

HOW TO SHORTEN PANTS WITHOUT CUTTING

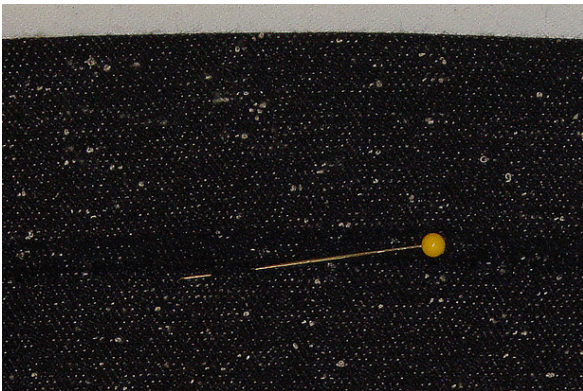
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<http://www.burdastyle.com/techniques/how-to-shorten-pants-without-cutting>



My size is between average and tall so I chose the tall size in pants. It takes me 5 minutes to shorten them. The longer the hem fold, easier to shorten the pants.

Step 1



Buy the pants with at least one inch of hem. It is easier to shorten the length of a pants with wider folded hem. The pin in the photo is at the bottom edge of hem.

Step 2



Look at my long (Before) pants.

Step 3



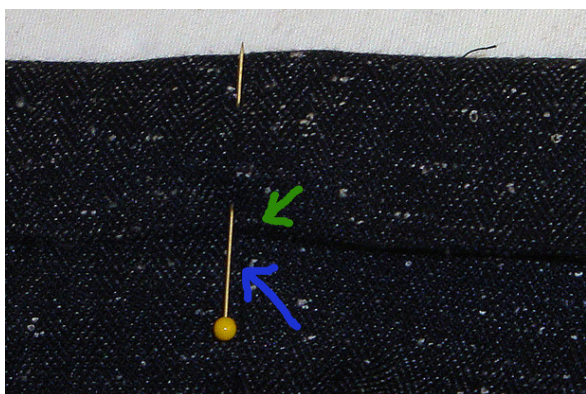
Another "Before" view.

Step 4



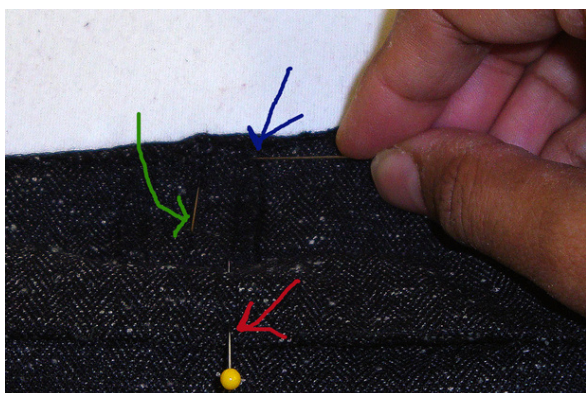
Fold the pants to the point that the hem does not show on the right side. Then match the side seam and pin close to the seams. Not on the seam so that you do not have to remove the pins while sewing in the ditch (Step 8).

Step 5



Match the creases and pin close to the creases.

Step 6



Pin right above the hem thread on the right side of the pant legs.
 The Blue arrow is pointing toward the original hem thread on the wrong side of the pant leg. The new fold is just above it.
 The green arrow (on the wrong side of the pant leg) is showing the part of the pin holding the two seams.
 The red arrow is on the right side holding the matching the two seams; of the cuff and the pant leg.

Step 7



Lightly iron the inside of the pants leg. Just enough to make a slight crease.
Blue arrow is pointing towards the pin just over the hem thread when pinned on the right side of the leg.
 Green cross is the wrong side of the pant leg. Orange cross is the right side of the pant leg.
The horizontal pin is just above the original hem thread.
 Iron lightly so that the pin marks are not left behind on the fabric.

Step 8



Get ready to stitch in the ditch at the side seams.

Sew on the right side. Start from the bottom of the leg with a stay stitch. Straight stitch all the way to the end of the fold and end with a stay stitch. Red arrow is pointing the stitch which is not visible because of stitching in the ditch. Blue arrow is showing the new cuff or pocket made by stitching.

Step 9



Sew on the right side of the pants.

On the creases just stay stitch a few stitches almost at the top, matching the crease of the fold and the pants leg. Always start and end with very narrow stitches or stay stitches. Or you can start from that black point inside the circle with the narrow/stay stitching and finish sewing a couple of stitches above the end of the cuff or the upper fold. Do not sew the whole crease from bottom to the top.

Step 10



Take out all the pins and iron the wrong side of the fold with firm pressure. Use steam if you can.

Step 11



Then iron the right side of the pants. Use steam and iron with firm pressure. Use a press cloth if needed.

Step 12



It takes about 5 minutes. Believe me it took much longer to write this how to. Making cuffed pants is much quicker than trimming and sewing the hems again.
