GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Please read the following general instructions before starting your project.

How to choose the correct size

Adults’ sizes are chosen either according to the bust/hip measurement (e.g. blouses, jackets, coats) or the hip measurement (pants, skirts). Take the measurements on top of thin underwear and compare them with the size chart. You will find detailed instructions for taking measurements on the next page.

How to find the pattern pieces on the pattern sheet

An overview of numbered, small-scale pattern pieces and a list of pattern pieces can be found next to the sewing instructions for each design. The appropriate pattern sheet is stated. On the bottom edge of the pattern sheet, find the number with the correct color for the desired pattern piece and move your finger upward on the sheet until you locate the same number.

Trace the pattern on tissue paper, including all the necessary markings (e.g. grainlines, notches, pocket placements) of the design. Copy these on the pattern pieces of your choice in the corresponding pieces, measuring the distance from the pattern edge. Large pattern pieces are printed on the pattern sheet in two parts. Combine parts A and B before cutting out the pattern.

Cutting

Lay out the pattern pieces on a double layer of fabric observing the grainlines and foldlines. Draw the seam allowances using a regular straight stitch. If you only need to cut out one piece, observe the pattern markings and cut either on a fold (back, collar) or from a single layer of fabric (e.g. pocket). The instructions for garment pieces listed under the heading “Cut also these pieces” (e.g. belt loops, belts) already include seam allowances.

When cutting out the garment, include allowances for fitting adjustments if necessary. Each design includes specific and detailed cutting instructions.

Garment sections to be interfaced are shaded in gray in the overview of small-scale pattern pieces. Knitted and woven interfacing is cut on the grain, while non-woven interfacing may be cut in any direction as they do not have a grain. Interfacing pieces are generally cut adding the same amount of seam allowances (approx. 1 cm) as on pieces cut from the fashion fabric. A small seam allowance may be used on interfacing for heavy-weight fabrics.

TAKING THE MEASUREMENTS

It is hard to take your own measurements and therefore you need a friend to assist you. It is advisable to take the measurements in front of a mirror so that you can also see the position of the tape measure at the back. You will need a tape measure, a pencil and paper. You can print a measuring chart with the measurements in centimeters and inches at www.ottobredesign.com. You will also need two fixed tapes, one round the waist and the other round the neck. Tape the two edges together with a 4 cm wide strip of cotton fabric by folding and pressing it in three and by cutting it into required lengths.

Place the waistline tape exactly horizontally round your waist and secure it firmly with a safety pin. Place the other tape round your neck so that you can easily slide your fingers evenly over the required measurement with the arm slightly to the side. The measurements are taken on top of underwear (garters and a tight waistband or camisole or bra) close to the body yet not too tight.

Height

Stand up with your back and heels against a wall and let your assistant make a mark on the wall at the top of your head, using a straight angle (e.g. a hook). Your height is the distance measured from the floor to the mark.

Bust

Measure horizontally round the body with tape measure running under the arms across the full bustline and across the shoulder blades.

Waist

Measure round the waist without the fixed waistline tape.

Hip

Measure around the hip, with or without underwear, from the base of the waist to the base of the hip. The measurements are taken on the body.

Belt loop

Measure from the point of the shoulder to the waist, with the tape measure running over the elbow.

The measurements in the size chart are taken on the body. The pattern pieces include the necessary allowances for ease of movement. The patterns in the magazine have been designed for a person with a height of 164-172 cm. If you are considerably shorter or taller, make the necessary alterations to the patterns before cutting out the garment pieces. Points to be checked are the center back length and the waist length. The measurements have been written on the back of the pattern pieces. For further alterations, consult an expert or the magazine editors. The instructions do not specifically mention these pieces (e.g. belt loops, belts) or from a single layer of fabric (e.g. pocket). The instructions for garment pieces listed under the heading “Cut also these pieces” (e.g. belt loops, belts) already include seam allowances.

When cutting out the garment, include allowances for fitting adjustments if necessary. Each design includes specific and detailed cutting instructions.

Garment sections to be interfaced are shaded in gray in the overview of small-scale pattern pieces. Knitted and woven interfacing is cut on the grain, while non-woven interfacing may be cut in any direction as they do not have a grain. Interfacing pieces are generally cut adding the same amount of seam allowances (approx. 1 cm) as on pieces cut from the fashion fabric. A small seam allowance may be used on interfacing for heavy-weight fabrics.

The tape will thus be set at the base of your neck.

For taking the measurements, you should stand upright with a relaxed posture and arms hanging free at the sides. The measurements are taken on top of underwear (garters and a light weight camisole or a bra) close to the body yet not too tight.

Height

Stand up with your back and heels against a wall and let your assistant make a mark on the wall at the top of your head, using a straight angle (e.g. a hook). Your height is the distance measured from the floor to the mark.

Bust

Measure horizontally round the body with tape measure running under the arms across the full bustline and across the shoulder blades.

Waist

Measure round the waist without the fixed waistline tape.

Hip

Measure around the hip, with or without underwear, from the base of the waist to the base of the hip. The measurements are taken on the body.

Belt loop

Measure from the point of the shoulder to the waist, with the tape measure running over the elbow.