

Clothing (Fashion, Fabric and Construction) – Apparel

6.02 Understand basic construction techniques.

1. What are different measuring, marking, cutting and sewing tools?
2. What are the parts of a sewing machine?
3. What are the parts of a sewing pattern?
4. How do you use a sewing pattern?
5. What are sewing notions?
6. How do you perform basic sewing construction techniques with a sewing machine and by hand?

Directions:

1) Get textbook **Clothing (Fashion, Fabric and Construction)**

2) Read/Scan Part 1 (Patterns, Fabrics & Notions) pages ~~429-442~~ 429-442

3) Complete "Recalling the Facts" on page 442 questions 1-20

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4) Complete "Thinking Critically" page 442-443 questions 1-4

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Part

Patterns, Fabrics, and Notions

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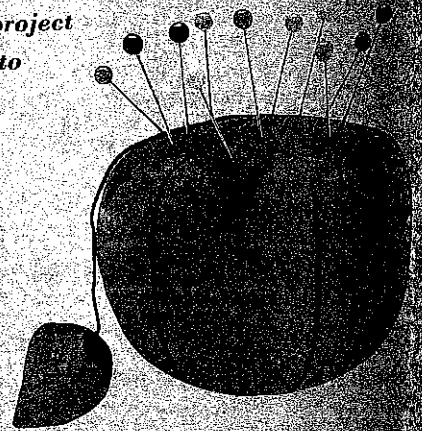
Selecting a
Pattern

Selecting Fabric

Selecting Notions

Ask yourself five questions when you decide to sew: who, what, when, where, and why.

- **Who am I going to sew for?** You may sew for yourself because you need something new, or you cannot find what you want in the stores. You might sew for another person because you cannot afford to buy a gift, or because a handmade item would please that person.
- **What am I going to sew?** You could make something to wear, such as a t-shirt, backpack, or shorts. You could make something for the home, such as pillows or placemats.
- **When and where am I going to sew?** How much time you have will influence how detailed your sewing project should be. If you do not have a sewing machine at home, perhaps a relative or friend would let you use a machine. Maybe you could use a classroom machine after school or during a study period.
- **Why have I selected this particular pattern and fabric?** Will the new garment go with other items in your wardrobe? Impulse sewing can be just as bad as impulse buying. Also, when you select a pattern, choose one that will teach you a new sewing technique. For example, if your first project was a t-shirt, your next project might be a simple shirt with a collar. Take time, however, to build your sewing skills. A tailored jacket as your first or second project might lead to frustration.



Lesson 1

Selecting a Pattern

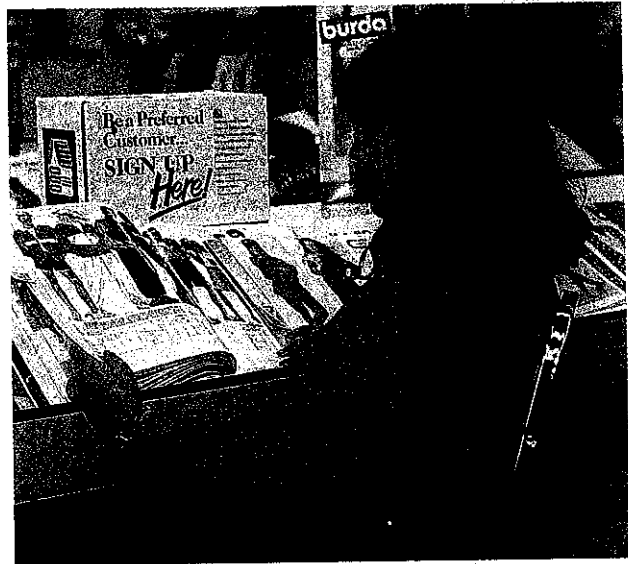
When selecting a pattern, you should consider several factors. Be sure the pattern style is flattering to your body shape. Select a pattern that matches your sewing skill level. Finally, choose a pattern in the correct size and figure type in order to get the best fit.

The Pattern Catalog

How do you find a pattern? You start by looking through the pattern catalogs. Each company that manufactures patterns produces its own catalog. Pattern catalogs are divided into sections to make it easy for you to find the styles you want. For example, you will find sections marked for dresses, for sportswear, and for easy-to-sew styles. You also will find sections for several categories such as larger sizes, children and toddlers, men and boys, home decorating, crafts, gifts, and accessories.

Most garments are photographed and sketched in a catalog. By studying both the photograph and the sketch, you will have a good idea of what the finished garment will look like. You will also get ideas for accessories to wear with the garment.

Pattern catalogs are available in stores that sell patterns. Your classroom may have some copies for you to look at. Most of the pattern companies publish a magazine several times a year that features a select-



Pattern catalogs provide information about the style, fit, design details, and sewing difficulty of patterns.

ed group of patterns. You can subscribe to these magazines or buy them at the newsstand.

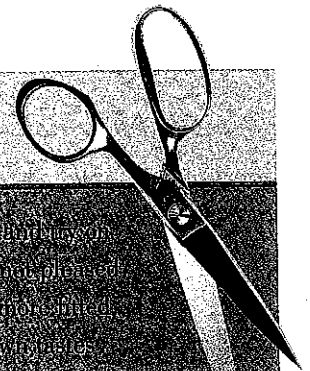
Selecting the Right Style

How can you tell from a drawing on a catalog page what the finished garment will look like on you? One way is to pay careful attention to the styles of items you already own. Which ones are flattering to your body shape and enjoyable to wear?

Consider all of the information you have learned about line and design. The design principles are important, whether you sew or buy your clothes.

Sewing Tip

If you do not own a garment in the style you are planning to sew, visit a store and buy one. Put it on and see how it looks in the mirror and on the body. If you are not pleased with the way the garment looks, perhaps the style would be more flattering if you bought a different size or longer. An advantage of sewing is that you can customize your clothes to suit your own body and proportions.



Sewing Tip

Clues on the Pattern Envelope

The pattern envelope will give you information about how the finished garment should look. Carefully examine the sketch or photograph on the front of the envelope. Note the fit of the garment through the shoulders, at the waist, and at the hips. Is it fitted to the curves of the body, or is it full and loose fitting? Also note the type of fabric shown in the photograph or sketch. Is it a heavy-weight or a lightweight fabric? Is it a solid color, a print, a plaid, or a stripe? These are clues to help you choose your fabric.

8150
SIZE AA (XS-MD)



Simplicity

3 HOUR shorts, shirts and tie



What information is provided on the front of this pattern envelope?

The back of the pattern envelope also has information about the style and the fit of the pattern. Small line drawings show what the back of the garment looks like. A garment description explains whether the

style is loose fitting or tight fitting. It also describes design details such as sleeves, pockets, and zippers. The finished garment measurements, such as "width at lower edge" or "finished back length," give you an idea of the proportions of the finished garment. See the illustration of the back of a pattern envelope on page 431.

PATTERN ENVELOPE BACK

of the pattern envelope gives you more information per square inch than any other part of the pattern. You will find all of the information for buying the fabric, notions, and sewing supplies needed for the project.

description mentions the silhouette or fit of the garment, the main features of various parts of the garment, and any special construction details that cannot be shown in the sketch.

Number of pattern pieces indicates the ease of construction. Generally, the fewer the number of pattern pieces, the easier it will be to make the garment.

Views are drawings that show all of the seams, darts, and construction details.

Body measurements list all sizes for which the pattern is designed. The actual pattern pieces will measure larger to allow for movement and comfort.

Fabric usage chart lists the amount of fabric needed for different body sizes, and fabric widths. The terms *with nap* or *without*

nap appear after each fabric width. **With nap** refers to fabric with a nap, pile, or one-way design. This means that all pattern pieces must be turned in one direction on the fabric. The *with nap* layouts sometimes require more fabric than cutting the *without nap* layouts.

- **Garment measurements** include the circumference of the hemline at the lower edge and the finished back or side length.
- **Suggested fabrics** are recommended types of fabrics that could be used for this style of garment. Special fabric information will tell you if extra fabric is needed for matching plaids and stripes or if stretch fabric must be used. It will also note if the pattern is not suitable for stripes, plaids, or diagonal fabrics.
- **Notions** list the quantity and recommended sizes of additional sewing supplies such as thread, buttons, tapes, and zippers.

8150
15 PIECES



MISSES', MEN'S OR TEEN BOYS' SHORTS, SHIRT AND TIE: Power style shorts have elasticized waistline. Waistline may be finished with "size through" elastic. Loose fitting, front buttoned shirt with convertible collar, optional patch pocket, and back plait has long or short sleeves. Long sleeves are pleated to buttoned cuffs. Tie has shaped ends.

Fabrics: Cotton and cotton blends, broadcloth, challis, chambray, madras, oxford cloth, poplin, jacquards, laundered silks, lawn. Shirt and shorts also in sheeling, lambswool, cottons. Not suitable for obvious diagonals. Extra fabric needed to match plaids, stripes or one-way design fabrics. For pile, shaded or one-way design fabrics, use with nap yardages/longues.

Notions: Thread, one 1/2" button. Shirt with long sleeves: Seven 1/2" buttons. Shirt with short sleeves: Five 1/2" buttons. Look for Simplicity notions.

Pattern Was Cutting Lines For Two or Three Sizes

Sizes AA(XS-S-M) BB(L-XL)

BODY MEASUREMENTS

Chest/Bust	30-32	34-36	38-40	42-44	46-48	Ins.
Hip	34-37 1/2	35-37	39-41	43-45	47-49	

Sizes U.S.A. ONLY	(XS) Small	Small	Medium	Large	X-Large	
Sizes	(XS) Small	Small	Medium	Large	X-Large	

Shirt with Long Sleeves	2 1/4	2 1/4	3	3 1/4	3	Yds.
60"	2 1/2	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4	

Shirt with Short Sleeves	2 1/4	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/4	Yds.
45"	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	
60"	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	

Interfacing for shirt with long or short sleeves—1 yd. of 22" to 25" fusible

Shorts	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 3/4	1 3/4	1 1/4	Yds.
45"	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4	
60"	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4	

Elastic—1 1/4 yds. of 1 1/4" wide elastic OR Sport elastic (Simplicity pattern #C618-00)

Tie—1 yd. of 45" to 60"

Interfacing—1/2 yd. of 23" to 25" fusible

GARMENT MEASUREMENTS (Bust/Chest & Hip Printed on Pattern Issues)

Shorts side length	16	16 1/2	17	17 1/2	18	Ins.
Shorts leg width	24 1/2	27	29 1/2	32	34 1/2	

SHORT, CHEMISE ET CRAVATE POUR JEUNE FEMME, HOMME OU JEUN'
Le short style "boudier" a taille élarguée du milieu pour être facile à enlever. La chemise ample, boutonnière devant, avec col transformable facultatif et plis, a manches longues ou courtes. Les manches long sur poignets noués. La cravate a extrémités pointues.

Tissus: Colons et cotons mélangés, percale, challis, chambray, madras, popline, jacquards, soies pré lavées, lawn, chemise et short égales cotons. Non adaptés pour diagonales apparentes ne conviennent pas. Prévoyez davantage de tissu pour raccorder les épaules, les uniectionnels. Pour les tissus à long poil, de différents tons ou à motifs mélangés et plans de coupe "avec sens".

Accessoires: Fil, un bouton de fer. Chemise à manches longues: sept boutons à manches courtes: cinq boutons de 1,2 cm. Demandez la mesure à votre magasin de tissu.

Le Patron a Des Lignes De Coupe Pour Deux ou Trois Tailles

Tailles/Sizes AA(XS-P-M) BB(L-XL)

Tailles-Europe AA(XS-P-M) BB(L-XL)

MESURES NORMALISEES

Poitrine	76-81	81-92	97-102	107-117
Manches	79-83	83-94	99-104	109-116

Filles/Jeunes	(X) Petite	Petite	Moyenne	(G) Grande
Filles-Europe	(X) Petite	Petite	Moyenne	(G) Grande

Chemise à Manches Longues	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/2	2 1/2
115cm"	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/2	2 1/2
150cm"	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/2	2 1/2

Chemise à Manches Courtes	2 1/4	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2
115cm"	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2
150cm"	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2

Entourage pour chemise à manches longues ou courtes—0,50m en 55"

Short	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4
115cm"	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4
150cm"	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4

Elastique—1 1/4 yd. en 3 1/2 cm de large OU Elastique Sport (Mesure Simplicity) 0,50m en 115cm à 150cm"

Entourage—0,50m en 55cm à 64cm, fusible

MESURES DU VETEMENT (ours de Poitrine et de Manches Imprimé sur Patron)

Longueur de côté du short	16	16 1/2	17	17 1/2	18	Ins.
Largeur de jambe du short	24 1/2	27	29 1/2	32	34 1/2	



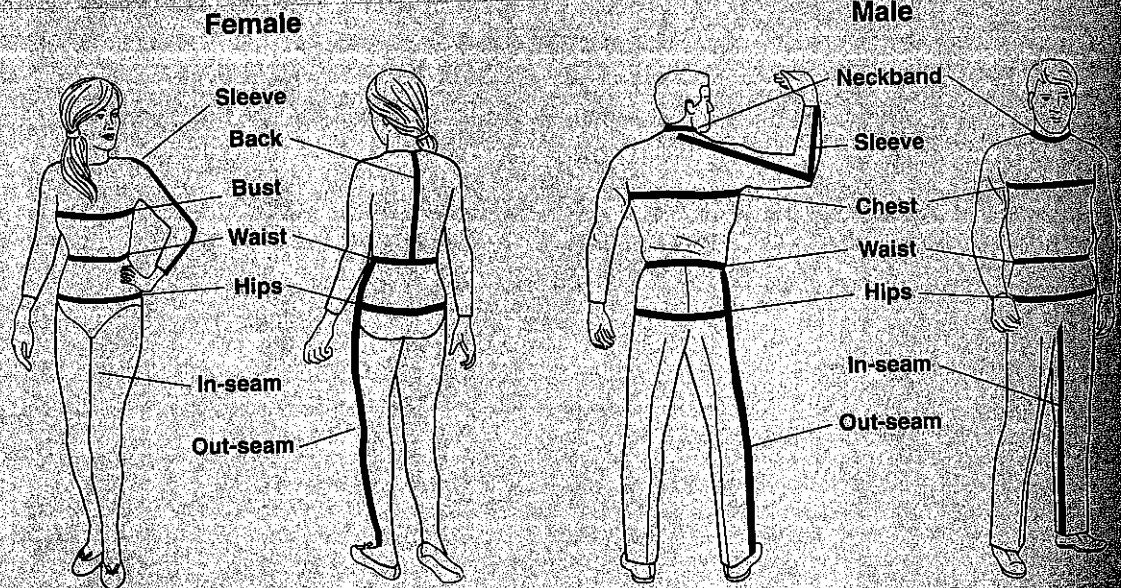
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8150 SIZE AA

\$7.95 U.S.A.

TAKING YOUR MEASUREMENTS

- **Height.** Stand against the wall in bare feet. Have another person make a mark that is level with the top of your head. Measure from this point to the floor. For pants and skirt measurements, it is best to wear shoes.
- **Bust/chest.** The tape measure should be straight across the back and over the fullest part of the bust or chest.
- **Waist.** Tie a length of string around the smallest part of the waistline. It will roll into the natural waistline position. Measure the waistline exactly where the string has settled.
- **Hips or seat.** Measure over the fullest part of the hips in a straight line around the body. For most females, measure 7 to 9 inches (18 to 23 cm) below the waist. For most men, measure 8 inches (20.5 cm) below the waist, for Teen Boys, 7 inches (18 cm) below the waist.
- **Neck (for males only).** Measure around the base of the neck. This measurement plus $\frac{1}{2}$ inch (1.3 cm) is the neck size.
- **Back waist length (for females only).** Bend the head forward to locate a very prominent bone at the base of the neck. Measure from this bone down the center back to the waistline string.
- **In-seam.** Place pants that are the correct length on a flat surface. Measure along inner seam from the bottom of one leg to where the two legs meet.
- **Out-seam.** Measure from the waist to the point where the pants bottom breaks slightly on the shoe.
- **Sleeve.** Bend the arm up for men. Measure from the base of the neck across the center back to the elbow, across the elbow crook, and up over the wrist bone. For women, measure from the top of the shoulder over the bent elbow to the wrist.



Skill Level

Read the description in the catalog or on the pattern envelope for clues about sewing difficulty. Most of the pattern companies market a special category of easy-to-sew patterns. These categories have special brand names that tell you something about the skill level required to sew the pattern. Look for names such as "Easy," "Fast & Easy," and "It's So Easy."

Easy-to-sew patterns usually have fewer pattern pieces, simple-to-follow layouts, and easier construction techniques. Some easy-to-sew patterns are even marked with a sewing time. This will help you estimate how long it will take you to make the pattern.

Selecting the Correct Size

To determine your correct pattern size, first take your body measurements. Ideally you should take your measurements over your undergarments, not over your clothes. If necessary, you can take them over snug-fitting clothes. Remove sweaters, belts, jackets, or other bulky items.

Use a flexible 60 inch (150 cm) plastic-coated measuring tape. The tape measure should be held snugly, but not tightly, around the body. Be sure that the tape measure is parallel to the floor. For accuracy, have someone help you measure. Write down each measurement as it is taken.

You will want to record your height and your circumference measurements—bust or chest, waist, and hips. Females will need to take their back waist measurement. Males should take their neck and sleeve measurements. For pants, the waist and inseam measurements are needed. See Taking Your Measurements on page 432.

LESSON 1: Selecting a Pattern

Figure Type

Figure types are size categories determined by height and body proportions. In order to determine your figure type, you will need to look at three pieces of information: your height, your back waist length (for females), and your body proportions. Now compare this information with the charts that appear in the back of the pattern catalogs.

Pattern Size

After you have determined your figure type, the next step is to determine your pattern size. Compare your bust or chest, waist, and hip measurements with the ones that are listed on the chart on the pattern

Simplicity's SIMPLIFIED

The Best Guide to Fit!

To select your pattern size, use your BODY MEASUREMENTS. For Ready-to-Wear size.


- All Simplicity patterns are Multi-Size to help you get a Custom Fit.
- Finished Garment Measurements are printed on the pattern pieces and on the back of many pattern envelopes.
- Compare these against the Body Measurement Chart for your size. The difference is the amount of ease allowed.
- To Take Accurate Body Measurements, Follow the How To Measure chart below. Periodically check your measurements for changes.
- Find your figure type (height and back waist length measurements and descriptions) in Measurement Charts to determine figure type.

Body Measurements

Tables for: Women's, Men's, and Children's measurements.

How to Measure

1. Measure over the undergarments you normally wear. Hold the tape measure comfortably snug, but not tight.
2. Bust: Measure around the fullest part of the bust and straight across the back.
3. High Bust: Measure under the arms, straight across the bust and above the bust.
4. Waist: Measure the narrowest part of the waist and let it settle naturally at your waistline. Measure over the elastic. Keep the elastic in place for the next measurement.
5. Back Waist Length: Measure from the main prominence above at the base of neck to the natural waistline.
6. Hip: Measure body at fullest part, usually 31" (79-83cm) below waist.



Pattern catalogs provide measurement charts to help you decide what size pattern to buy.

envelope back. Make sure you are looking only at the measurements within your figure type category. Find the measurements that come closest to yours. That is your pattern size.

Since few people are a perfect size, your measurements might not exactly match one of the sizes. If your measurements fall between two sizes: Select the smaller size if the design is full or loose fitting. Select the larger size if the design is closely fitted.

If you are choosing a pattern for pants or a skirt, select the pattern size by your waist measurement. However, if your hips are large in proportion to your waist, choose the pattern by the hip measurement.

Many patterns are **multi-sized**, which means that they are printed with several sizes on the same pattern tissue. This is particularly helpful for people who are one size on top and another size on the bottom. Each size range is identified by a letter code printed on the catalog page and on the pattern envelope.

Be sure you select the size range that includes your pattern size. See illustration on page 474.

Pattern Ease

All patterns have a certain amount of "ease" built in to them. The garment is larger than your body to give you the space to sit down or bend over in your clothes. This extra space, known as **wearing ease**, is the amount of fullness needed for movement and comfort. The only garments that do not have this wearing ease are items made of stretch fabrics, such as bathing suits, body suits, and exercise wear.

There is a second kind of ease that is built into a garment. This is called **design ease**. It is the extra fullness built into the clothes by the designer to create a particular style or silhouette. Some designers prefer their clothes to have a very loose-fitting silhouette. Others like their clothes to fit snugly against the body. The picture and the description on the pattern envelope will give you clues as to the amount of ease



Lesson 2

Selecting Fabric

After you have selected a pattern, the next step is to choose a fabric. You will want to select one that is suitable for both the pattern style and your sewing skills.

Fabric Suitable for the Pattern

How do you know which fabrics would be best for a particular style of garment? Take another look at the back of the pattern envelope. The Suggested Fabric List is a guide for choosing fabric. If the suggested fabrics are cotton, poplin, or corduroy, then choose a fabric that is as firm as these. If the suggested fabrics are jersey, crepe, or crepe, then you should choose a soft, drapey fabric such as these.

The fabric suggestions will also tell you if certain fabrics are not suitable for the design. For example, stripes, plaids, or obvious diagonal fabrics can look unattractive if made up in certain styles.

Sometimes a pattern is designed only for knit fabric. You will need to be sure that the knit you are con-

sidering has the right amount of stretch for your pattern. All "knits only" patterns have a Stretch Gauge on the pattern envelope. The gauge shows how much the knit must be able to stretch.

If the pattern has gathers, grasp the fabric in your hand to see how it drapes. If the pattern has pleats, crease a small section of the fabric between your fingernails to see if it will hold a pleat.

Check the fabric for any flaws. The color should be even, with no streaks or spots. Any pattern design should be printed on grain. Check for wrinkle resistance and stretchability. For example, squeeze the fabric in your hand to see if it will wrinkle easily. Read the end of the fabric bolt for information about fibers, finishes, and care requirements.

Fabric Suitable for Your Sewing Skills

The type of fabric you should choose depends on your sewing experience. If you are a beginning sewer, you will want to choose a fabric that is easy to sew. Your best choice is a mediumweight, firmly woven or knitted fabric. A small, all-over print is a good choice because any small sewing mistakes often do not show.

Certain fabrics require special sewing techniques. These fabrics are *not good choices* for beginners:

- **Slippery fabrics** are hard to handle as you cut and stitch.
- **Loosely woven fabrics** can ravel easily and require special seam finishes.
- **Sheer fabrics and thick, bulky fabrics** are hard to pin, sew, and press.
- **Fabrics with a one-way design** must have all of the pattern pieces laid out in the same direction.
- **Pile fabrics**, such as velvet or corduroy, require special pattern layouts and pressing techniques.
- **Stripes and plaids** must be matched at all seamlines and design points, such as collars, cuffs, and pockets.

FOR THIS PATTERN—1 (FRONT OF KNOT FABRIC MUST STRETCH CROSSWISE FROM HERE) →

POUR CE PATRON—1 (FRONT DE KNOT FABRIC DOIT ÉTRE ÉTIRÉ EN TRAVERS À PARTIR D'ICI)

NOTE: THIS PATTERN IS DESIGNED FOR FABRIC WITH STRETCH. Long stretch fabric is recommended. Use a fabric that stretches 25% to 30% in the crosswise direction. Long stretch fabric is recommended. Use a fabric that stretches 25% to 30% in the crosswise direction.

NOTE: CE PATRON EST CONÇU POUR UN TISSU À ÉTIRER. Un tissu à forte élasticité est recommandé. Utilisez un tissu qui s'étire de 25% à 30% dans le sens de la largeur. Un tissu à forte élasticité est recommandé. Utilisez un tissu qui s'étire de 25% à 30% dans le sens de la largeur.

Size	18"	20"	22"	24"	26"	28"	30"
Waist	18-19	20-21	22-23	24-25	26-27	28-29	30-31
Hips	34-35	36-37	38-39	40-41	42-43	44-45	46-47
Length	36-38	38-40	40-42	42-44	44-46	46-48	48-50

MPlicity 3510 SIZE AA

pattern envelope will suggest suitable fabrics for the design. Some envelopes have a stretch gauge for checking the stretchability of a knit fabric.

Sewing Tip

Fabric Suitable for You

The fabric you select should be right for your appearance and your lifestyle. Pick a color and a texture that is flattering to your coloring and body shape. It should coordinate with items you already own.

Choose a fabric that is appropriate for the occasions when you will wear the garment. For example, a



The pattern envelope suggests fabrics that would be suitable for your project. The fabric you select should also be suitable for your appearance, lifestyle, and sewing skills.

pattern envelope says that the dress or shirt can be made in denim. However, a dress or shirt made of denim would not be a suitable choice to wear to a formal wedding.

How Much to Buy

The label or hangtag at the end of the fabric bolt will tell you the width of the fabric. Most fabrics are 36 inches (91.5 cm), 45 inches (115 cm), or 60 inches (150 cm) wide. The Yardage Chart on the back of the pattern envelope will list how much fabric you will need for your size.

Do not buy a fabric that is narrower than the ones listed on your pattern envelope. For example, if the chart lists only 45 (115 cm) or 60 inch (150 cm) fabric, do not buy fabric that is 36 inches (91.5 cm) wide. Some of the pattern pieces for that style are probably too large to fit on a narrower piece of fabric.

The Yardage Chart may indicate that extra fabric is required for fabrics with a nap, pile, shading, or one-way design. With these fabrics, all of the pattern pieces must be cut so the pile or design runs in the same direction. Otherwise the finished garment will look like it has been cut from two different shades of fabric or that part of the fabric's design is upside down.

Corduroy and velveteen fabrics have a pile, and many knits have a shading. These fabrics need a one-way layout and may require extra yardage. Simple plaids, and other designs may need additional fabric in order to match the fabric design at the seams.

Lesson 3

Selecting Notions

Many different items—such as thread, fasteners, interfacing, and trims—may be needed during construction. These *small items that become a permanent part of the garment* are called **notions**.

The notions you need to buy for a project are listed on the back of the pattern envelope. Items listed include thread, snaps, and hooks and eyes. If a number is needed, the length will be given. If buttons are needed, the size and the quantity will be listed.

Some notions, such as lining, interfacing, trim, and elastic, are purchased by the yard or meter. Because the amount you need to buy may depend on the pattern size, these notions will be listed in the Page Chart.

Buy the notions when you buy the fabric. Then you will be sure that you have everything you need and that the colors will match. Buttons, tapes, trims, and interfacings should have care requirements that are compatible with the care of the fabric. For example, a cotton shirt cannot be washed if its buttons and trim can only be dry cleaned.

Selecting Colors

Color is very important when choosing notions. Thread should be the same color as the fabric. If you cannot find the exact color, choose one that is a shade

LESSON 3: Selecting Notions

darker. Thread looks lighter after it is stitched. Trims should match exactly. If you cannot find trims that match, select a contrasting color instead.

Interfacings and linings should not show through on the right side of the garment. In the store, test the lining and interfacing that you are considering. Drape a piece of your fabric over them.

Thread

Thread is available in a wide assortment of types and colors. A good quality thread is strong and smooth, has even thickness, and resists tangling. The type of thread you select is determined by the type of fabric you are sewing:

- **Polyester or polyester/cotton thread** is an all-purpose one that can be used for sewing almost all fabrics. It is strong, flexible, and has less shrinkage than other threads. It is recommended for knits and stretch fabrics because the thread has some give or stretchability. This helps to prevent the seams from breaking as the garment is worn.
- **Mercerized cotton thread** can be used to sew woven fabrics of natural fibers, such as 100 percent cotton or silk. Cotton thread is used mostly for quilting and crafts.
- **Silk thread** can be used on silk or wool fabrics. It is excellent for basting delicate fabrics.
- **Heavy-duty thread** is used to sew heavier fabrics and projects, such as slipcovers, that require strength and durability.

Sewing Tip

Try to match the color of the thread as closely as possible to the color of the fabric. If you have a wide choice of colors, choose a color that is a shade darker than the fabric. If you have a limited choice, choose a color that is a shade lighter than the fabric. When you are unable to find a color that matches the fabric, choose a contrasting color instead.





Choose a color of thread that matches the color of the fabric as closely as possible.

- **Buttonhole twist thread** is thicker than the others. It is used for decorative topstitching and hand-worked buttonholes.

Special threads are available for specific sewing and crafts projects. These include *serger thread*, *basting thread*, *quilting thread*, *rayon machine embroidery thread*, and *carpet thread*. See the Thread Chart on page 448.

Fasteners

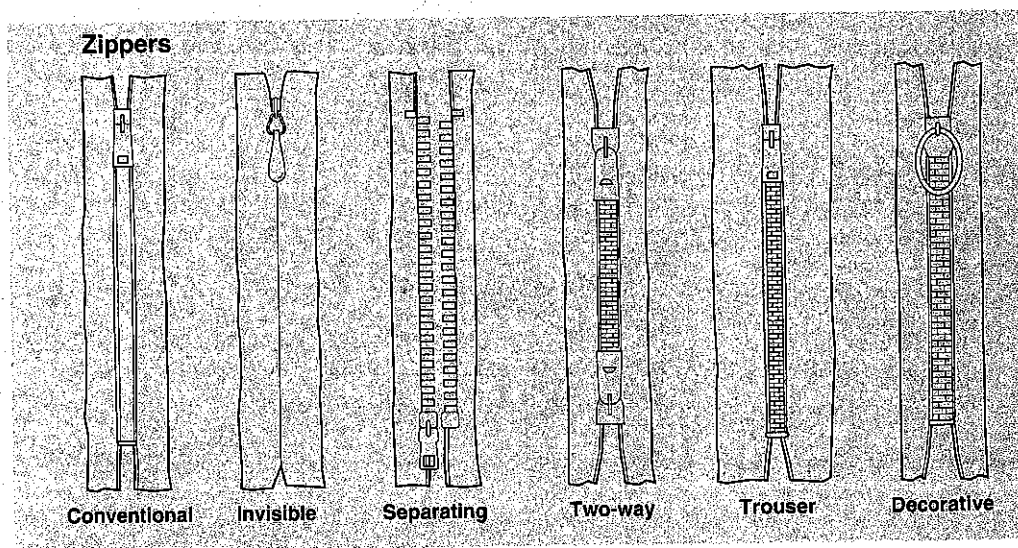
Fasteners are any items used to close a garment. They include zippers, buttons, snaps, hooks and eyes, buckles, and hook and loop tape.

Zippers

Zippers are available in a wide variety of colors, lengths, and types. They also come with metal or polyester coils. A lightweight polyester coil zipper is a better choice for a lightweight fabric. The recommended type and length of zipper is listed on the back of the pattern envelope.

Zippers can be purchased in a variety of types:

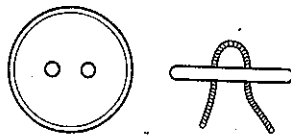
- **Conventional zipper**, which has a stop at the bottom, is the most common type.
- **Invisible zipper** disappears into the seam when it is closed, so that all you see is the tab at the top of the zipper.
- **Separating zipper** opens at the bottom for use in jackets and coats.
- **Two-way zipper** has sliders at the top and bottom so it can be opened from either end.
- **Trouser zipper** usually has metal teeth and wider tape.
- **Decorative zipper** has large teeth and a pull ring.



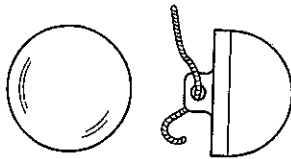
Buttons

The pattern envelope will recommend the size and number of buttons needed for a project. The size of a button is the measurement of its diameter, stated in fractions of an inch. There are two basic types of buttons:

Sew-through



Shank



Sew-through buttons have two to four holes on the face of the button for attaching with thread.

Shank buttons have a metal, plastic, or fabric loop behind the button through which thread is stitched. A shank allows room for the buttonhole to lie smoothly between the button and fabric to which it is stitched.

Snaps

Snaps range in size from 0000 or 4/0 (small) to size 4 (large). The smaller sizes are useful for holding pieces together where there is not much strain or pull on the snaps. Larger sizes are good for heavy-duty work. Large covered snaps are available for coats and jackets. Snaps preattached to fabric tapes are ideal for sportswear and children's wear.

Hooks and Eyes

Hooks and eyes range in size from 0 (small) to 3 (large). They are packaged with two types of eyes:

- **Curved eye** is used on edges that just meet, such as the edge of a collar or neckline.
- **Straight eye** is used on lapped edges, such as a waistband or cuff.

Large covered hooks and eyes are available for coats and jackets. Specialty waistband fasteners have a large flat hook and bar closure.

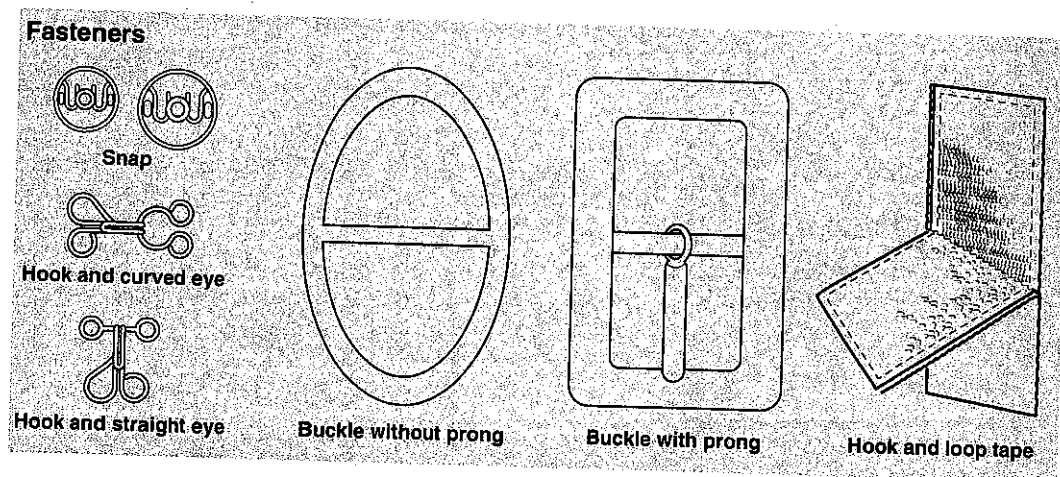
Buckles

Buckles are available in a wide variety of shapes, sizes, and materials. They can be purchased separately or in belt kits. There are two basic types:

- **Buckle with a prong** must be used with eyelets. Ready-made metal eyelets can be applied to the belt with special pliers or attaching tool. Eyelets can also be handsewn using a buttonhole stitch.
- **Buckle without a prong** can simply be stitched to the belt end; no eyelets are needed.

Hook and Loop Tape

This fastener consists of two nylon strips, one with tiny hooks and one with looped pile. The hooks and pile intermesh when pressed together. Such tape is often used on jackets, sportswear, and children's clothes. Available by the yard or in pre-cut shapes, it can be stitched by hand or machine.



Tapes and Trims

Tapes and trims can be functional or decorative. They can be used to reinforce a seam, cover a fabric edge, or create a special design on the outside of a garment. Tapes and trims are available in a variety of types, width, and colors. Some are stretchable; others are not. They may be woven, knitted, braided, or made of lace.

The choice of which type of tape or trim to use depends upon how it will be used in your garment. For areas where you want to prevent stretching, select a firm, nonstretchable tape or trim. For areas that should stretch during wear, such as a knitted cuff, choose a stretchable tape or trim.

Some of the common tapes and trims include:

- **Seam tape** is a woven tape or lace used to finish hem and facing edges.
- **Bias tape** is a single-fold or double-fold tape used for binding curved or straight edges. It can also be used for casings, ties, and trims.
- **Hem facing** is a wide bias tape or lace used for facing hems and binding edges.
- **Foldover braid** is a knitted braid folded in half and used for binding and trimming edges.
- **Ribbing** is a stretchable knitted band used to finish a neckline, armhole, sleeve, pants leg, or lower edge.
- **Twill tape** is a firmly woven tape used for reinforcing seams.

- **Piping** is a narrow, corded bias strip of fabric that is inserted into a seam for a decorative trim.
- **Cable cord** is used as a filler for piping, cording, and tubing.
- **Belting** is a very stiff band used to reinforce belts and waistbands.

Elastics

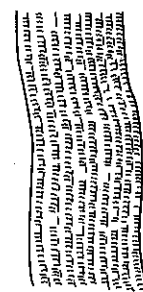
Elastic is available in several different types and widths. The type of elastic to choose will depend on whether it will be used in a

casing or stitched directly to a garment. Read the label when purchasing any type of elastic to be sure it will serve the correct purpose.

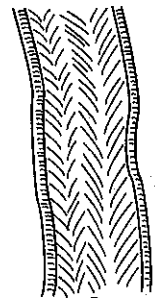
- **Woven elastic** stays the same width when stretched. Thus, it can be stitched directly to a garment or used in a casing.
- **Braided elastic** is recommended only for casings because it narrows when stretched.
- **Clear elastic** is a very stretchy elastic that is stitched directly to the fabric. It is particularly suitable for swimwear and lingerie.
- **Special purpose elastics** are available for lingerie, swimwear, and activewear.

Elastics

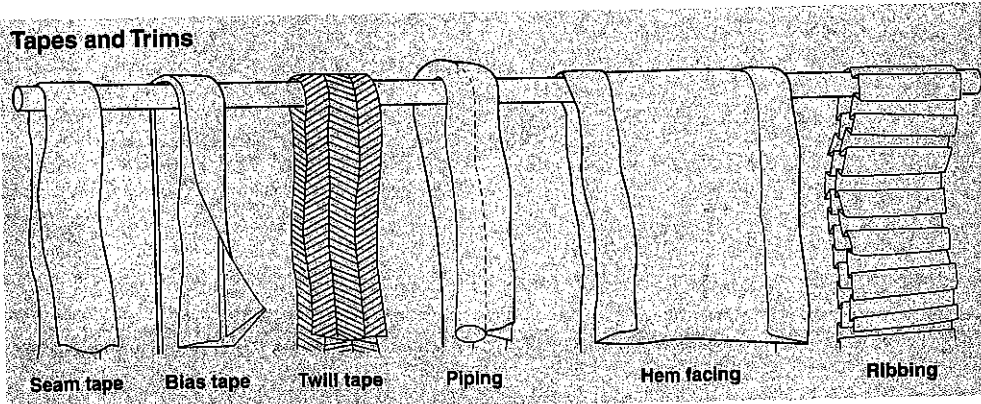
Woven



Braided



Clear



Interfacings and Linings

Interfacings and linings are fabrics used on the inside of a garment. Both must be able to receive the same care as the outer fabric.

Interfacings

Interfacing is a piece of fabric placed between the outer fabric and the facing. It is used to prevent stretching of necklines, front closings, and buttonholes. It adds shape to collars, cuffs, pockets, and hems. Interfacing also can add crispness and stability to waistbands and belts. Each of the three basic types of interfacing has a different method of application:

Sew-in interfacing must be stitched by machine or hand to the garment. It is available in either woven or nonwoven fabrics.

Fusible interfacing has a resin coating on the back of either woven or nonwoven fabric. It will fuse or bond to fabric when pressed with an iron.

Combination fusible/sew-in interfacing is temporarily fused to the fabric with a cool iron so that it acts like a fusible during the sewing process. When the finished garment is washed or dry cleaned, the interfacing loses its bond and becomes a sew-in.

Interfacings are available in a variety of weights, ranging from very lightweight to heavyweight. To select the proper weight of interfacing, choose an interfacing that is the same weight or lighter than your fabric. Heavyweight interfacings are recommended for accessories and crafts.

Linings

A **lining** is a fabric used to finish the inside of a jacket, coat, skirt, dress, or pants. It helps to prevent stretching and to reduce wrinkling. Lining fabrics must be able to receive the same care as the outer fabric. Select one that is firmly woven, slippery, and static-free. The color of a jacket lining can either match or contrast with the outer fabric.

A lining is constructed separately and then inserted into the garment. For skirts and pants, a lining is attached along the waistband and zipper. For coats, jackets, vests, and dresses, a lining is stitched around the facing edges. The hem of a lining can be sewn to the garment hem or hemmed separately. Jacket hems are usually sewn to the garment; coat and skirt hems are hemmed separately.

Fusible Webs

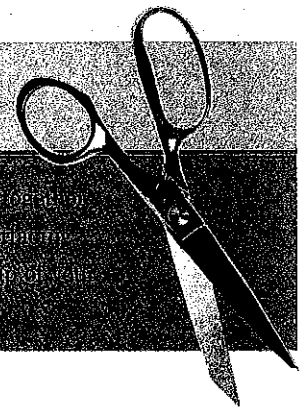
Fusible webs are a special category of sewing supplies. The webs are a network of bondable fibers used to hold two layers of fabric together. When heat and/or steam is applied, the web melts and fuses the fabric layers together. Fusible webs can be used to hem, apply trims, and hold facing edges in place.

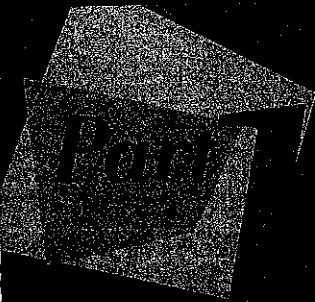
Fusible webs are sold by the yard in either narrow strips or wider widths. They can be a plain web or have a peel-off paper backing that makes them easier to cut and use. Before using a fusible web for the first time, read the instructions carefully. Then test the application on a piece of scrap fabric before applying it.



Sewing Tip

To break the bond effect of a fusible interfacing, drape the fabric and interfacing over an iron and blow-dry with a hair dryer. Remember that even though a fusible interfacing is designed to be permanent, the fusible will give up on its job. Always test a fusible interfacing on a scrap of your fabric before using it on your garment sections.





REVIEW

Summary

- When selecting a sewing project, consider five questions: who, what, when, where, and why.
- A pattern should be flattering to your body shape and match your sewing skill level.
- Both the pattern catalog and pattern envelope have information about the style and fit of a pattern.
- To determine your correct pattern size, compare your measurements with the pattern charts.
- Select a fabric that is suitable for the pattern style and your sewing skills.
- Certain fabrics require special sewing techniques and are not good choices for beginning sewers.
- Purchase all the notions for a project when you buy the fabric.

Recalling the Facts

1. List the five questions you should ask yourself about a sewing project.
2. What can you learn from the photos and sketches in a pattern catalog?
3. What clues are given on the front of the pattern envelope about how a garment should look?
4. What information is listed on the back of a pattern envelope?
5. Name three characteristics of easy-to-sew patterns.
6. How do you determine your figure type?
7. List the three body measurements that are used to determine your pattern size.

8. What is the advantage of multi-sized patterns?
9. What is the difference between wearing ease and design ease?
10. What is the purpose of the Suggested Fabric List on the back of a pattern envelope?
11. How can you determine if a fabric will wrinkle easily?
12. List at least five types of fabrics that a beginning sewer should avoid using.
13. How should you determine how much fabric to buy?
14. Why might you need to buy extra yardage if you are using a corduroy fabric or a plaid fabric?
15. Why should notions be purchased at the same time as your fabric?
16. What should you do if you cannot find thread the exact color as your fabric?
17. What is the difference between a sew-through button and a shank button?
18. What is the purpose of interfacing?
19. How can you determine what weight of interfacing to buy?
20. What is the purpose of fusible webs?

Thinking Critically

1. **Evaluation.** What advice would you give to someone whose body measurements do not correspond with a pattern size?
2. **Synthesis.** What might happen if a beginning sewer decided to make a corduroy jacket as a second project?

3. **Evaluation.** Why is it important to read all of the information on a pattern envelope before purchasing the pattern, fabric, and notions?
4. **Analysis.** Compare and contrast fusible interfacings and fusible webs.

Practicing Your Skills

1. **Easy-to-Sew.** Look through a pattern catalog and select patterns that would be suitable for beginning sewers. Identify which features make each pattern easy-to-sew.
2. **Pattern, Fabric, and Notions.** Select a pattern style that would be flattering to your body shape. Determine your correct pattern size, using your body measurements. Then list the fabric yardage and notions that are needed to make the garment in your size. Note if any fabrics are not suitable for the design.

Applying Your Knowledge

Garment Descriptions. Collect illustrations of garments from fashion magazines and catalogs. Write a description of each garment, such as would be found on the back of a pattern envelope. Include style, fit, and design details.

Notions. Visit a notions department of a store. Research the types and prices of thread, zippers, buttons, snaps, hooks and eyes, tapes, trims, and elastics.

What Is a Pattern Designer?

Pattern designers create the commercial patterns that are shown in pattern catalogs and magazines. The major pattern companies publish new designs almost monthly. The designers create patterns for all types of garments, from sportswear to bridal wear. They also design accessories, costumes, stuffed toys, and home decorating items. The designers must create patterns for various skill levels, from easy-to-sew styles to couture fashions. Patterns for sewing projects are designed similar to ready-to-wear fashions. The garment is constructed from the master pattern, and photographs are taken for the catalog and pattern envelope.

Try It Yourself

Imagine that you are a pattern designer. Sketch several designs for consumers with different levels of sewing skills. Then write a description of the fit and design details of each garment as if it would be written on the back of the pattern envelope. List fabrics that would be suitable for each design, as well as any fabrics that would not be suitable. Create a list of notions that would be necessary for the construction of each pattern.



Build Your Portfolio

Place copies of your pattern sketches, garment descriptions, fabric recommendations, and list of notions in your portfolio. If desired, make a doll-size sample in fabric of one of your designs. Add it to your portfolio.

3. **Cost.** Visit a fabric store. Compute how much it would cost for the pattern, fabric, and notions to make a garment.