

Trace a pattern easily without cutting it

By: fitzfabulous

<http://www.burdastyle.com/techniques/trace-a-pattern-easily-witho>



This is how I trace and cut pattern pieces without cutting into the pattern. It's good when you're not sure of a size, or you want to use the pattern for different people. OR when you have a vintage pattern you just don't want to cut. And it allows for curves, too. As demonstrated on my spring uniform seen at <http://fitzfabulous.wordpress.com/2010/03/04/how-to-trace-a-pattern-without-cutting-it/> and <http://www.burdastyle.com/projects/spring-uniform-cynthia-rowley-tunics>

Step 1 — Layout



Lay the fabric out. Separate the pattern pieces, lay each on the fabric, and weigh each piece down. Cans work. So do washers. ***If you're using an opaque paper pattern, place the pattern printed side down.

Step 2 — Tracing



Start folding back the pattern a little at a time. Make a dot where the pattern line meets the fabric. When you get to straight lines, mark the beginning and the end with a dot. You can connect them with a ruler later.

Step 3 — Curves



The more the pattern curves, the more dots you need to make. The straighter the lines, the fewer dots you need. Keep folding and dotting all the way around the piece. Don't forget to mark the notches, too.

Step 4 — Pin, cut



Once you can see the piece's outline, connect the straight edges with a ruler. Stick a couple pins in each piece, and cut with confidence. Put your undamaged pattern away for another day.

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