

sew dressmaking



your free pattern

"Party season is almost upon us, so we're bringing you a curve-skimming retro-style wiggle dress graded in sizes 8-16. Designed by Amanda Walker, it's easy to sew, with no waist seam or sleeves to contend with. We've stitched ours in striking John Kaldor prints that would look great at a festive party. For more wiggle dress patterns, be inspired by our edit on page 20.

When it comes to the little ones, we've got a cosy pair of pyjama bottoms in Liberty Tana Lawn prints both boys and girls will love. Plus, don't miss our enchanting pick of fairytale and nursery rhyme-inspired fabric prints on page 32."

Steph Durrant, Sew Deputy Editor

We've got **17** pages
of fashion & inspiration



PAGE
15

*Make a
wiggle dress*

- ✓ Five dress sizes
- ✓ Retro style
- ✓ Lined bodice
- ✓ Concealed zip



PAGE
28

*cosy up in
Liberty print
pyjama bottoms*

*top wiggle
dress patterns*



PAGE
20



Download
PATTERN
ONLINE

Necklace £18 Ousis

"Dress up this classic style with colourful statement accessories"

Get set for party season with Amanda Walker's wiggle dress collection

Avoid the embarrassment of turning up in the same dress as another guest at a **festive engagement** by stitching your own **bespoke outfit**. Designed by Amanda

Walker, this simple dress is in a **curve-hugging wiggle** style evocative of the 1950s. It features two dart positions and is a flattering knee length; with a **pretty bow** detail at the neckline. From the *Sew* archive, it has had a modern revamp with two **striking prints** from John Kaldor – perfect for turning heads at all your seasonal soirées.

SEW
Archive

Belt £29.99 TK Maxx, bracelets from a selection at Debenhams

HOTTIP

Work a graduating print pattern for extra style points.

essentials

Fabric, 110cm; lining, 1m
Zip, concealed, 56cm

DIMENSIONS:
Sizes 8-16

CUTTING GUIDE:

- 1 Front**, cut one on fold in fabric, cut one on fold in lining
- 2 Back**, cut one pair in fabric, cut one pair in lining
- 3 Collar**, cut one only
- 4 Bow**, cut one only

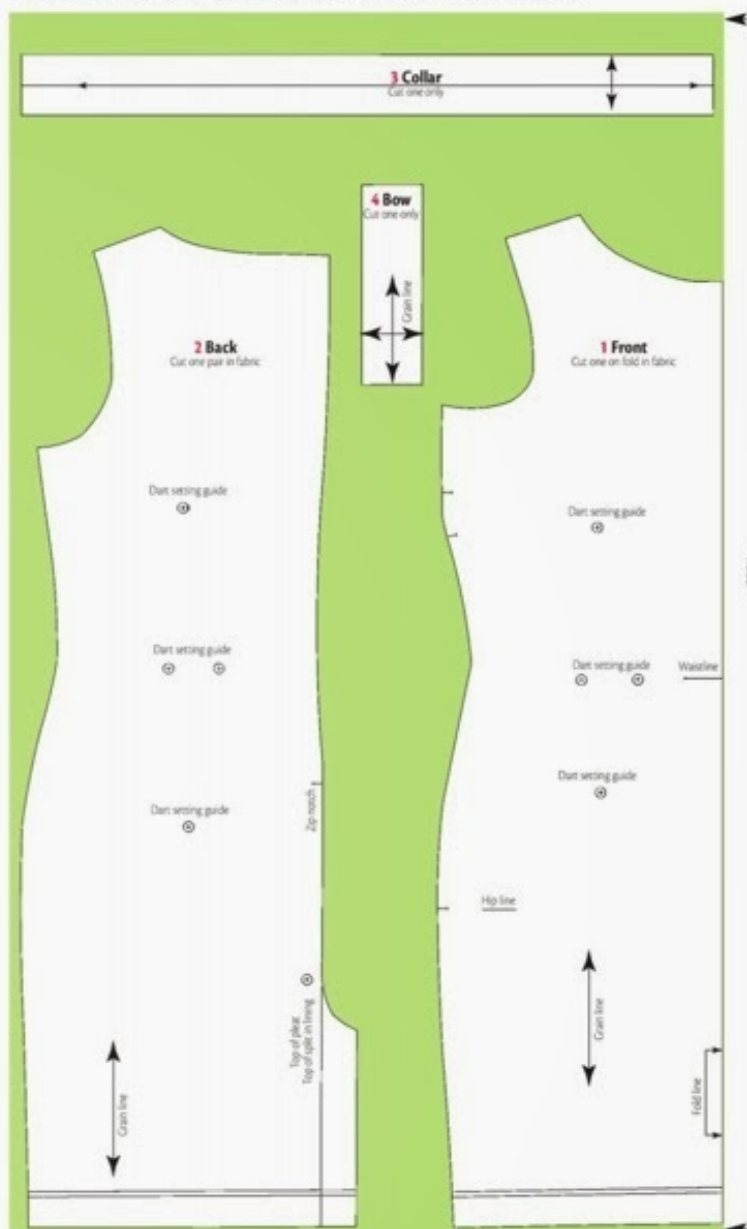
talking techniques

- ✓ Inserting darts
- ✓ Concealed zip
- ✓ Adding a lining
- ✓ Working a hem

stitch a wiggle dress

1 Visit www.sewmag.co.uk and download the pattern. Print and piece together. Lay the pattern pieces onto fabric and cut out. The two darts that are featured on each side of the dress front are positioned at the side of the bust (from the side seam with the point towards the bust point) and at the front (from the waist section with the point towards the bust point). Match the vertical dart dots together, fold the fabric from the dot at the top point and the base of the dart, then match the dots at the centre waistline together. Pin and stitch from the base of the dart to the point, securing the stitches at the top and base point. Repeat the process on the remaining dart. Press them

150cm (wide) x 110cm main fabric, folded as shown



towards the centre front. Stitch in the bust darts, match the notches at the edge of the bust darts together, then the point and stitch. Press the darts downwards. Repeat this process so there are four darts on the front main fabric and four on the front lining piece.

2 Insert darts to the back of the dress. Stitch the darts into the back pieces; follow the same method as for the front piece. The two darts are positioned at the waist, one on each back piece. Press the darts towards the centre back. Repeat the process on the back lining pieces.

3 Stitch the shoulder seams together. With the front piece facing uppermost, lay the

back pieces onto it matching the shoulder seams together, pin, then stitch together. Press the seams open. Repeat the process with the lining front and back pieces.

4 Stitch the centre back seam. First neaten the edges of the seams by either overlocking or zig zag stitching. With the right side of the back pieces facing, match the notch at the base of the zip together, pin along the seam as far as the top of the pleat, then stitch the seam together from the top of the pleat, as far as the zip notch; back tack to reinforce the ends of this seam. Clip the seam at the top of the back pleat, then press the seam open. The lining pieces have a straight centre back seam, so repeat the previous process, but stitch from the top of the pleat to the zip notch.

5 Stitch the side seams together. First neaten the edges of the seams by either overlocking or zig zag stitching. Lay the back dress onto the front dress, with the right sides of the fabric facing. Match the side seams together, pin, then



"This sassy wiggle-style dress is simple to sew as there is no waist seam or sleeves – perfect for stitching for a last-minute Christmas engagement"

Amanda Walker, Sew designer

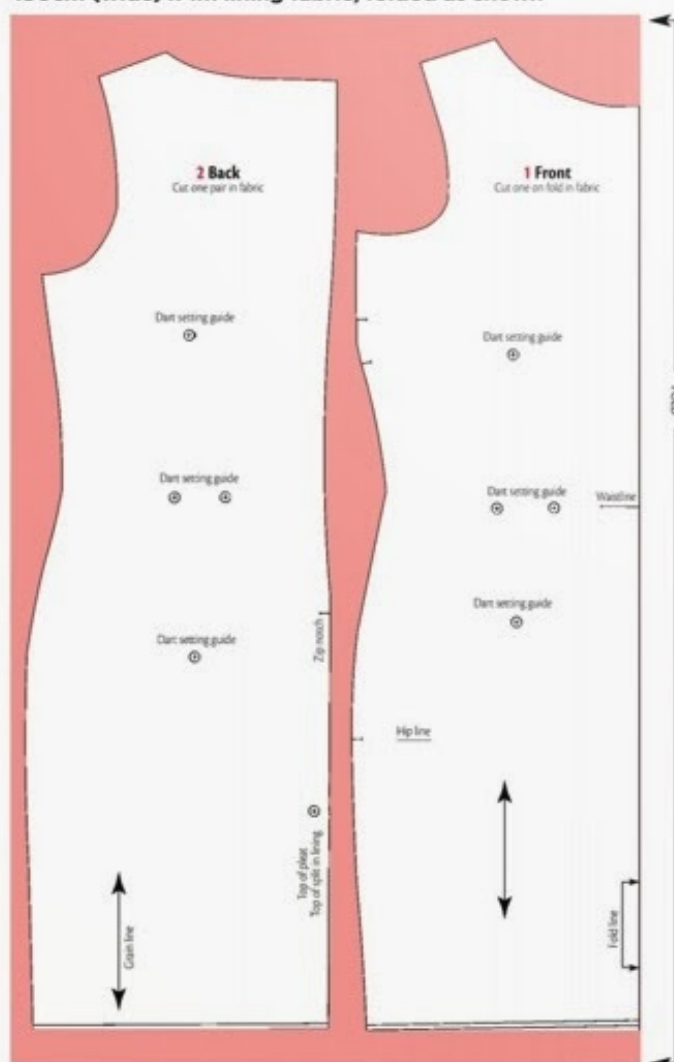
stitch together. Press the seams open. Repeat the process on the dress lining.

6 Insert the zip. Stitch the concealed zip into the back opening using a zip foot or a concealed zip foot. Fold and press the seam allowance along the two sides of the back opening. Open out the seam allowance and with the right side of the fabric facing, place the opened zip face down matching the teeth to the crease line in the seam allowance. Pin in place. If you are using a concealed zip foot then place the teeth of the zip into the groove and as you

stitch, the foot will uncurl the teeth and the stitching will be placed right alongside them. If you are stitching with a normal zip foot, you will need to uncurl the teeth with your fingertips; stitch to the top of the centre back seam. It is impossible to stitch to the end of a concealed zip, so leave approximately 5cm of the zip base un-stitched. Back stitch, then sew the other side of the zip in place. Carefully thread the zip pull through to the right side at the top of the centre back seam and pull up to close.

7 Stitch the armholes. Place the dress lining inside the

150cm (wide) x 1m lining fabric, folded as shown



*Make
with under
2.5m of
fabric*

HOT TIP

A concealed zip adds a professional finish to your garment.

dress, which is turned to the right side. Run your hand up in between the lining and the dress at one of the side seams and pick up the end of the side seam on both the dress and the lining. Pull the two ends out and, in doing so, the dress will be turned to the wrong side. Pin the ends of the seams together, then stitch the front armhole of both the dress and the lining together as far as the shoulder seams. Trim the seam allowance and clip the curve. Pull the front armhole to the right side, then do the same on the back part of the armholes. Repeat the whole process on the remaining armhole.

8 Stitch the collar to the neck. With the dress turned to the right side, match the neckline of the dress and lining together; turn in the seam allowance of the lining at the top of the zip. Pin, then stitch them together near to the edge. With the right side of the collar and the dress facing, pin and stitch the collar band in place, leaving 1.5cm protruding from the top of the zip at both ends. Fold and press up the seam allowance on the opposite long edge. Fold the collar in half along the length with the right sides facing. Stitch across the ends in line with the zip. Trim away the corners, then turn the collar to the right side and hand slip stitch in place. All the raw edges of the neckline should be sandwiched inside the collar.

9 Make the bow. Fold the bow piece in half lengthways and stitch. Turn to the right side and press. Bring the two raw ends together and slightly overlap them. With a hand sewing needle and thread, make a running stitch through the overlapped area, pull the thread to gather the centre slightly, then fasten off the thread securely. Cut a small strip from a scrap of fabric, then fold in the raw edges. Wrap this around

the centre of the bow; hand stitch to secure at the back. Position the bow on the collar, then hand stitch in place.

10 Turn up and hand stitch the hem. On the lining, press the seam allowance back so it continues from the centre back seam and machine stitch the seam allowance in place. Turn and press 1cm around the base of the lining and press up another 1cm. Pin, then edge stitch the hem in place.

Overlock or zig zag the base of the dress, then press up the 3cm hem. Fold and press the left-hand side of the pleat along the centre back line, the right-hand side of the pleat will be laying underneath. Fold the hem back onto the right side of the skirt on the corner of the pleat and stitch close to the edge along the end of the hem, then turn the hem back onto the wrong side. To the left-hand side of the pleat, fold the pleat onto the right side of the skirt, then stitch along the fold line made while pressing the hem. Turn the hem and the pleat back to the wrong side. Machine stitch the top of the pleat to the back of the skirt. Hand stitch the pressed hem with a hemming stitch.

*Our experts
give advice on
couture
techniques
page 22*



Clutch bag: £11. Debut at Debenhams; necklace: £25, bracelet: £15 each, both Betty Jackson Black at Debenhams

SHOP FOR...



Peaseblossom fabric

Make a statement in this John Kaldor Peaseblossom 3231 monochrome fabric in Peach. Priced £9.23 per metre, www.sewessential.co.uk, 01283 210422.



Viscose material

Stitch your garment in this 100% viscose John Kaldor Shake 2329 print. To find your nearest stockist, call 01204 692223.



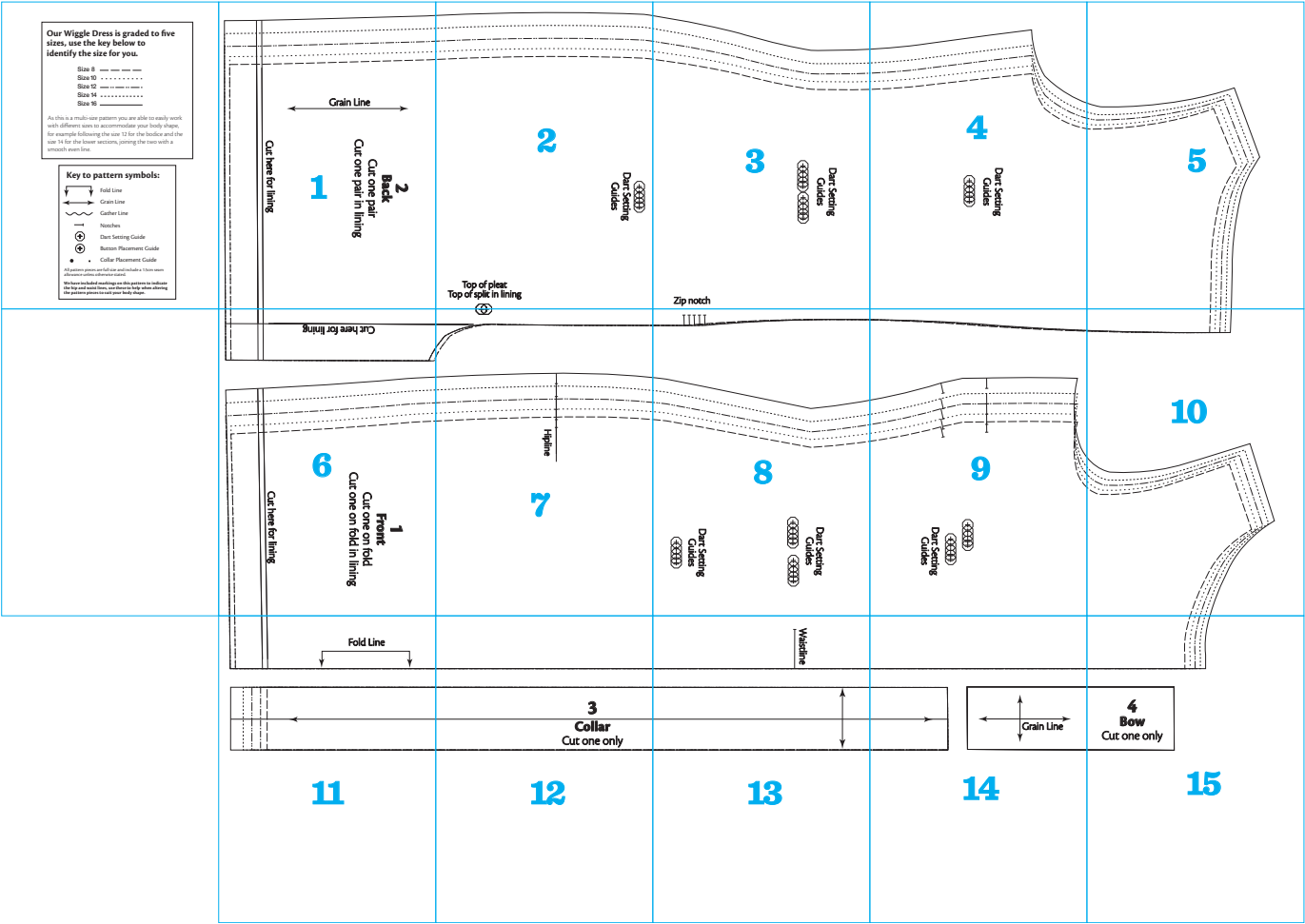
Wine taffeta

Recreate Amanda's original design for the party season by using this two-tone taffeta in Wine. Priced £3.99 per metre, www.remnantkings.co.uk, 0141 418 0333.

Motifs & Templates

Use these guides to get started today

Title: Wiggle dress
Designer: Amanda Walker
Magazine page: 15
15 sheets



Our Wiggle Dress is graded to five sizes, use the key below to identify the size for you.

Size 8 — — — —
 Size 10 - - - - -
 Size 12 — - - — - -
 Size 14 - - - - -
 Size 16 —————

As this is a multi-size pattern you are able to easily work with different sizes to accommodate your body shape, for example following the size 12 for the bodice and the size 14 for the lower sections, joining the two with a smooth even line.

Key to pattern symbols:

	Fold Line
	Grain Line
	Gather Line
	Notches
	Dart Setting Guide
	Button Placement Guide
	Collar Placement Guide

All pattern pieces are full size and include a 1.5cm seam allowance unless otherwise stated.

We have included markings on this pattern to indicate the hip and waist lines, use these to help when altering the pattern pieces to suit your body shape.

2

Back

Cut one pair

Cut one pair in lining

Grain Line

1

Cut here for lining

2



Dart Setting
Guides

Top of pleat
Top of split in lining

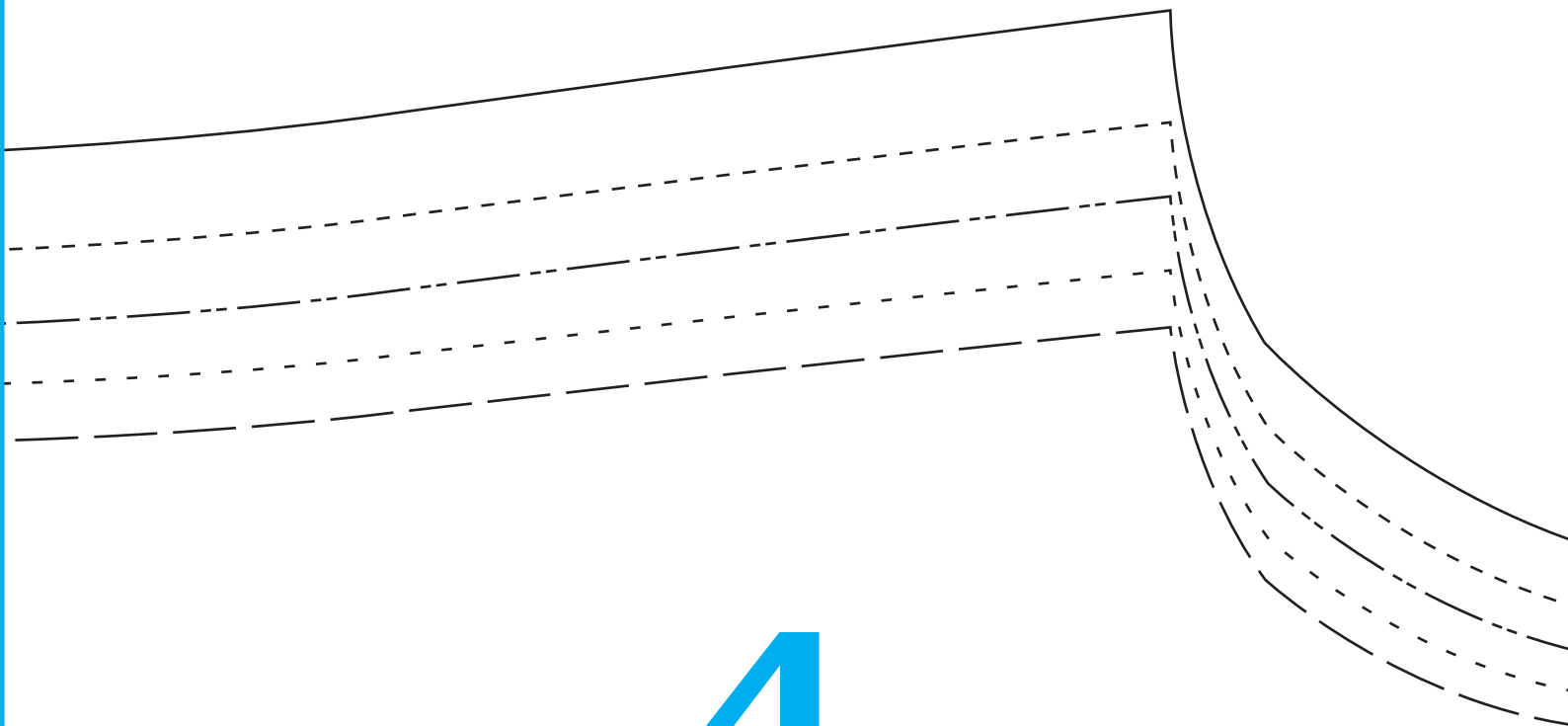


Dart Setting Guides



3

Zip notch

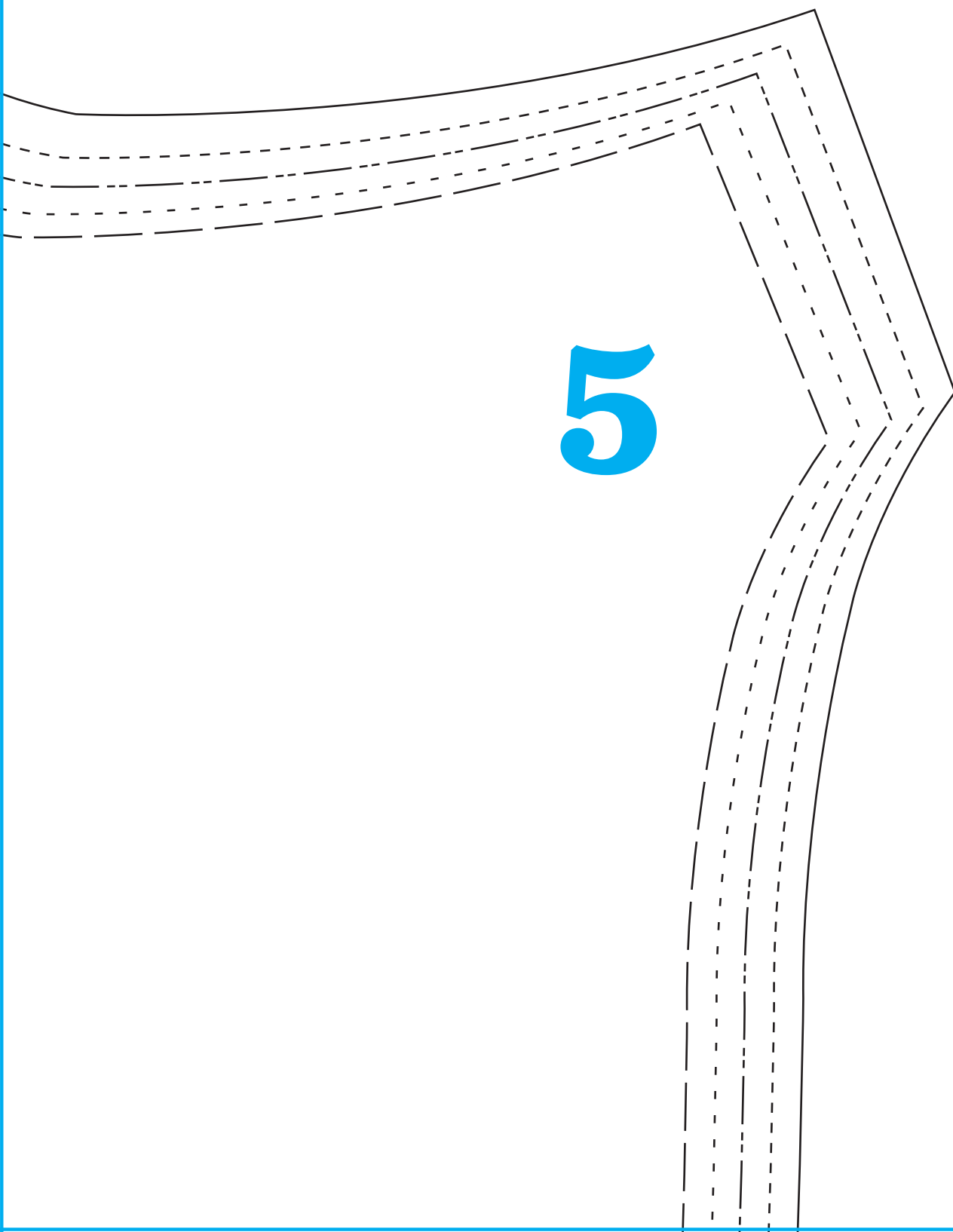


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Dart Setting
Guides



5



1

Front

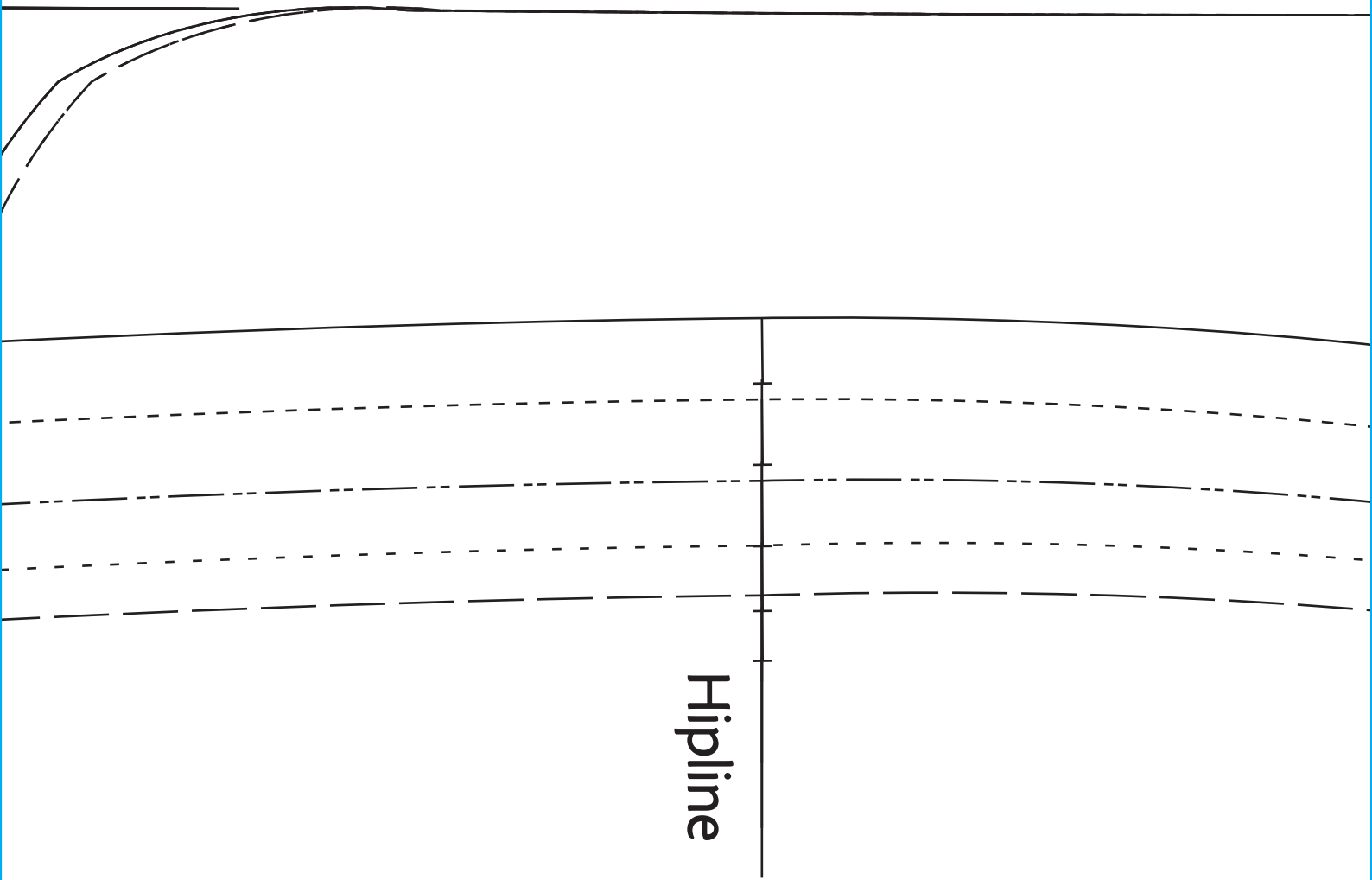
Cut one on fold

Cut one on fold in lining

9

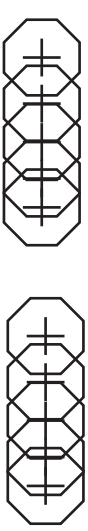
Cut here for lining

Cut here for lining



2

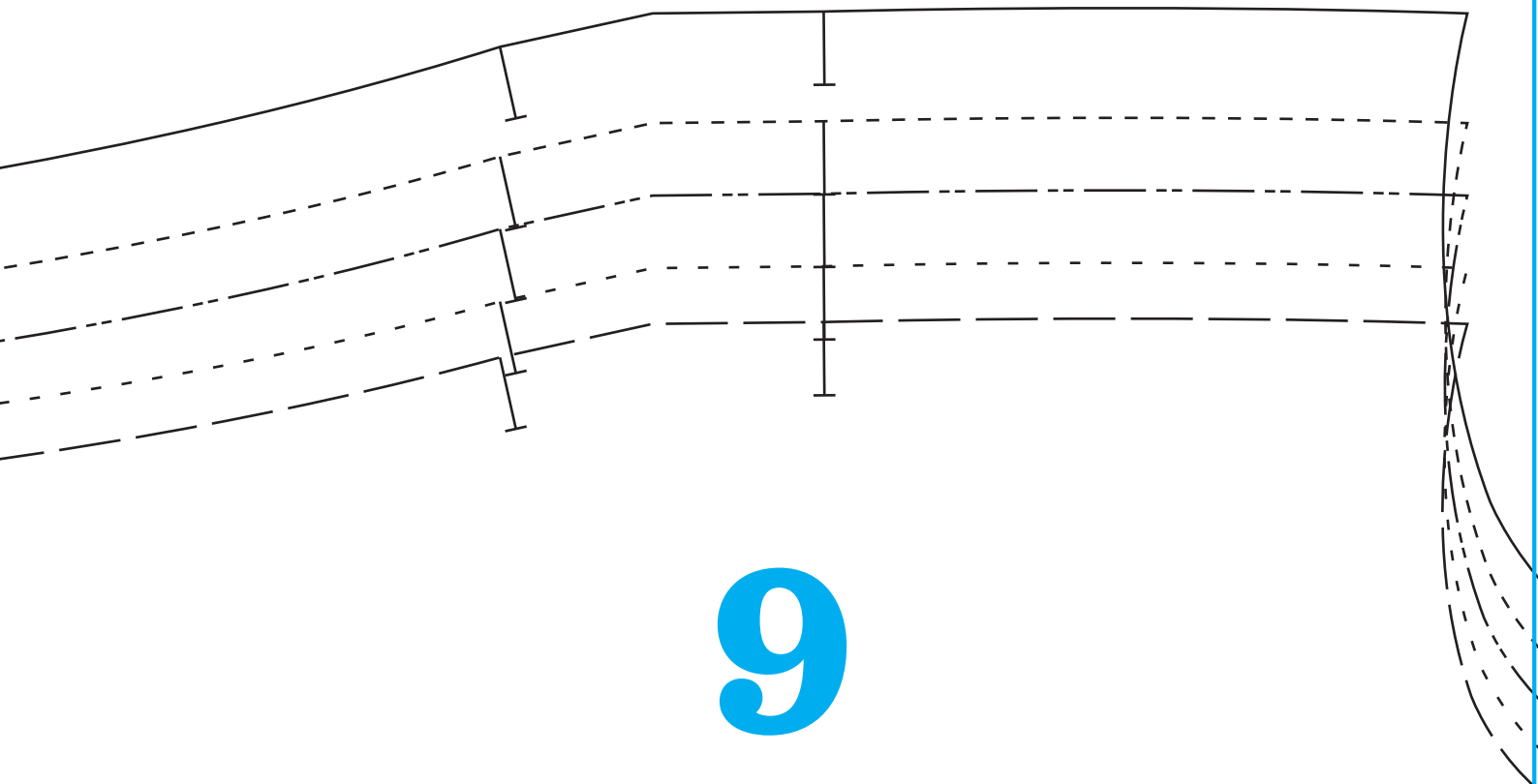
Dart Setting Guides



8

Dart Setting Guides



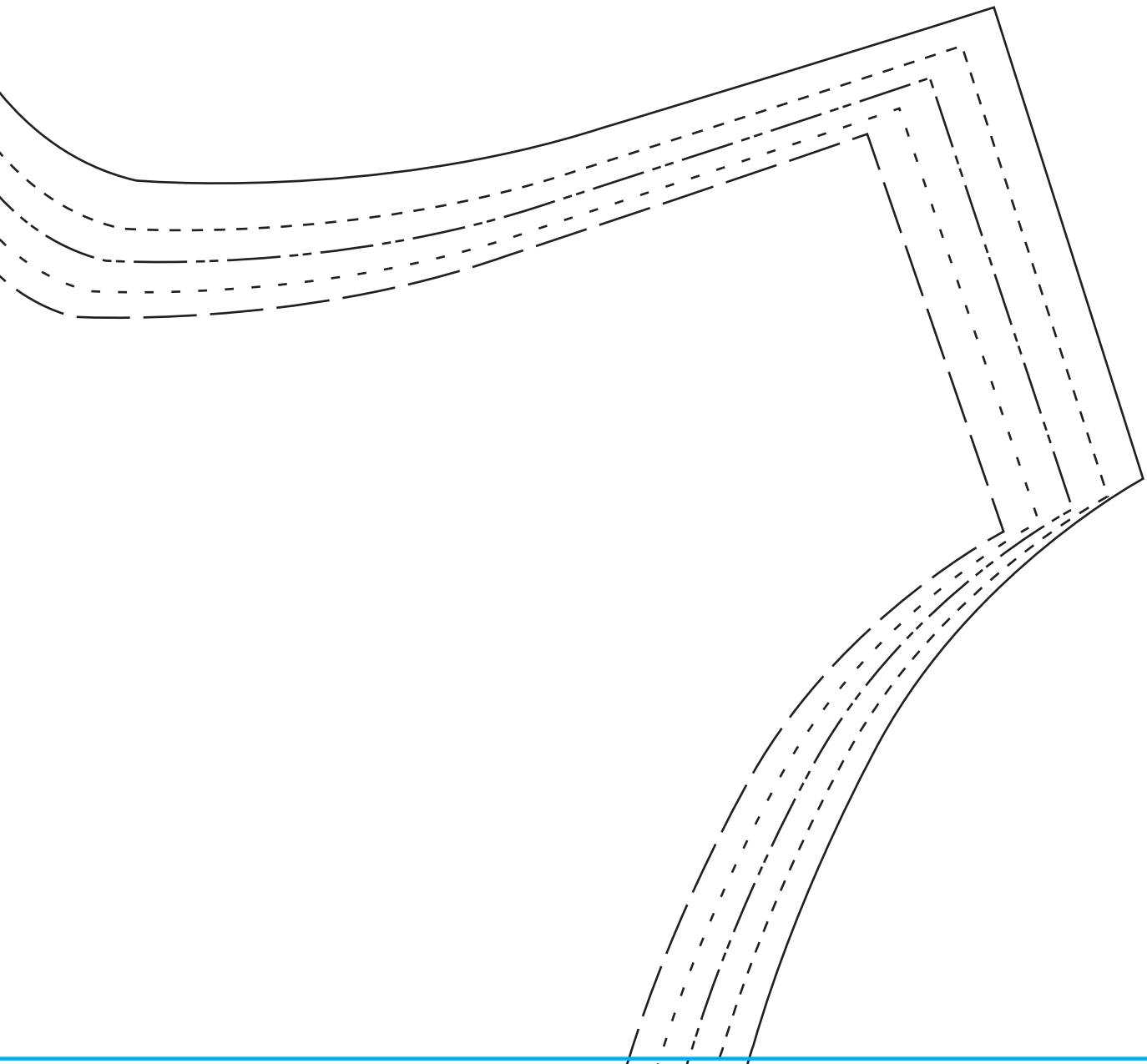


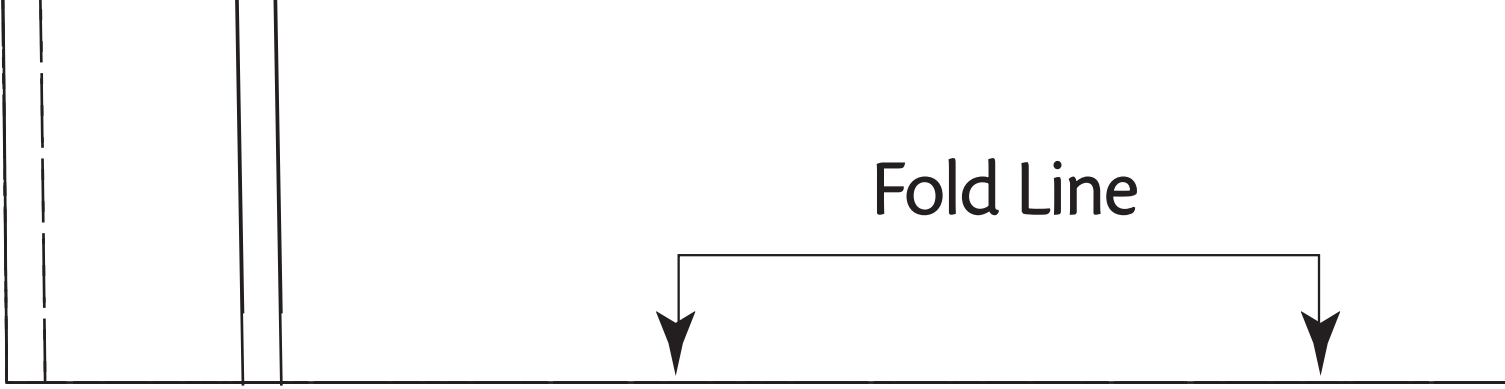
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Dart Setting
Guides

10





11

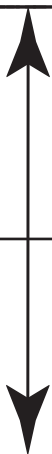
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Collar

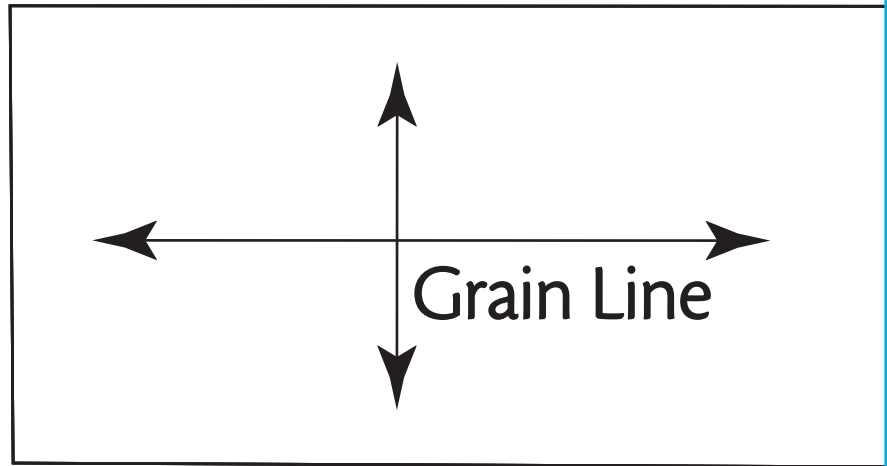
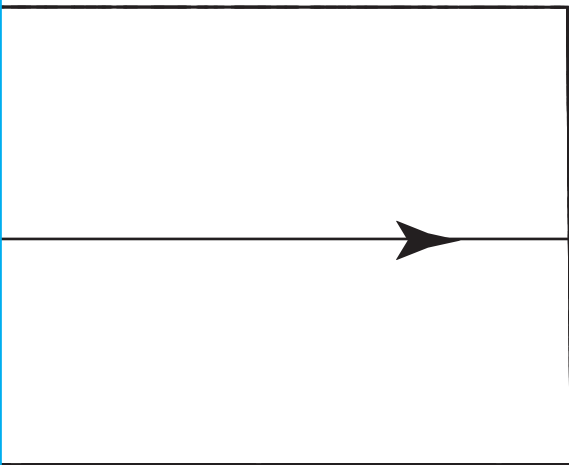
Cut one only

12

Waistline



13



14



4

Bow

Cut one only

15