



PATTERN ALTERATIONS

Learn how to implement several variations on the Everyday Dolman pattern to create different looks.

- Extend the length line for a tunic-style top.
- Curve the side seam in toward the waist from the cuff for a more fitted dolman sleeve (A).
- Extend the elbow/neck measurement to create longer sleeves. Stitch wider cuffs for a different look.
- Shape the side seam in under the sleeve, and then back out at the hip for a sweeping hem.
- Lower the side seam and curve the hem up to the center for an asymmetrical detail (B).

CUT

From the fabric, cut one body piece, placing the upper edge along the fold.

Cut two 7"x10" rectangles for the cuffs, one 6"x (full hip circumference-1") rectangle for the lower band and one 1 3/4"-wide strip long enough to finish the neckline edge. Cut the cuffs and lower band with the greatest amount of stretch running widthwise. Or if using a stripe, cut on the bias for a contrasting effect.

CONSTRUCT

Use 1/2" seam allowances unless otherwise noted.

Fold one neckline-binding short end 1/2" toward the wrong side; press.

Beginning at the center back with the folded end, align the binding and neckline raw edges with right sides together; stitch. Lap the binding end over the beginning for 1"; cut off any excess binding.

Press the seam allowances toward the binding. Fold the binding toward the wrong side, encasing the seam allowances. Edgestitch the binding from the right side using a triple stitch to secure the binding raw edge.

With right sides together, stitch the side seams; press open.

Run an ease stitch along each sleeve raw edge using a scant 1/2" seam allowance.

With right sides together, align the cuff short ends. Stitch, and then press open the seams. With wrong sides together, align the cuff long raw edges.

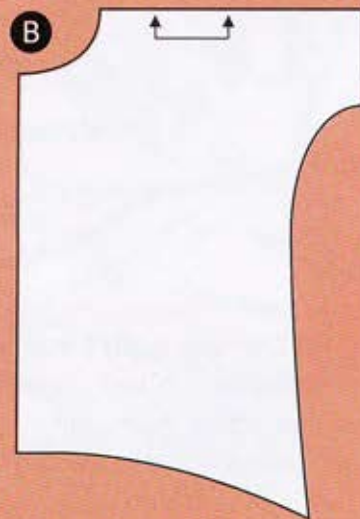
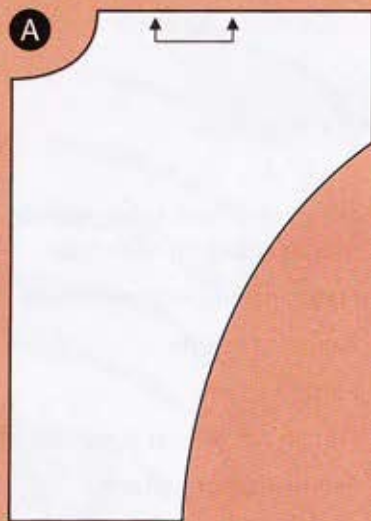
Align the cuff raw edges with the sleeve on the right side, aligning the cuff seam with the side seam. Evenly gather the sleeve basting stitches to ease the sleeve into the cuff; stitch using a zigzag stitch.

With right sides together, align the lower-band short ends; stitch. With wrong sides together, align the band long raw edges.

Align the band raw edges with the shirt lower edge on the right side, aligning the band seam with a side seam; stitch using a zigzag stitch. Press the seam allowances toward the shirt. **S**

SOURCE

Girl Charlee Fabrics provided the Navy Blue Heather Gray Small Stripe Cotton Jersey Blend Knit Fabric (CI-3227); girlcharlee.com.



TIP: If creating a narrower neckline, use a stretch stitch to apply the binding.



KNIT KNACK

Pencil skirts are always in fashion, especially pencil skirts made out of a comfortable knit that moves with your body and doesn't constrain your movements. This self-drafted pattern has a build-your-own flounce for a fun touch. The sample is made from brightly printed scuba knit, but almost any knit would work. Try a soft jersey for a casual look, or find a unique spandex print to dress up the pattern. If you're feeling daring, try a tightly-woven sweater knit. What are you waiting for? Find a knit that speaks to you, and get ready to flounce around.

Fabric swatch images provided by Girl Charlee Fabrics: girlcharlee.com

Skill Level: Easy

SUPPLIES

- Knit fabric (amount depends on measurements)
- Matching all-purpose thread
- 1"-wide elastic (amount depends on measurements)
- Pattern paper
- Measuring tape
- Serger (optional)

DRAFT

On your body, measure from the desired skirt upper edge to the desired hem; record. Subtract 7" from the recorded length to account for the flounce. The featured skirt is 23" long, including the flounce.

Add 2" to the length to account for the waistband and hem allowance.

Measure your body circumference at the widest part of your hips. Don't add seam allowances to the side seams. Because the skirt uses knit fabric, it should be a bit snug across the hips to achieve a nice drape. (This is called negative ease.) Divide the hip measurement in half; record.

Cut a piece of pattern paper according to the recorded hip and length measurements.

Download the Feeling Flouncy flounce pattern from sewnews.com/web_extras until May 31, 2017.

Find the pattern at shopsewitall.com after the expiration date. Print the pattern. On a separate piece of pattern paper, trace the piece side by side until it reaches roughly the recorded hip measurement **(1)**.

Measure and mark the flounce inner curved edge at the recorded hip measurement. Use the pattern piece to draw the end line at the mark.

