## Try your hand at bust darts to make the

### ISLA DRESS

Shift dresses have little shaping other than breast darts, making them both easy to sew and a comfortable choice for hotter days. This A-line design by Julia Claridge falls just above the knee and is extremely flattering to most figures. Chambray is generally easy to work with and care for, but as a woven fabric it is prone to fraving – so be sure to neaten all of the garment's raw edges.



#### *sew a* SHIFT DRESS

#### Get started

- Chambray fabric, 1.4m x 1.6m
- Invisible zip, 56cm
- · Lightweight interfacing

#### Sizes

 Size
 Chest (cm)
 Length\* (cm)

 S (10-12)
 108
 99

 M (12-14)
 113
 100

 L (14-16)
 118
 101

 \*from side neck, with 2.5cm hem

#### **Cutting guide**

Front: cut one from chambray
Back: cut one pair from chambray
Sleeve: cut one pair from chambray
Front neck facing: cut one each
from chambray and interfacing
Back neck facing: cut one pair each
from chambray and interfacing

1.5cm seam allowance used throughout.

Download and print the pattern at **sewmag.co.uk/templates.** Cut out all the pieces, referring to the cutting guide. Transfer the dart markings onto the front pattern piece, stitch the bust darts, then press them towards the garment base.

Apply interfacing to the wrong side of the front and back facing pieces. With right sides together, sew the front and back facing pieces together at the shoulder seams. Repeat to join the main front and back dress pieces. Fold and press the seam allowance on the centre-back seam.

Open the invisible zip and pin each side along the centreback seams, matching the top

to the neck edge and the teeth along the creased seam. Change to an invisible zipper foot and stitch in place. Stitch the remaining centreback seam together, starting 6cm above the end of the zipper. Sew down the side seams.

Fold one sleeve piece in half, right sides together, then sew the sleeve underarm seam. Sew two rows of ease stitching around the sleeve head then lightly draw them up to match the underarm seam to the side seam, and the sleeve head notch to the shoulder seam. Pin in place, then stitch around.

Pin the front neck facing along the neckline of the front piece, right sides together and matching the shoulder seams. Sew the seam, then clip V-shaped notches every few centimetres around. Turn a 2.5cm hem at the sleeves and garment base, then machine stitch.

Fold the ends of the back facing underneath themselves, then press and understitch them to the zip tape. Secure the seam allowance of the neck facing to that of the shoulder seams with a few hand stitches.

"If you choose a material with a different weight to chambray, remember to match the weight of your interfacing to it."

Julia Claridge, Sew Designer





This is two parallel straight lines of long stitches that are pulled to create a gather around shoulder pieces to 'ease' them into smaller armholes. Pull carefully to create an even gather around, making a lighter gather on the line closest to the seam. Use lots of pins perpendicular to the raw edge to retain the shape of the gathers as you sew.







### ISLA DRESS TEMPLATE



Use these guides to get started today

FIND THE TEMPLATE YOU REQUIRE ON THE CONTENTS LIST BELOW AND JUST PRINT OUT THE PAGE OR PAGES YOUNEED FROM YOUR PRINT MENU

In your print menu, under Size options, be sure to select to print 'Actual Size', instead of 'Fit to Page'

Title: Isla dress

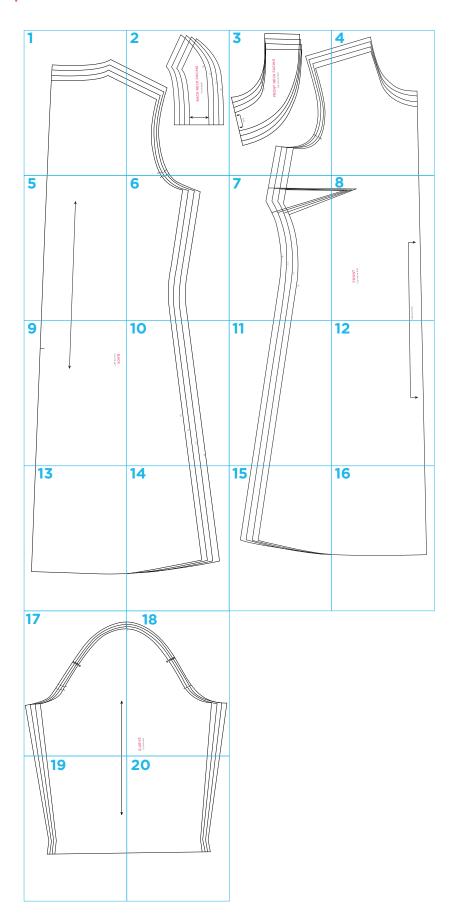
Designer: Julia Claridge

Magazine page: 26

Total 22 pages to print

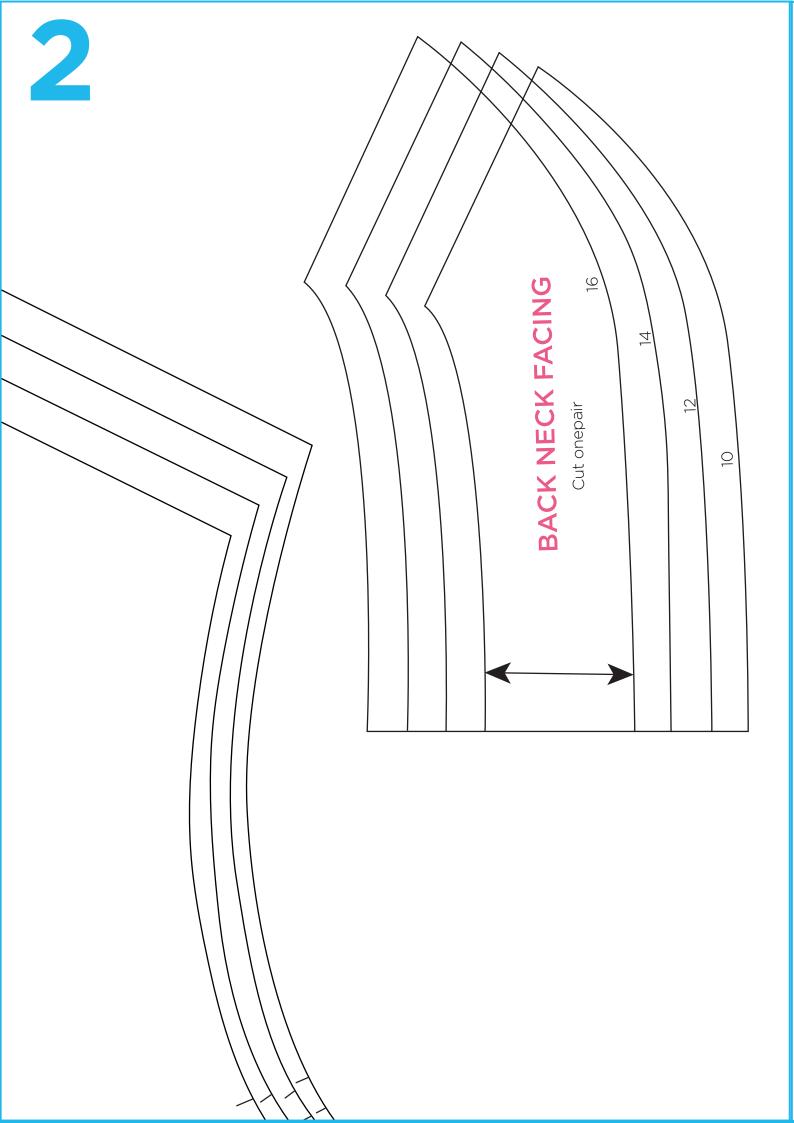
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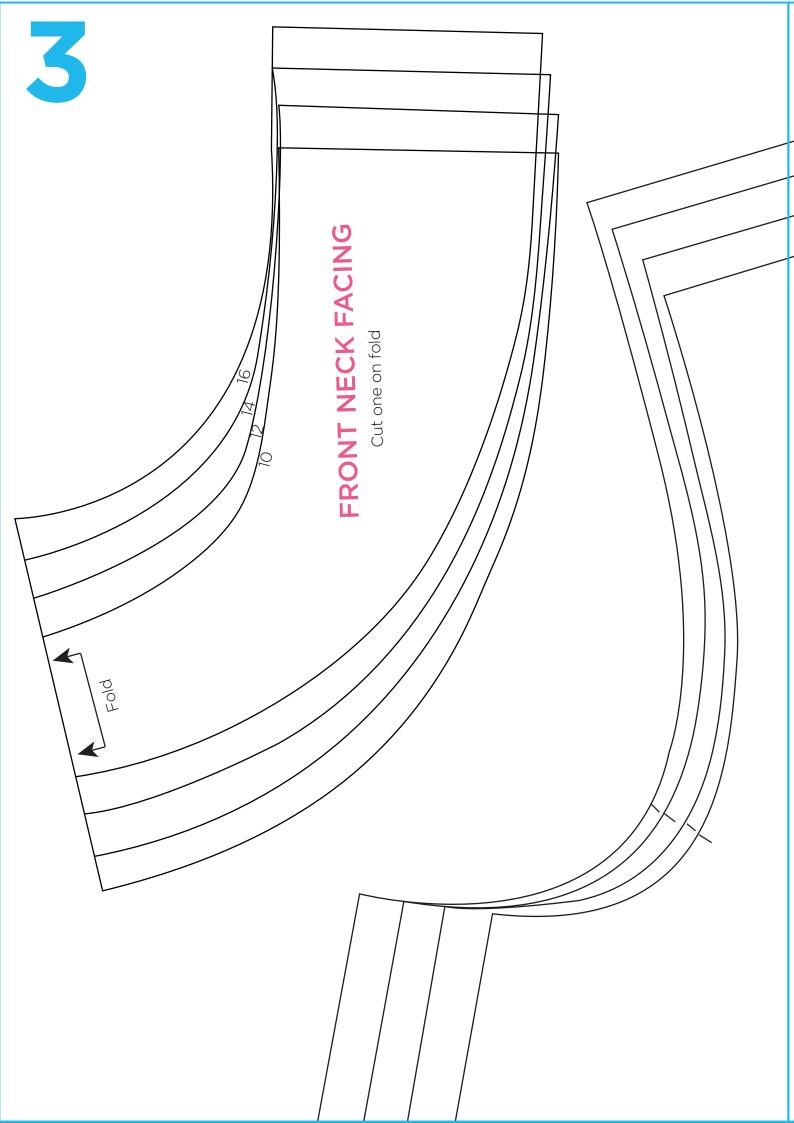
Designer: Julia Claridge Magazine page: 26 Total 22 pages to print

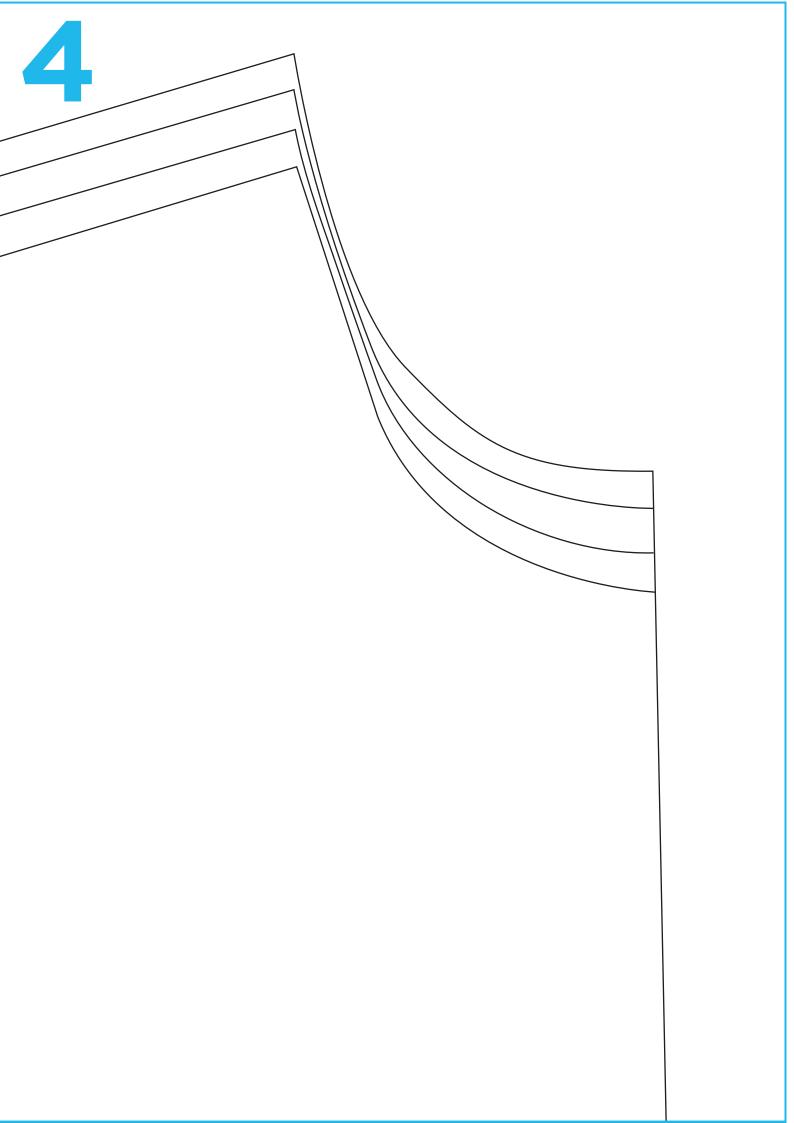


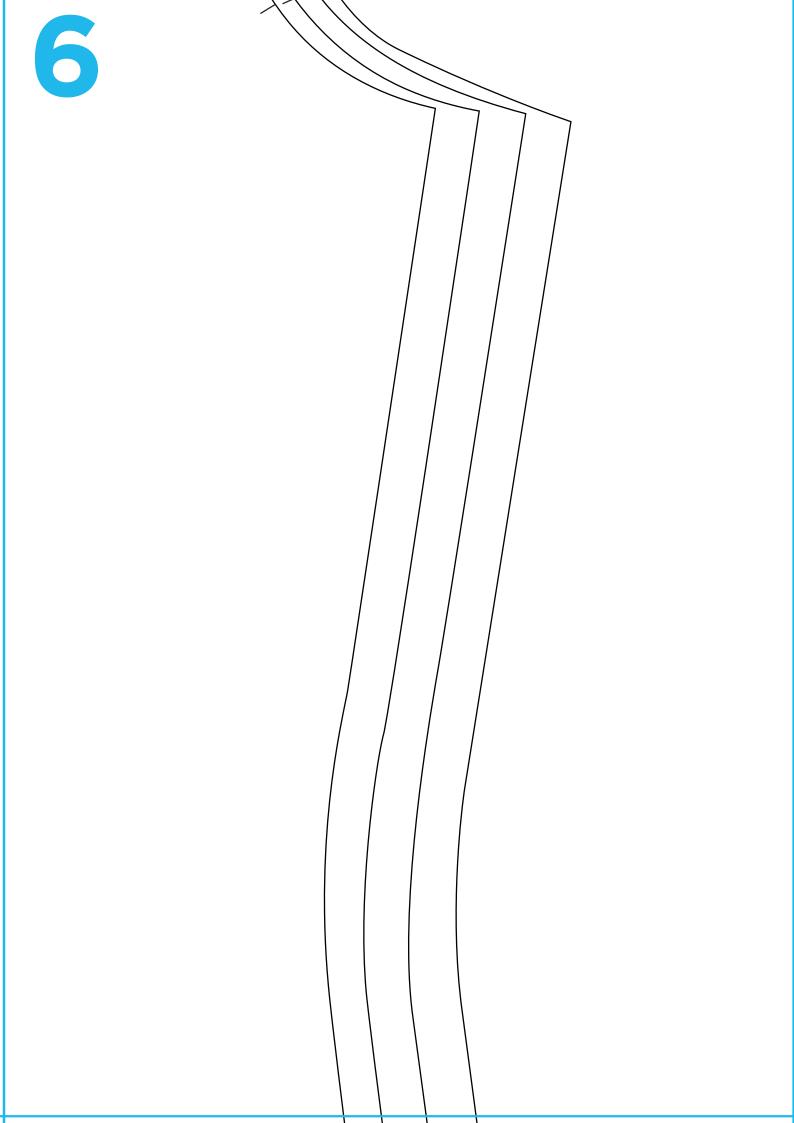


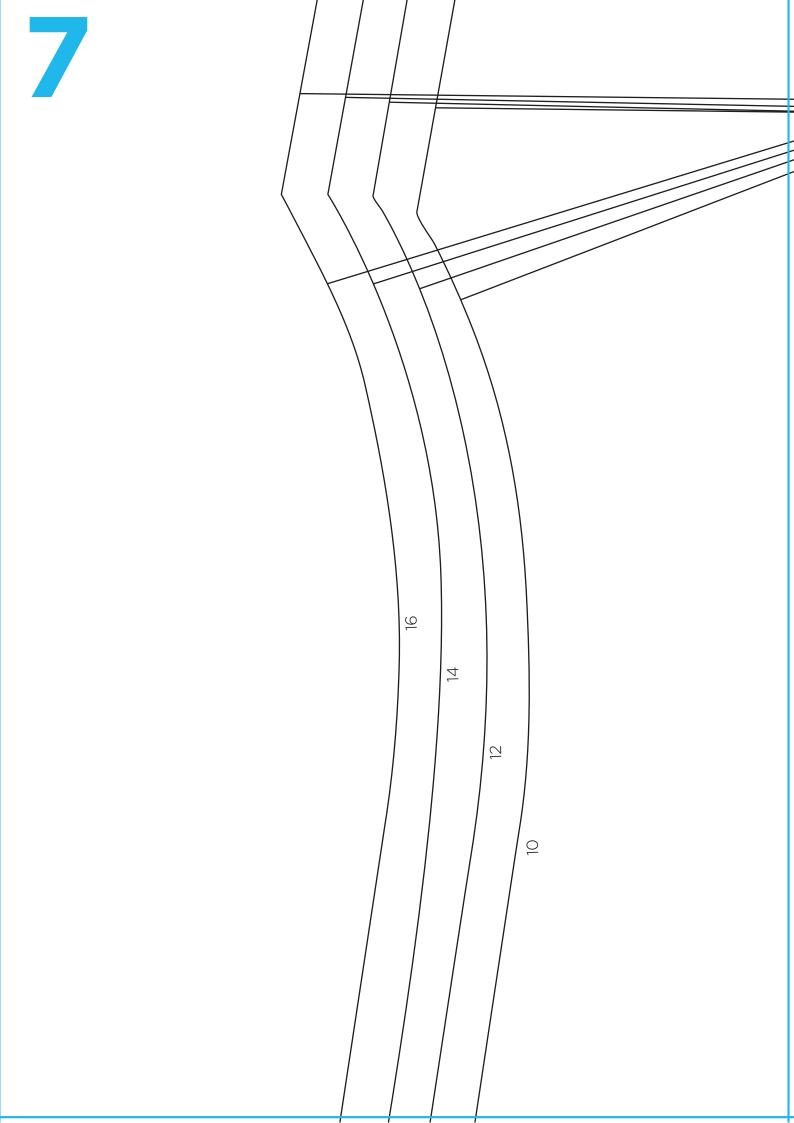
Measurements in inches								
UK SIZE	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22
US SIZE	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18
EUROPEAN	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	50
BUST	33	341/2	36	373/4	391/2	41	431/4	453/4
WAIST	263/4	281/4	30	311/2	33	341/2	37	391/2
HIPS	361/4	373/4	391/2	41	421/2	44	46	48

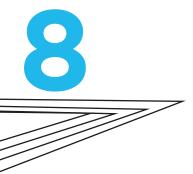






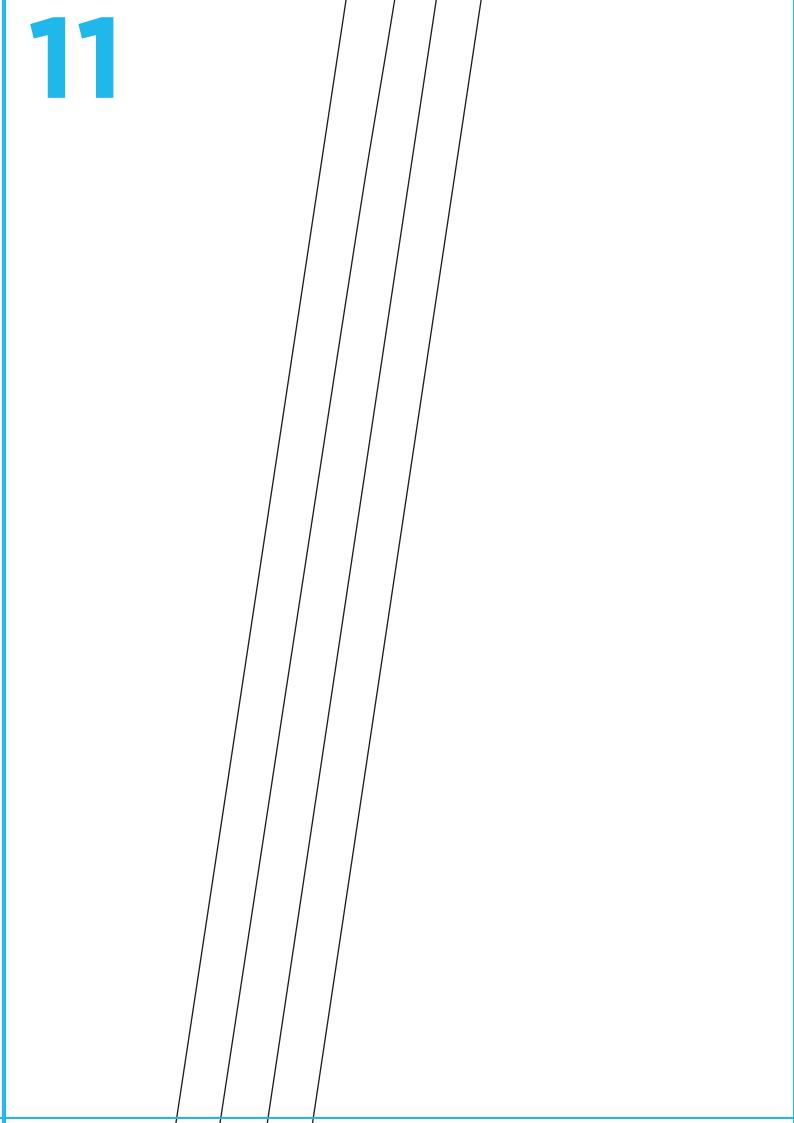




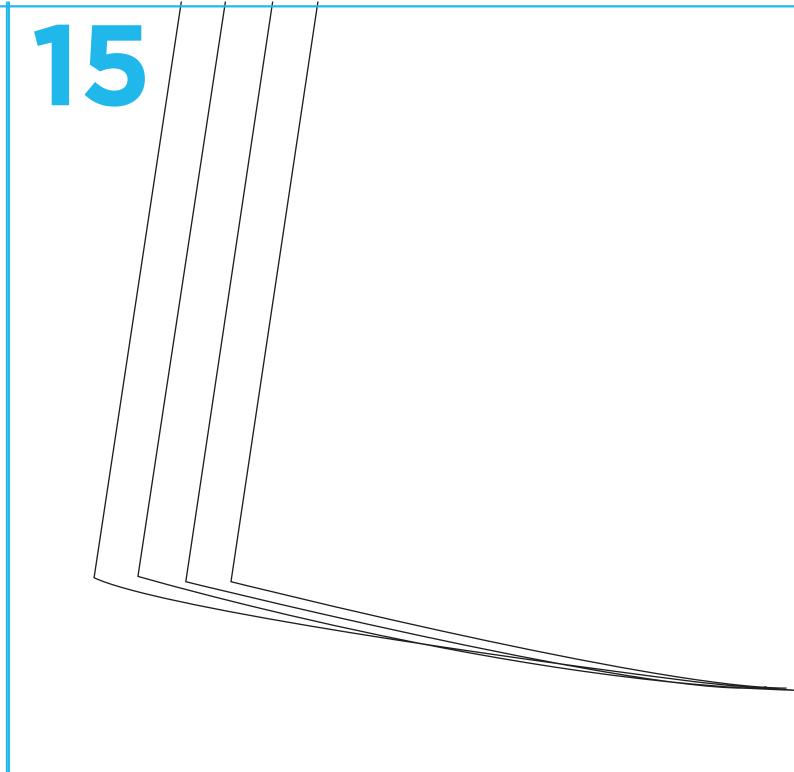


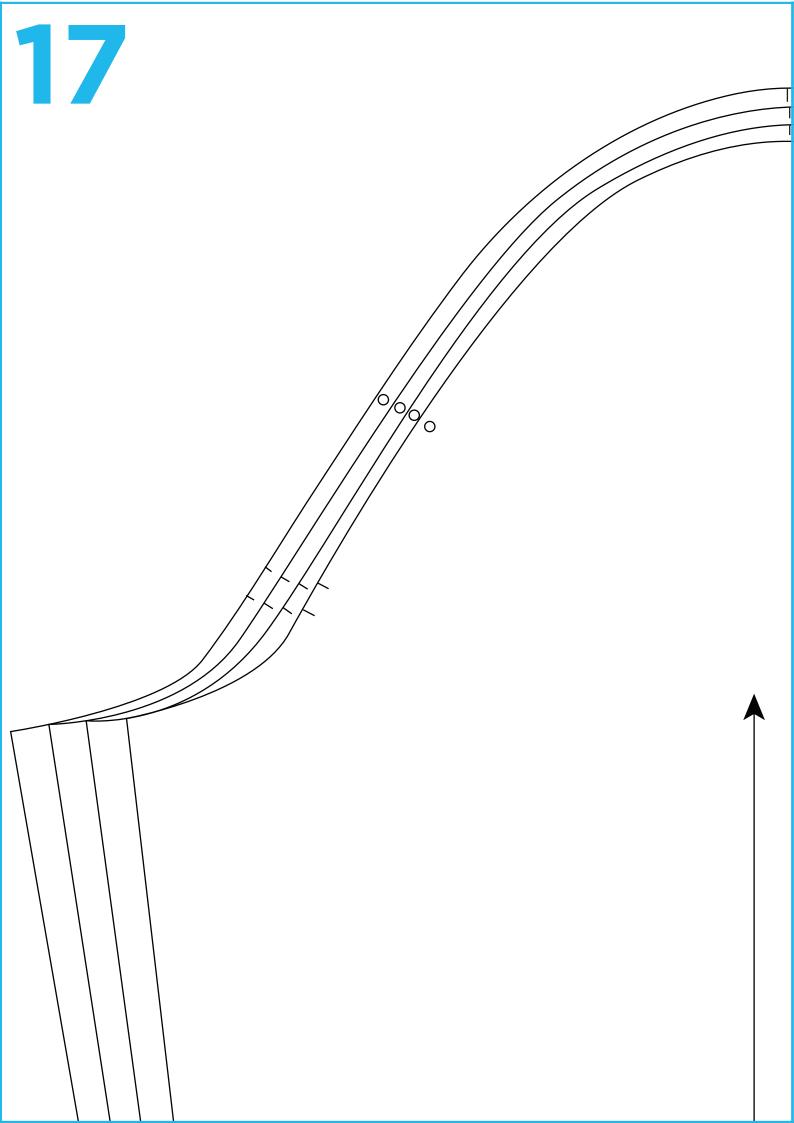
# **FRONT**Cut one on fold











O) O SLEEVE Cut one pair

