



ORAGEUSE

*contemporary patterns*

AU17 - MUSE

## BRISTOL DRESS

ASSEMBLY DIRECTIONS

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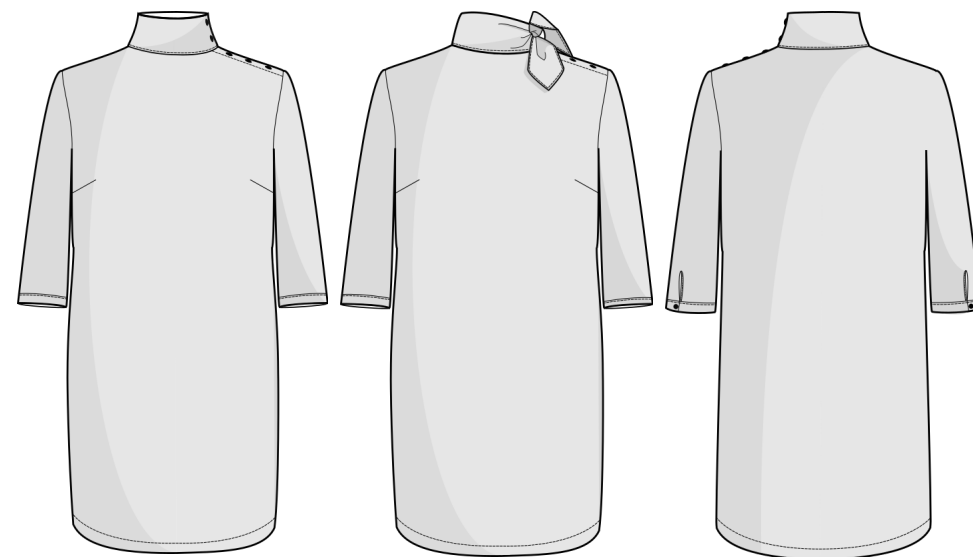


## BRISTOL

sewing skill: 3/5

Bristol is a straight short dress (to mid-thigh), slightly fitted at the waist to bottom hem. It has a high collar with two options: either buttoned at the side and shoulder or buttoned at the shoulder and tied at the neck. Bristol has elbow-length sleeves with a thin buttoned cuff and a tearproof tab.

Tricky steps: Bristol is easy to sew, you will only need some extra accuracy for the collar, sleeves and cuffs which will require some sewing practice.



BUTTONED COLLAR (A)

TIED COLLAR (B)

FRONT

BACK

*For more details about the level of difficulty and sewing skills required for Orageuse sewing patterns, please go to the dedicated page on our website [www.orageuse.com](http://www.orageuse.com)*



# BASICS

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# PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

## WASH AND IRON YOUR FABRIC

Even if you are looking forward to starting, it is never a waste of time to wash your fabric before sewing. Many fabrics may shrink after the first wash; it would be a shame to find this out after having completed your garment! Be careful to iron the fabric before you cut on it, this allows a more accurate and symmetrical cut.

## CHECK YOUR MEASUREMENTS

This step is absolutely essential: each and every ready-to-wear brand uses its own measurement chart, and the differences can be huge from brand to brand! Ask for help so you can take accurate measurements. Resources can be found on our website to help you position the tape measure correctly.

## LOOK THROUGH ALL THE ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

Make sure you understand the different steps: a global overview will help you to go faster and to customize each step of the sewing process more easily and in line with your habits and skills. Technical information as well as a sewing glossary is available on our website at [www.orageuse.com](http://www.orageuse.com).

## GATHER YOUR EQUIPMENT

In addition to the supplies listed on the next page, you will need pins, needles, a good pair of scissors, tailor's chalk or some other marking implements (e.g. specific pencils, carbon paper and a tracing wheel etc) to transfer pattern markings onto your fabric. If you plan to make some size adjustments on the pattern itself, make sure you have a long ruler (50 or 100 cm) and a French curve.

## THINK ABOUT THE FINISHING TOUCHES

Before you start sewing, look at the edges of your fabric. If they fray, you will have to finish all raw edges of every piece before assembling them. If you don't, the seams might give way after the finished garment has been worn several times. To do so, you can overlock the edges with a serger or use a zig-zag stitch in the seam allowance. You might also want to French seam the edges for a more perfect inside finish.

## PAY ATTENTION TO THE GRAINLINE WHEN CUTTING YOUR FABRIC

Every pattern piece shows a grainline arrow that will have to be placed in parallel to the selvage of the fabric when cutting.

## PIN AND BASTE

Pin the fabric pieces together before sewing, perpendicular to the seam line. Be careful when there is some ease (always mentioned on the pattern): we recommend basting the seams to distribute ease. Using your sewing machine after this will be much easier and more accurate.

## IRON EVERY SEAM

There is nothing neater than ironed seams after sewing. This guarantees a more professional-looking finish. Open the seam allowance according to the directions given in the instructions on the following pages.



# SUPPLIES

## SHOPPING LIST

- Fabric: see table below
- Fusible interfacing: 75cm/29.5 in. wide x 30cm/11.8 in.
- 1cm/0.4" buttons: 7 for the buttoned collar (A) and 5 for the tied collar (B)
- Matching thread

WIDTH	S34 & 36	S38 & 40	S42 TO 46
110cm/45"	160cm/63"	195cm/77"	230cm/90.5"
140cm/55"	140cm/55"	155cm/61"	170cm/67"

## FABRIC SUGGESTIONS

Choose a supple woven fabric, light to medium in weight. As far as fibers are concerned, cotton, silk, wool, Tencel etc. are all appropriate. You can opt for crepe or poplin, as well as a flannel that is not too thick or even trying chambray! Be careful with the more slippery and the very thin fabrics, which are more difficult to sew on and that are not recommended for beginners.

*If you are taller or shorter than 168cm/66", or if you wish to lengthen/shorten the sleeves, see the «adapting to your measurements» section which starts on page 15.*

# SIZES & MEASUREMENTS

FRENCH SIZES	YOUR MEASUREMENTS	S34	S36	S38	S40	S42	S44	S46
Height		168cm / 66"						
Bust		80cm 31.5"	84cm 33"	88cm 34.6"	92cm 36.2"	96cm 37.8"	100cm 39.4"	104cm 40.9"
Waist		62cm 24.4"	66cm 26"	70cm 27.6"	74cm 29.1"	78cm 30.7"	82cm 32.3"	86cm 33.9"
Upper hips		78cm 30.7"	82cm 32.3"	86cm 33.9"	90cm 35.4"	94cm 37"	98cm 38.6"	102cm 40.2"
Hips		86cm 33.9"	90cm 35.4"	94cm 37"	98cm 38.6"	102cm 40.2"	106cm 41.7"	110cm 43.3"
Front shoulder to waist		36cm 14.2"	36.5cm 14.4"	37cm 14.6"	37.5cm 14.8"	38cm 15"	38.5cm 15.2"	39cm 15.4"
Neck size		34.6cm 13.6"	35.8cm 14.1"	37cm 14.6"	38.2cm 15"	39.4cm 15.5"	40.6cm 16"	41.8cm 16.5"
Waist to knee		57cm /22.5"	57cm /22.5"	57cm /22.5"	57cm /22.5"	57cm /22.5"	57cm /22.5"	57cm /22.5"
Elbow length		35cm 13.8"	35cm 13.8"	35cm 13.8"	35cm 13.8"	35cm 13.8"	35cm 13.8"	35cm 13.8"
Arm (bicep)		26cm 10.2"	27cm 10.6"	28cm 11"	29cm 11.4"	30cm 11.8"	31cm 12.2"	32cm 12.6"

Bristol has a straight cut, slightly fitted at the waist and hips. It is rather close-fitting (around the arm as well), so every measurement is important. As a general rule, if you are hesitating between two sizes, **always choose the bigger one**, as final adjustments will then be easier.

Do you need any help to check your measurements?

Please go to the dedicated page on our website at [www.orageuse.com](http://www.orageuse.com)

# CUTTING

Carefully cut out every pattern piece according to the size chosen and your own modifications (if relevant).

Place these pieces on the folded fabric, keeping **all grainline arrows in parallel to the selvage** of the fabric. You might consume more fabric by doing this, but the result will be more attractive and resistant.

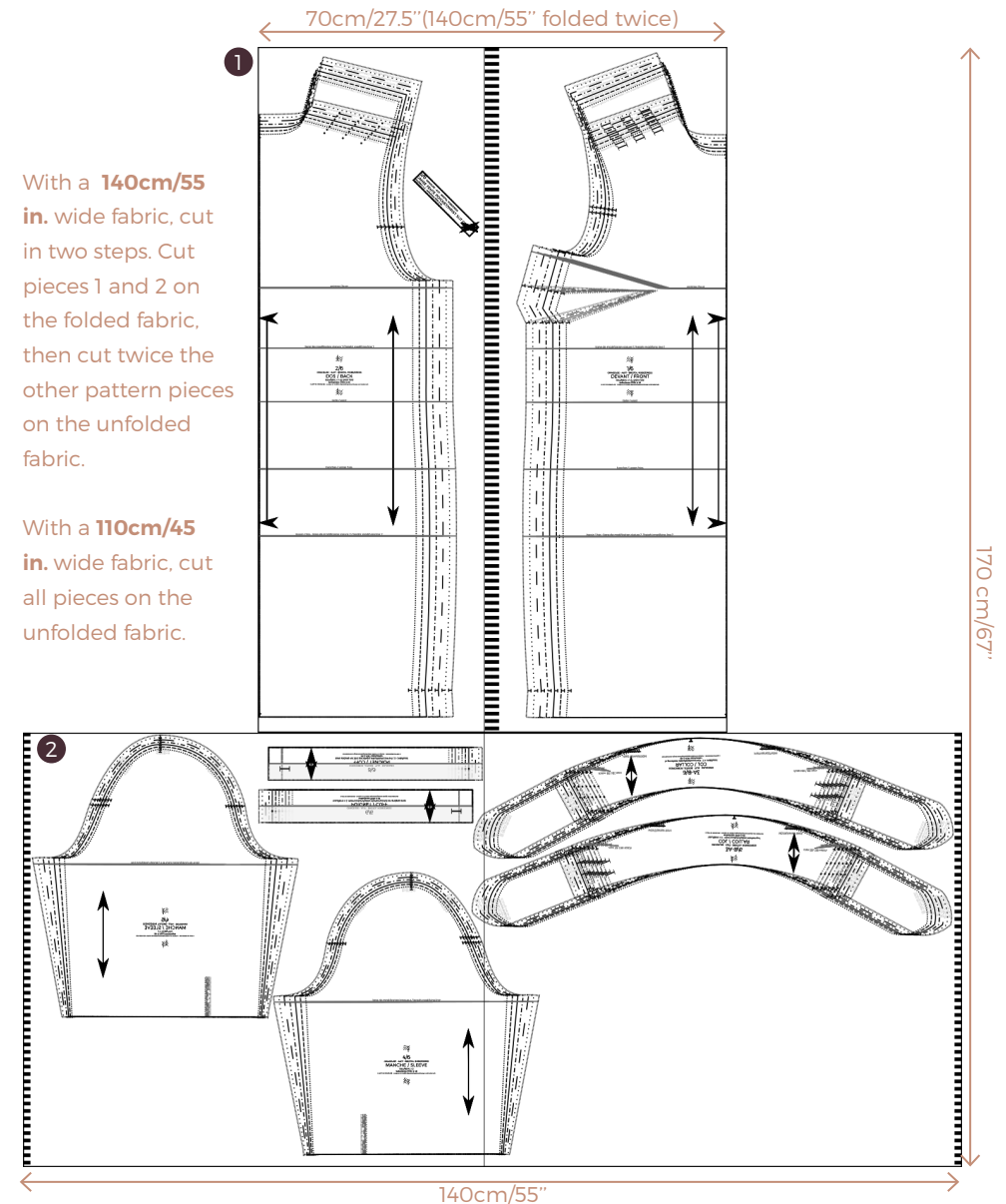
If you are using printed fabrics, match patterns along future seams, for a more perfect finish!

Seam allowance is already included on all pattern pieces (1cm/0.4" everywhere, except for the tearproof tabs (0.5cm/0.2", see instructions) and hem at the bottom of the dress (4cm/1.6").

**FABRIC:** Front (1) and back (2) are cut once along the fold line. Collar (3A or B), sleeve (4), cuff tearproof tab (5, cut on bias) and cuff (6) are cut out twice.

**FUSIBLE INTERFACING:** cut one collar (3A or 3B) and two half-cuffs (gray zone on the pattern piece number 6). If your fabric is thin, you should reinforce the shoulder buttoned tab with interfacing.

*Copy all the markings from the pattern onto your fabric, especially the notches. Once the fabric has been cut, cut out the notches a few millimeters into the seam allowance. These notches are essential in order to follow the assembly directions properly!*



# INSTRUCTIONS



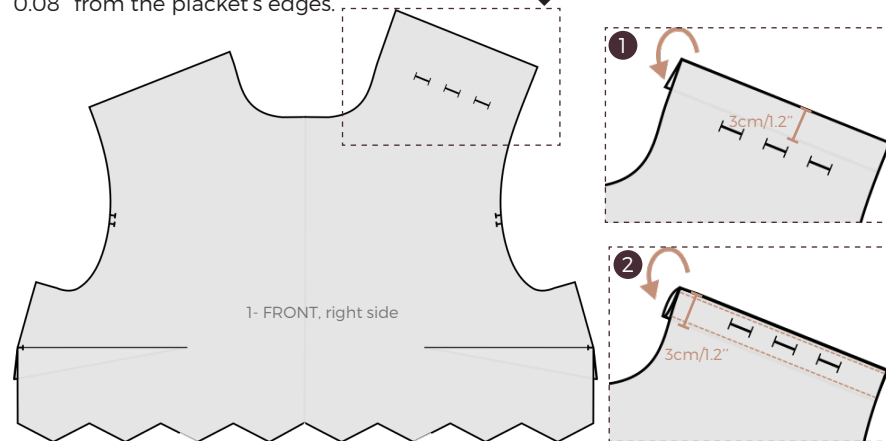
## 1 PREPARE THE FRONT PIECES Piece number 1

On each front piece, close the bust dart following the lines and sew on the wrong side of fabric. Iron the darts flat.

We are now going to prepare the buttoned placket on the left shoulder; the process is different depending on the collar version you opted for.

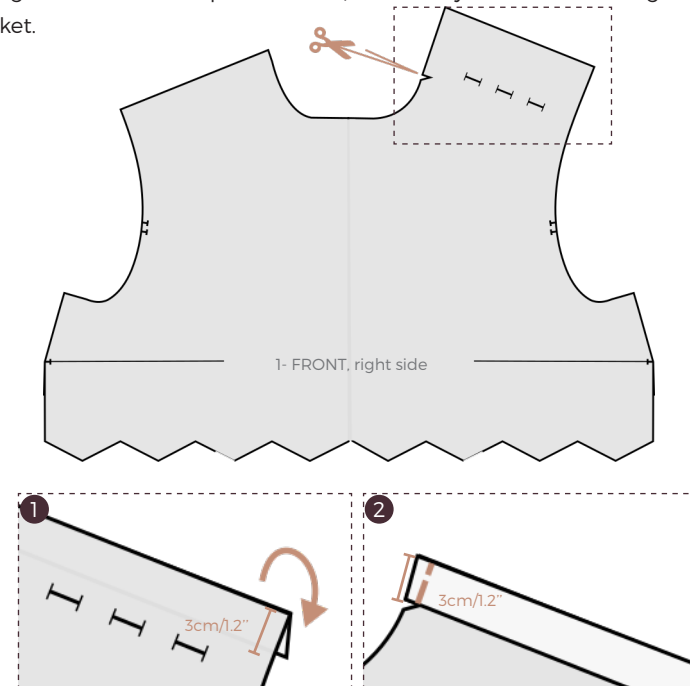
### A VERSION: BUTTONED COLLAR

Fold the placket twice (twice 3cm/1.2") to the wrong side of the garment and topstitch in place 2mm/0.08" from the placket's edges.



### B VERSION: TIED COLLAR

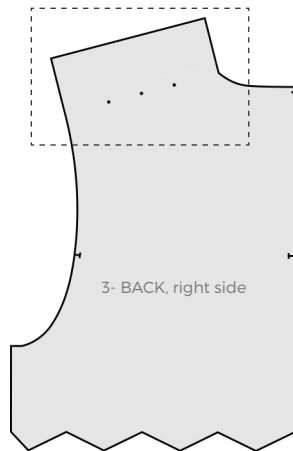
On the 3B collar (**tied**), the left shoulder's buttoned placket is not connected with the collar so it will not twist when the collar is tied. That is why the small edge of the placket (on the neckline side) has to be neatly finished. Pink the seam allowance 9cm/3.6" from the top of the fabric piece at the left shoulder, and fold the future placket twice on itself (twice 3cm/1.2"): **one time on the wrong side** of fabric ① and then **a second time to the right side** of fabric. Sew small side of placket 1cm/0.4" from its edge, including all the layers in this seam ②. Turn the placket right side out and topstitch 2mm/0.08" away from the two long edges of the placket.



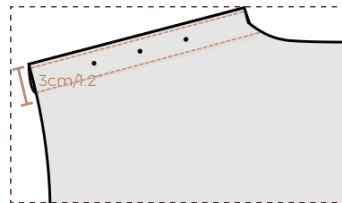


## 2 PREPARE AND ASSEMBLE THE BACK

Piece number 2



Form the left shoulder's corresponding buttoned placket by folding and topstitching the fabric the exact same way as you did (step 1) according to the collar version you chose.



Sew the back and front pieces together at the right shoulder. Please note that there is some slight ease in the back shoulder for the largest sizes (so the shoulder blade is more comfortable). This means that the back shoulder is slightly longer than the front shoulder and that you will have to curve it gently to make it fit with the front shoulder.

Sew the sides of the garment.

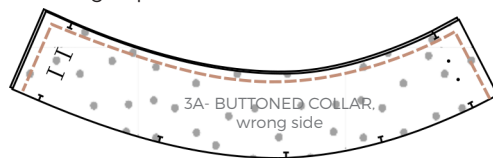
## 3 SEW THE COLLAR

Piece number 3

Fuse interfacing on the back of one side of your collar (whether it is 3A or 3B).

### A VERSION: BUTTONED COLLAR

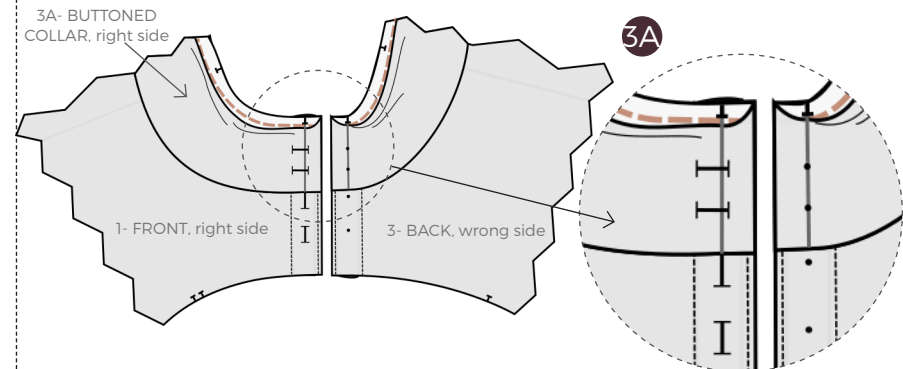
Place the two sides of the collar right sides facing and sew sides and top seams, leaving the bottom edge open.



Re-cut the seam allowance and turn the collar right side out. Fold to the inside and iron the bottom's seam allowance.

Place the collar right sides facing along the neckline of the dress, matching corresponding notches (see diagrams below). Sew only the external side of the collar with the garment.

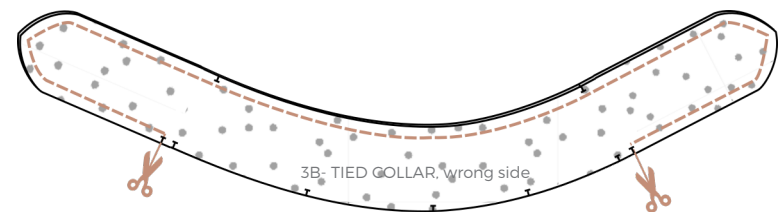
On this A version, the notches indicate the shoulder line in the middle of the buttoned placket. The edges of the collar match with the edges of the buttoned placket.



Fold the collar up and pin the two sides of the collar together, with the seam allowance hidden inside. Topstitch all around the collar to close it. Sew the buttonholes and buttons: 2 buttons on the collar and 3 on the shoulder.

### B VERSION: TIED COLLAR

Place the two right sides of collar facing and sew them together from one notch to the other (starting and ending the seam at the first external notch on the bottom of the collar). Pink the seam allowance level with these notches.

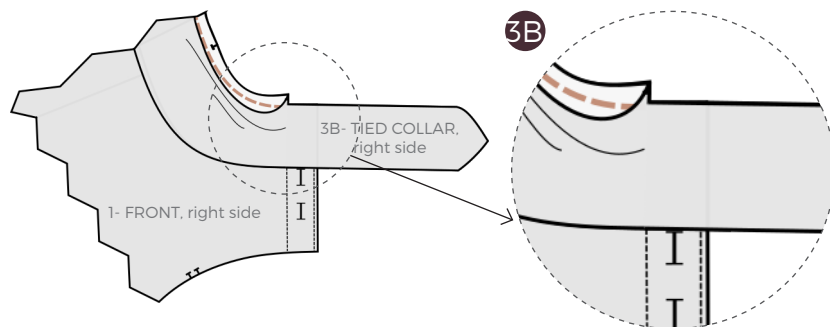




Re-cut the seam allowance and turn right side out. Fold the seam allowance inside the collar and iron into place.

Place the collar right sides facing with the neckline, matching the notches (see diagrams below) and sew only the external side of the collar to the garment.

In the B version, the neckline corresponds to the part of the collar that remained open (unsewn) during the previous step. The buttoned placket is not sewn with the collar. You should thus place the unsewn part of the collar before the shoulder's buttoned placket, on the front as well as on the back of the dress. The part of the collar that will be tied remains independent from the placket, so you can tie it freely.



Fold the collar up and pin together the two sides of the collar, placing the seam allowance inside. Topstitch all around the neckline to close the collar. You can also continue the topstitch all around the collar itself for a better looking finish.

Sew 3 buttonholes and buttons on the shoulder of the dress.

## 4 SLEEVES AND CUFFS

Pieces number 6, 7 and 8



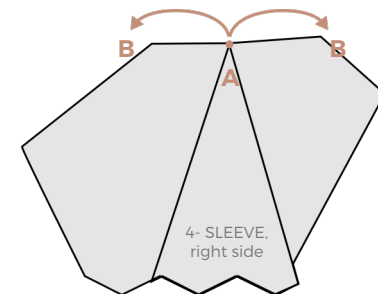
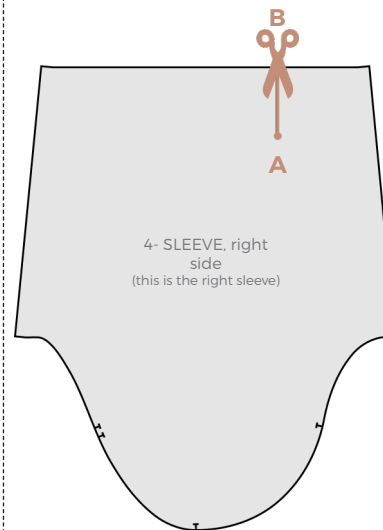
*Not sure about your tearproof tab technique?  
We have made a step-by-step video tutorial on our blog at  
[www.orageuse.com/blog](http://www.orageuse.com/blog) (or scan this QR code).*

### SEWING THE TAB ON THE SLIT

Before you start, keep in mind that the two sleeves are symmetrical (and not identical). The edge that is the farthest from the underarm seam is the one that needs to be placed on the top of the other when the cuff is buttoned.

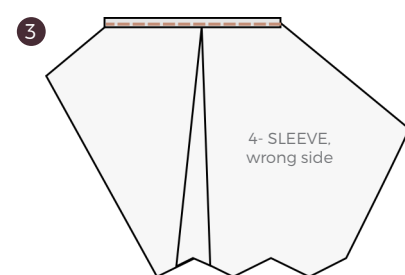
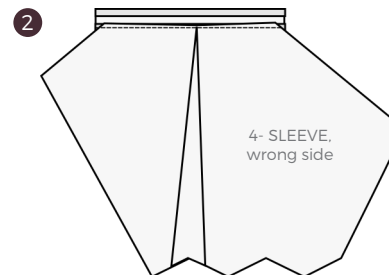
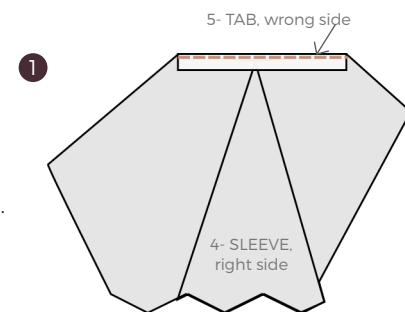
You have to take that in account when you are sewing the two tabs.

Open the slit by cutting from B to A, up to the marker. Unfold the sleeve to open the slit flat.

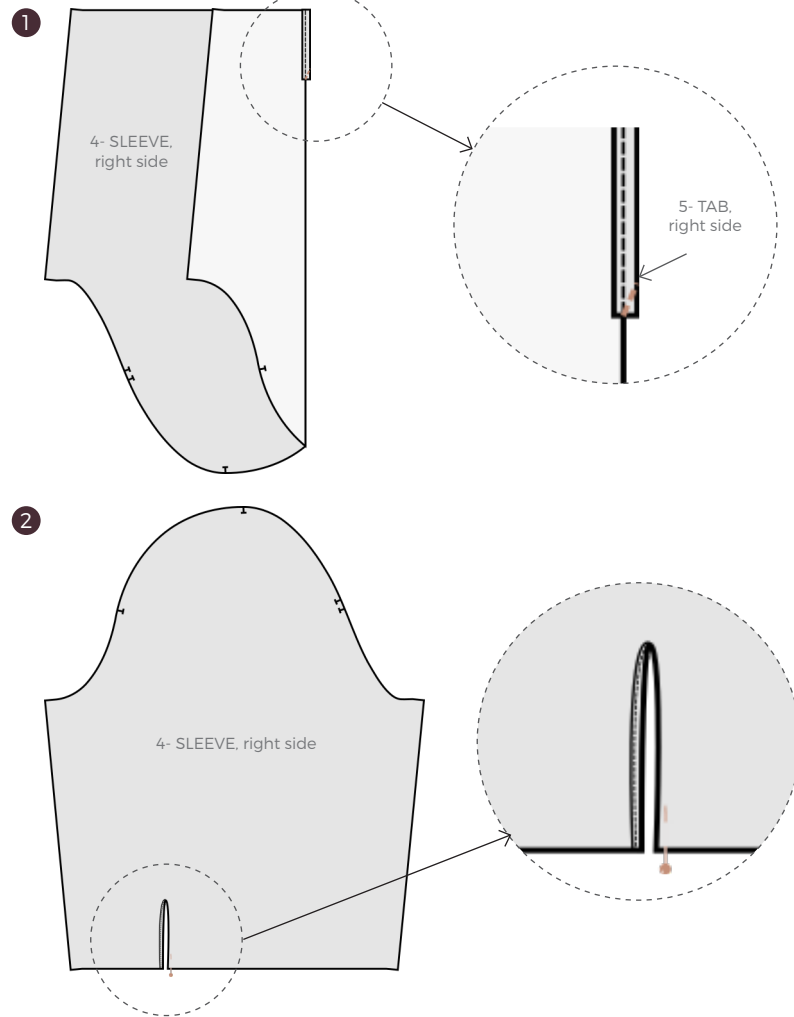


Place the tab facing the sleeve, right sides facing and the upper edges matching. Stitch at 2mm/0.08" from the edge (1). Flap the tab to the top, and iron the seam allowance to the tab.

Fold the other seam allowance (0.5cm/0.2") to the wrong side of the tab and iron into place (2). Fold the tab to cover the first seam, and topstitch to close the tab, very close to the first seam. (3).



Fold the slit back into its final position (closed) and fold the sleeve in half, in line with the slit. Stitch the end of the folded tab together with a diagonal backstitch. This will maintain the tab folded to one side, in line with the button tab on the cuff (1). On the right-hand side of the sleeve, the tab is inside the slit, and it is not visible on the edge of the slit that it lays on top of the other when the cuff is buttoned. Pin into place (to keep it in place until the cuff is sewn). (2).

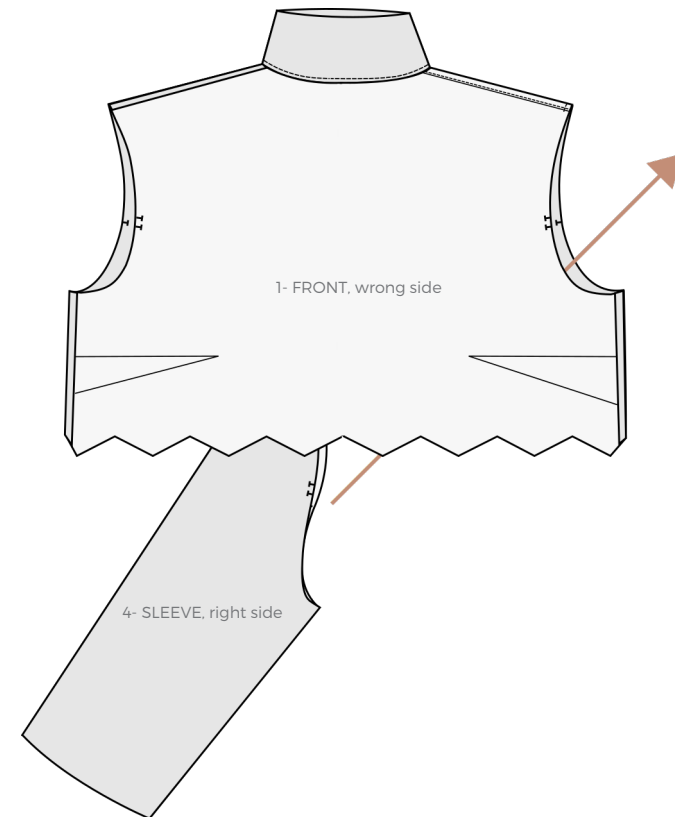


## SETTING THE SLEEVES

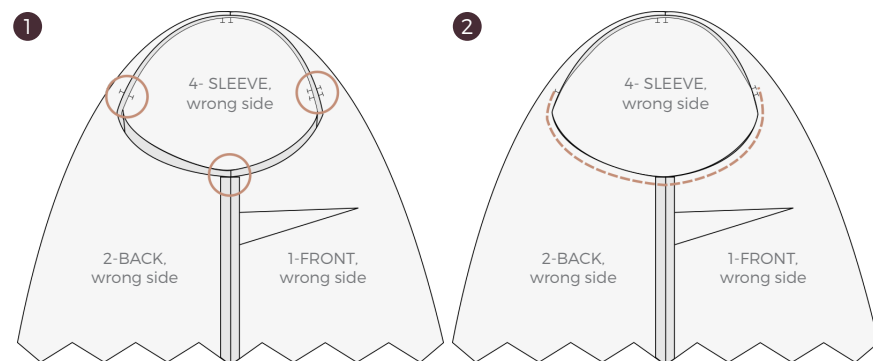
Lay the buttoned plackets one on top of the other on the left shoulder (the front, with the buttonholes, on top of the back with the buttons). Sew the two plackets flat, on the armhole's seam line, to close the armhole.

On each sleeve, put in two gathering threads above and below the future seam of the sleeve head (from front notches to back notches only).

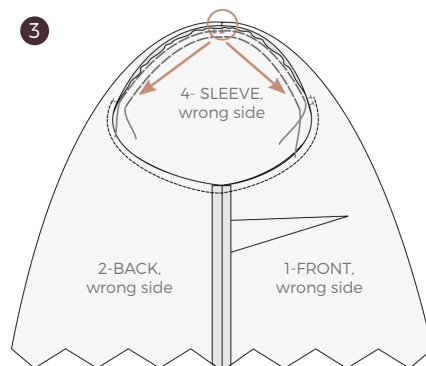
Close the underarm seams and turn the sleeves right side out. Turn the dress wrong side out and slip the first sleeve inside the garment, right sides facing.



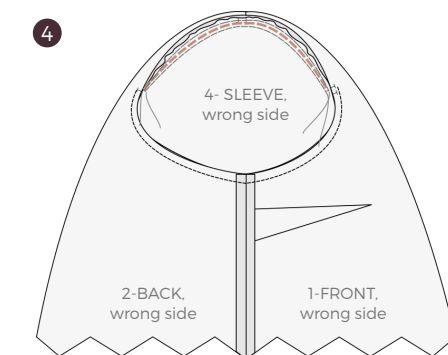
Pin the underarm seam to the side seam of dress, then the sleeve to the dress with front and back notches (one notch at the back, a pair of notches at the front) (1). Sew the bottom of the armhole from one notch to the other (2).



Pull the gathering threads to create gathers at the sleeve head, they should be distributed evenly for the sleeve head to fit the upper part of the armhole perfectly (3). The head notch of the sleeve must match with the shoulder line (in the middle of the buttoned placket on the left shoulder). Pin into place.



Finish the seam of the armhole. On the right side, the gathers will create volume but no pleats should be seen (4). It is a bit easier to place the sleeve on the feed dog's side while sewing it; this will help with the distribution of the ease.

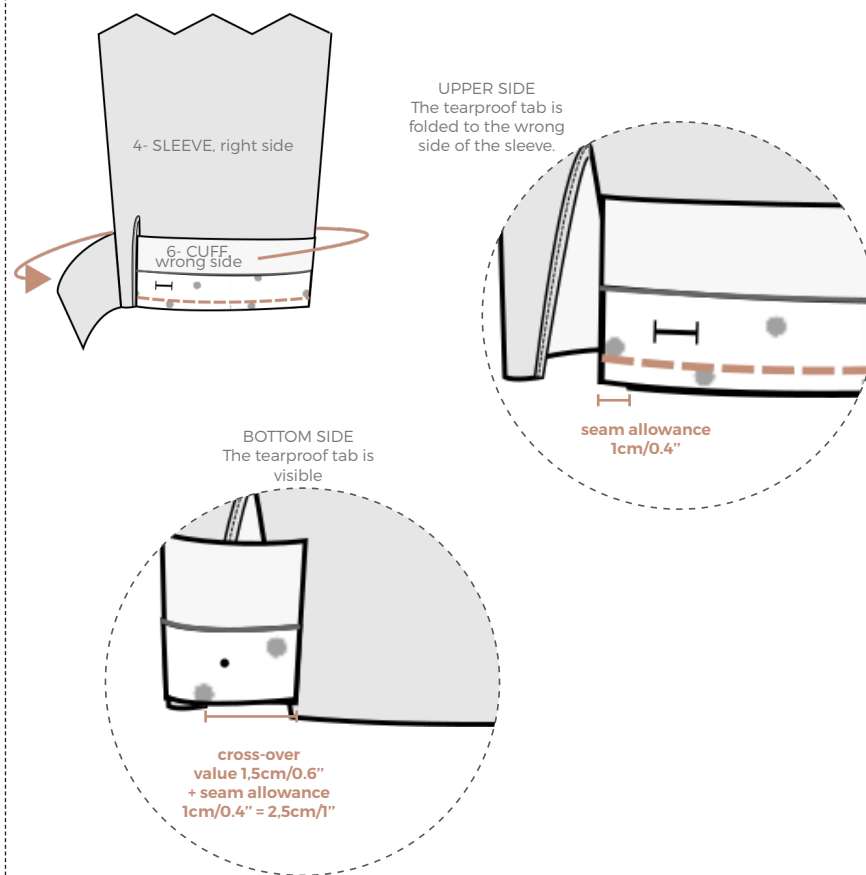


## SEWING THE CUFFS

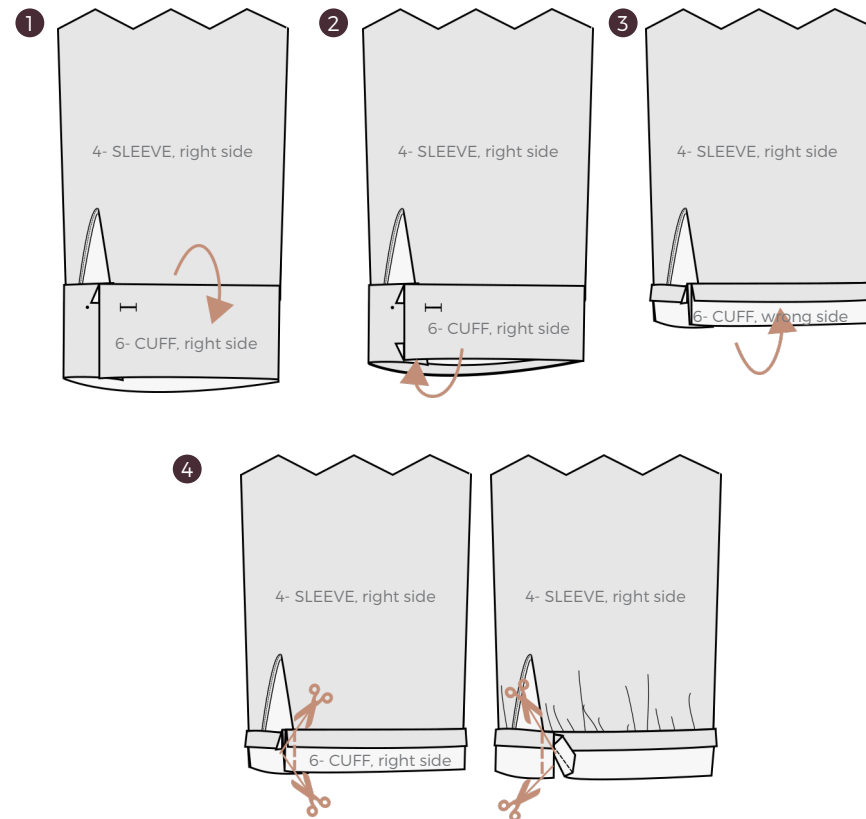
Fuse interfacing on one half of the cuff, on the wrong side of fabric.

Pin the cuff to the sleeve, right sides facing, the interfaced side placed along the opening of the sleeve. **Make sure** to pin the tearproof tabs and seam allowance properly: when the cuff is buttoned, the tab on the **upper side** of the slit will not be visible (folded to the wrong side). The seam allowance (1cm/0.4") of the small edge of the cuff goes over the slit. On the other side of the slit (**bottom**), the tearproof tab will be visible as the cuff has a cross-over value: this value as well as the seam allowance go over the slit's edge.

Sew the cuff to the sleeve all around the wrist.



Fold the cuff to the bottom (1). Iron the seam allowance of the two long edges to the wrong side of the cuff (2). Fold the cuff in half, right sides facing to the right side of the sleeve (3). Sew the two short edges of the cuff and recut the angles (4). Turn the cuff right side out and topstitch, close to the first seam, to close the cuff.



Sew the button and buttonhole as indicated on the pattern piece.

## 5 HEMS

Hem the bottom of the dress: fold 1cm/0.4" to the wrong side, then again 3cm/1.2", iron and stitching all around the garment.

Well done, that's it!



Are you fond of your new Bristol dress? Show it on Instagram with the **#orageuseBristol** official hashtag! You can also send us a link to your blog via [contact@orageuse.com](mailto:contact@orageuse.com) and appear on our boards or blog!



## *additional information*

### ZIP FILE CONTENTS

NAME OF DOCUMENT	CONTENTS	LANGUAGE
ORGS-A17-Bristol-instructionsFR	Instructions leaflet	French
ORGS-A17-Bristol-instructionsENG	Instructions leaflet	English
ORGS-A17-Bristol-A0	Large format pattern (Copyshop version)	Bilingual (French and English)
ORGS-A17-Bristol-A4	A4 pattern	Bilingual (French and English)
ORGS-A17-Bristol-USletter	US letter pattern	Bilingual (French and English)

### INDEX OF PATTERN PIECES

Seam allowance is included, so you do not have to add it when cutting your fabric. For this garment, seam allowance is 1cm/0.4" everywhere, except for the hem that is 4cm/1.2". The tearproof tabs have only a 0.5cm/0.2" seam allowance.

	NUMBER	NAME	CUTTING DIRECTIONS
	1/6	Front	Fabric x1 on fold line
	2/6	Back	Fabric x1 on fold line
OR	3A/6	Buttoned collar	Fabric x 2 - Interfacing x 1
	3B/6	Tied collar	Fabric x 2 - Interfacing x 1
	4/6	Sleeve	Fabric x 2
	5/6	Tab	Fabric x 2 on bias
	6/6	Cuff	Fabric x 2, interfacing 1/2 x 2

# PRINTING & ASSEMBLING

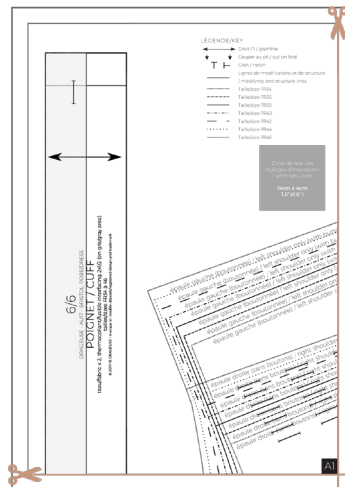


**NEW!** You can now print only the size(s) you need with our layered pdf (it works for every papersize, A4, US Letter and Ao).

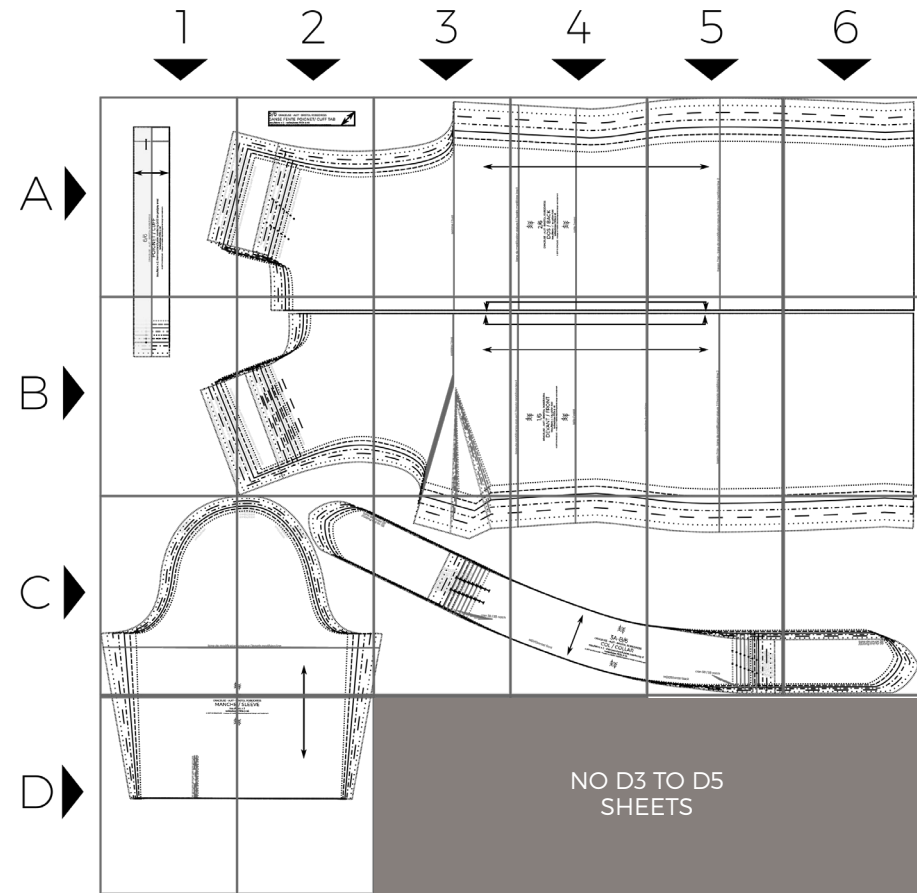
Every Orageuse pattern gives you the choice between printing at home (A4 or US letter papersizes) or at a printer's or a copyshop. This last option allows you to save time by not cutting out and pasting the multiple sheets of the printed pattern.

If you print at home:

- Open the pdf file, open on «layers» panel in your software (we recommend Acrobat Reader, which offers this option, works on both Mac and PC and is available for free). You can now hide or show the layers corresponding to the different sizes and print out accordingly. **We wrote an illustrated user's guide on our website, (in the «Resources» section), and bring all your queries with this new feature.**
- Before printing, make sure «real size» or «100%» option is selected.
- The A1 page of the pattern file contains a 4cm/1.6"x4cm/1.6" square. Print this page only, and measure the square to confirm your printer's settings.
- Cut out the right and bottom borders of every sheet, following the frame line.



You can then tape the whole pattern this way (the example below shows A4 papersize, and the method is the same for US Letter papersize):



# ADAPT TO YOUR MEASUREMENTS

! *Do not compare your measurements by these pattern pieces: they should be different, mainly because of the added ease insuring you a more comfortable fitting garment to wear!*

For adjustments, you will need a long ruler  
(50 or 100cm) and a French curve.

## HEIGHT AND SLEEVE LENGTH

Our patterns are designed for a 168cm/ 66" standard height.

In order to extend or shorten the height of the pattern, one can not simply add more fabric at the ends; that would change the shape and proportions of the garment.

First, let's see where the height differences are located in your body, by comparing your measurements with the charts on page 5. See «front shoulder to waist» (from in between your collar bone to your waist line, down the center front of your body), «waist to knee» and «elbow length» measurements in particular (from the peak of your shoulder to your elbow)

You can see on number 1 (front) and 2(back) pieces of the pattern, two lines are marked «height modifying line». It allows you to lengthen or shorten the overall height of the garment.

Same for the sleeves: a modifying line is drawn that guarantees that the sleeve will keep its shape after you have finished the alteration.

Please note that this method allows you too adjust the elbow-length sleeve but not to create a long sleeve (for which you would have to consider wrist measurement, for instance).

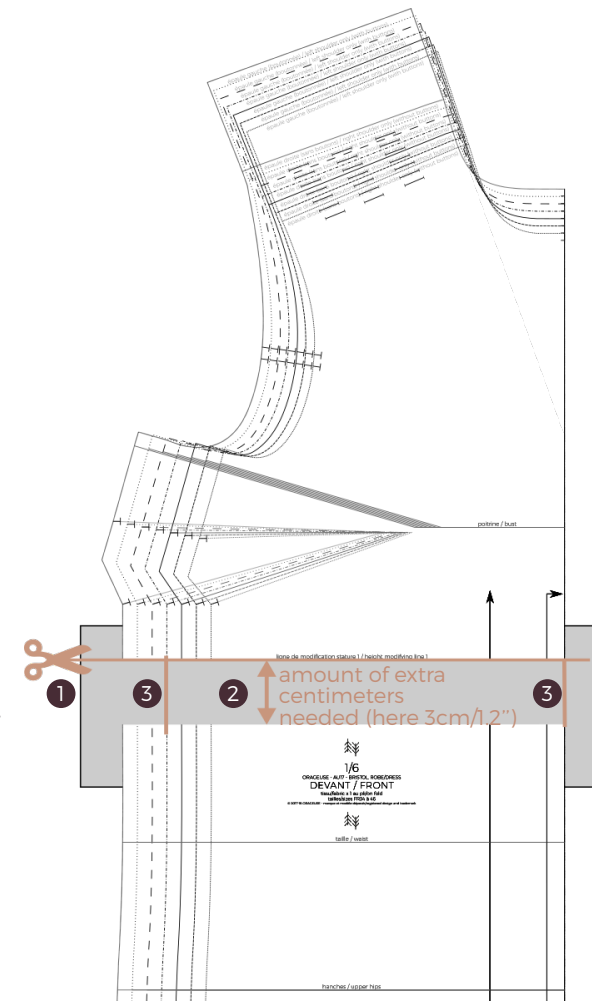
## How do I proceed ?

For example: if your size is 40, and your front shoulder to waist measurement is 3cm/1.2" longer than the corresponding measurement on the reference chart. Cut only pieces 1 (front) and 2 (back) following the height modifying line number 1 (1). Paste a piece of paper on the back of these pieces: this piece of paper must be the same width as the pattern pieces, and its height is the number of centimeters you need to add (in our example, 3cm/1.2"). Leave some extra space to apply the glue or tape. Draw a new line parallel to the «height modifying line» 3cm/1.2" (or wherever is needed) under this line. (2)

Paste the bottom part of the pattern piece along this new line. Connect the lines on the pattern pieces with a ruler for straight lines. Use a French curve for curves (3). That's it!

To remove centimeters, cut on the «height modifying line», draw a new line on one of the pattern parts, parallel to the «height modifying line». Between these two lines is the amount of centimeters you will need to remove. Paste one part of the pattern piece on top of the other part and along the new line.

Proceed in the same way for the sleeves and retrace the sides of the sleeve from the armhole to the bottom of the chosen size.





## BETWEEN TWO SIZES

There are three main cases:

## Case 1

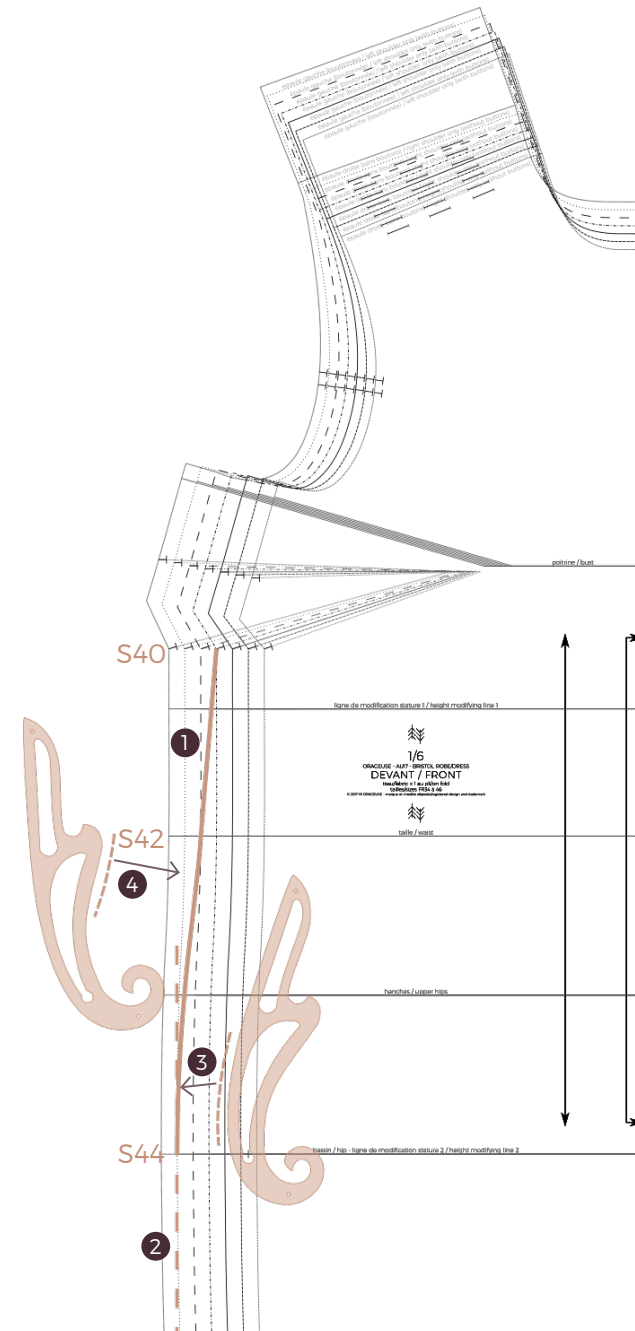
If your waist corresponds to a bigger size than your bust does. Most of the time when you buy clothes, a garment can fit you around the waist and hips but it is too large at the shoulders and bust.

For example, let's say that your bust corresponds to a size 40 and your waist corresponds to a size 44. The Bristol dress can be adapted to fit your body shape.

Identify the lines corresponding to sizes 40 and 44 on the pattern pieces. For this pattern, on the front piece (number 1), start by tracing a straight line from the bottom dart line in size 40 to the crossing between the waist line and the side line in size 42 (1). Trace another straight line, perpendicular to the hip line in size 44 This line is a tangent (dotted line, marked «2» on the diagram). Use the French curve to draw a curve that reaches the waist line (3 and 4). This line must not go over the tangent.

By doing so, the garment will be a size 40 above the chest and a size 44 around the hips. Do the same thing on the back (piece number 2) copying the shape of this new line (with a tracing wheel or carbon paper). The side lines of the front and the back must be matching (and have the same length when the front dart is closed).

When assembling the whole garment, use the other pattern pieces in size 40.



## Case 2

If your bust corresponds to a larger size than your waist.

You can shrink the bottom of the pattern, by following the same method as in case 1. But, as the dress does not have a tight fit, be careful not to tighten the bottom too much, in order to keep the style of the garment.

## Case 3

If your measurements are exactly in between two sizes, at the bust as well as at your waist or hips. Place markings on pattern pieces just between the lines that represent the two sizes you are between, at the end of bust, waist, upper hips and hip line and at every corner of each piece of the pattern. Use a ruler and a French curve to link these points, try to draw lines that are parallel to the original outlines. Make sure you modify every pattern piece, so that they are matching up. If in doubt, do not hesitate to measure and compare lines that represent seams that will be sewn together.

## CUP DEPTH

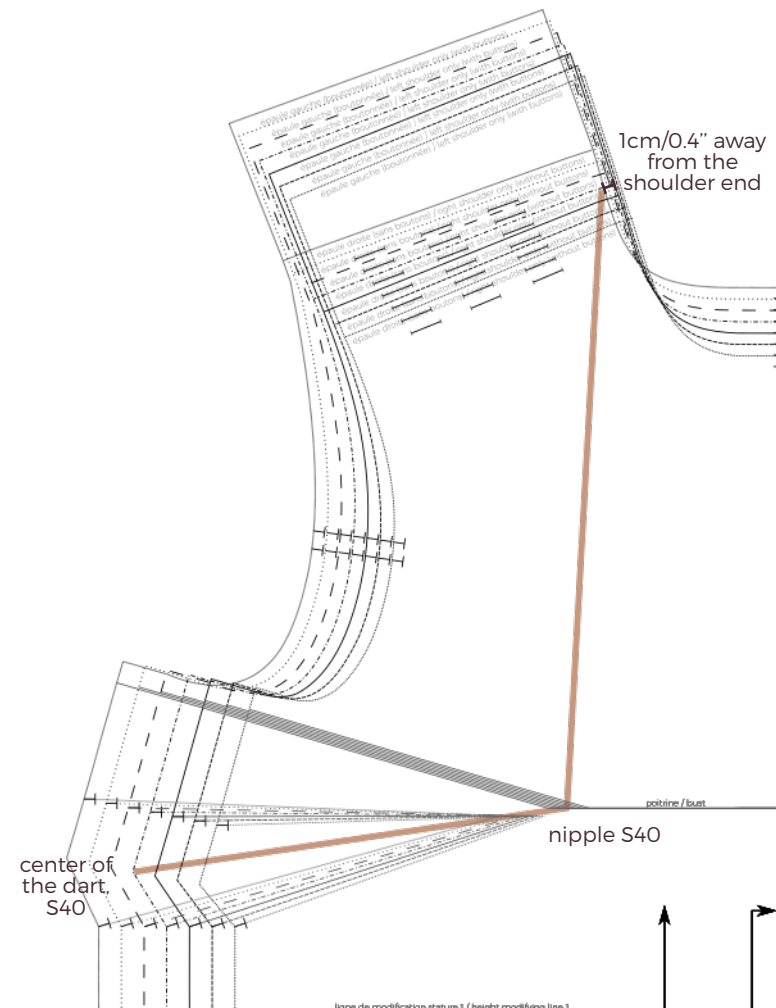
If you have found your size in our chart, but your bust is smaller or wider than a B/C cup. The pattern can be transformed as well.

*Make sure that the cup depth is the actual issue: the shape and width of your back as well as the shape of your breast itself can sometimes give you the impression that the cup has to be adjusted, whereas it might not be the right solution. If you are in doubt, we recommend you sew the garment first with muslin or cheap fabric to locate precisely where the best adjustments should be made. If the depth of the cup is the issue, then the garment will fit properly at the back, waist, arms and shoulders, but there will not be enough (or too much) fabric at the breast.*

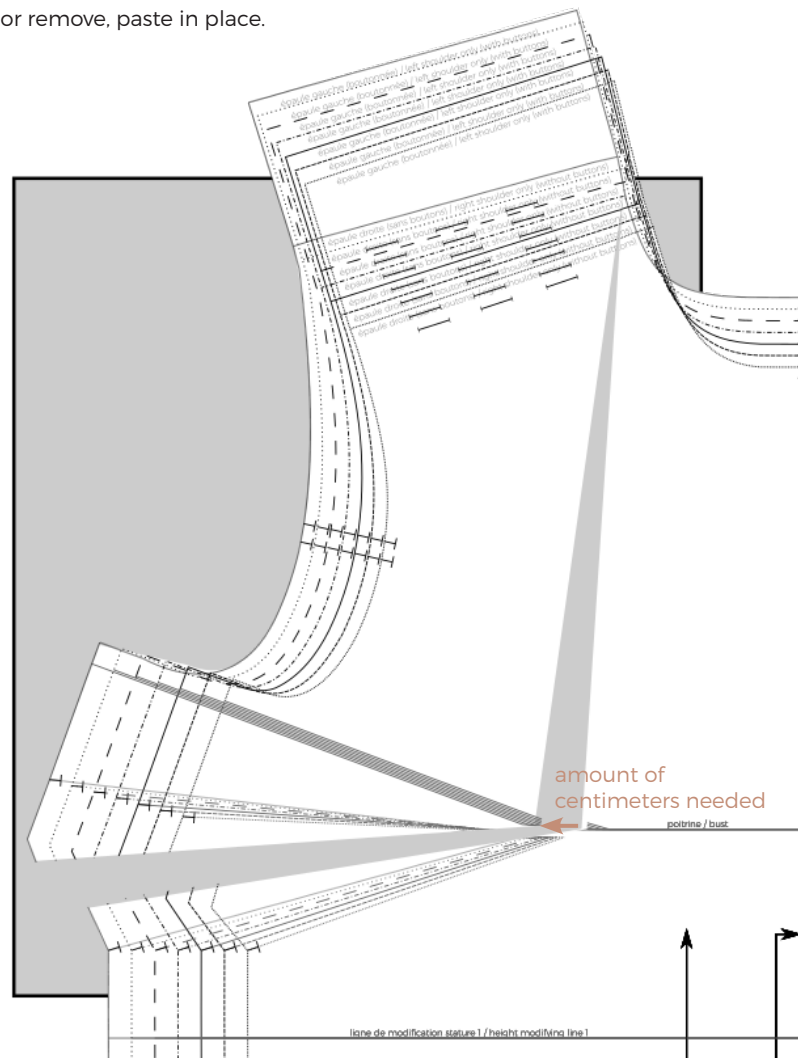
## How do I proceed?

You will see on the front pattern piece a point on the bust line that represents the nipple (where the line is broken). If relevant, you can place the pattern paper (or the muslin if you have sewn one) on your body to adjust the location of the nipple, wearing a bra that you might usually wear for your breast to be in the right place. Measure how much fabric is in excess (or estimate the amount lacking).

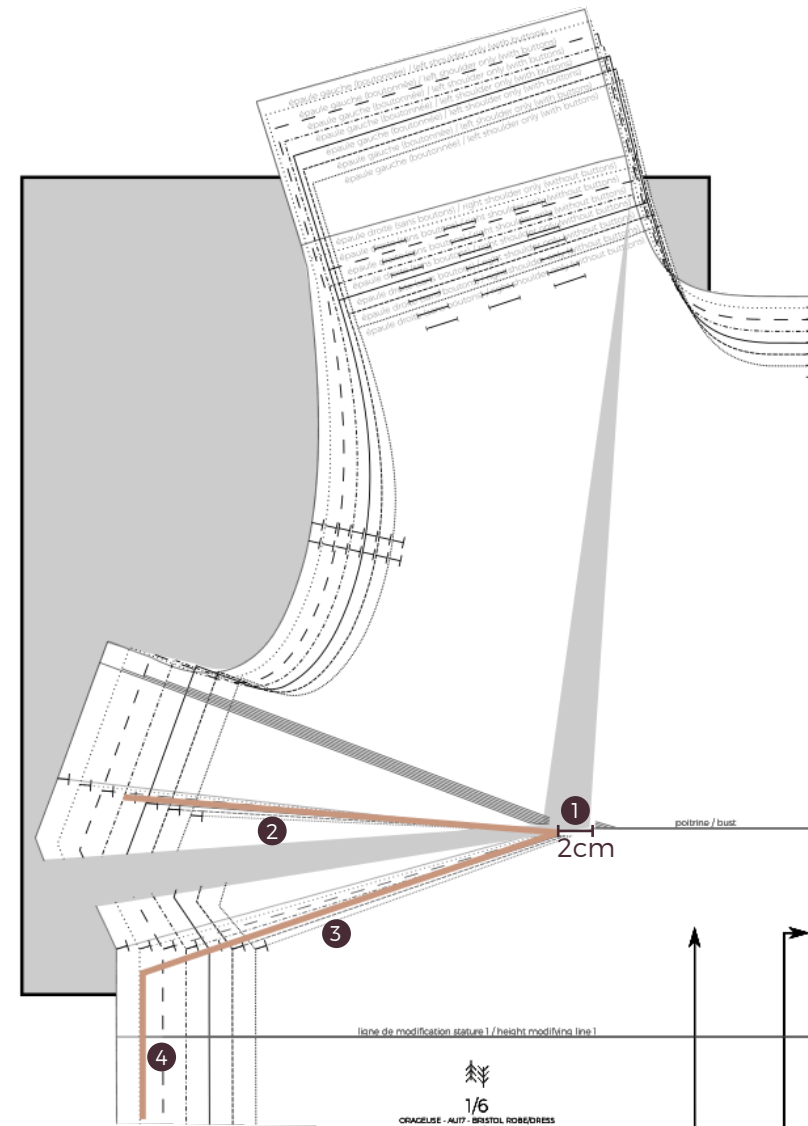
Draw a line starting at the peak that indicates the center of the dart (on the side of the front piece) to the nipple point. Continue this line heading to the shoulder (on the neckline side), stopping one centimeter (0.4") from the edge. Cut out along this line, **stopping before** the neckline. See the example below for size 40.



Glue the bottom right part of the front piece on a sheet of paper. Slide the cut part to add distance at the nipple (or to remove some centimeters by sliding it onto the right side of the pattern piece). Once you reach the number of centimeters you wanted to add or remove, paste in place.



2cm/0.8" from the nipple, in the direction you made your modification, mark a point: this is the new dart end (1). Draw from this point to the upper end of the former dart (2). Measure this line. Apply the same measurement to the bottom line of the dart (both dart lines must have the same length) and draw a line to this point (3). Continue the line to reach the end of the pattern piece (bottom of the garment) (4).



Close the dart (fold the paper) as if it has been sewn, and measure the side seam (from under the armhole to the bottom of the garment). This line must be the same length as the matching seam on the back pattern piece (number 2). Shorten or lengthen the side line of the front or back if the measurement is different from the other after your adjustment.

Redraw the shoulder line in a straight line on the front piece, measure it and make sure the back shoulder is the same size.