

# SUNNY

*side up*

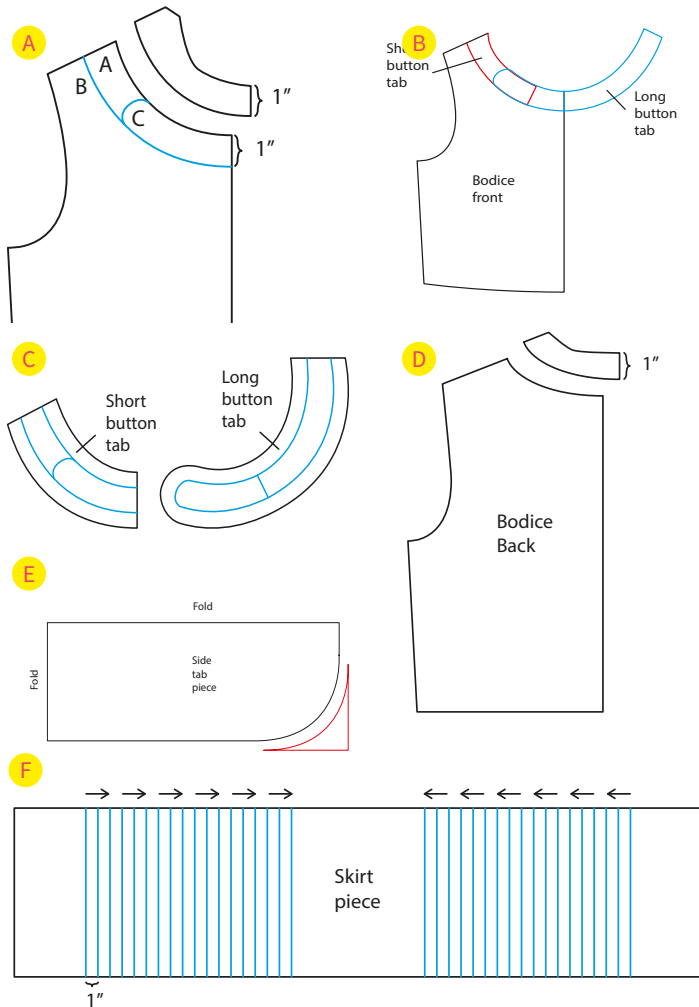
This adorable dress features  
sweet button tabs and a neat  
pleated skirt

Project **MELISSA MORA**

## *Shopping list*

Why not make a co-ordinating yellow letter-print  
dress to go with the version on **page 19?**

## CUTTING:



## SIZING:

|              | 2T  | 3T  | 4T   | 5    | 6   | 8   | 10  | 12  |
|--------------|-----|-----|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| CHEST        | 20" | 21" | 22"  | 23"  | 24" | 26" | 28" | 30" |
| WAIST        | 19" | 20" | 21"  | 22"  | 23" | 24" | 25" | 26" |
| SKIRT LENGTH | 12" | 13" | 15½" | 16½" | 18" | 19" | 20" | 21" |

## MATERIALS & TOOLS:

- 2.1m 45"-wide or 60"-wide medium-weight woven fabric
- 16" zipper
- 5 ⅝" – ¾" buttons
- co-ordinating thread
- templates downloaded from [www.lovesewingmag.co.uk](http://www.lovesewingmag.co.uk)

## NOTES:

½" (1.3cm) seams used unless otherwise noted  
Fabric amounts listed include enough for lining in the same fabric. Recalculate if using different material for lining

## HOW TO MAKE:

- 1 Modify the front bodice by drawing a curved line (A) 1" away from the neckline, following the curve of the neckline. Cut the bodice along this line.
- 2 Repeat this step on the new neckline (forming line B), but do not cut. (See Pic A.)
- 3 Approximately one third of the way along the newly drawn area, draw in a curved line (C), this is where the button tab will end. (Also Pic A.)
- 4 Retrace the entire button tab area onto a new sheet of



*Amy says...*

Why not try cutting your tabs in a contrasting coloured fabric?

paper. Then flip the paper, line up the centre front line and continue tracing just to the curved area of the button tab. This is the long button tab. (See Pic B.)

5 Trace an area of the button tab on the bodice from the shoulder to approximately 1" past line C. This is the short button tab.

6 Add seam allowances of ½" all around the button tab pattern pieces, except for the straight short ends. (See Pic C.)

7 Modify the back bodice. A. Draw a curved line 1" away from the neckline, following the curve of the neckline. Cut the bodice along this line. (See Pic D.)

8 Create the side tab pieces. Make a rectangle 9" wide and 3½" tall. Fold the piece in quarters and cut a curve through the four corners to create the curve of the side tabs. (See Pic E.)

9 Cut the front bodice piece on the fold out of main fabric and lining. Cut two back bodice pieces (mirrored) out of main fabric and lining.

10 Cut two long button tabs and two short button tabs (mirrored) out of main fabric. Cut four side tabs out of main fabric.

11 Cut a skirt panel that is the waist measurement in width plus 25", and knee length. If you need to piece fabric to get to this width, cut two back panels that are one-eighth of the waist plus 1", then cut the

remaining three quarters of the waist amount plus 25" as one panel.

12 Prepare the skirt. First, if you had to piece the skirt, sew the panels together and finish these seams. Lay the skirt flat RS up. Next, finish the centre back seam edges with an overlock stitch or faux overlock stitch. Then measure in one eighth of the waist measurement plus ½" from the edge and mark the fabric at the top and bottom, then draw a line on the fabric with a water soluble fabric marker. (Note: If you pieced your skirt, this line will land on the seam line. Be sure to test your marker for washability, as you will be marking the front side of the fabric for the pleats.)

13 Next, measure in 1" from this line and draw another line. Repeat until you have made 18 total lines (including the first line) 1" apart. Repeat this process working from the other edge of the skirt. (See Pic F.)

14 Fold the skirt WST on the line closest to the back edge. Press this fold. Move the fold over to match the third line, and press. This creates one pleat with folds on the first two lines. Pin this pleat at the top and bottom of the skirt. Move over to the fourth line and fold the skirt WST on the line. Press this fold. Move the fold over to match the sixth line, and press. Repeat until you have six pleats on each side of the skirt.

## Top tip

Make sure the button isn't too heavy as it will drag the tab down. Opt for plastic, which is lighter and more durable

**15** Place the long button tab pieces RST and sew around the curved edges, then clip corners. Turn and press. Repeat this process with the short button tab pieces, sewing the edge closest to centre front closed and leaving the shoulder edge open. (See Pic G.)

**16** Place the button tabs on the neckline of the bodice front. Make sure the edges of the tabs are at least ½" away from both the neckline and the armhole edges. Baste in place at the shoulders. (See Pic H.)

**17** Place the front and back bodice pieces RST and stitch

*Top tip*  
Remember to clip close to but not through the stitching line when easing curves or reducing bulk at the corners

across the shoulders. Repeat with lining.

**18** Open the bodice and place the bodice lining RST with the bodice, matching all edges. Beginning ½" in from the centre back, stitch around the neckline and armholes, being careful not to catch the button tabs in the seams. (See Pic I.)

**19** Clip curves, turn the bodice RS out and press.

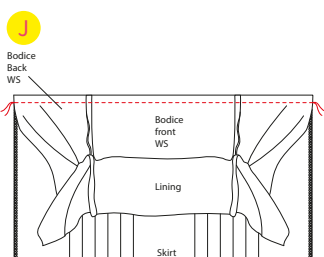
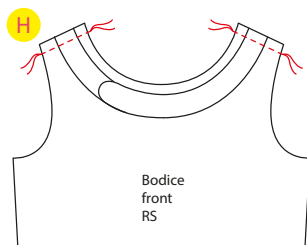
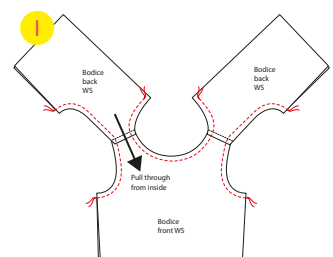
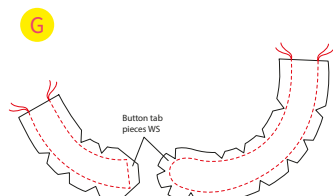
**20** Fold the bodice RST, matching the front and back side seams of the outer fabric to each other and the side seams of the lining together. Match the underarm seams. Stitch the lining and outer fabric in one seam for each side. The centre back edges of the bodice remain open.

**21** Arrange the long button tab over the short button tab on the bodice front. Stitch one button on through the tab layers and outer fabric.

## ABOUT THE BOOK



*Sundressing* By Melissa Mora, £20, published by Fons & Porter



**22** Press the bottom edge of the lining ⅜" to the WS.

**23** Place the outer bodice and skirt RST, matching the waistline. Stitch the waistline. (See Pic J.)

**24** Fold the dress RST, matching the centre back. Fold the lining out of the way. Mark the zip stopper position. Baste from the neckline down to the mark, then change to a regular stitch length for the rest of the seam.

**25** Insert the zipper in the centre back seam.

**26** Fold the lining to the inside of the dress and hand sew to the zipper tape.

**27** Fold the lining up to cover the inside waistline seam, matching seams

and secure in place with a slip stitch.

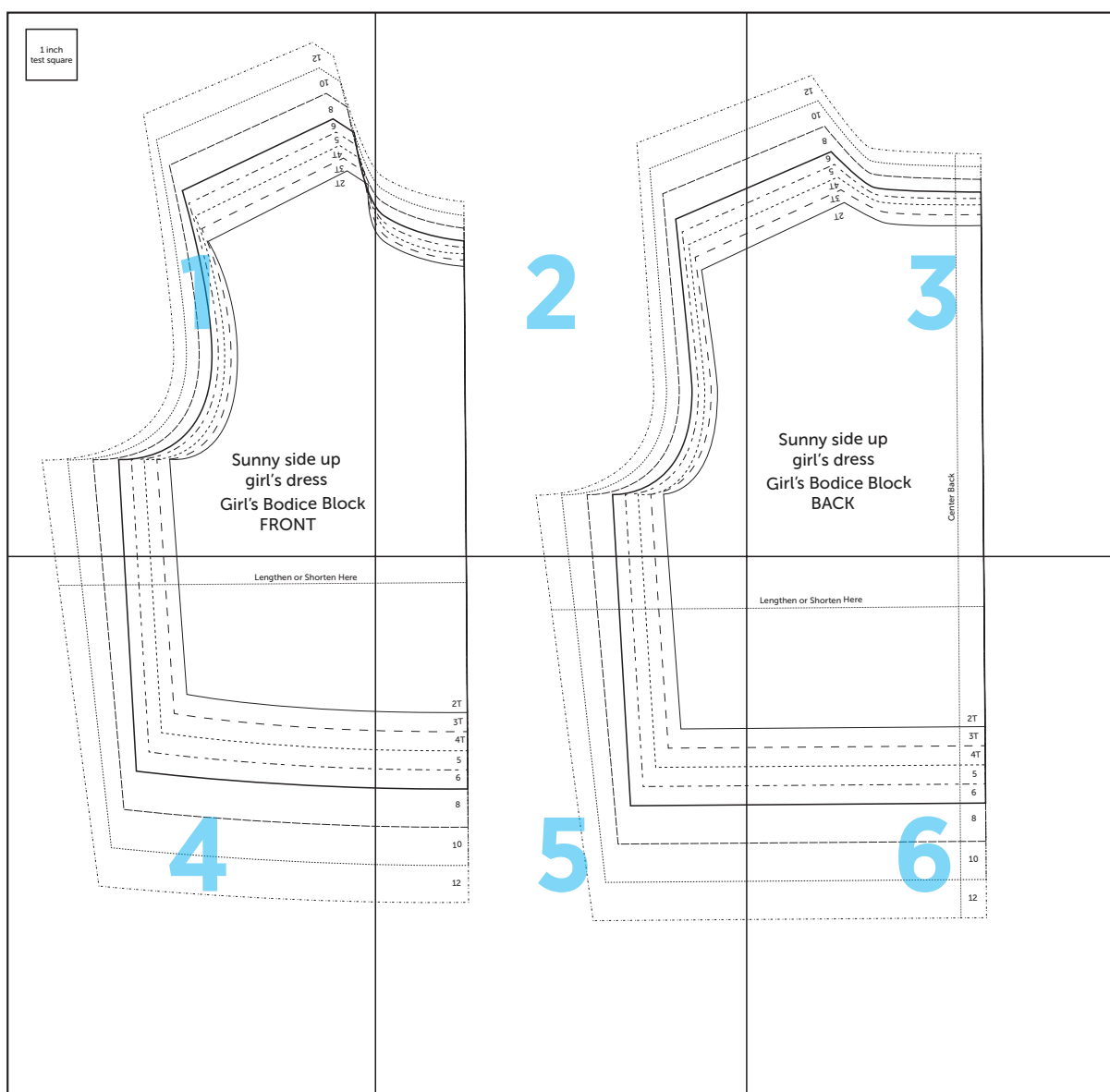
**28** Hem the skirt by turning the bottom edge ½" to the WS twice and stitching.

**29** Place two side tab pieces RST. Stitch around the edges, leaving an opening on the straight edge to turn. Clip corners, turn RS out and press the tab. Top-stitch around the edge of the tab, closing the opening.

**30** Stitch four buttons onto the skirt at the divisions between the pleated and flat parts of the skirt. Place side tabs around the sides of the dress to mark buttonholes. Stitch four buttonholes and button the side tabs onto the dress.

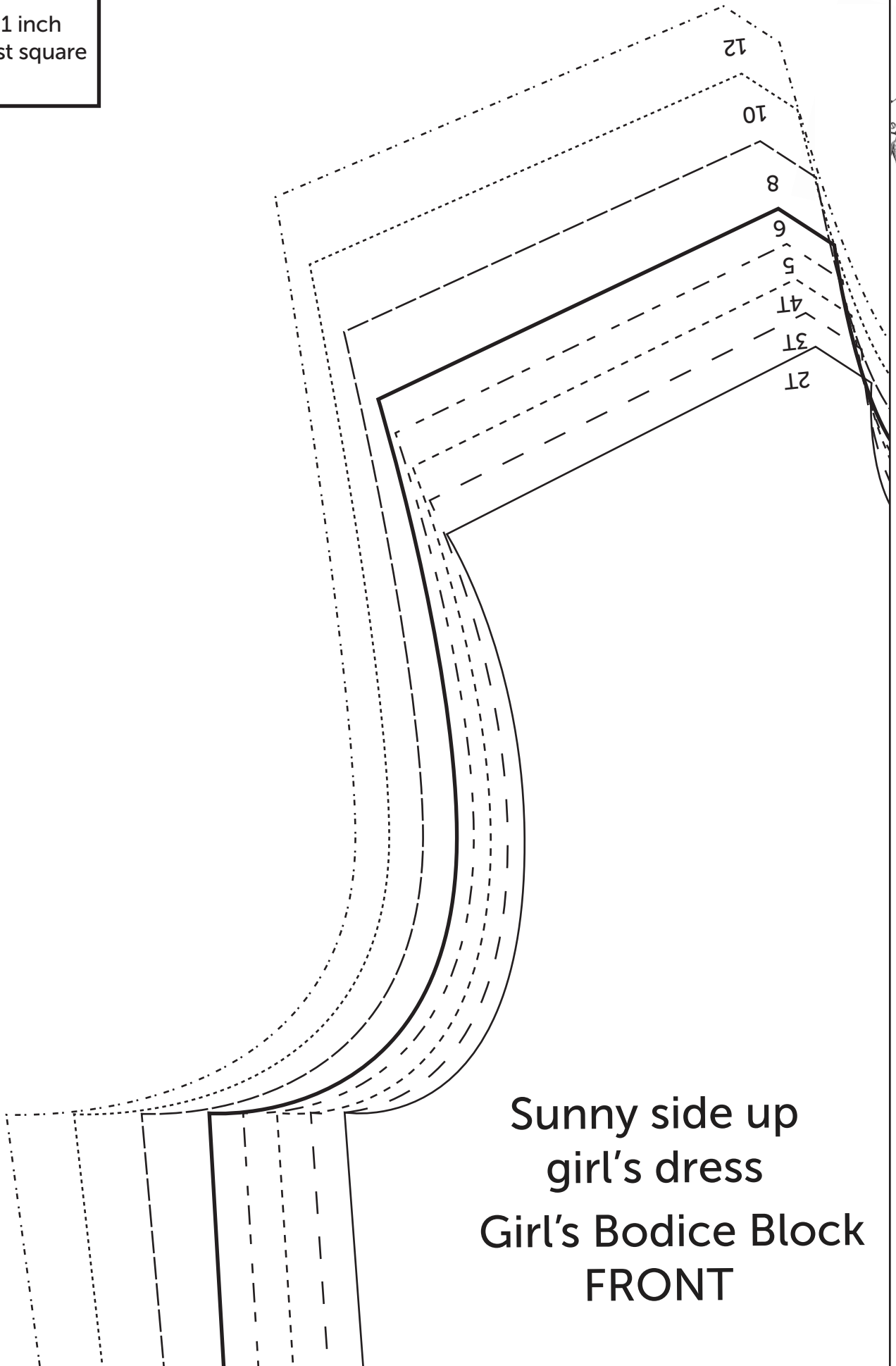


# Sunny side up girls' dress



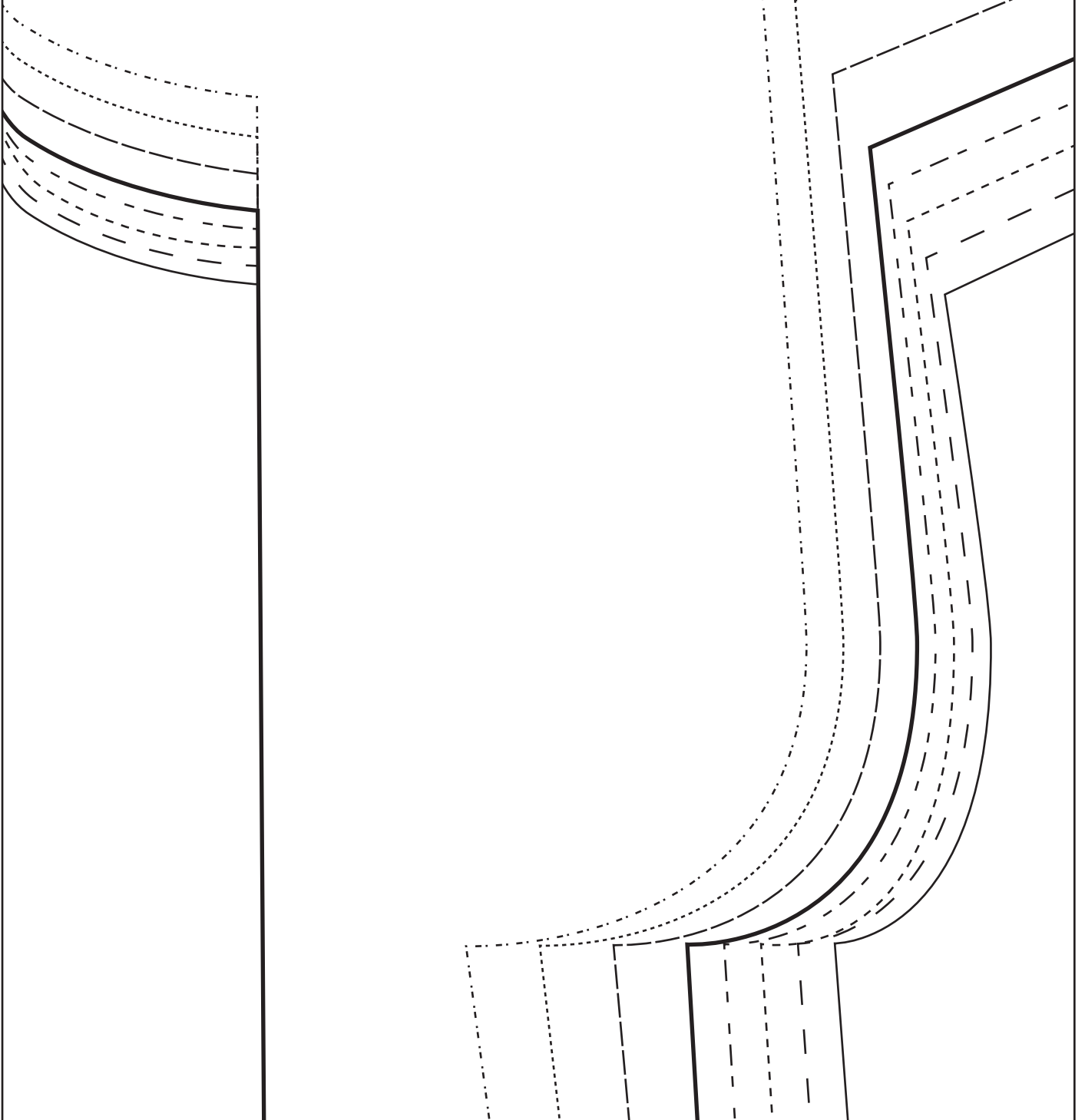
1

1 inch  
test square

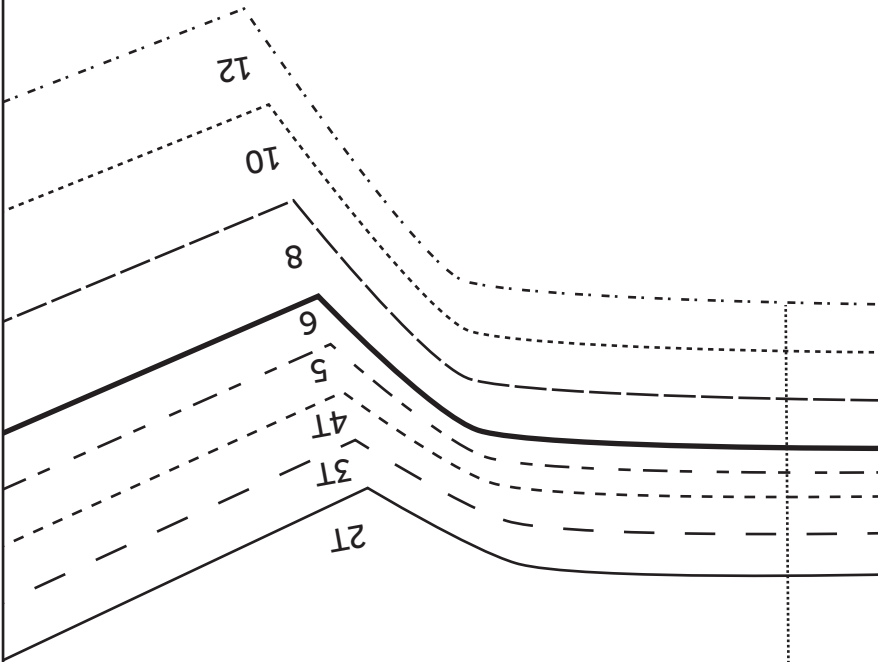


Sunny side up  
girl's dress  
Girl's Bodice Block  
FRONT

2



3



Sunny side up  
girl's dress  
Girl's Bodice Block  
BACK

Center Back

4

Lengthen or Shorten Here



5

2T

3T

4T

5

6

8

10

12



6

Lengthen or Shorten Here

2T

3T

4T

5

6

8

10

12

