

Wren ★ Feathers

Resizing tutorial

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Quarter inch seams allowed on all pieces unless otherwise specified.

I assume you have basic sewing knowledge and the explanation should suffice, but if you need help please email me!

I bet it's happened to you more than once...you find a super cute pattern for a doll you don't have, or it's for a teeny doll and you just don't feel like struggling with tiny seams. What to do? Resize it!! With a little math you can get a perfectly fitted pattern. Here's how:

Choose dolls with a similar body shape to make things easier.

Tiny Betsy and Hearts for Hearts have similar body shapes AND have similar measurements



	bust	waist	inseam	arm	Head	between shoulder	neck-waist	Height
I want	6.5	5.75	5	4.185	10	2.375	2.75	14
I have	3.5	3.125	2.75	2	5	1.25	1.375	7.44
Ratio	1.857143	1.84	1.818182	2.0925	2	1.9	2	1.881481
%	186	184	181	209	200	190	200	188

1. Take measurements listed above and put into a chart. Put the size you want on top, and the size you have on bottom. For some dolls, (AG, some antique dolls, etc.) be aware that the arm and shoulder joint circumference may be a significant factor and add that in too.
2. Divide the top number by the bottom number in each category to get your enlargement ratio (purple row)
3. Multiply that by 100 to get a % (bottom row)

4. Average the **bust**, **waist**, and **between shoulder** measurements (add and divide by 3)
5. Head to the copier...the enlargement ratio is 186%
6. Stop! You're not done yet! The neck-waist ratio is 200%, so you will need to slash at the waistline and lengthen so the bodice isn't too short. If you have a basic sloper pattern, it may be easier to compare it to this, if not, time for a little more math. Let's say the original bodice height was 1.75". Multiply that by your neck-waist ratio (In this case, 2) to get the new bodice length (3.5"). Your enlargement at 186% only made it 3.25" so you will need to slash and add an extra .25"
7. You can follow that same procedure if you want for the arm and inseam, but they're similar and you have the doll with you, it's easier to glance at the measurements and see whether to cut a little long or not and hem at fitting time. These two dolls have very similar inseams, so the bottom hem will probably be just a little deeper, but the H4H arm is quite a bit longer, so it's a good idea to slash and add length as described in step 6.
8. If you're doing a hood, make sure to check this ratio too!

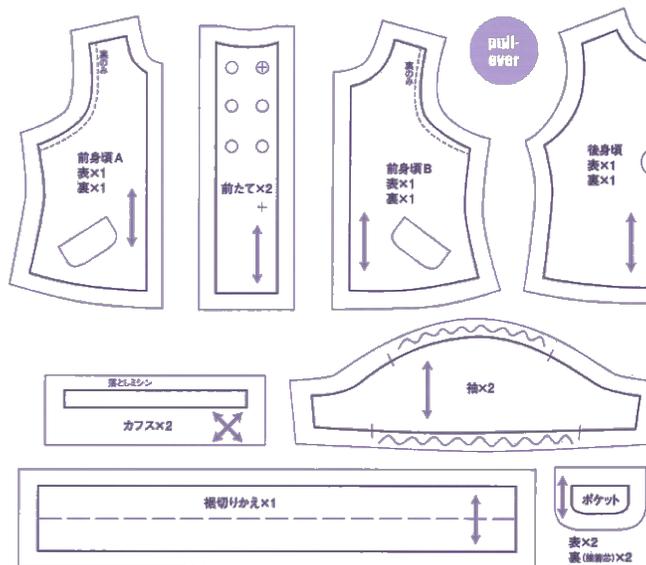
What about seam allowances?

Pattern designers work with "slopers" which typically DON'T have seam allowances. They do their enlargements and then add in the desired seam allowances. While you can certainly do this too, I find it easier if using commercial patterns that DO have seam allowances to make my enlargements/reductions and then trim or add to the inside stitching line to get my seam allowances.

Ready to see it in action?



This is a tiny Betsy hip-length, short-sleeved hoodie pattern from Doll Coordinate Recipe 11. It's a pattern book all in Japanese, and you can get these books on ebay shipped right from Japan! It's adorable but...tiny. So let's enlarge it!



(not to scale)



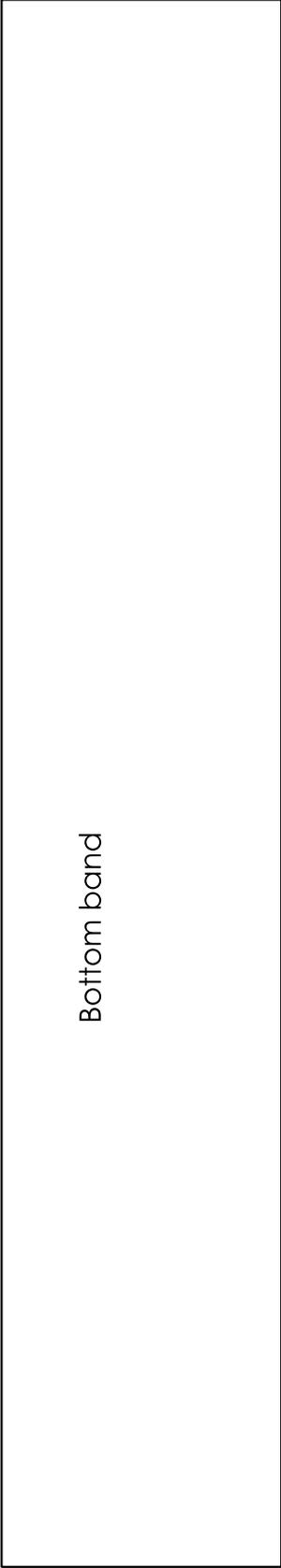
The absolute #1 most important step in this process...MAKE A MUSLIN!! Keep an old sheet in your sewing space and use as needed. I'm embarrassed to admit how many times I was SURE the pattern would fit well and ended up ruining good fabric by not making a test garment first. Luckily, this one fits great. The hood is decorative.



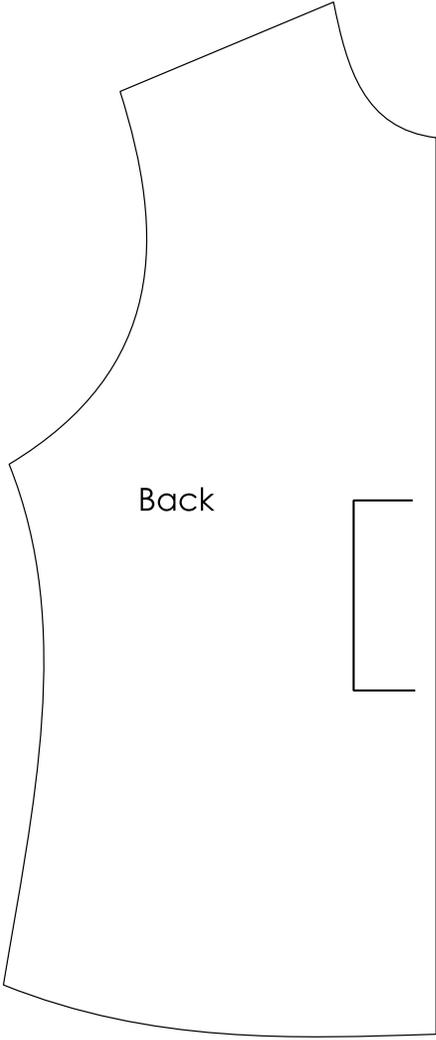
Sew the buttoned overlap together (it's self-lined). Sew shoulder seams, gather sleeve onto band, gather sleeve and set in armhole, sew and hem (or line) hood. Attach hood, sew side seams.



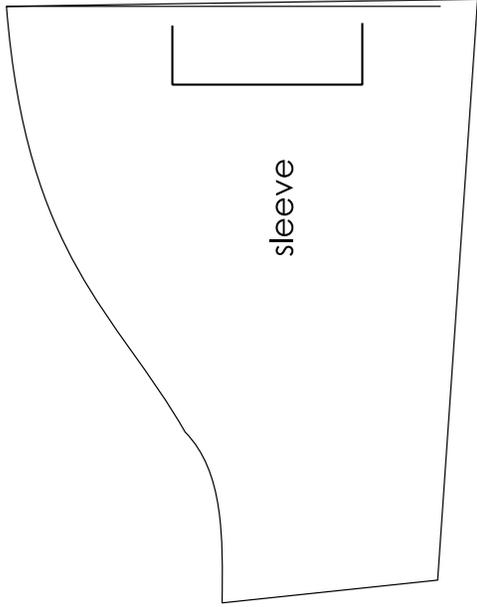
Sew band onto bottom then sew on front button band. If this is thin sweatshirt fabric, you can just hem the raw edges, other options are to cut a facing or line it. (The original was lined)



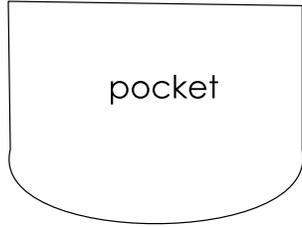
Bottom band



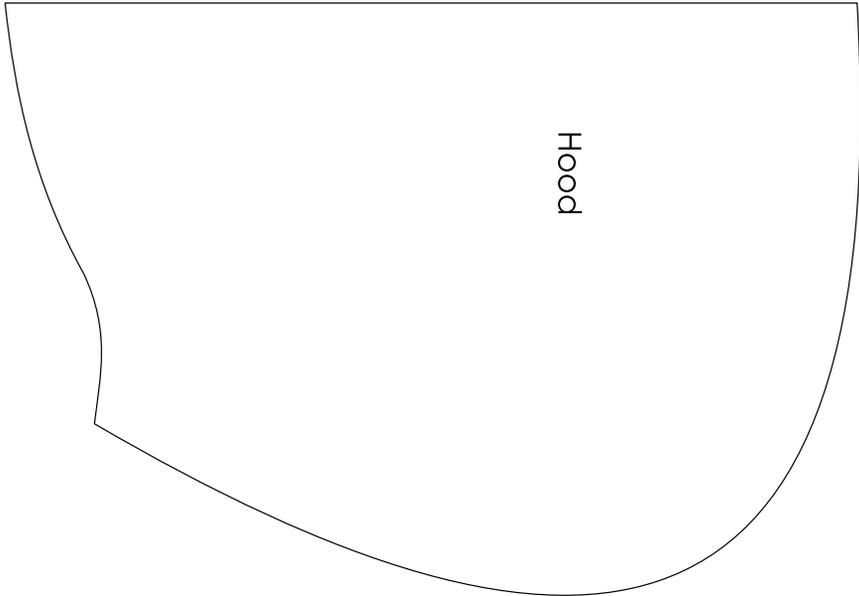
Back



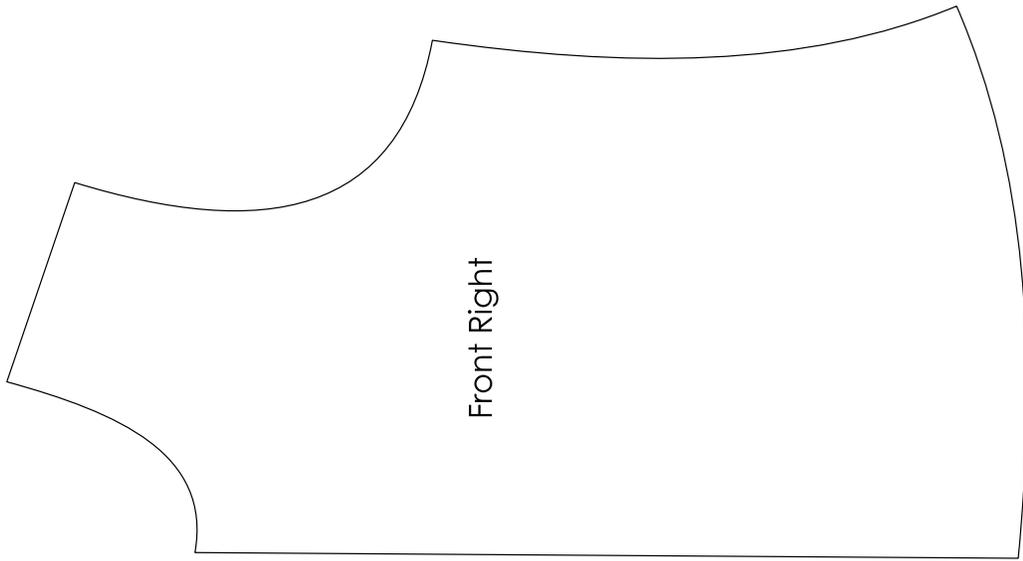
sleeve



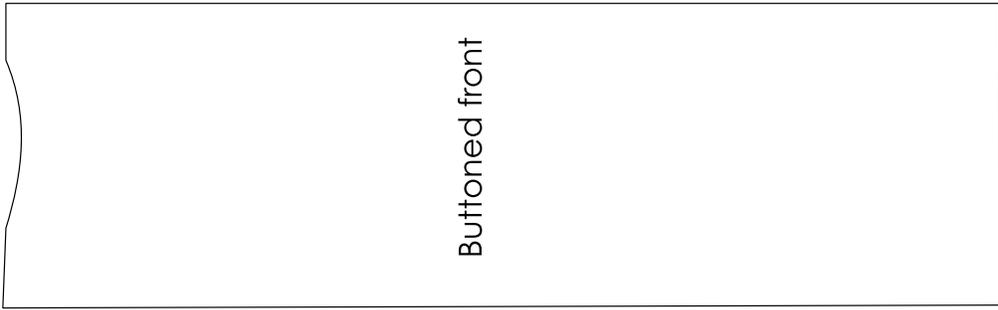
pocket



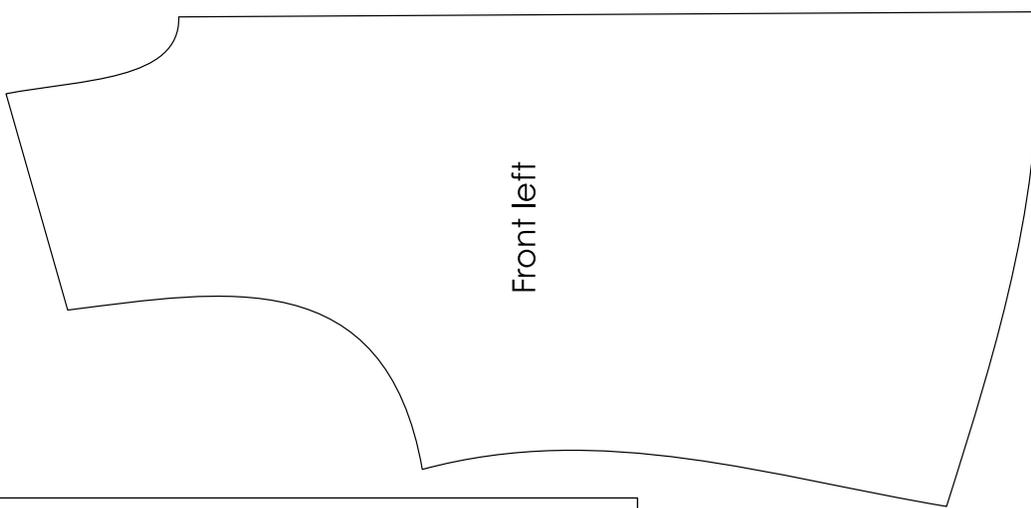
Hood



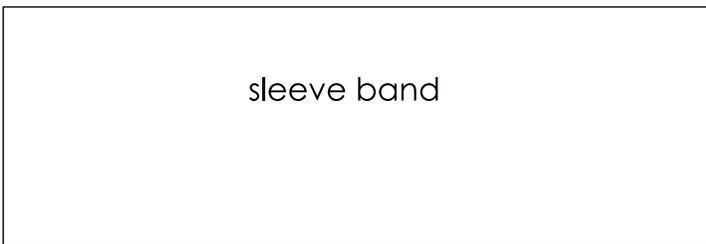
Front Right



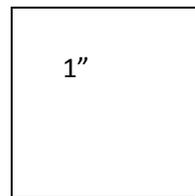
Buttoned front



Front left



sleeve band



1"