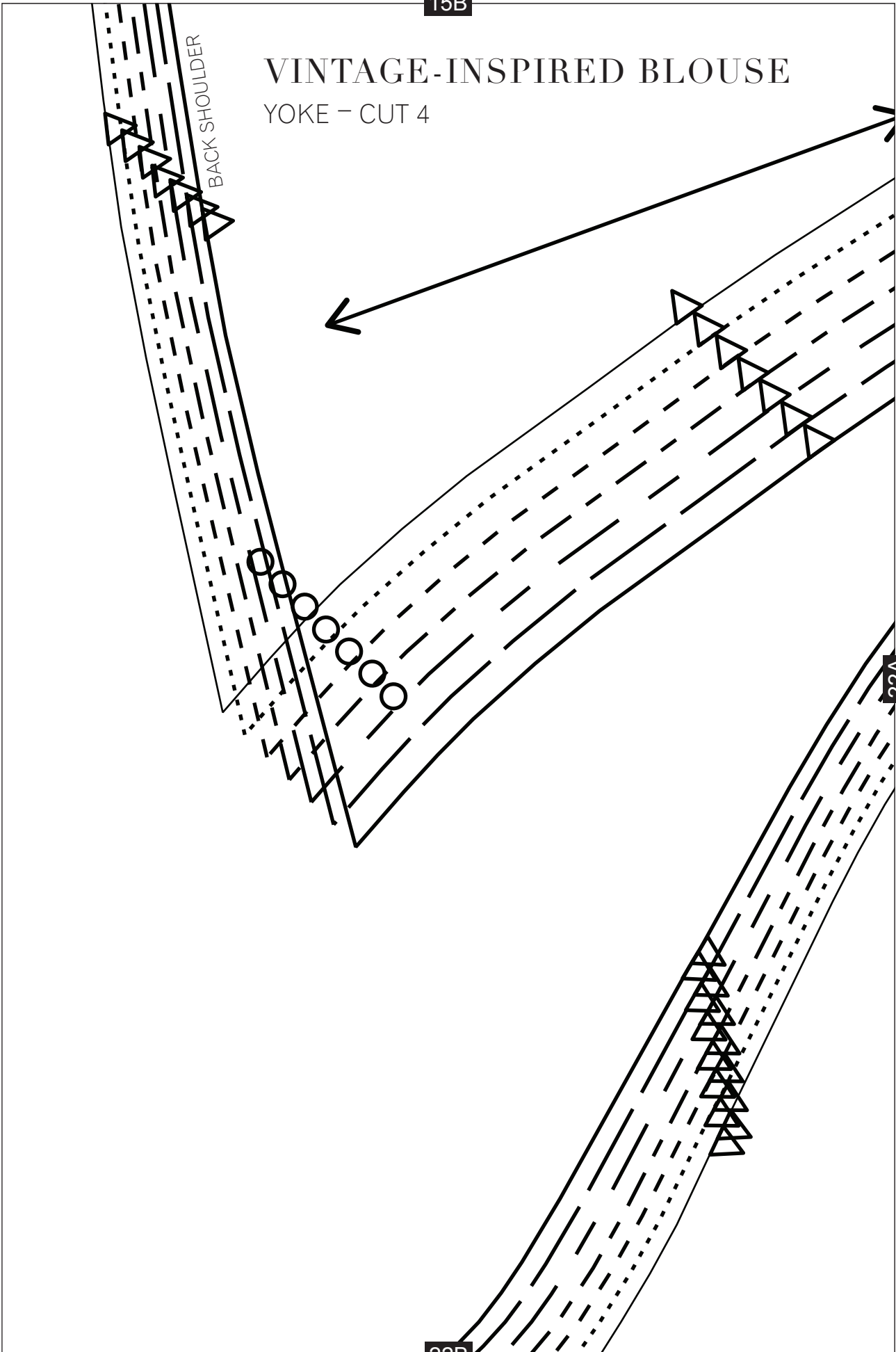
VINTAGE-INSPIRED BLOUSE

YOKE - CUT 4

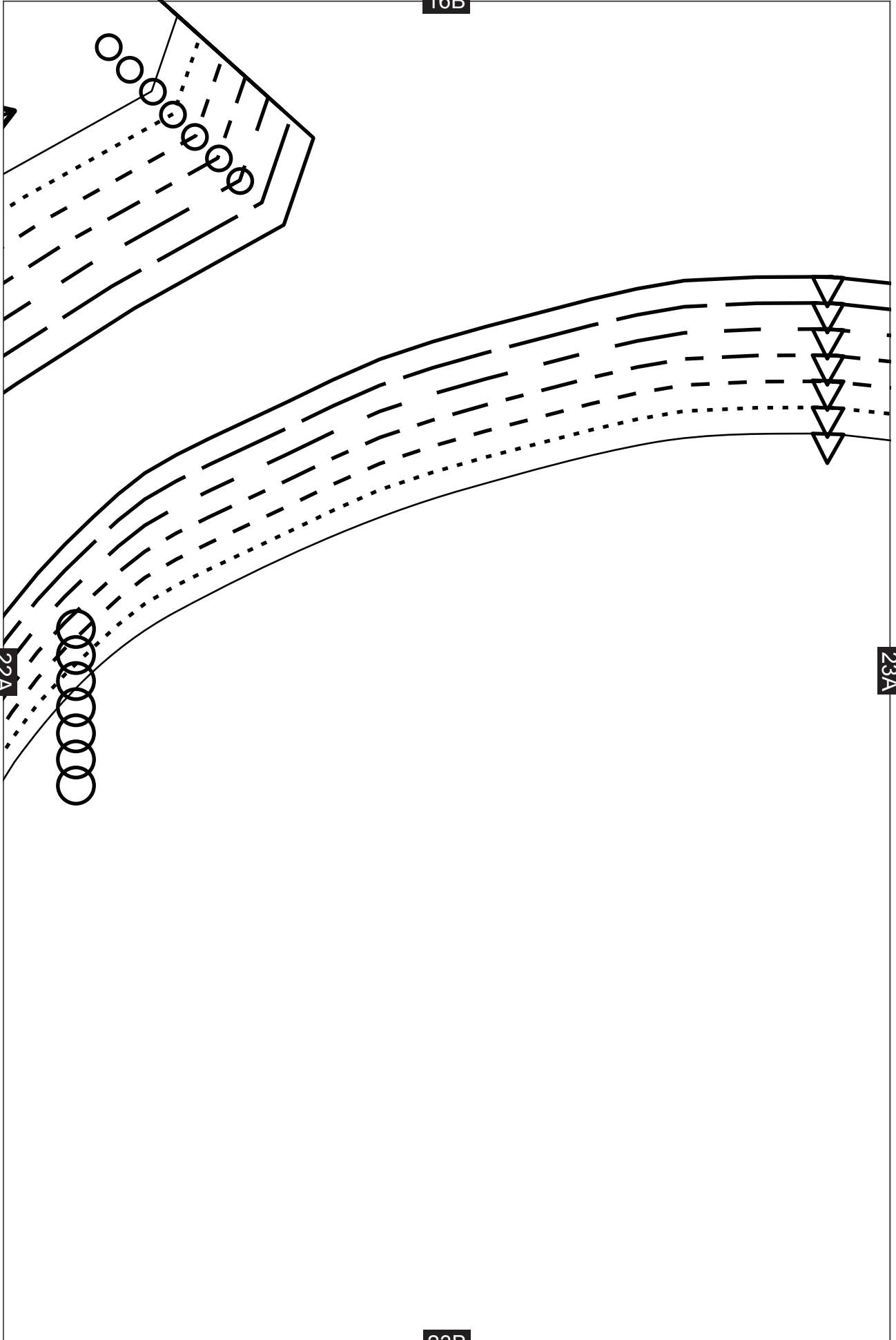
BACK SHOULDER

22A

22B



16B

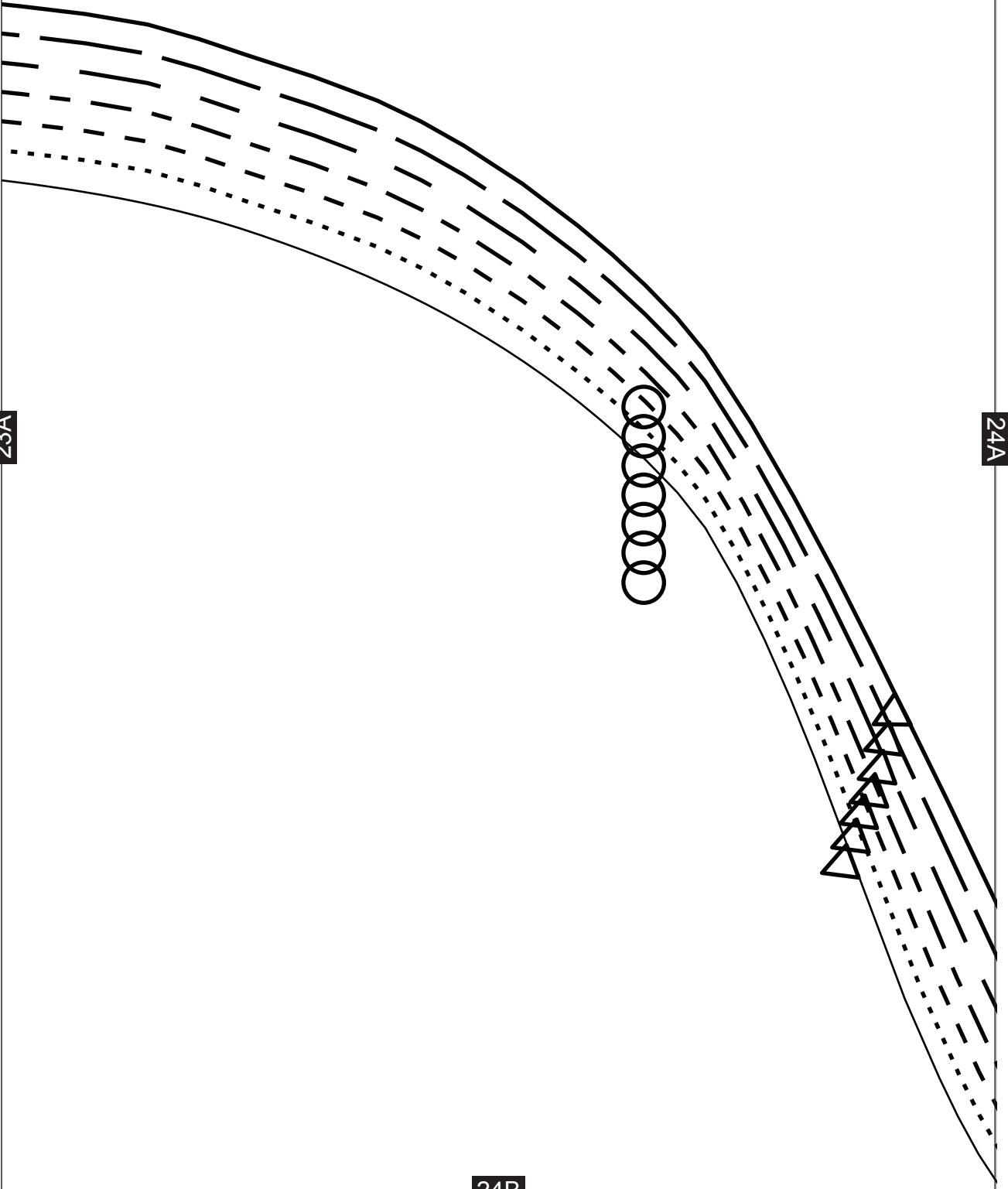


17B

23A

24A

24B

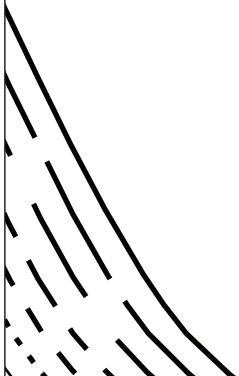


18B



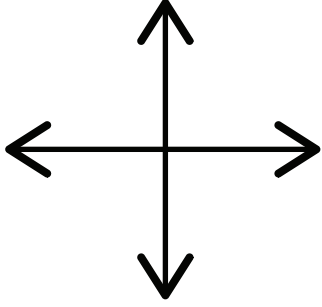
24A

25A



25B

19B



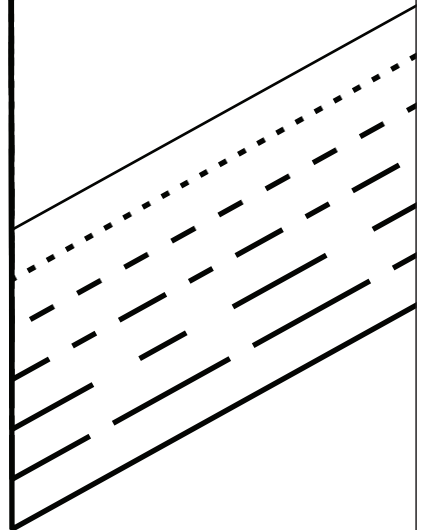
25A

26A

26A

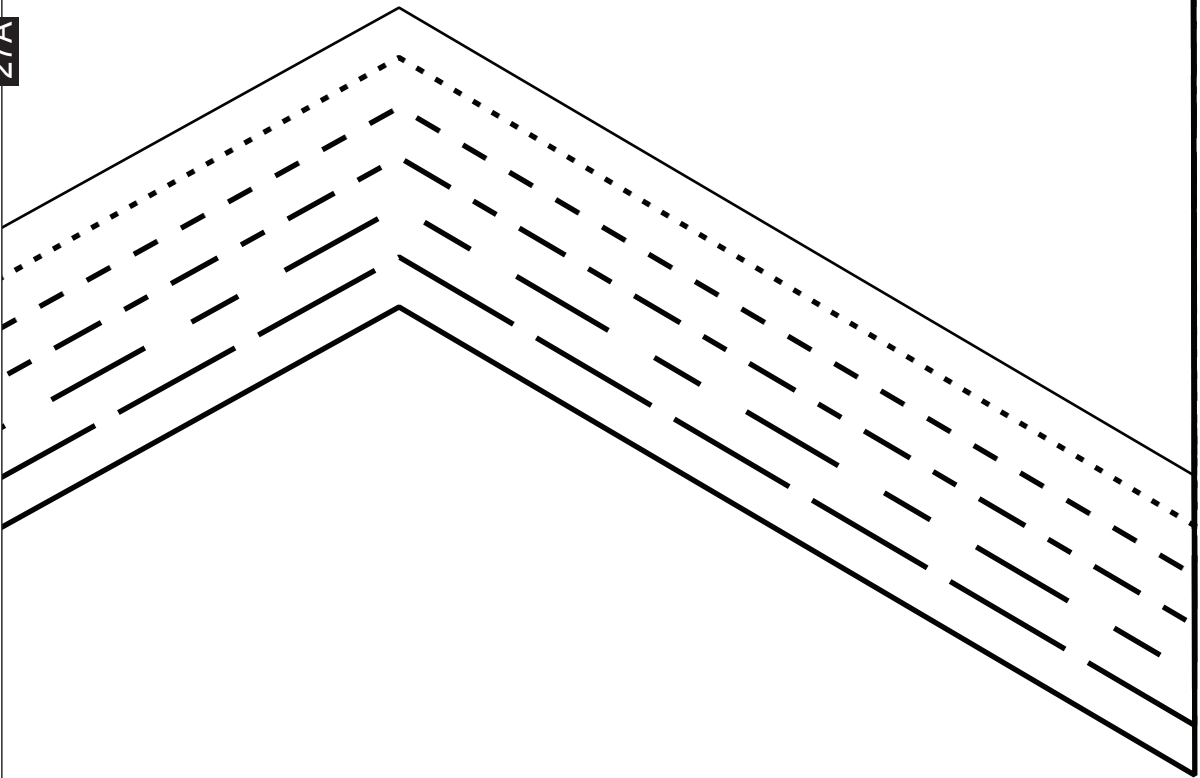
20B

27A



21B

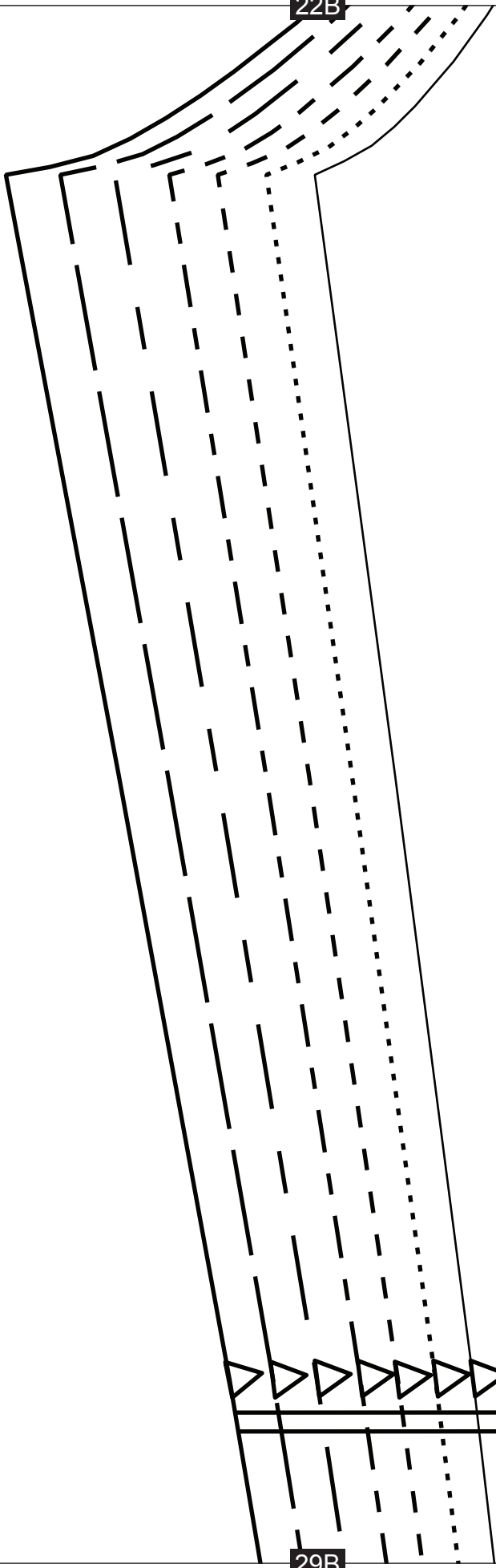
27A



22B

29A

29B



23B



29A

30A

SHORTEN OR LENGTHEN HERE

30B

24B

VINTAGE-INSPIRED BLOUSE
SLEEVE – CUT 2

30A

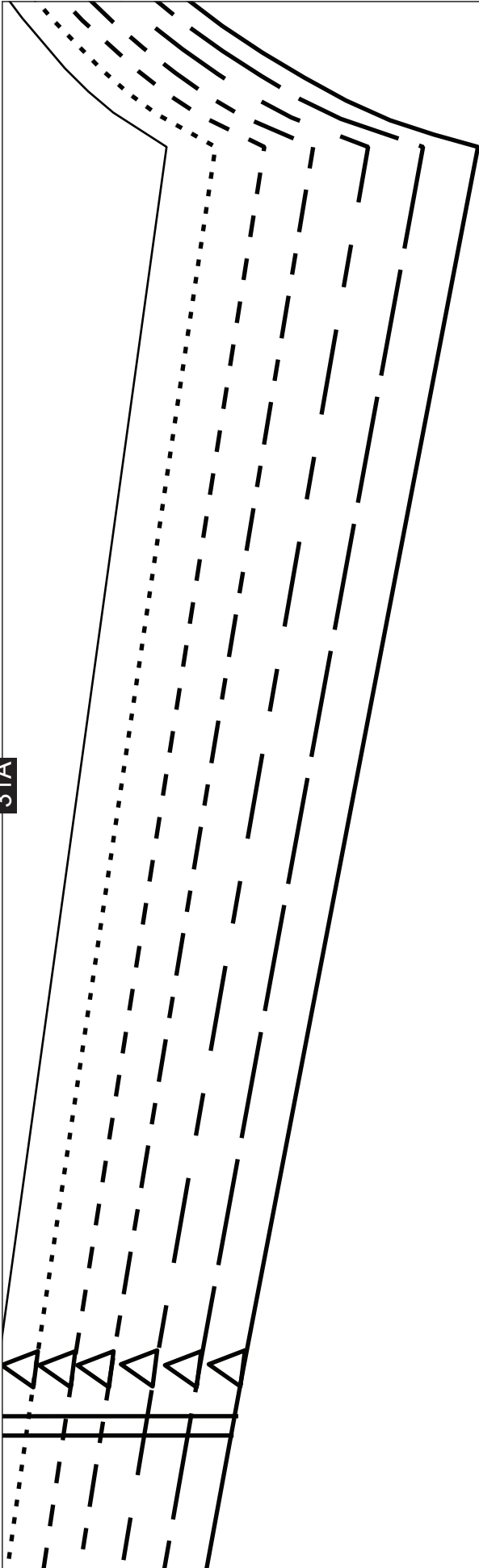
31A



31B

25B

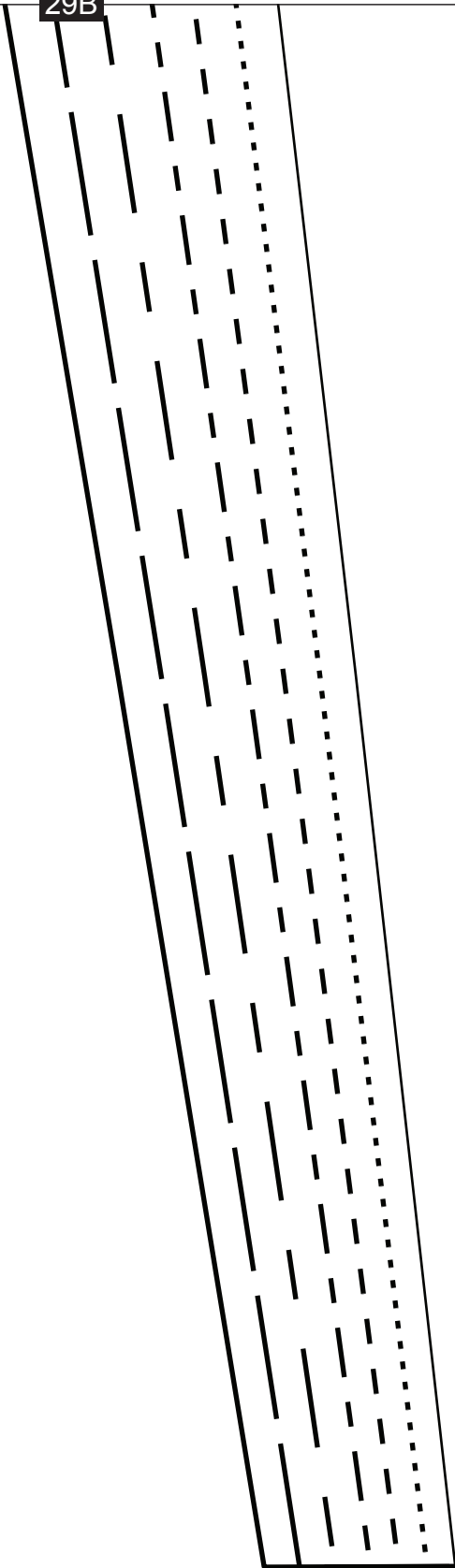
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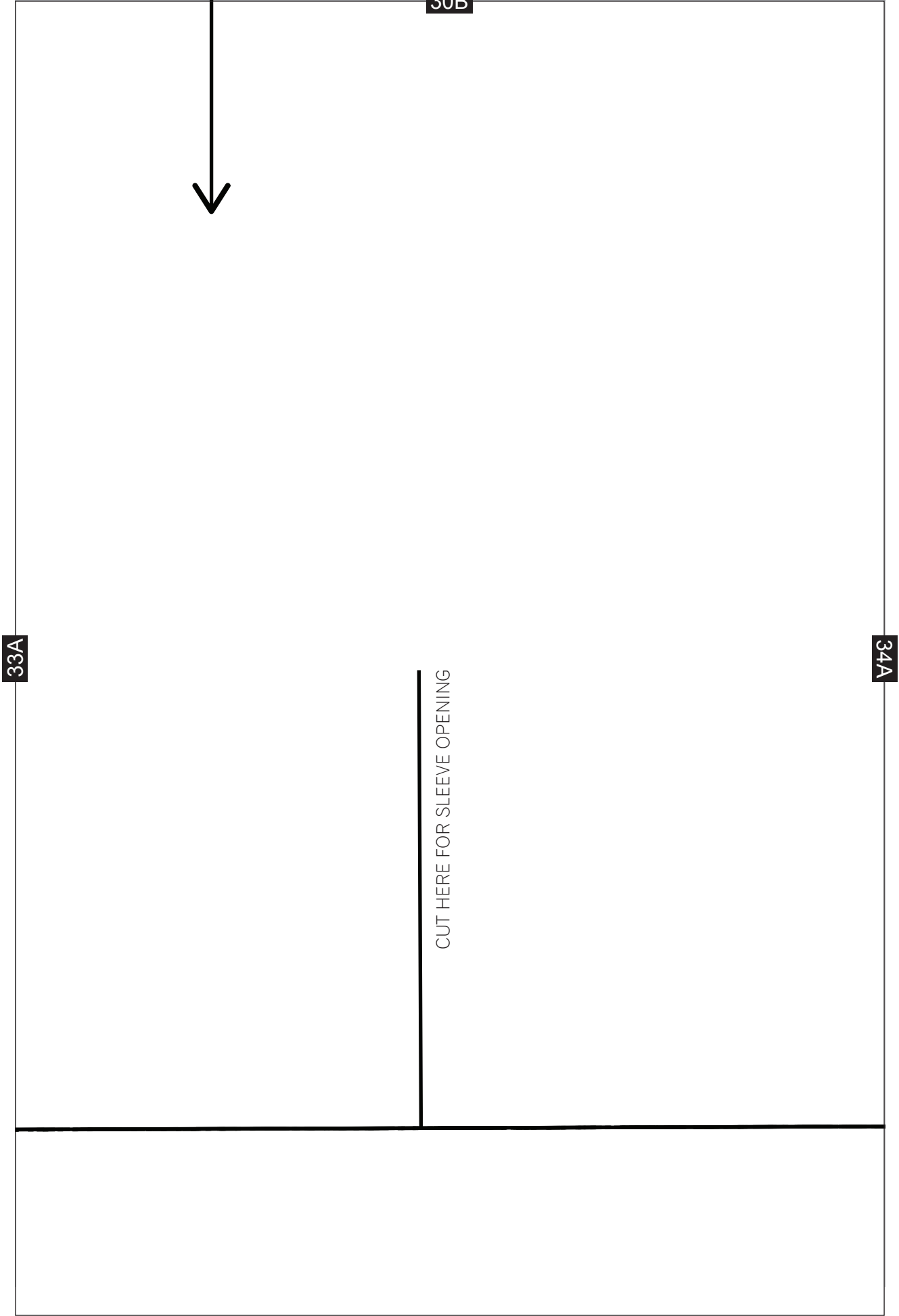


32B

29B

33A

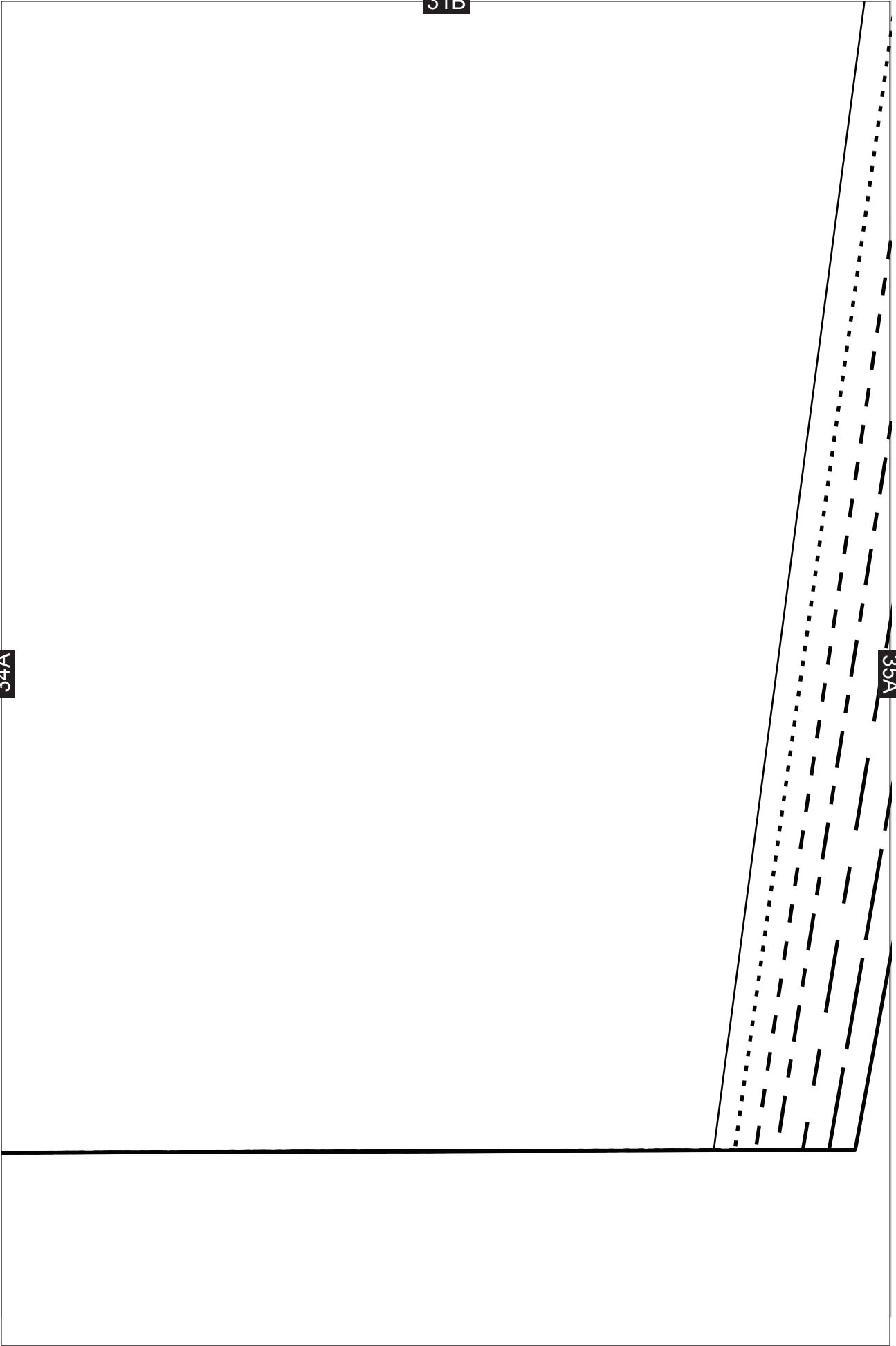




31B

34A

35A



32B

35A

