

ADD THIS STYLISH EASY-MAKE

STAPLE DRESS

to your wardrobe must-haves

A cute staple frock can make a huge impact, especially when you use a bold print such as this Free Spirit Flora Tulip pattern. Treat yourself to a make-in-a-day dress in a lightweight cotton or add a touch of lustre by using a silk drape. With just two pattern pieces and an elasticated waist, it's the perfect easy-stitch wardrobe essential.

ESSENTIAL KIT

Cotton, 2.5m x 1.5m wide
Co-ordinating thread

PLUS:

Elastic, 1cm wide

MEASUREMENTS:

Custom sized

FIND PATTERN
ONLINE MAKEIT
TODAY.CO.UK



CUTTING GUIDE:

Front: Cut One on Fold

Back: Cut One on Fold

1.5cm seam allowance used throughout, with exception of neckline edge which is bound, and hem where a 1cm seam allowance is used.

EASY-MAKE STAPLE DRESS

1 Print out the pattern pieces from makeittoday.co.uk. Using a scrap of the fabric, cut a bias strip approximately 4cm x 70cm, ensuring that it is a long-enough length for the neckline before cutting. Fold and press in 1cm on either side of the strip, or use a bias binding maker to complete the process.

2 Neaten the edges of the shoulder seams by using an overlocker or a zigzag stitch with right sides facing. Match the back and front shoulder seams together,

then sew one of them with a 1.5cm seam allowance and press the seam open.

3 Open one side of the bias strip and position it around the right side of the neckline. Pin in place, then stitch along the fold line pressed into the bias strip. Tuck the strip over on to the wrong side of the neckline and position the remaining folded edge over the stitching line.

4 Pin and sew in place, sandwiching the raw edge of the neckline inside the bias binding. Trim away any excess binding at the edges of the shoulders. Stitch the shoulder seams together, sealing the ends of the binding at the beginning of the seam.

5 Neaten the edges of the side seams with a zigzag stitch. Match the seams together, pin in place, and sew them together as far as the armhole notch using a 1.5cm seam allowance. Press the allowance around the armholes and machine-sew in place.

6 Using a zigzag stitch, neaten around the base of the dress. Create a 1cm hem and sew in place.

7 Wrap a length of elastic around your waist and stretch it until it feels comfortable. Add an extra 2cm, then cut it there. Stretch the elastic along the line indicated on the pattern; this line can be altered to match your waistline. As you stitch, the waistline will become gathered.



"To position the elastic, mark the half-way point, then the quarter points. On the dress, mark the centre of the front and back waistline. The elastic can now be stretched evenly around the waistline, starting on a side seam, matching the marks."

AMANDA WALKER, DESIGNER



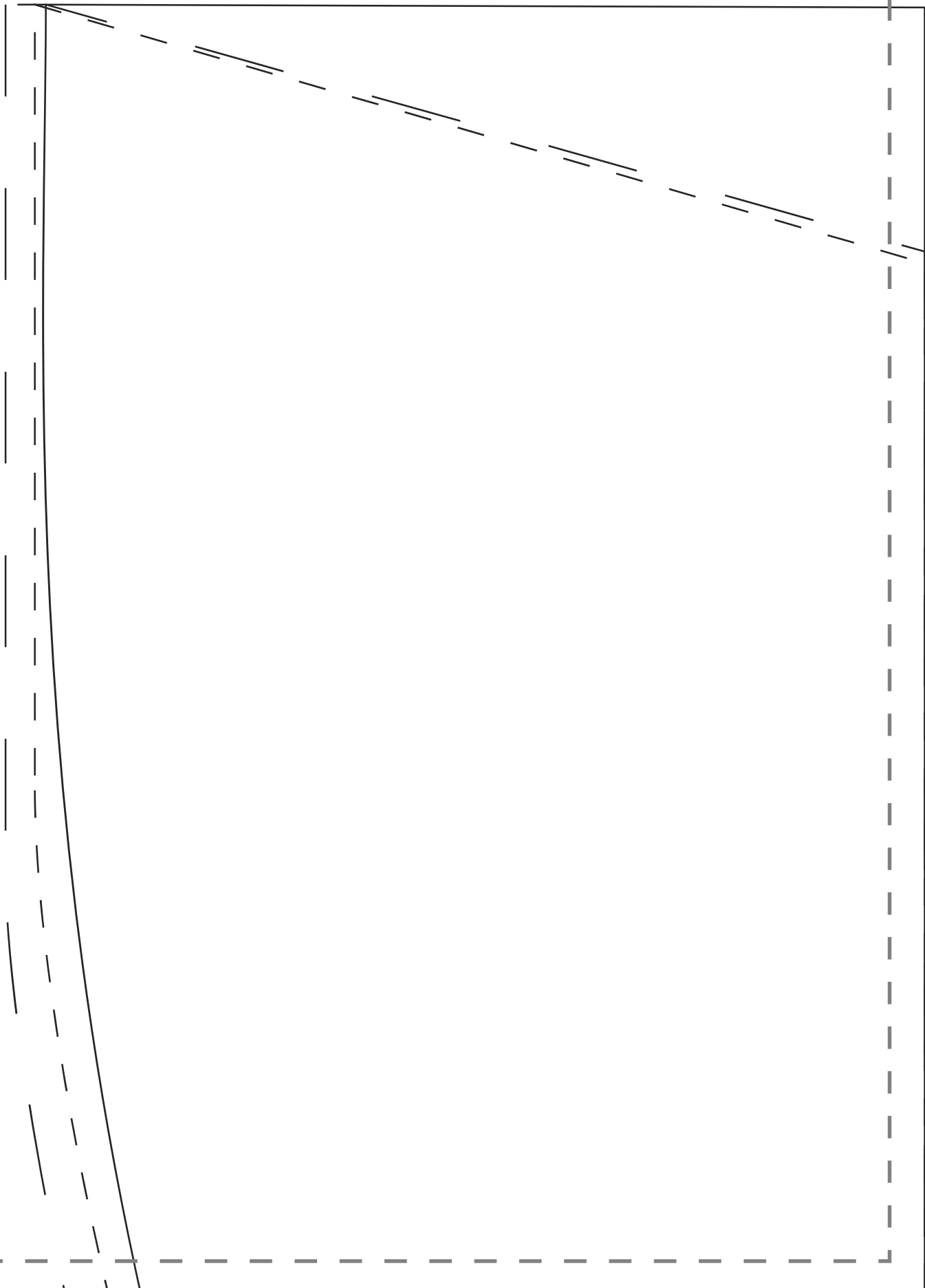
FABRIC LOVE



FREE SPIRIT FLORA TULIP

We love this retro-style tulip geo print in bright shades of pink, purple and ochre. Available for £12.80 per metre at sewscrumptious.co.uk





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ATTACH ELASTIC



CUT ON FOLD

SMALL
MEDIUM
LARGE

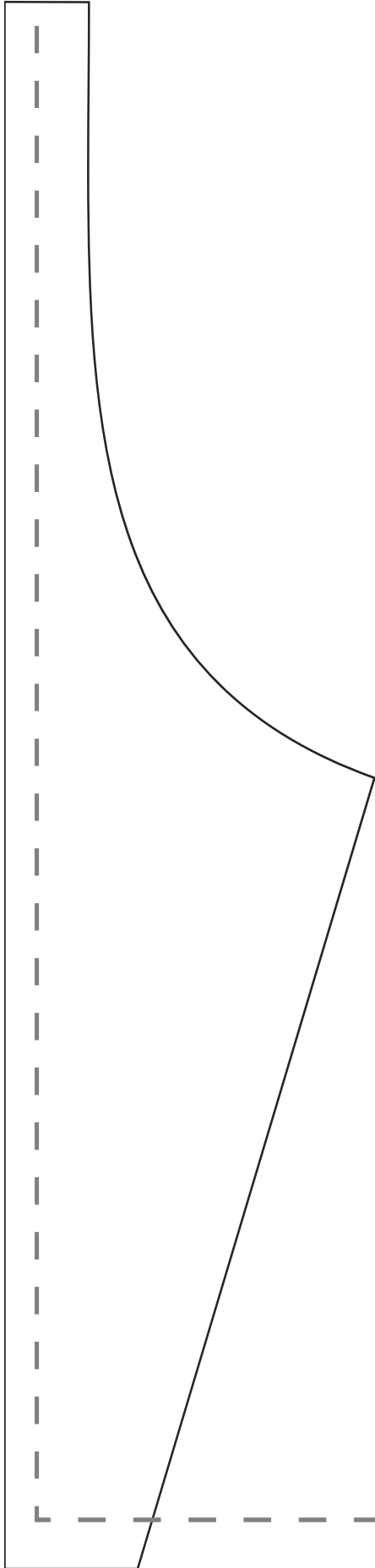
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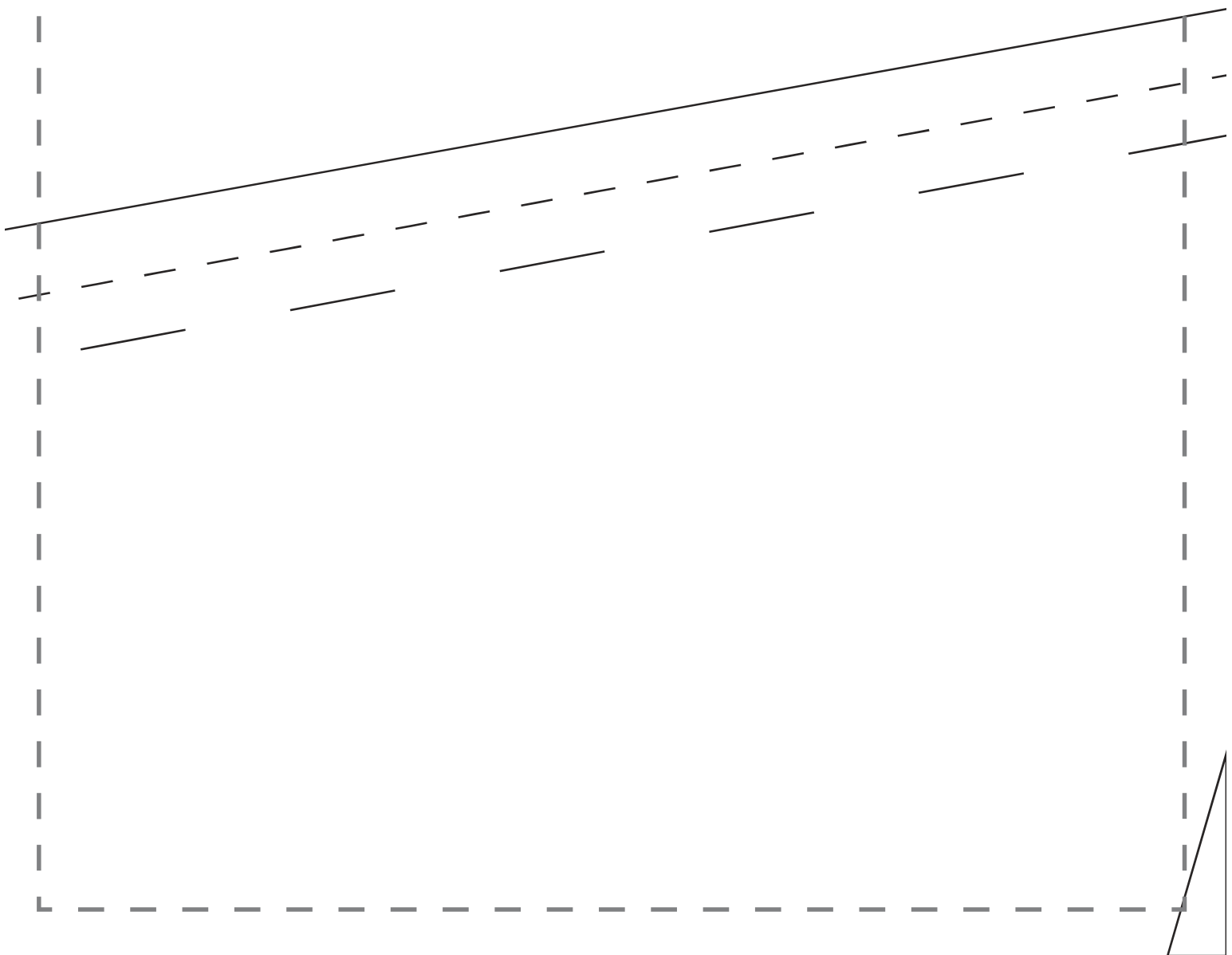
staple dress

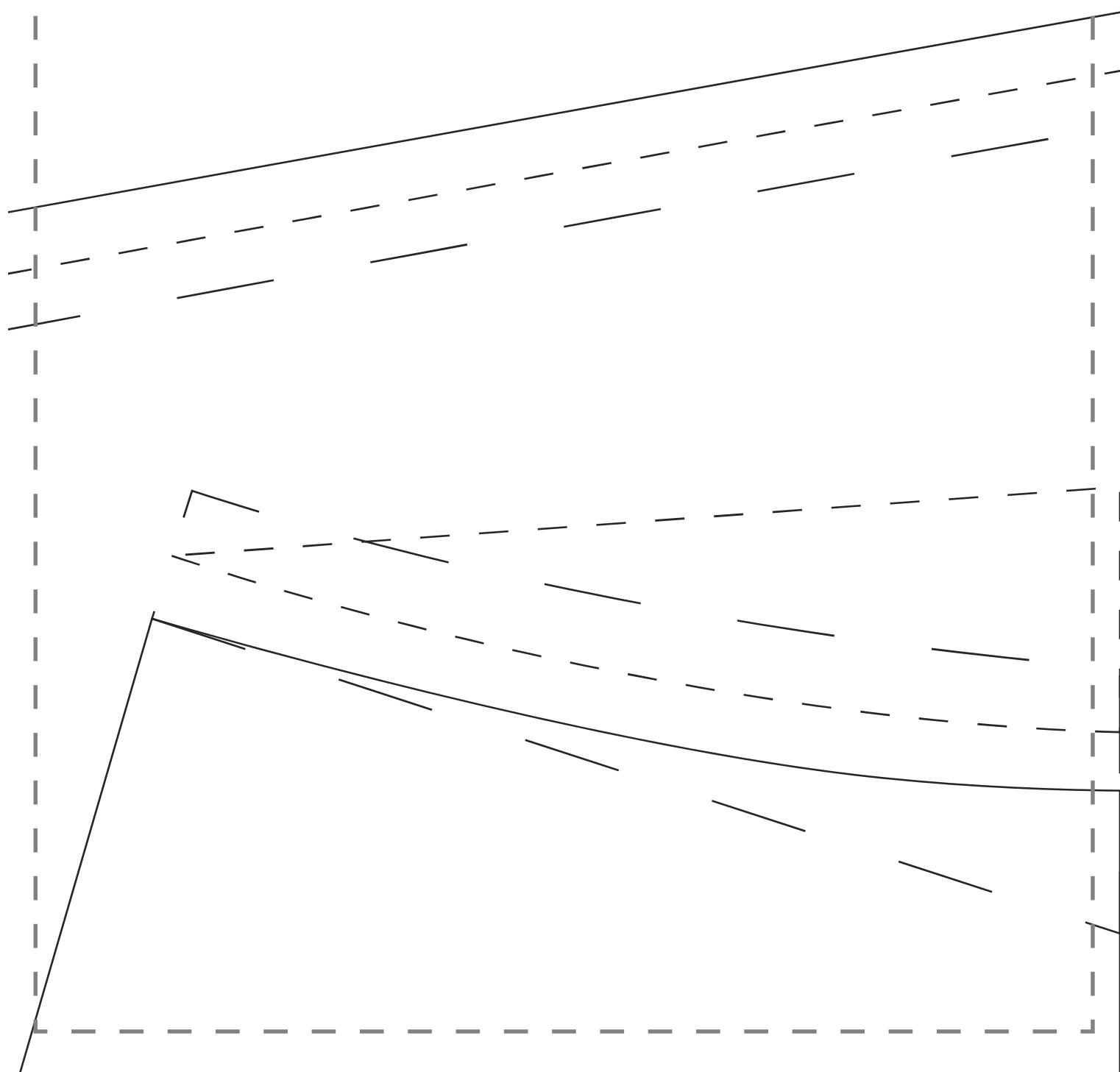
BACK

CUT 1 ON FOLD

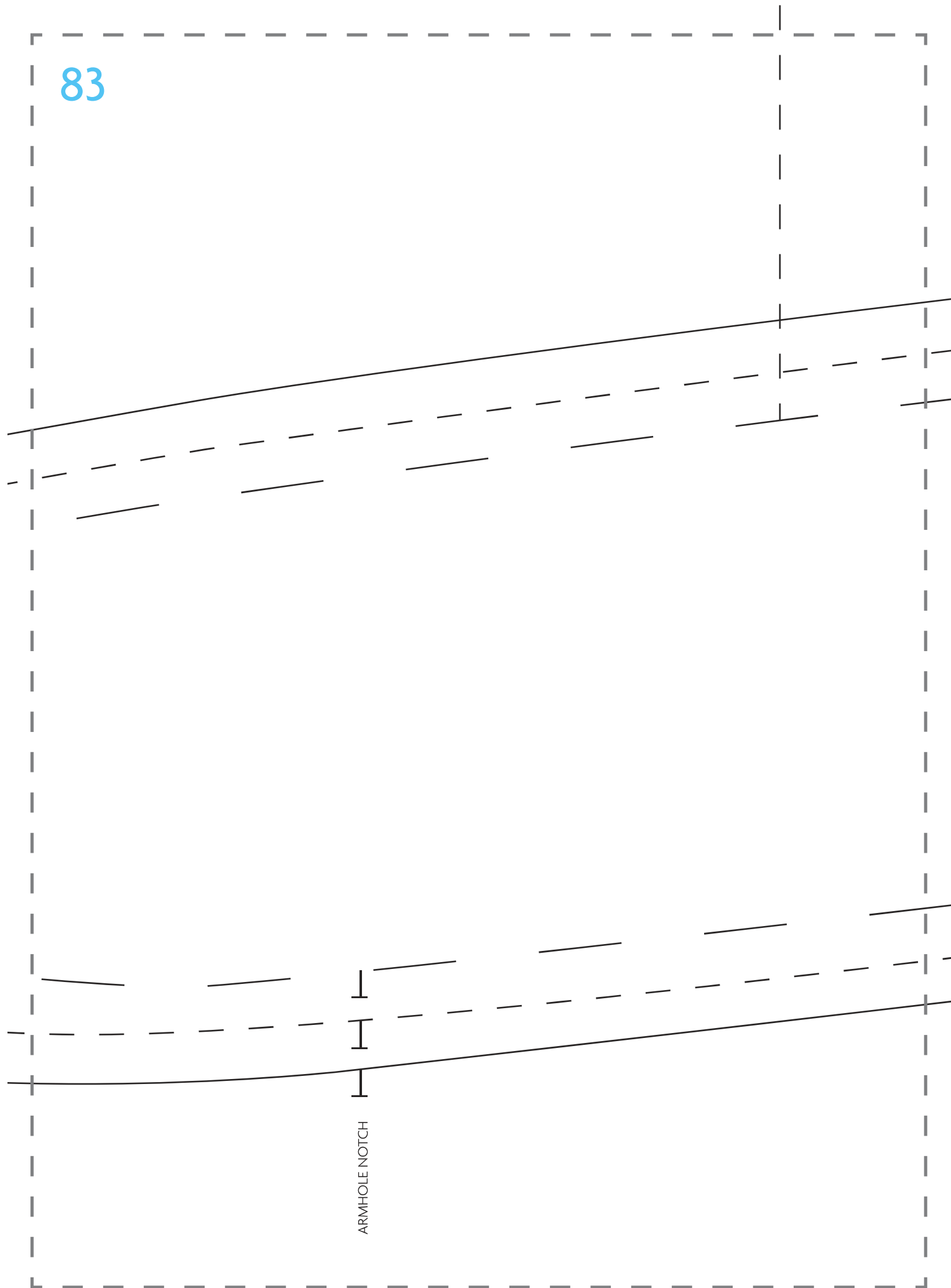


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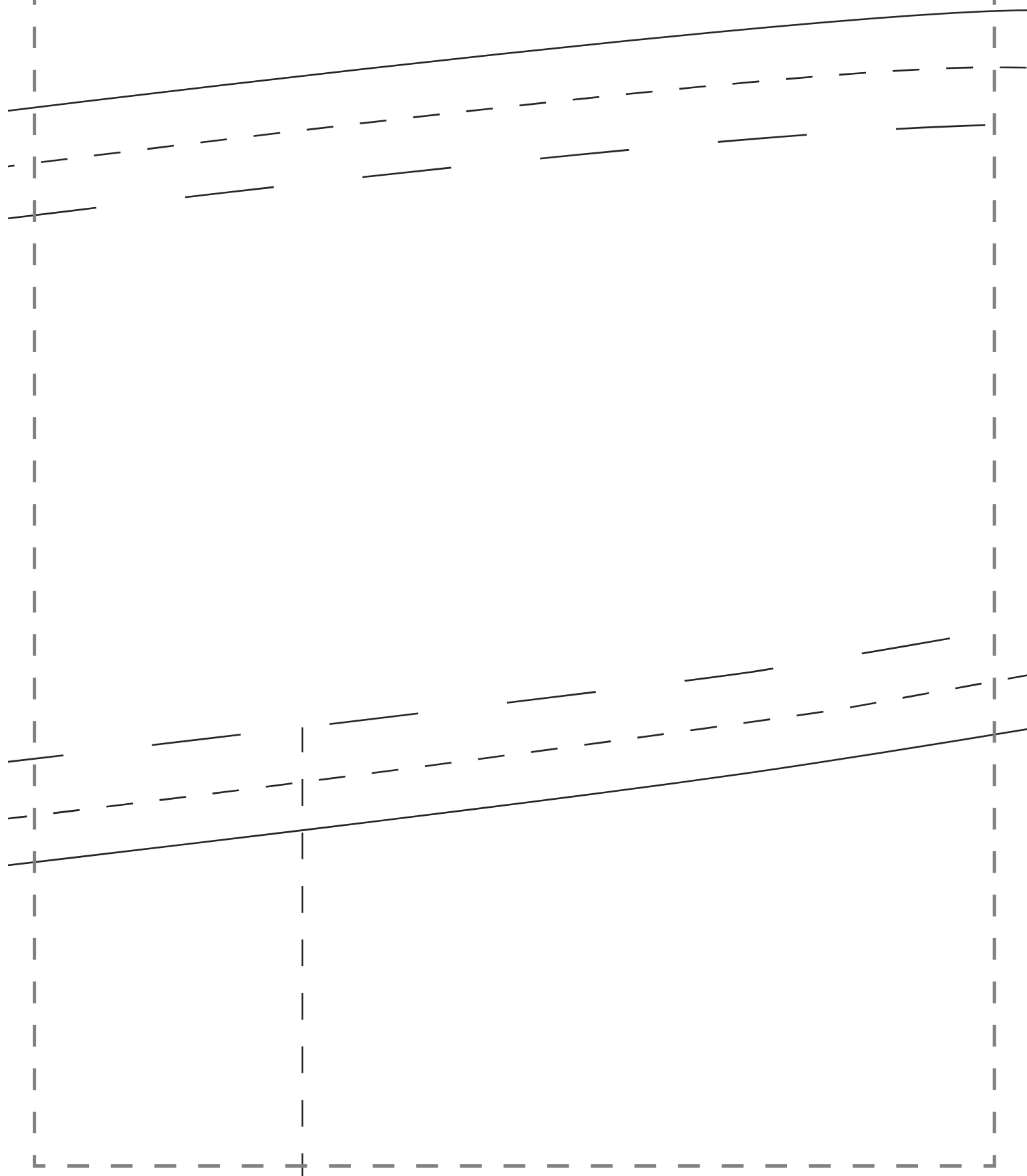


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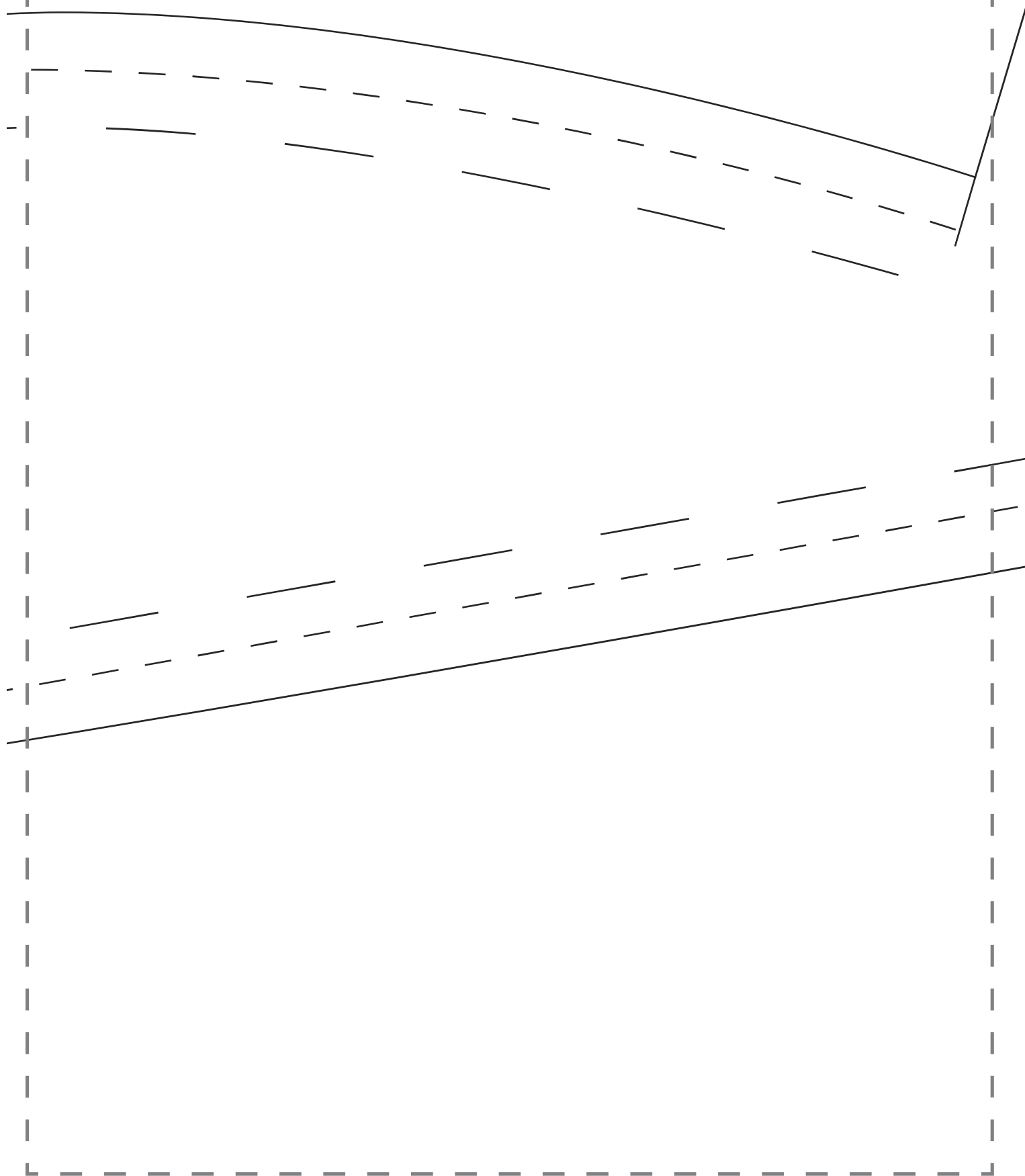


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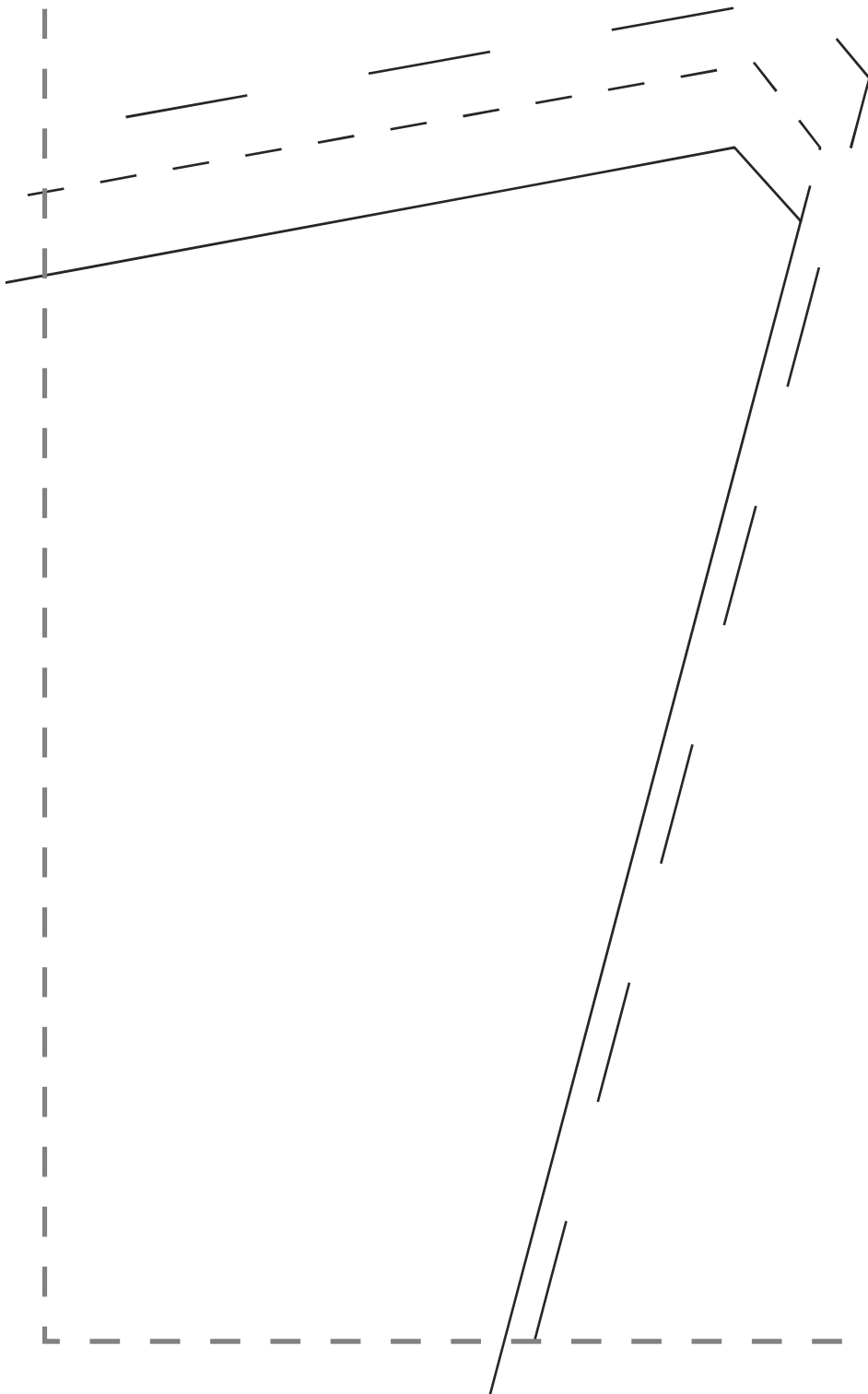
ARMHOLE NOTCH



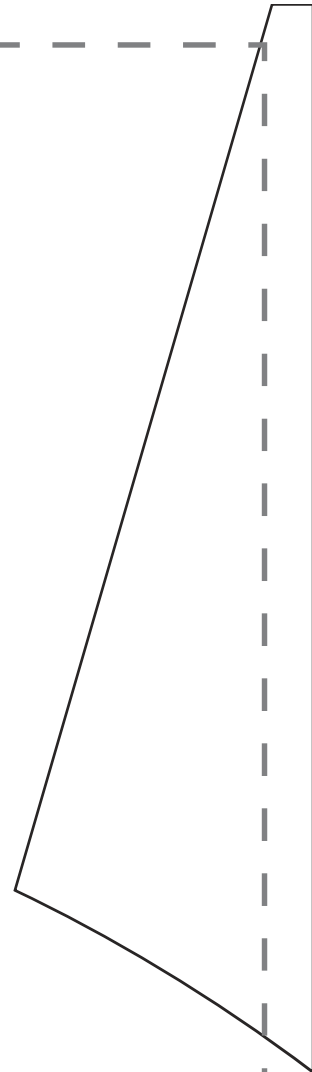
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staple dress

FRONT

CUT ON FOLD

SMALL

MEDIUM

LARGE

CUT ON FOLD



ATTACH ELASTIC



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