

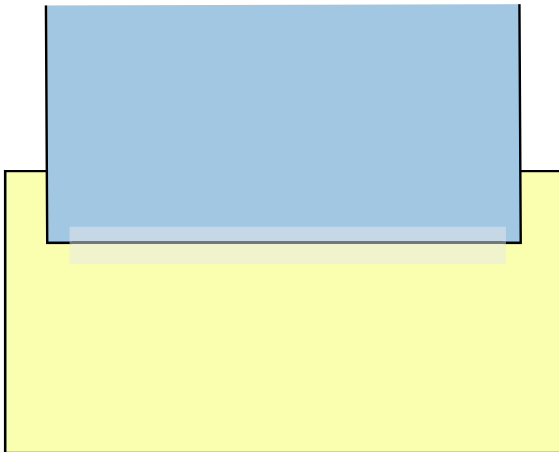
How to lengthen a sewing pattern

N.B. Where more than one pattern piece makes up the garment e.g. front and back trousers make the same adjustments to the other pattern pieces.

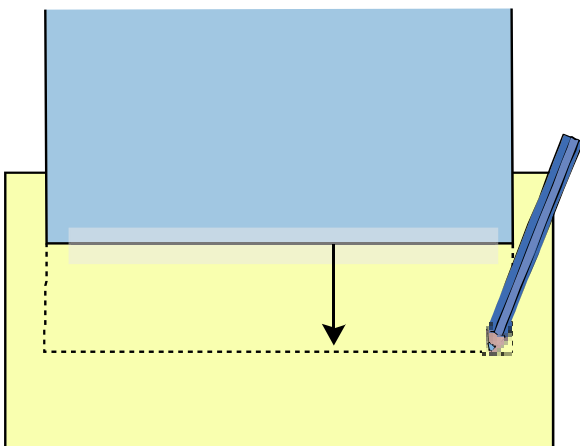
To lengthen a pattern at the hem.

Use this method with caution if the hem is not at a 90° angle to the seam extra width will be added to the hem. This may mean a need for extra fabric or it may dramatically alter the style of the garment. This method is best used for skirts and trousers.

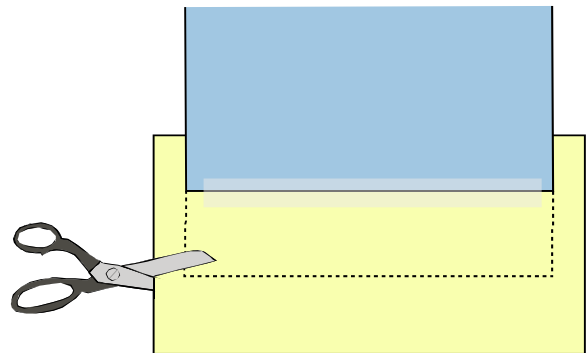
To lengthen a pattern at the hem place a piece of paper behind the pattern and tape in place.



Mark the additional length needed, following any curves exactly. Then drawn down from the sides of the original pattern to meet the new line.

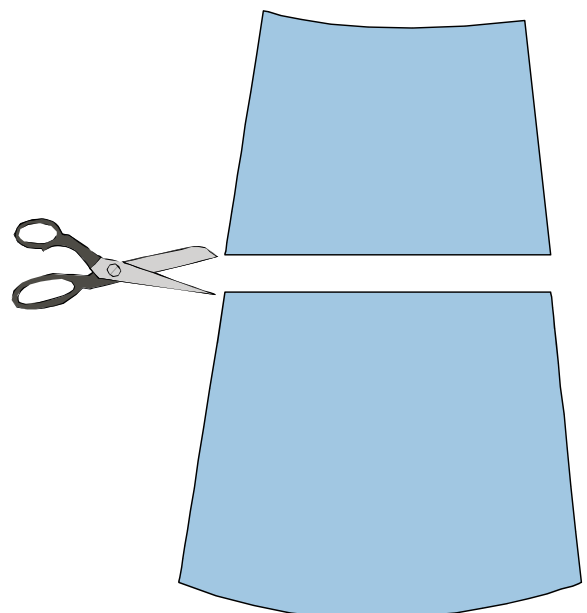


Cut around the extension and use the pattern as normal.

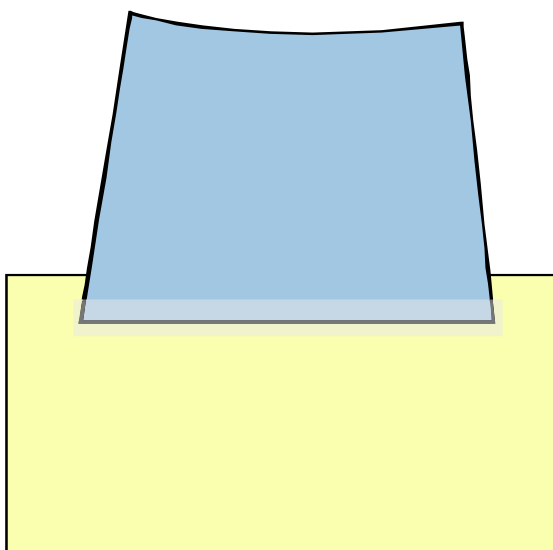


To lengthen a skirt or trousers

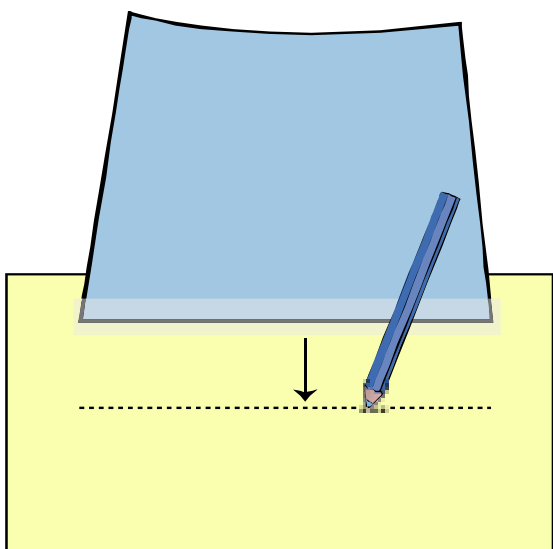
Cut the pattern horizontally somewhere near the middle.



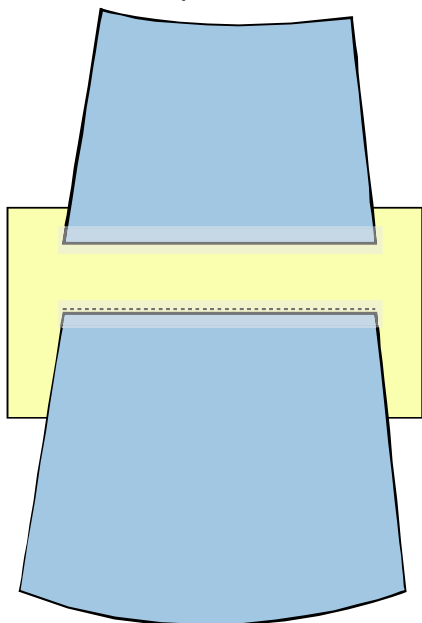
Place a piece of paper behind the pattern and tape the top part of the pattern in place



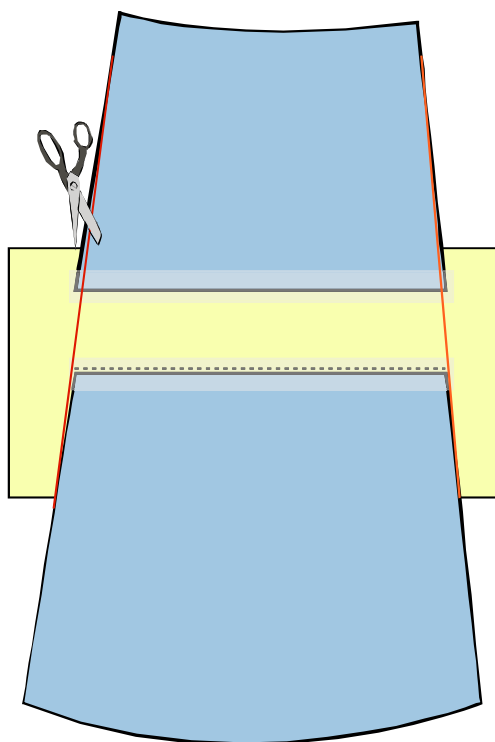
Mark the additional length needed and draw a horizontal line.



Tape the bottom piece to this line.



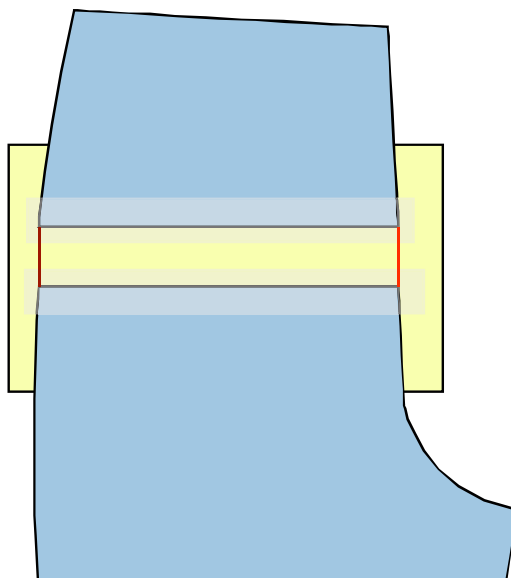
Correct the side seams by drawing a line that smoothly connects the top with the bottom. You will have to trim a small portion of the pattern off for any seam that is not completely vertical.



Cut the new pattern for use.

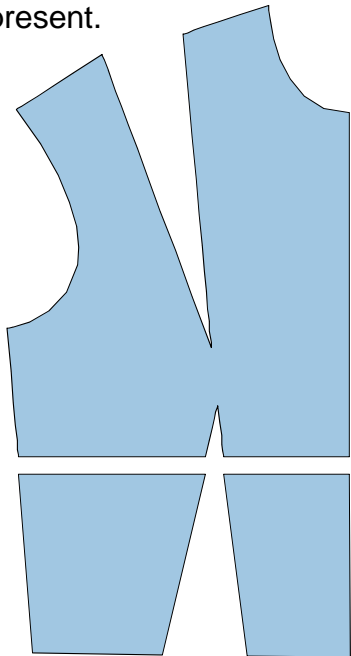
To lengthen the crotch length

Use the method above but only adjust the crotch area.

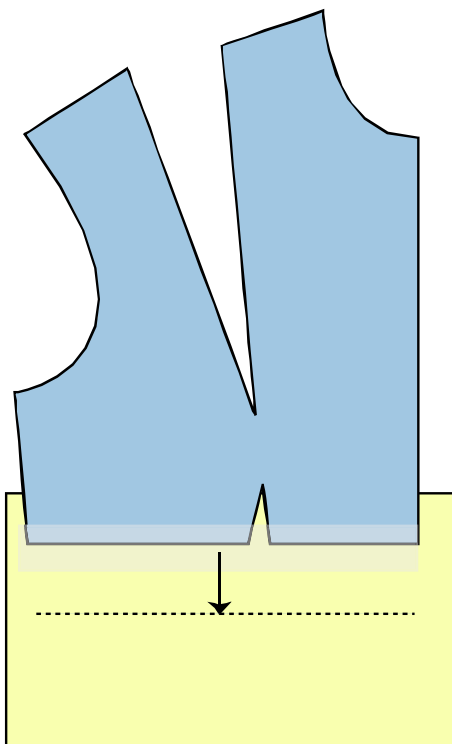


To lengthen the bodice

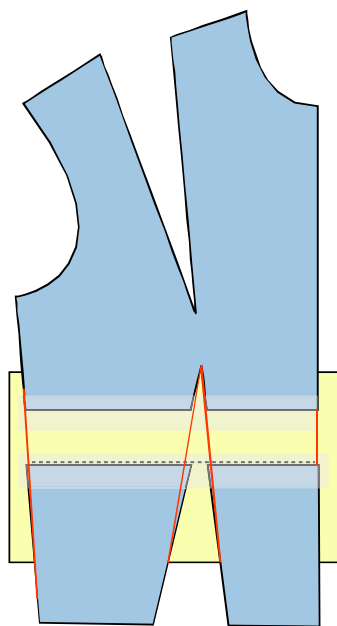
Cut the pattern horizontally include any darts. But do not include side darts, mark sure you cut below them if they are present.



Place a piece of paper behind the pattern, tape the top part in place. Mark the extra length and draw a horizontal line.



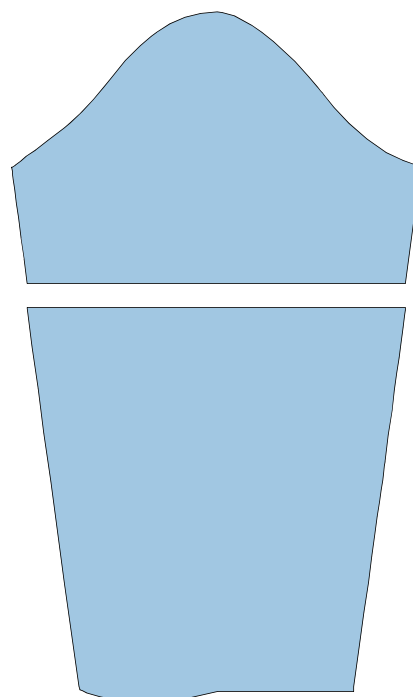
Tape the bottom piece to the line. Redraw the darts, and straighten the side seams as above.



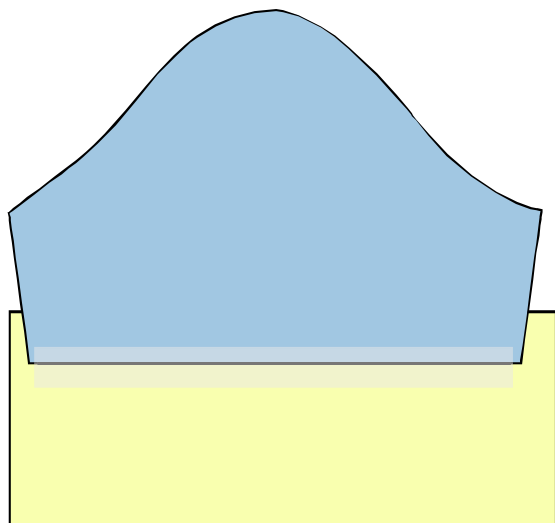
To lengthen the sleeve

Lengthen above or below the elbow or both, but not at the elbow as any darts altered at the elbow will become incorrect.

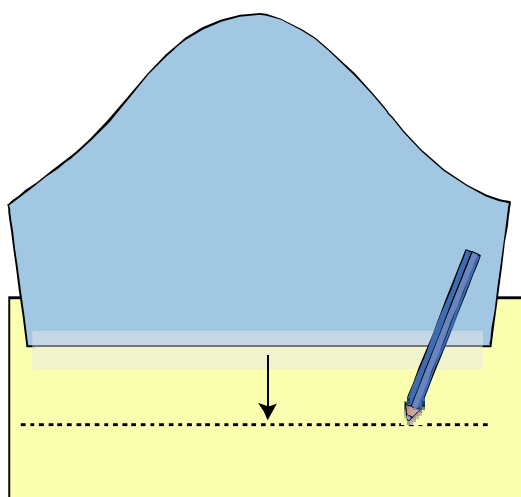
Cut the pattern horizontally.



Place a piece of paper behind the top part of the pattern and tape in place.



Mark the extra length and draw a horizontal line.



Tape the bottom piece to the line. Correct the side seams. Repeat if adjusting the bottom part of the sleeve as well. Cut off any excess paper and use

