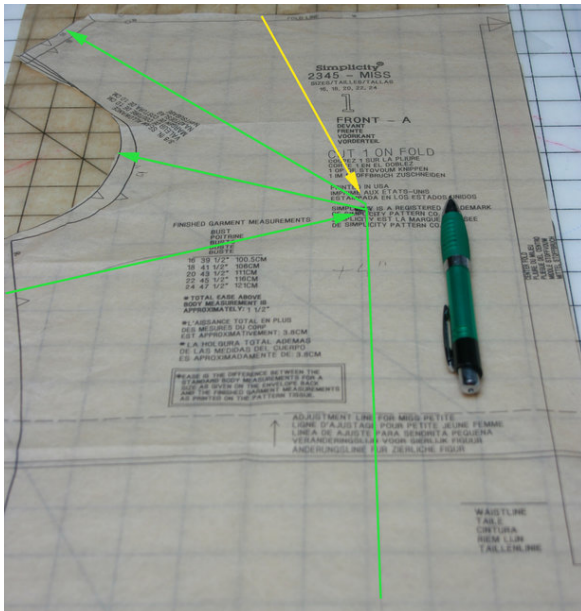


Rotating a FBA Dart on Cowl Necks

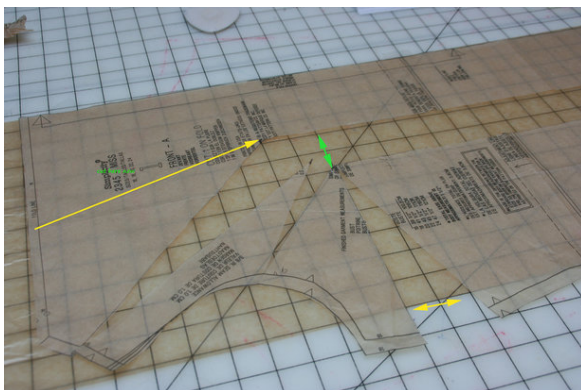
By: ladykatza

<http://www.burdastyle.com/techniques/rotating-a-fba-dart-on-cowl->



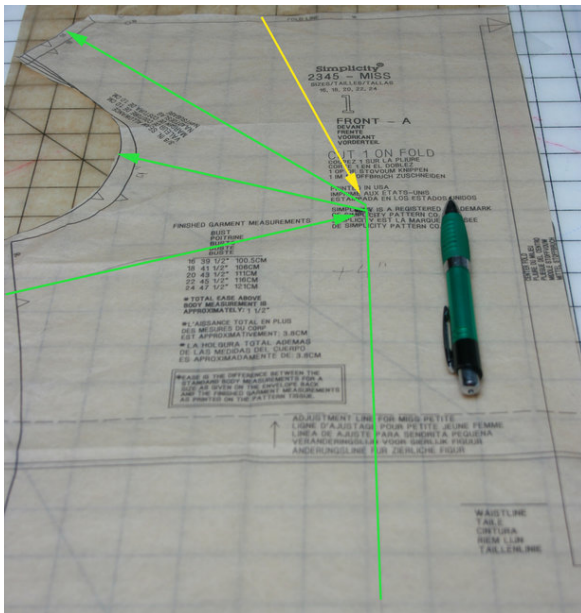
I was on a quest to figure out how to do an FBA (full bust adjustment) for cowl neck patterns. Having a great deal of difficulty finding one with photos, just a vague “hide a dart in the neckline”, I decided to document my own process. I do not claim this to be the right way, just one way.

Step 2 — Spread the pattern



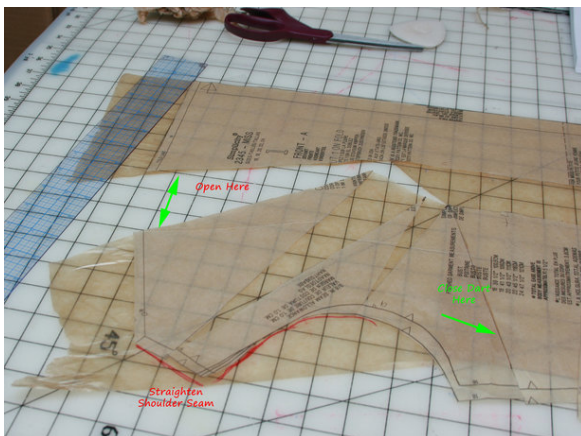
Ok, now we tape it to our wax paper, or whatever you have underneath. I use wax paper cause I always put tape in the wrong place. This is where we cut the yellow line, including the wax paper.

Step 1 — Mark Your Cutting Lines



Here I need to add 4 inches. If you are not aware, you only add half the total amount needed since this is cut on the fold. This pattern, the cowl tank from Simplicity 2345, has a self facing on the cowl. Its basically the front pattern flipped up and mirrored that you just fold over. It comes down below the bust and solves the problem of having to finish the front neck seam. Kinda awesome, actually. So, I cut the self facing off and started with a y-bust dart. So here you see the three lines for cutting the the darts, arrows in the directions you cut. The yellow one we don't cut yet, but you want to mark it now. Remember to cut to the seam allowance, then snip from the seam allowance in. That way you have a tiny hinge.

Step 3 — Rotate the Dart



Rotate the side dart closed and the dart in the neckline opens. So, I kinda wasn't thinking in this spot here. I should have had some more wax paper underneath to tape and stabilize. I ended up doing this afterwards and it was fine. You now want to straighten your shoulder seam. Your arm-scythe will have changed shape, but as long as the length hasn't changed you're still good. I think in most cases I would have rounded from the shoulder seam to the middle, giving me sort of an arch. Since I needed a straight line across in to re-draft the self-lining, I used the part that I had cut off as my starting point.

Step 4 — Re-Trace the Pattern



This is the part where you re-trace the newly altered pattern piece. That way you don't have to worry about the tape coming undone, or whatever. Since this one is a self-facing, this photo shows where I straightened the neckline using the original self facing as a reference. I then flipped it up and created the new self facing. I hope that was helpful! If you want more plus-size sewing you can find me at <http://peanutbuttermacrame.blogspot.com/>

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