

The perfect shrug?

By: ichigogirl

<http://www.burdastyle.com/projects/the-perfect-shrug>



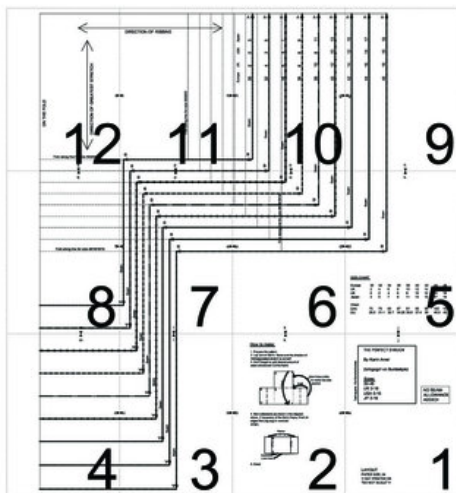
This is actually not my own design, it's a copy of a shrug I got a few years ago at one of the big highstreet clothing chains. It's quite a clever design though! The pattern is basically a T, and there are only two seams. It folds perfectly flat, and it's actually a nice shrug too! I've graded the pattern to fit size 30-46, see the size-chart on the pattern and in the instructions to be sure about the size (it's slightly different from the Burdastyle size chart).

Materials

Cotton jersey, a GENUINE 1980's fabric that I got in the early 90's, left at my parents place when I moved out, and then forgot about. My mum gave it to me this easter and it's actually back in fashion again! I love

the colour and it's very comfortable to wear. The best thing? I've got a few meters of it.... :-)

Step 1 — Print and prepare the pattern



Make sure you set the printer on “no scale”. The correct paper size is A4 (210×295mm). The printed area is 195×281mm.

If you choose the “Print in Copy-Shop” option, the correct paper size is A1 (594×841mm).

Cut margains and assemble the pattern according to the diagram (there are notches to guide you).

Step 2 — Choose the right size

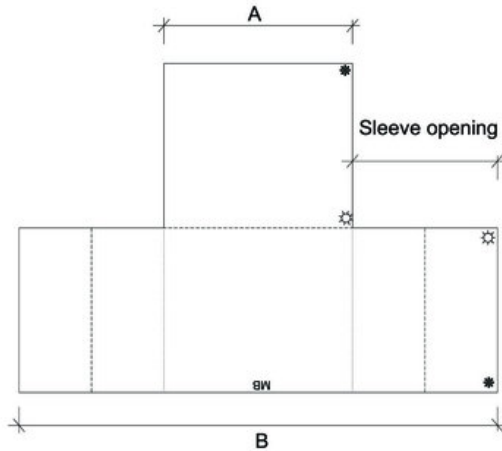
SIZE-CHART

Europe	30	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46
UK	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18
US	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16
Japan	3	5	7	9	11	13	15	17	19
Chest									
(cm)	75	79	83	87	91	95	99	103	107
(inches)	29.5	31.1	32.7	34.25	35.8	37.4	39	40.5	42.1

Choose the correct size in the size-chart on the pattern (or above). If you are very curvy you might want to measure above the bust, since you may end up with a too big shrug if you measure around the bust.

I'll show how you can measure yourself vs the printed pattern in the next two steps, to be sure about the size.

Step 3 — How to measure the pattern to check the size



Measure the pattern as indicated in the diagram. Add up $A+B$. The sum of $A+B$ will be compared to your own measurement in the next step.

The sleeves may end up a bit tight if you don't use a very stretchy material and/or if you have full upper arms, if you want to make sure they're not, measure the sleeve opening as indicated in the picture too.

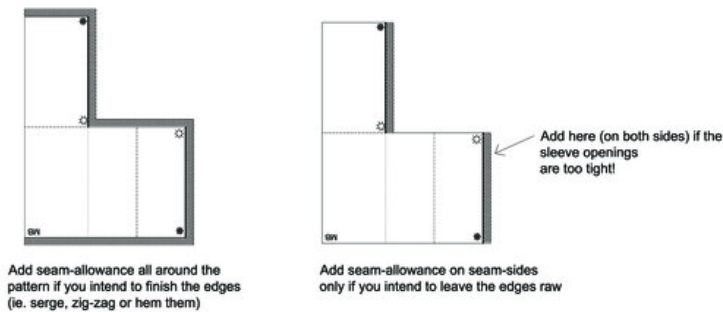
Step 4 — Measure yourself



Use a soft measuring tape. Place the measuring-tape as shown in the picture, and compare the measurement to the sum of $A+B$ from the previous step. In my shrug the measurements are about the same, so if you want a fit like in the picture make sure your measurements are roughly equal (pattern and around your neck/back). If you want to check the sleeve openings, measure around your upper arms and compare the measurement to

the sleeve opening measurement in the previous step. If you need bigger sleeve-openings, extend the pattern to make the sleeve-opening longer (this will not change the length of the side-seams but it will the shrug a bit bigger, if you think that will be a problem you can remove a little along the CB edge). See the next step!

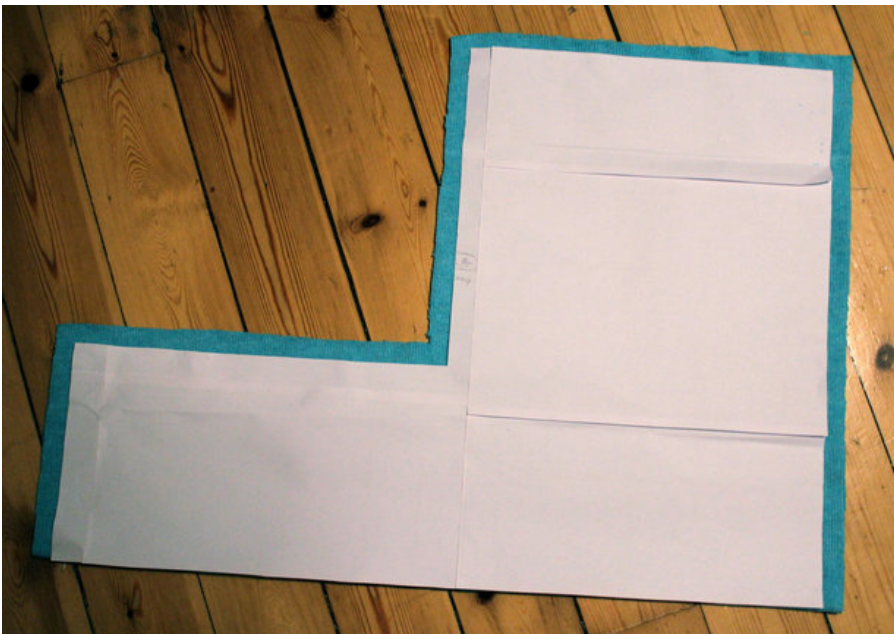
Step 5 — Cut the pattern in your size



Once you have decided what size you should use it's time to cut the pattern. Don't forget to add seam-allowance!

If the sleeve openings seem to end up too tight, add a couple of cm's to the pattern where indicated in the picture. The measurement around your arm and the length of the sleeve-opening on the pattern (see step 3) should be about the same.

Step 6 — Cut the fabric



Now, cut the fabric! Make sure you put the pattern on the fold and that the direction of the ribbing/greatest stretch are correct.

I added the seam allowance in this step, since I will use the pattern both for fabrics that fray and fabrics that don't fray. This fabric frays, so I wanted to finish the edges with an overlocked seam on my serger/overlock machine and added seam allowance all around the shrug.

Step 7 — Finish edges (optional)



If your fabric frays, finish all edges, either with a zig-zag, or with a zig-zag + folding the edge back and stitching it in place with a slipstitch, or like I did, on a serger/overlock machine.

If you choose to zig-zag the edges only, you don't need to add any seam allowance around the edges. The picture shows my shrug after I finished the edges.

Step 8 — Sew the side seams



Time to sew the side-seams!

I overlocked/serged the side seams with a narrow seam, but to make sure they'd be sturdy enough I

overlocked each seam twice, the second round with the knife locked (so that I only overlocked the seams, and didn't cut anything off).

Step 9 — Wear it!



Voila, shrug done!

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