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Wirhalh Skip Felagr - The Wirral Ship Fellowship

ladies tunic

Construction of a basic
ladies tunic as a starter kit

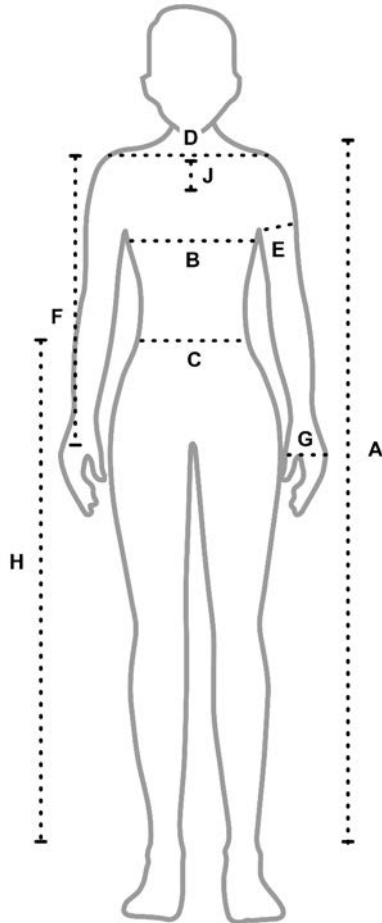
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This guide will show you how to make a basic ladies tunic to cover most periods we portray.

This kit shows the most basic and easiest style to create.



measurements

We first need to take some measurements.

A) Nape to tunic Length - Length is determined by the time period you represent. For women's dresses aim for ankle length. If making the length from one piece of material x2

B) Chest circumference - add the 2" or 5cms, THEN divide by two before adding the seam allowance

e.g.: chest 38" plus 2" = 40" divide by 2 = 20" + 5/8" on both edges = 21 1/2"

e.g.2 Bust 95cms + 5cms = 100 divide by 2 = 50 + 1.5cms on both edges = 53cms

C) Waist - only used if waist is larger than your chest measurement.

D) Shoulder to shoulder - across the back of the neck.

E) Bicep circumference - With muscles raised and add 2" or 5cms to give you movement.

F) Shoulder to top of thumb joint - the one nearest to your wrist

G) Circumference of hand - held as if pushing it through a sleeve, then add 1" or 2.5cms.

H) Waist to lower tunic - do not add extra width or seam allowance.

J) Neck Slit - measure from the notch at the top of your sternum a few cm or inches down

K) Keyhole neckline to just allow head to just pass through - do not add extra width or seam allowance. Form a circle the diameter (width) of your neck on the shoulder fold line of the tunic and then add the slit. This part of the garment needs to be hemmed by hand

Please Note:

Depending on whether you prefer to work in inches or centimetres, add either 2" or 5cms to your measurements PLUS 5/8" or 1.5cms on EVERY seam edge as a "seam allowance"

REFERENCE

a=

b=

c=

d=

e=

f=

g=

h=

j=

k=



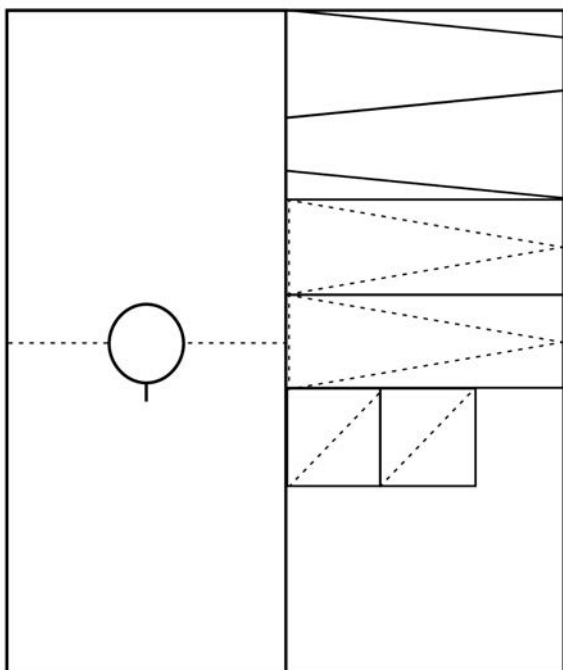
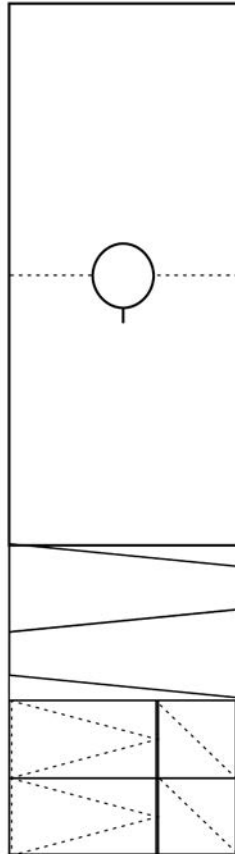
templates

If you are confident in cutting your material straight away you could skip this section but if like use some greaseproof paper to make templates.

Templates are a good what to check that you have measured yourself accurately. There is nothing worse than cutting your material only to realise you have not measured correctly

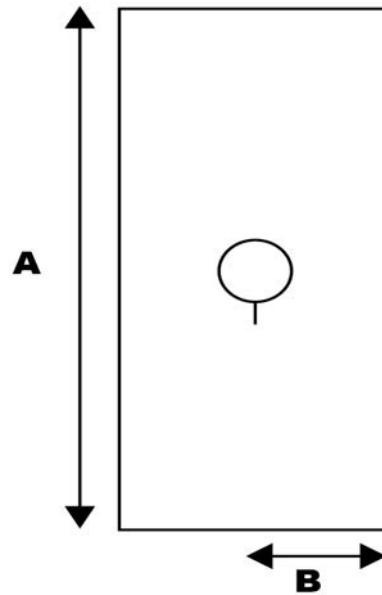
Template also allow you to make sure you use you material in a most efficient way with little waste.

You can reposition your templates till you are happy with the way they sit on the material.



Using you templates will allow you to correct any mistakes or miscalculations.

Check and recheck your measurements till you are happy to proceed.



main body

A = Nape to Tunic Length x2

Remember for women top of foot.

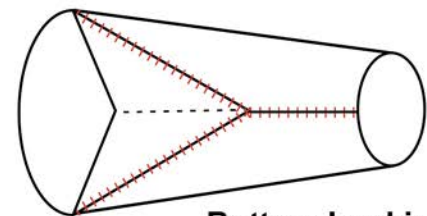
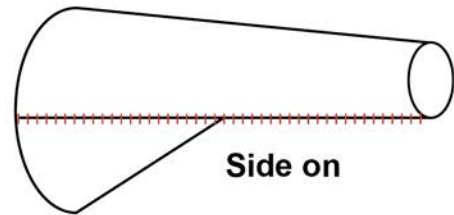
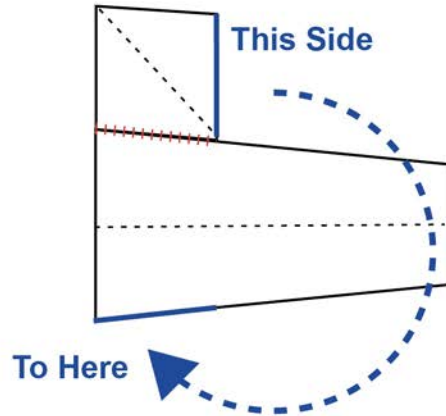
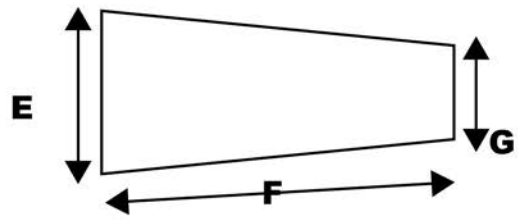
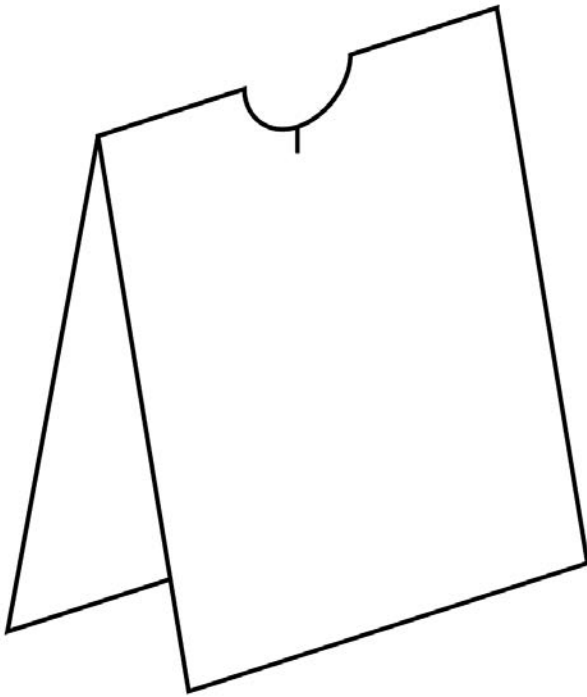
B = Chest circumference

1/2 waist measurement plus 2-6 inches for wiggle room (Remembering your seams)

If you are confident with your measuring you can fold the material over to cut your neck dimensions.

Fold in half horizontally and then fold in half length ways.

Cut a half palm sized quarter-circle from middle top corner and then a slit J down the front of the garment. (Neck hole can be made bigger later)



..... **Stitch Line**

----- **Fold Line**

This may be easier to do for you or you may be happier using the full measurements.

ARMS X2

E = Biceps

F = Arm Length

G = Wrist size

2 Underarm gores

6-8 inches square and you need x2.

We are now going to make two arms. (Make one at a time for ease).

The arm shape is sewn into a tube shape with the gores underneath. It is sewn in such a way that the side is folded under and sewn to the other side to form a triangle shape under the tube.

This might be easier to use your template and fold it under to get the idea.

We attach the gores to the edge of the sleeve nearest the body.

This gores is twisted and then sewn to the other side of the arm section.

The front section is sewn normally to form a tube (The arm).

The section or gores that has been folded and sewn to the other side forms a underarm 'V' shape.

Once you have completed one work on the other arm.

Remember your extra few inches for you seams.

attaching the arms

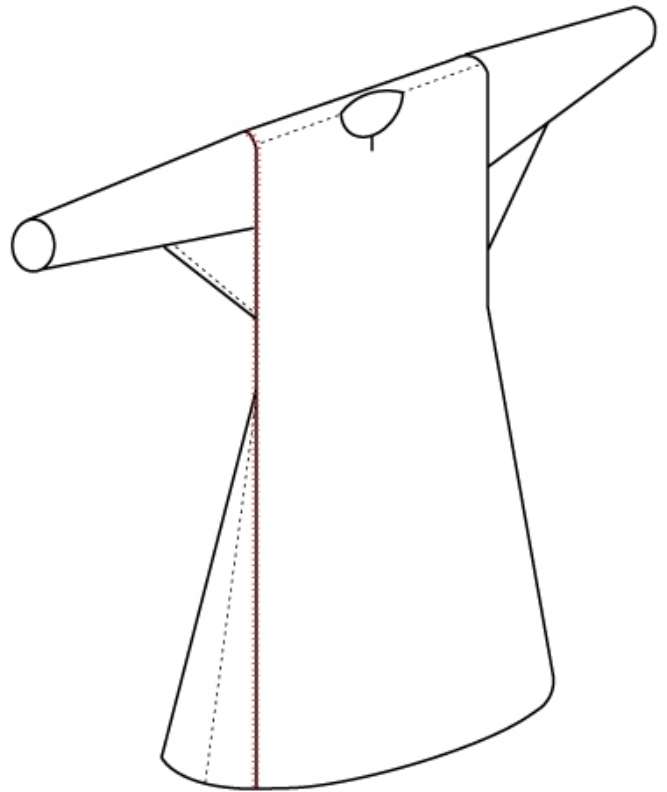
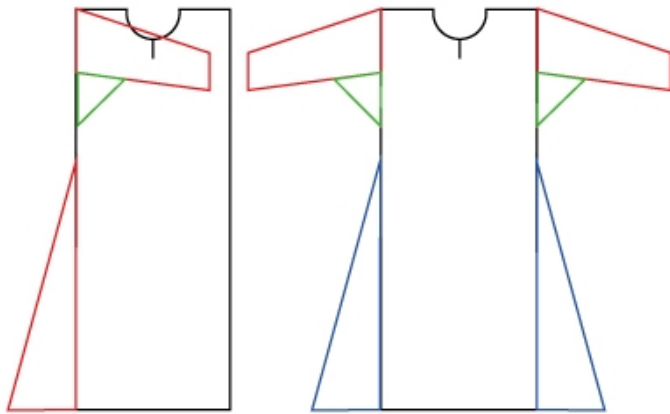
We will now attach the arms to the Tunic

The arms get attached to the tunic's body section. The two final gores can be added at this stage to the lower part of the tunic.



This is **F** on the measurements chart. The waist pieces to the lower hem.

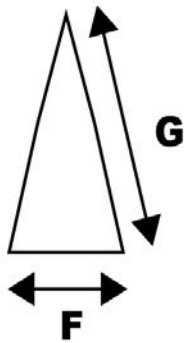
In the diagram below we can see the arms attached with the gores below and the bottom triangle section added to give the flowing tunic form.



gores

F = At least 10-20 inches (more for women)

G = Top of waist to bottom hem)



Gores x2

Cut a rectangle of fabric G by F.

Make x2.

Gores go from the waist to the lowest part of the tunic. Sew everything in place.

Hem sleeves, neck and bottom hem.

The underarm gores are attached to the front and back of the tunic.

The lower triangle gores works in the same way giving more room in the lower part of the tunic.

The neck piece must be sewn by hand. The split can be toughened by using a whipping stitch if needed.

(This will be a weak point).