

Adjusting the Upper Torso (aka Bodice) Sloper for Ease

by Don McCunn

When you are fitting slopers you may end up changing the ease that was originally drafted into the side seam. One of the final steps in creating an accurate sloper is to verify that the correct ease is still in the sloper patterns.

The class videos show the process. The first step, to position the Side Seam is on the video “Adjust the Curved Seams.” The other two steps are described on the video “Adjust for Ease.” The instructions below repeat these steps. You may print these pages and keep them close to the patterns as you work with them.

1. Position the top of the Side Seam at the middle of the armscye seam.
2. Adjust the patterns for the ease at the bust/chest.
3. Adjust the angle of the Side Seam to allow ease at the waist.

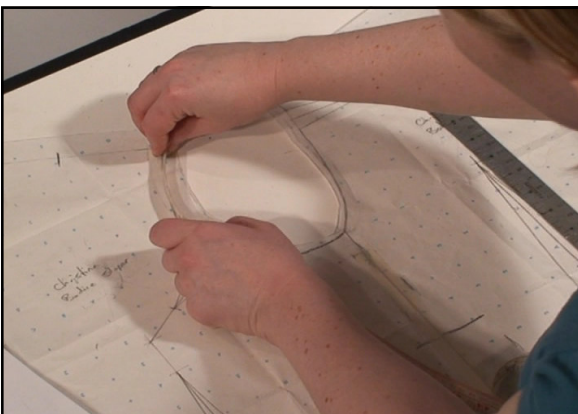
Step I. Position the Side Seam



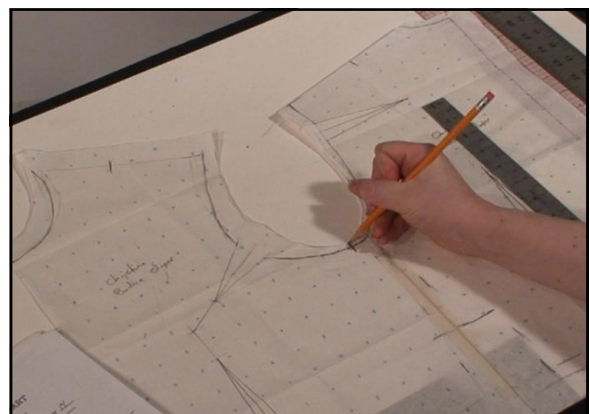
1. Where the armscye meets the side seam on the front pattern, draw a line straight down to the waist. This line should be parallel to the Center Front line.



2. Where the armscye meets the side seam on the back pattern, draw a line straight down to the waist. This line should be parallel to the Center Back line.



3. Measure around the armscye from the front shoulder seam to the back shoulder seam. Skip over the dart widths. This is the length of the armscye seam.



4. Divide the length of the armscye seam in half.
5. Measure down the armscye from one shoulder seam, skipping the dart, and mark off one-half the length of the armscye seam.

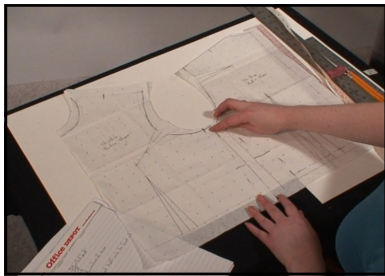
This is the new location for the side seam that is used to adjust for ease.

Adjusting the Upper Torso (aka Bodice) Sloper for Ease, cont'd

Step II. Adjust for Ease at the Bust/Chest

Enter Bust (#6) or Chest (#4) Measurement : (a) _____
Divide by 2: (b) _____
Add 2" (5cm) Ease: (c) _____
Adjust the patterns so the distance between Center Front and Center Back equals the measurement in (c).

1. Use the chart above to determine half the Bust Measurement for women (#6) or half the Chest measurement for men (#4). This is the distance from the Center Front to the Center Back lines.



2. Separate the patterns to match the desired distance from Center Front to Center Back, (c) in the chart. Keep the Center Front and Center Back line parallel to each other.
3. Divide the distance between the original side seams in half for the location of the adjusted side seam. You can verify this is half way around the armscye seam by retaking that measurement.
4. Draw in the position of the adjusted side seam.

Adjusting the Upper Torso (aka Bodice) Sloper for Ease, cont'd

Step III. Adjust for Ease at the Waist



Center Front to Center Back at Waist on the pattern : (A) _____

Enter Waist Measurement (#11): (a) _____

Divide by 2: (b) _____

Add 1" (2.5cm) Ease: (c) _____ (B) _____

Subtract A minus B = : (C) _____

Divide C by 2: (D) _____

1. At the Waist measure from Center Front to Center Back skipping over the darts.

2. Record in the chart above as (A).

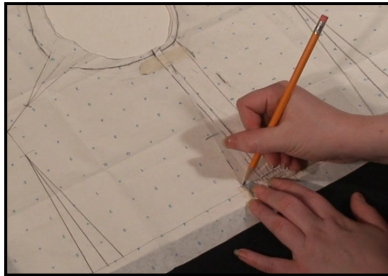
3. Enter the Waist measurement (#11) from the measurement chart.

4. Divide the Waist measurement by two (b), then add 1" (2.5cm) of ease.

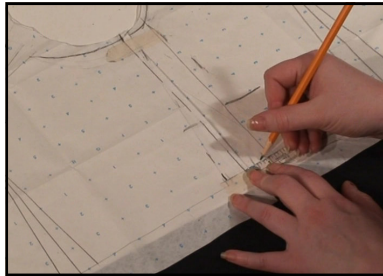
5. Copy the distance from (c) to (B).

6. Subtract (B) from (A) and record as (C).

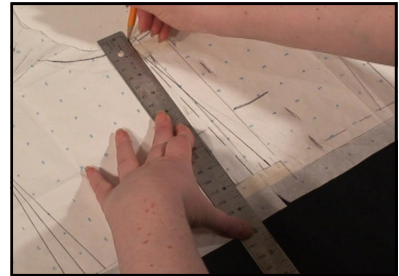
7. Divide (C) by 2 and record as (D).



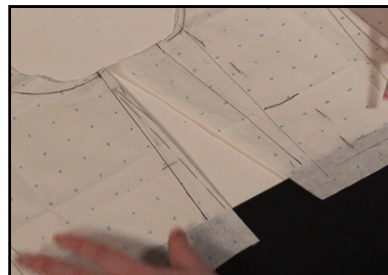
8. On the waist measure out from the side seam line the distance (D) and make a mark on the front pattern.



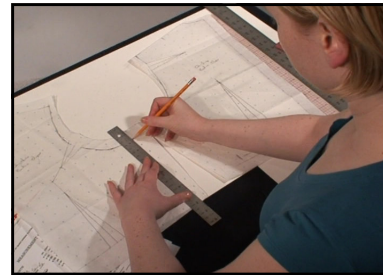
9. On the waist measure out from the side seam line the distance (D) and make a mark on the back pattern.



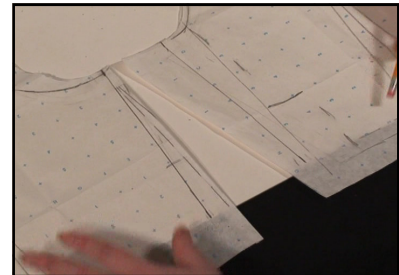
10. Draw in the new Side Seam lines.



11. The front pattern is laying on top of the back pattern. Without moving the two patterns lift the back pattern and place it on top of the front pattern.



12. Draw in the Side Seam on the back pattern/



This completes the adjustment of the side seam for ease.