

Skills for Living

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Chapter 22

Sewing Techniques

- In this chapter, you will learn



Topic 22-1

Begin with the Pattern

- In this topic, you will learn how to follow the instructions for the pattern, found in
 - ❖ **The pattern guide sheet**

Begin with the Pattern

Objectives for Topic 22-1

After studying this topic, you will be able to

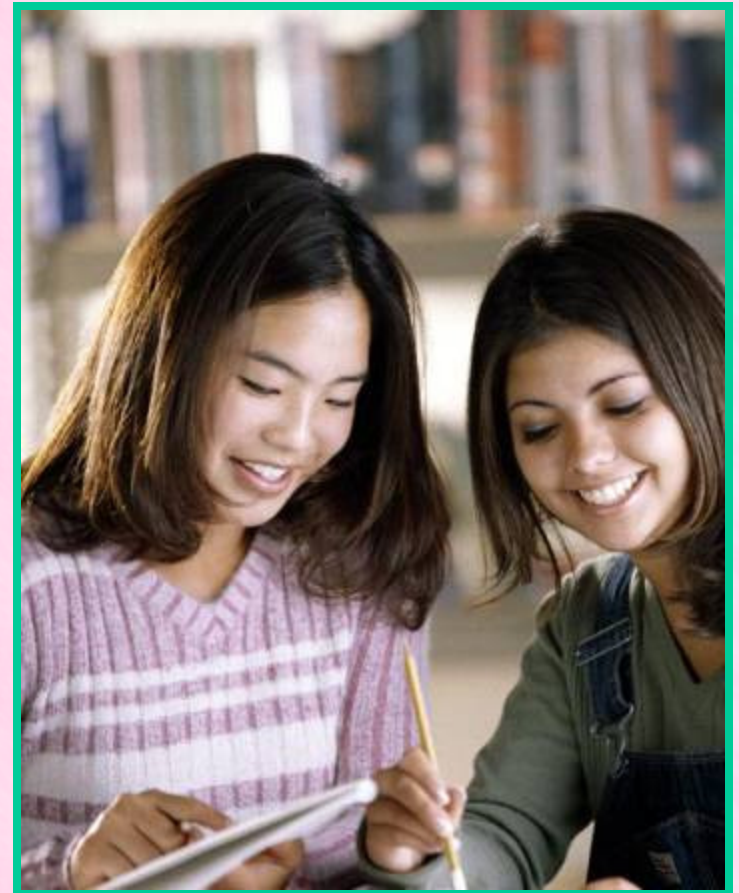
- explain the meaning of pattern symbols
- adjust pattern length and width

Topic 22-1 Terms

- ❖ pattern guide sheet
- ❖ cutting line
- ❖ notch
- ❖ dot
- ❖ multisize pattern
- ❖ stitching line
- ❖ seam allowance
- ❖ grain
- ❖ grainline arrow
- ❖ adjustment lines
- ❖ alteration

The Pattern Guide Sheet

- The *pattern guide sheet* is a set of instructions that has step-by-step directions for the sewing project
 - ❖ Read and study the guide sheet before beginning your project



Understanding Pattern Symbols

- Pattern pieces contain many lines, terms, and symbols
 - ❖ *Cutting lines* are indicated with a bold line
 - ❖ *Notches* are diamond-shaped symbols that should be precisely cut out
 - ❖ *Dots* are used for matching seams and other construction details

Understanding Pattern Symbols

- ❖ *Multisize patterns* contain three or more sizes on one tissue pattern
 - Most patterns available today are multisize
- ❖ The *stitching line* is the seamline, which is 5/8 inch inside the cutting line
- ❖ *Seam allowance* is the space between the cutting line and the stitching line

Understanding Pattern Symbols

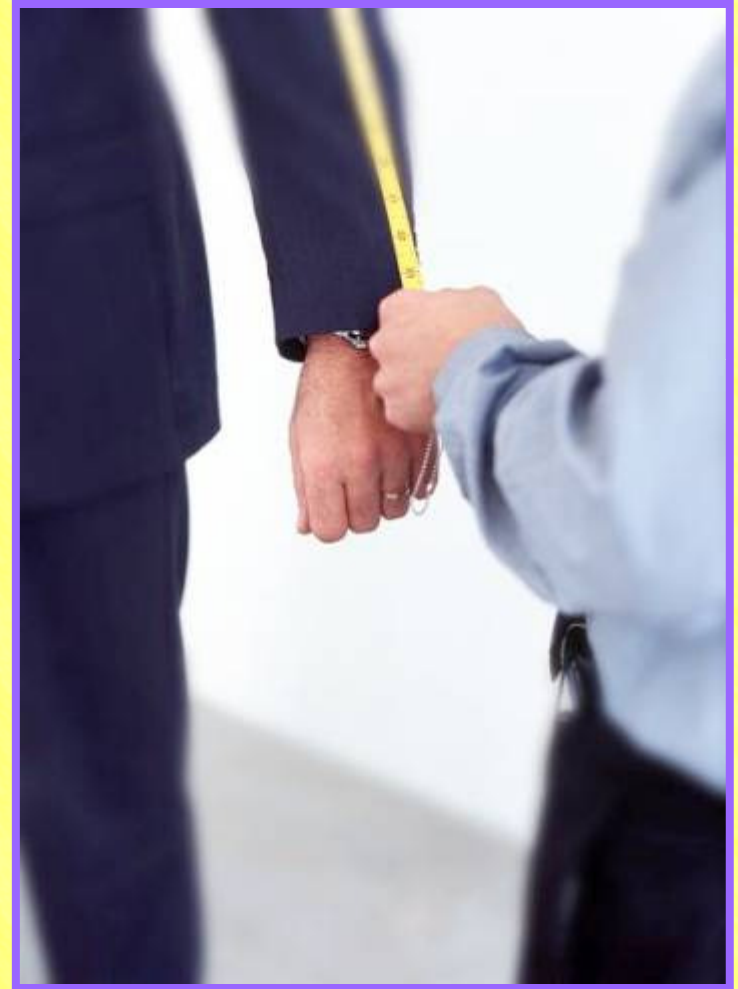
- ❖ *Grain* is the two basic directions that yarns run in a woven fabric
 - *Grainline arrows* show the direction a pattern piece should be placed on the fabric
- ❖ *Adjustment lines* show where to shorten or lengthen a pattern piece

Altering Your Pattern

- Proper fit is key to successful sewing
- *Alterations* are changes to the size of a pattern or garment
 - ❖ Make alterations on the pattern pieces before laying them out on fabric
 - ❖ To make sure the altered pattern will fit, *pin fit* the pattern by pinning the darts closed and carefully trying it on

Adjusting Pattern Length

- Adjusting length is one of the most common and least difficult alterations to make
 - ❖ The length may need to be adjusted in more than one area of the pattern



Adjusting Pattern Width

- Width adjustments may need to be made in the sleeve, waist, hips, or thighs
- Adjustments should be made in both front and back pieces
 - ❖ It is easy to make width adjustments to multisize patterns
 - ❖ It is more difficult to make width adjustments to single-size patterns

Summary for Topic 22-1

- The pattern guide sheet is very important to successful sewing
- Understanding pattern symbols is key to laying out pattern pieces and sewing the pieces together
- Making alterations to a pattern can ensure the best fit