

Lengthen a pattern

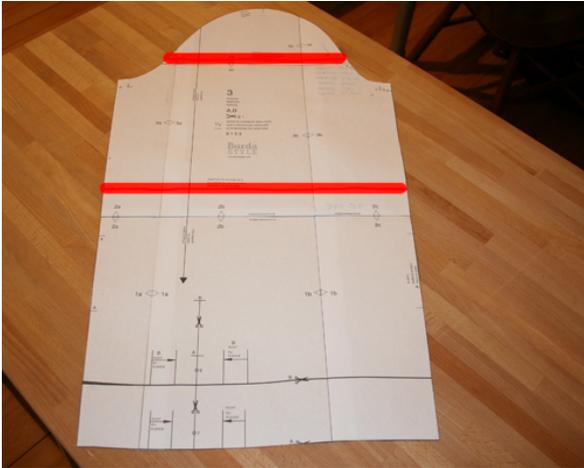
By: BurdaStyle

<http://www.burdastyle.com/techniques/lengthen-a-pattern>



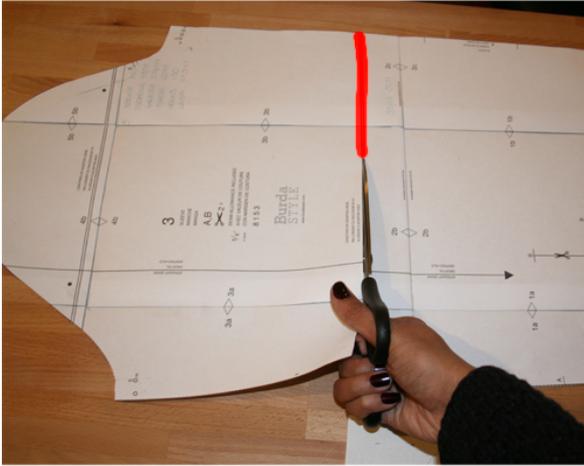
Ever find yourself needing to lengthen a pattern? I've got especially long arms, and always find myself needing to lengthen the sleeve pattern, so I'm demonstrating this!

Step 1



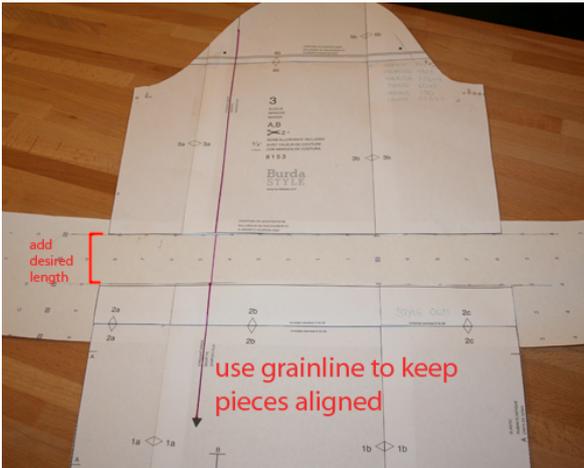
First, take note of the lines on the pattern that say "LENGTHEN OR SHORTEN PATTERN HERE". These are horizontal lines that correspond to other pattern pieces, so, for example, if you need to add length to the sleeve cap (the top red line), you will also need to lower the armhole on the bodice pieces, and therefore lengthen that piece as well.

Step 2



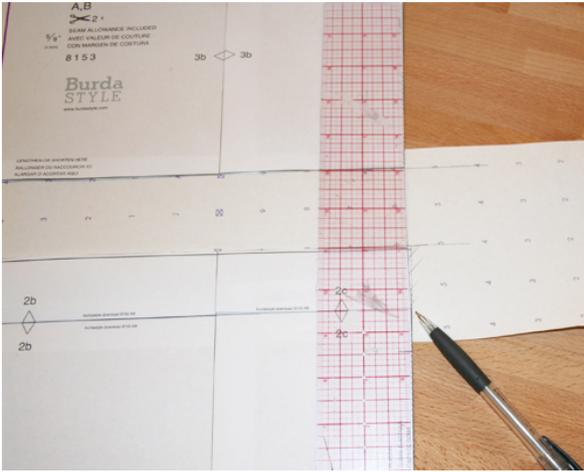
Cut along the line.

Step 3



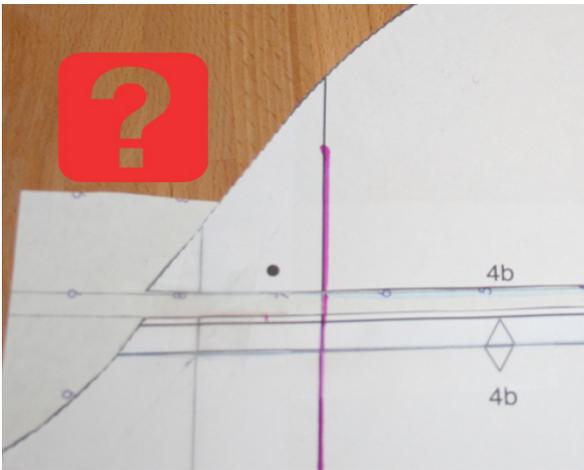
Draw a line on your plain paper and lay the top part of your pattern on it. Then measure the distance you want to add to the piece, and draw another line. Use the Grainline or another vertical line on the pattern to make sure you are laying the bottom piece in line with the top piece. Tape the pieces in place.

Step 4



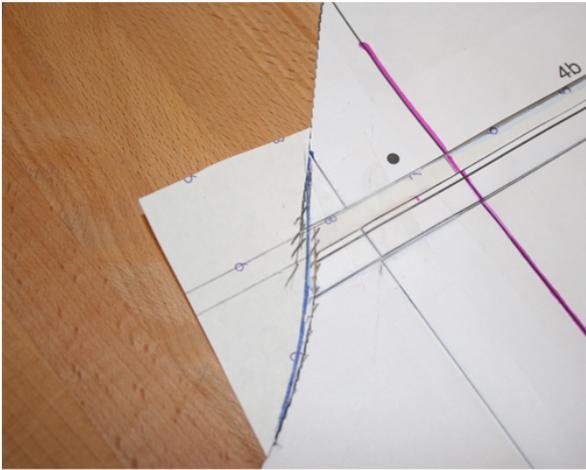
Now, you need to connect to make the new pattern piece. You will notice that there might not be a straight line to connect. Here you should basically take the middle of both and blend to make a new line. Draw tick marks through the old lines so you don't get confused when you cut out the pattern.

Step 5



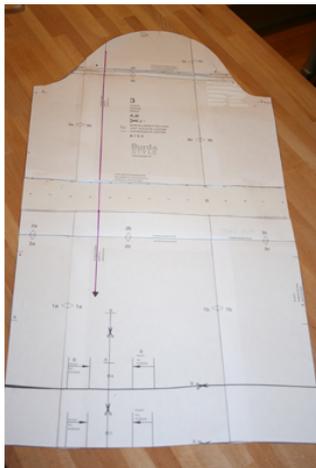
What happens when you do this on the top line, splitting up a curved pattern piece!?

Step 6



Using a french curve, you basically split the difference and make a new curve that looks good and smooth. My new curve is above in blue. Make sure to put the tick marks on the old lines!

Step 7



Final, new, longer sleeve pattern! This can be used on any pattern, just find the lengthening lines!

BurdaStyle

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