

## Marking

All construction symbols should be transferred to your fabric as soon as the garment pieces are cut and before the pattern is removed.

What to mark

1. Darts
2. Centre front and centre back lines
3. Buttonholes
4. Pockets
5. Position of pleats, pin tucks etc.
6. Stitching lines. Sometimes these can be omitted since all stitching lines are 5/8" (1.5 cm.) from cutting line unless otherwise stated on the pattern.

How to mark

Pins and Tailor's Chalk

1. Pin through all pattern markings and both layers of fabric.
2. Turn fabric over and place pins through from underside.
3. Separate the layers of fabric which leaves pins in both pieces of material, indicating the various markings. These can be chalked in round the pins to indicate the shape of dart, pocket etc. This method is not permanent and only suitable if the garment is going to be tacked up immediately. If allowed to stand the pins tend to come out and the marking is lost.

Always chalk on the wrong side of the fabric.

Tracing Wheel and Dressmakers' Tracing Paper

These can be obtained from any haberdashery department or shop.

1. Make sure the shiny side of the carbon is facing the **WRONG** side of the garment. Run tracing wheel over the various markings. The carbon is transferred on to the w. s. of the fabric, leaving the shape of the marking. This method is more permanent than pins and chalk but has the disadvantage that if the material is loosely woven the lines do not transfer clearly. Light coloured carbons should always be used for light coloured fabrics and this method is not suitable for fine materials since the carbon is not easily washed out.

Never use typist's carbon paper. This will not wash out of the fabric.

2. Marking double thickness of the fabric. Put tracing paper face up under the lower layer of the fabric. Place another piece face down between pattern and upper layer fabric.

3. Marking single thickness of fabric. Place tracing paper with its marking side against the wrong side of fabric.

### Straight Trace Tacking

This is done on single material with single thread; e.g. centre lines. Use a long and a short stitch. Mark one layer at a time.

Elasticated edges are often used as a substitute for casings to finish knits at sleeve, neck, waist and leg edges for both dress and casual clothes.

To cut elastic follow the pattern's cutting guide, or cut 13mm (1/2") to 20mm (3/4") wide elastic 7.5 cm. (3") to 10 cm. (4") shorter than the body circumference; cut 6mm (1/4") to 10mm (3/8") wide elastic 5cm. (2") shorter than legs or wrists. Then join elastic in a 13mm (1/2") seam, reinforcing as shown (1).

1

2

To position, place elastic so seam allowances are away from the body. Then divide both elastic and garment edge into quarters; mark. Reduce the spaces between the marks on the fabric if it is greater than 15cm. (6"), dividing the elastic accordingly (2). Then pin to the garment as suggested for the method on the following page.

Use a zig zag or straight stitch. Do not stitch over pins, Turn elastic to inside favouring garment edge, encasing raw edge of fabric. Stitch both edges of elastic to garment, stretching and removing pins as you sew (2).

### Enclosed elastic finish

Place elastic on inside of garment with one edge along seamline or foldline; match markings and pin. Stretch elastic and fabric as you stitch inner edge of elastic, using a zig zag or straight stitch. Do not stitch over pins (1). Turn garment edge to inside enclosing the elastic, favouring garment edge. Stitch raw edge in place, catching remaining elastic edge and outer garment layer in the stitches (2). Note: illustrations show a 15mm (5/8") seam allowance and 13mm (1/2") elastic, adapt edges for wider elastic.

### Interior casing substitute

Will provide shape and a snug fit within garment areas. Simply place prepared elastic between placement lines: match markings and pin. Stretch both elastic and fabric as you stitch with a zig zag or straight stitch. Do not stitch over pins (3). (Add a second row of stitching for wider elastic).

Traditional finishes on knits can be applied in a variety of ways at neck, sleeve and opening edges or hems. Facing or bands are most often applied. Edges can also be bound in either self – or contrasting fabric for decorative effect. Hems require no special procedures – the type of knit determines how the hem will be finished. Soft knits may look best with an interfaced hem, while more stable knits need no hem support. Hem edges that encompass corners can be turned up and mitered for a smooth finish. Note: Knits made from synthetic fibres are often full of static electricity even when wearing anti-static undergarments. A spray-on static remover is available- check the label to make sure it will not discolour your fabric.

## Choosing fuses

To select the correct size of fuse you must know the wattage (W) of the appliance; this is usually marked on the rating plate of the appliance. Some appliances such as refrigerators and vacuum cleaners need a size larger fuse than the wattage indicates. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.

### 3 amp

For most appliances up to 720 watts (W)

Radios

Table lamps

Soldering irons

Televisions – although some manufacturer's recommend using a 5 amp fuse

Electric blankets

Audio and hi-fi

Slow cookers

### 13 amp

For appliances rated over 720 watts (W)

Irons

Kettles

Fan heaters

Electric fires

Lawn mowers

Toasters

Deep fryers

Refrigerators

Freezers

Washing machines

Tumble dryers

Spin dyers

Vacuum cleaners

Dishwashers

### Clips, corners and curves

For inward curves snip the seam allowance, not cutting the stitching.

For outward curves cut tiny wedges in the seam allowance.

When facing sharp corners first stitch a row of machine on the seam line and then cut up to stitching before putting collar or facing on.

On outer collar corners trim off diagonally; this eliminates bulk.

It is also important to layer waistbands seams etc. to cut bulk down. Trim one seam allowance to 1cm (3/8") (seam nearest to garment so layers do not show through). Cut the next seam to 6mm (1/4") and interface to stitching.