

Sewing

IRON interfacing in place

Iron the Vilene Bias Tape/stay tape to wrong side of armhole edges, back neck edge, and front shoulder edges so that the chain stitch is 1.5 cm (5/8") away from the edge of the fabric. Iron Vilene Bias Tape/stay tape to wrong side of front neck edges so that the chain stitch is 2 cm (3/4") from fabric edge. Iron at the silk setting for approx. 8 seconds.

Front neck edges:

Press the 2 cm (3/4") wide seam allowances on front neck edges to wrong side. Turn edges of allowances under, to 1 cm (3/8") wide, and pin in place. Edgestitch allowances in place. Press front neck edges.

Gather front pieces:

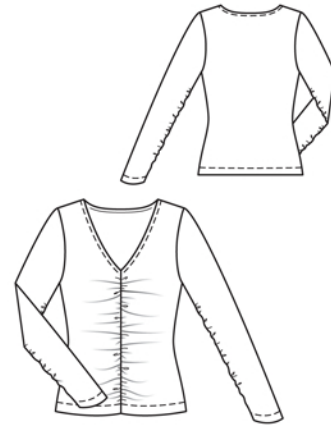
Finish edges of allowances on centre front seam edges. Stitch 2 closely spaced lines of machine basting (longest stitch setting) between each pair of seam marks (step 4), spacing machine basting 1 and 2 cm (3/8" and 3/4") from fabric edge. Hold bobbin threads and gather fabric along threads until distance between upper seam marks is 15 cm (6") and between lower seam marks, 22 cm (8 3/4"). Knot gathering threads.

Centre front seam:

Lay front pieces together, right sides facing. Pin centre front seam, distributing gathering evenly. Lay backing strip over gathering, spacing strip 5 mm (3/16") from fabric edge and 1 cm (3/8") from upper edge. Trim lower end of strip 4 cm (1 5/8") above lower fabric edge. Stitch centre seam, stitching 1.5 cm (5/8") from fabric edge. Press seam open. Sew seam allowances to neck edge by hand.

Shoulder seams:

Lay front piece on back piece, right sides facing. Pin shoulder seams. At neck edge, the back piece extends 1.5 cm (5/8") past edges of front piece. Stitch shoulder seams, stitching 1.5 cm (5/8") from fabric edge. Tie-off beginning and end of each seam with backstitching. Press seams open. Finish edges of seam allowances.



Back neck edge:

Fold facing strip (a) in half lengthwise, wrong side facing in. Press strip. Pin strip to right side of neck edge so that open edges of strip lie 5 mm (3/16") from fabric edge. Stitch 1 cm (3/8") from neck edge, thereby catching the strip. Trim seam allowances. Turn strip up and turn ends to wrong side. Turn strip to inside. Press neck edge then topstitch 7 mm (1/4") from neck edge.

Side seams:

Lay front piece on back piece, right sides facing. Pin side seams. Stitch side seams, stitching 1.5 cm (5/8") from fabric edge. Press seams open and finish edges of seam allowances.

Sleeves:

Finish side edges of sleeve piece. Gather each edge between seam marks, to 36 cm (14 1/4"), as described for front. Fold each sleeve lengthwise, right side facing in. Pin sleeve seam. Lay backing strip over gathering, 5 mm (3/16") from fabric edge. Stitch sleeve seam 1.5 cm (5/8") from fabric edge and angle stitching to fabric edge, beginning at marked hem allowance. Press seam open.

Attach sleeves:

First pin each sleeve to lower area of armhole edge, right sides facing. Sleeve seam and side seam must match. Sleeve attachment marks (clips, seam number 4, see step 4) must match. Pin the clip on the sleeve cap to the shoulder seam. Now pin the remaining sleeve cap to the edge of the armhole.

Stitch sleeves in place:

Work from the sleeve side to stitch sleeve to edge of armhole, stitching 1.5 cm (5/8") from fabric edge. Trim seam allowances to 1 cm (3/8") wide and finish edges of allowances together. Then lay allowances toward sleeve, in area of the sleeve cap.

Hem, sleeve hems:

Press hem allowances on T-shirt and sleeves to wrong side. Work from the right side of the fabric and use the twin machine needle to topstitch 3 cm (1 1/4") from the lower edge of T-shirt and sleeves, thereby catching the hems.