

Skills for Living

Frances Baynor Parnell



by
Yvonne Gentzler, Ph.D
Liz Romero, Ph.D.



Goodheart-Willcox Co., Inc.
Tinley Park, Illinois

Topic 22-2

Pattern Layout, Cutting, and Marking

- In this topic, you will learn how to work with your pattern guide sheet, as well as
 - ❖ **Pattern layout**
 - ❖ **Pinning**
 - ❖ **Cutting the fabric**
 - ❖ **Marking the fabric**

Pattern Layout, Cutting, and Marking

Objectives for Topic 22-2

After studying this topic, you will be able to

- choose the appropriate cutting layout
- pin the pattern pieces to the fabric correctly
- cut the fabric and transfer pattern markings

Topic 22-2 Terms

- ❖ cutting layout
- ❖ selvage

The Pattern Layout

- The pattern guide sheet shows many cutting layouts
 - ❖ A *cutting layout* is a drawing that shows how to fold fabric and place pattern pieces for cutting
 - ❖ You need to find the layout for the specific pattern version you will use
 - ❖ Circle the layout for your size and fabric width

Folding the Fabric

- Fabric is usually folded with the right sides together
 - ❖ A *lengthwise fold* brings the two selvages together
 - *Selvage* is one of two finished lengthwise edges of a piece of fabric
 - ❖ A *crosswise fold* brings the two cut edges together
 - ❖ A *doublefold* brings each selvage edge toward the center

Placing Pattern Pieces

- Most pattern pieces are placed on the fabric with the printed side up
 - ❖ Pattern pieces that are shaded on the guide sheet are placed printed side down
- Lay all pieces on the fabric before pinning any in place
 - ❖ Plaids, stripes, and checks should be placed so designs will match at seamlines and front openings

Pinning

- Pin ends of the grainline arrow to the fabric at a uniform distance from the selvage edge
- Place pins about six inches apart along the stitching lines
- Place pins
 - ❖ at right angles to edges
 - ❖ diagonally in corners
- Keep pins off cutting lines



Cutting the Fabric

- Dressmaker shears are recommended for cutting out pieces
 - ❖ Cut fabric flat on a table
 - ❖ Follow the cutting lines for your size
 - ❖ Pay attention to any size adjustments you have made to the pattern and follow the correct cutting lines

Did You Know...



- In the textile industry, laser cutting machines are used to cut fabric
- Lasers seal the edges of fabrics that fray easily
- Lasers are also used for detailed cutting designs

Marking the Fabric

- Several markings on the pattern guide should be transferred to the fabric

- ❖ center front
- ❖ center back
- ❖ darts
- ❖ buttons
- ❖ buttonholes
- ❖ dots
- ❖ pockets

Using Tracing Paper

- Tracing paper and a tracing wheel are often used to transfer pattern markings to fabric
 - ❖ Test the tracing paper on a scrap of fabric first
 - ❖ Make sure it is visible on the wrong side of the fabric and that it does not show on the right side

Did You Know...

- Too much pressure on a tracing wheel may mar the fabric with holes or transfer color from tracing paper to the right side of the fabric

Summary for Topic 22-2

- Locate the appropriate cutting layout on the guide sheet
- Place pattern pieces following the grain of the fabric
- Pin all pattern pieces securely to the fabric, keeping pins off markings and seamlines
- Leave the fabric flat on the table as you cut
- After you transfer the markings, you can begin constructing your project