

# Cut-out Shoulder DIY

By: burdastyle

<http://www.burdastyle.com/techniques/cut-out-shoulder-diy>

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Learn how to make a trendy shirt with cut-out shoulders! Here we show you how to draft and sew a variation on a classic button-up shirt. This cut-out detail can be applied to a number of different styles of shirt, try making one today.

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## Step 1 — Preparations

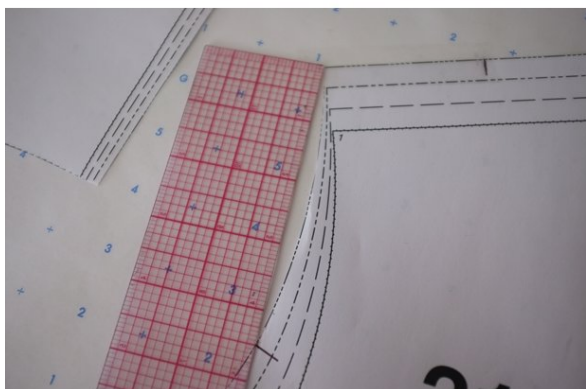
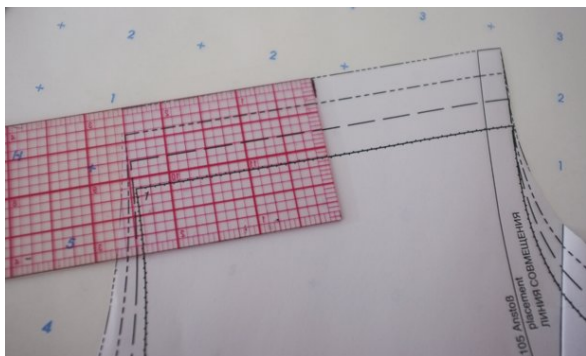


What you will need for this project: fashion fabric - fusible interfacing - iron - pattern paper - pen - clear grid ruler - French curve - pins - buttons - scissors - thread - hand sewing needle - tape - tracing paper - tracing

wheel. You will also need a BurdaStyle blouse/top pattern. For this project we used the Seersucker Blouse pattern ([http://www.burdastyle.com/pattern\\_store/patterns/seersucker-blouse-052012](http://www.burdastyle.com/pattern_store/patterns/seersucker-blouse-052012)), but any blouse or top pattern will do!

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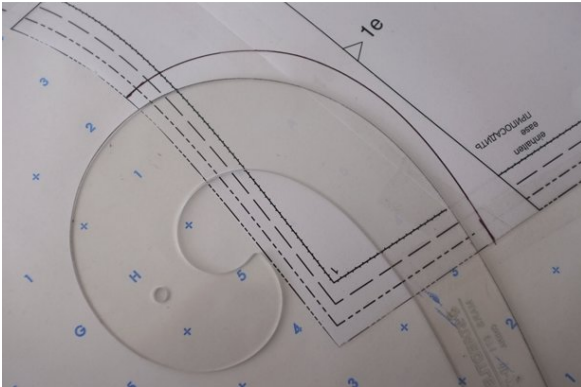
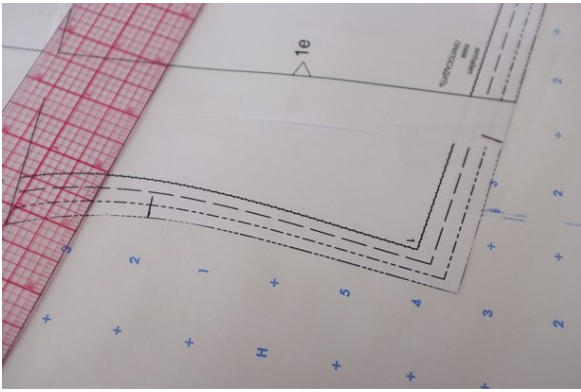
## Step 2 — Pattern



First you need to establish your size of top and separate the pattern pieces from the pattern sheet. You may either cut out the pattern pieces or trace them off following your size line. We decided to cut out our pieces and tape them to a large sheet of pattern paper. Once your pattern pieces are ready, measure along the shoulder line of front  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " , starting from outer shoulder point going towards neckline (refer to image one). Make a marking at this point. Now, measure down from the shoulder point along armhole  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " (refer to image two) Make a marking at this point.

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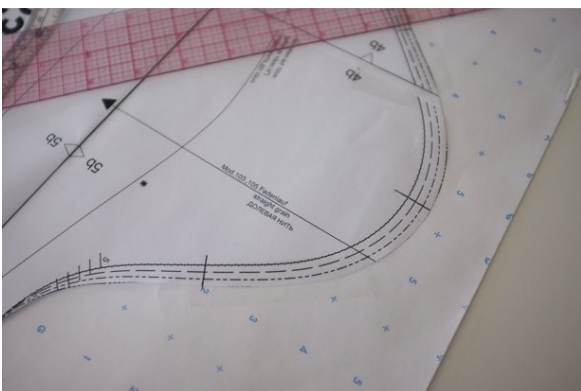
## Step 3 — Pattern continued...



Now that you have your two markings, connect them with your French curve curly side towards hem of top (refer to image two). Repeat on back shoulder using same measurements.

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## Step 4 — Sleeve Pattern

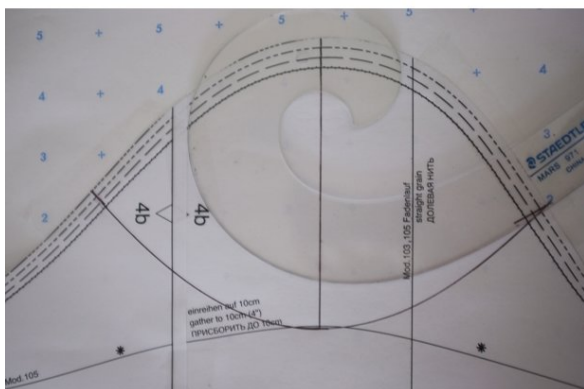
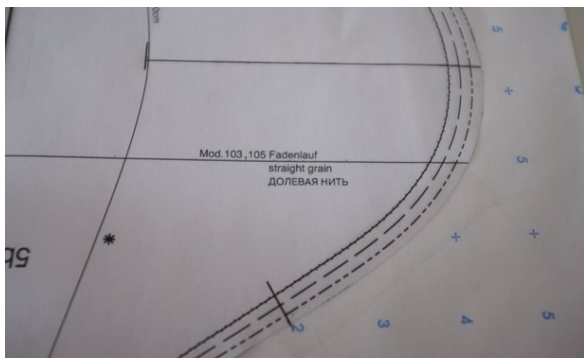


Step 3 — Pattern continued...

Locate the top notch on the sleeve pattern. From this point measure 4 1/2" on either side of the notch. Use a measuring tape to measure making sure you follow the curve (refer to image one). Make a marking at these points (refer to image two).

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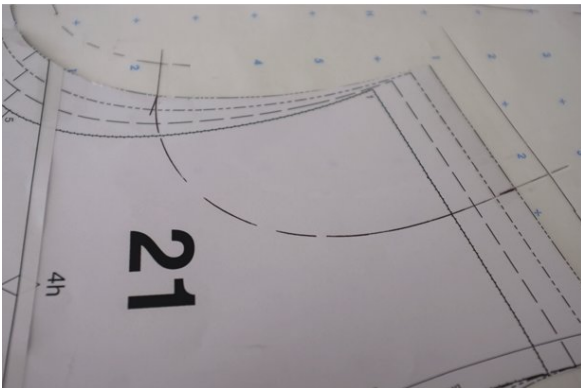
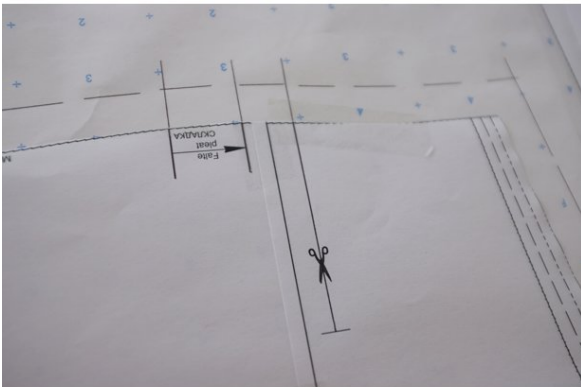
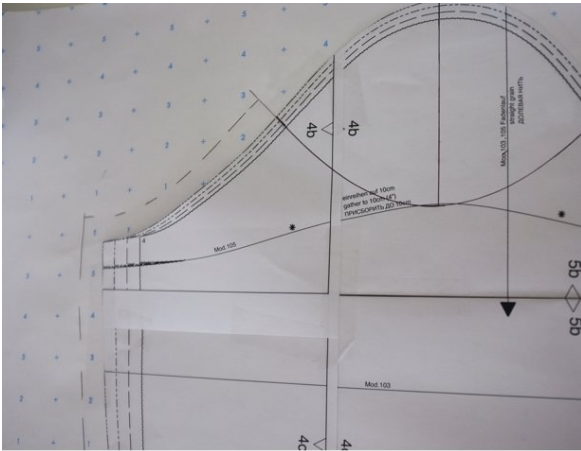
## Step 5 — Sleeve Pattern continued...



From the top notch on the sleeve pattern, square a line down that measures 4 1/2" long (refer to image one). Now, using your French curve connect these points with a smooth curve (refer to image two). For best results, flip your French curve to draw each side of the curve.

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## Step 6 — Seam Allowance



Add seam allowance to all your pattern pieces, make sure to follow your specific pattern seam and hem allowance measurements. DO NOT add seam allowance to the lines just created (top armhole and sleeve), since these edges will be finished using binding. Remember the lower half of the armhole gets seam allowance (refer to images above). You will also need to draft a bias strip that is long enough to cover the front shoulder opening, back shoulder opening, and top sleeve opening. Draft a rectangle that is 1 5/8" wide and the measurement of your opening plus 3". This piece will be cut 2x and on the bias.

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## Step 7 — Cutting Out



Cut out your pattern pieces along the seam allowance line and lay out on fabric. Refer to your specific pattern for cutting layout and directions. Pin pattern pieces or use fabric weights to secure pieces on fabric and use fabric scissors to cut fabric.

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## Step 8 — Interfacing and Pattern Markings



Transfer markings to WRONG side of fabric, using carbon paper and a tracing wheel. On our pattern we marked the bodice darts, cuff pleats, and slit opening (refer to images one and two). Cut interfacing and fuse to the WRONG side of fabric on collar and half of cuffs. Check your specific pattern directions for interfacing instructions.

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## Step 9 — Dart and Seams

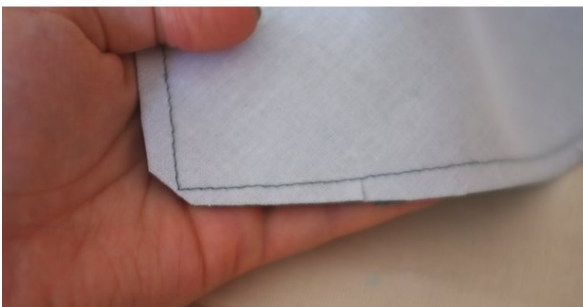
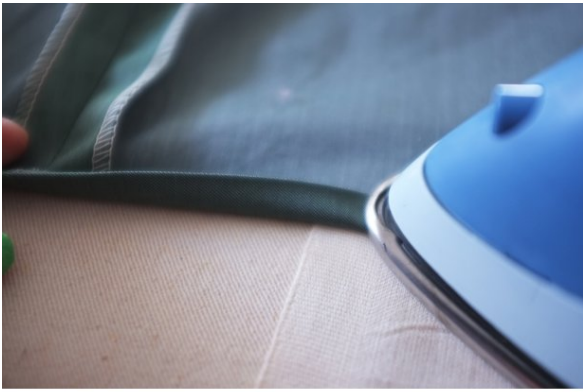


Stitch darts in bodice pieces of top. Fold dart along center line and stitch up dart legs beginning at edges and working towards dart tip. DON'T back stitch at dart tip (this will cause puckering) simply taper off leaving long thread tails and tie them together in knot. Press dart intake towards center front and center back (refer to images one and two). Finish edges of fabric along center back, shoulder, and side seams using a zig zag stitch or serging on an overlock machine. Stitch the center back, shoulder and side seams together along seamline and press seam allowances open (refer to images three and four).

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## Step 10 — Hem and Collar

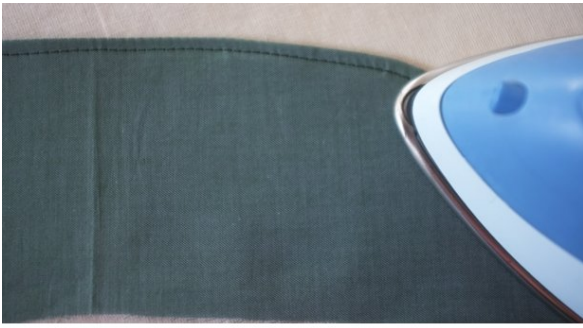




Refer to your specific hem allowance added. Press up half the hem allowance and turn it in again and press (refer to image one). Top stitch hem in place (refer to image two). Place the collar pieces right sides together and stitch the pieces together along the outer edges (refer to image three). Trim seam allowances and clip the corners (refer to image four).

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## Step 11 — Collar and Buttonholes



Flip the collar to the right sides and top stitch around the edges and press (refer to image one). Pin the lower unfinished edge of the collar to the neckline of the top. Since we are sewing a top with a hidden button placket we stitched the collar in place using notch guidelines on the pattern (refer to image two). Press in the front self facing along foldline indicated on pattern (refer to image three) and work button holes in the right front facing (refer to image four).

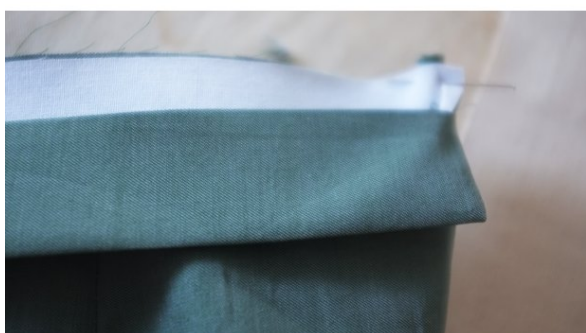
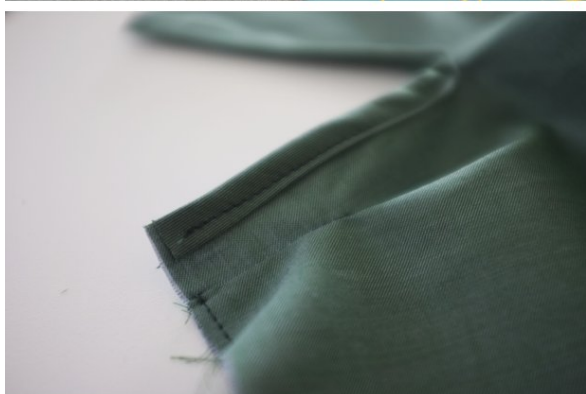
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## Step 12 — Hidden Button Placket and Neckline Edge



On the center front, fold folded facings to outside and pin to neck edge. This sandwiches the collar between the self facings/placket and the bodice front (refer to image one). Stitch across the folded facings at neckline to keep in place. Now you need to prepare the bias to finish off the neck edge. Fold the bias strip in half lengthwise and fold each edge towards the center fold (refer to image two). Pin the prepared bias to the unfinished neck edge, starting at each end of the self facings/placket. The center fold of the bias strip should line up with the neck edge (refer to image three). Top stitch the bias in place and flip the self facings/placket to right side and press (refer to image four).

## Step 13 — Sleeve Slit and Cuff

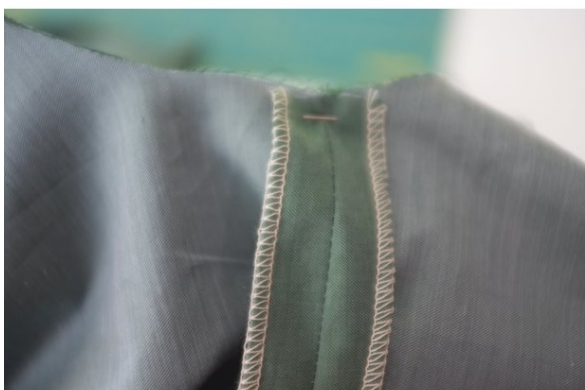
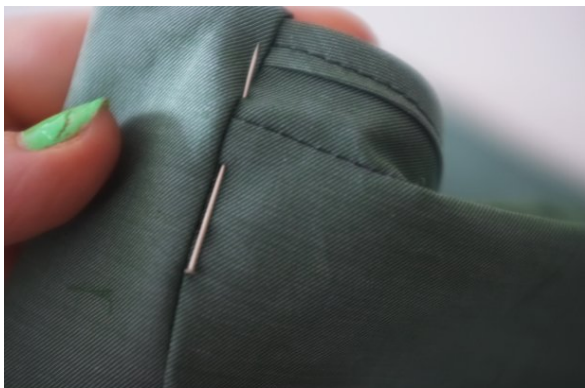


Stitch the pleat in place on your sleeve hem according to the directional arrows indicated on pattern. Cut the sleeve slit opening (refer to image one). Prepare another piece of bias and sew to slit opening (refer to image two). On the cuff, press up the seam allowance on the un interfaced side and fold the cuff along center foldline right sides together and stitch along seamline (refer to image three). Repeat for other sides of cuffs. Flip cuff to right side and press. Stitch the sleeve seams, right sides together. Pin cuff to the lower edge of

sleeve starting at each slit opening edge. Make sure to align the seam line (not the seam allowance edge) with the edge of the slit opening bias (refer to image three). Stitch the cuff to the sleeve along seamline.

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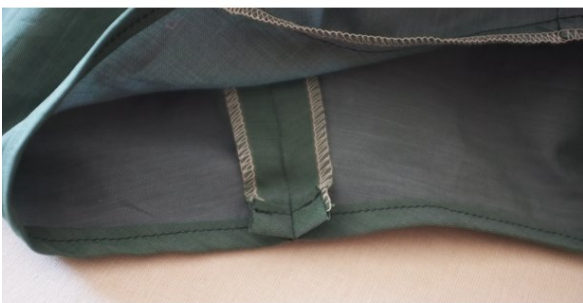
## Step 14 — Cuff and Sleeve



Flip the cuff up away from the sleeve and working from the outside pin the under cuff seam allowance so it covers the seam joining the cuff to the sleeve (refer to image one). Stitch in the ditch along this seam line from the right side, make sure you catch the seam allowance of the cuff on the inside of the sleeve. Work a buttonhole in the cuff (refer to image two). Match the the underarm points of the sleeve and the top and pin together (refer to image three). Stitch the sleeve to the top along the lower armhole seamline (refer to image four).

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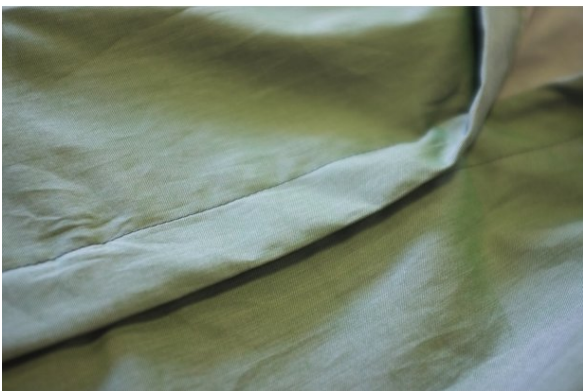
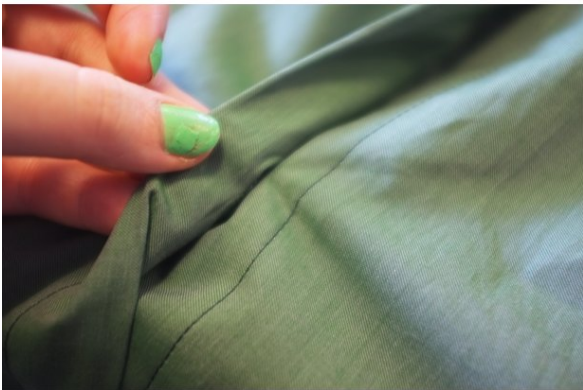
## **Step 15 — Shoulder Opening**



Open the shoulder seam about 3/4" by cutting a few stitches. Prepare another bias strip and stitch to the sleeve opening edge starting at the opening you created at the shoulder seam (refer to image one). At the shoulder seam pin the edge right sides together and stitch opening closed (refer to image two). Press open (refer to image three). Using a sewing needle hand stitch the seam allowance to the bias (refer to image four).

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## Step 16 — Button Placement



On the other center front edge from the button holes mark the placement of your buttons (refer to image one). Sew your buttons on your top.

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## Step 17 — Finish





Give your garment a final press. Now you have a new edgy top to wear!

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