SHIRT COLLAR

CUTTING
Cut collar pieces from fabric as indicated on list of pattern pieces. Cut upper collar with 10 mm and under collar with 7 mm seam allowances. However, stitch the collar with 10 mm seam allowances, stretching the under collar slightly to make the collar sit nicely at the neckline.

Mark center-back points at outer edges and neckline edges of collar pieces and also mark shoulder points at neckline edges of collar pieces by cutting 3 mm deep clips into seam allowances.

STABILIZING
Fuse interfacing to upper collar and to front facings on garment’s front panels (see areas shaded in grey on small-scale patterns). Fold front facings to wrong side of front panels as marked on pattern and press creases.

SEWING
1. Pin collar pieces right sides together and stitch their ends and outer edges together. Trim across corners. Trim seam allowances at outer edge and ends of collar slightly. Press seams open.

2. Turn collar right side out. Check that corners of collar look neat. Press collar flat gently. Topstitch outer edge and ends of collar either close to edge or using presser-foot edge as guide, depending on the sewing instructions for the garment in question.
3. Pin under collar to garment’s neckline right sides together, matching center-back and shoulder points and aligning ends of collar with clips at front neckline.

Stitch under collar to neckline, starting and ending stitching as close to ends of collar as you can reach.

4. Clip neckline seam allowances along curves. Trim neckline seam allowances of both garment and under collar slightly.

5. Pin neckline edge of upper collar to neckline at each end of collar. Fold and pin front facings to right side of front panels, sandwiching collar in between, and stitch neckline edges of facings and garment together.

6. Clip through neckline seam allowances of both collar and garment at outer edge of each front facing. Turn front neckline corners right side out.

7. Turn neckline seam allowances of under collar and garment inside collar.

Turn neckline seam allowance of upper collar to wrong side, pin turned-under edge to neckline seam and stitch in place close to edge.

(If you add a hanging loop to neckline, pin its ends to neckline seamline, to either side of center-back mark, before stitching upper collar in place.)

8. Stitch short vertical rows of straight-stitching at neckline along outer edges of front facings in order to anchor neckline seam allowances of collar in position between garment and facings. These rows of stitching will be hidden under collar on the right side of finished garment.