

Easy slit pant hem

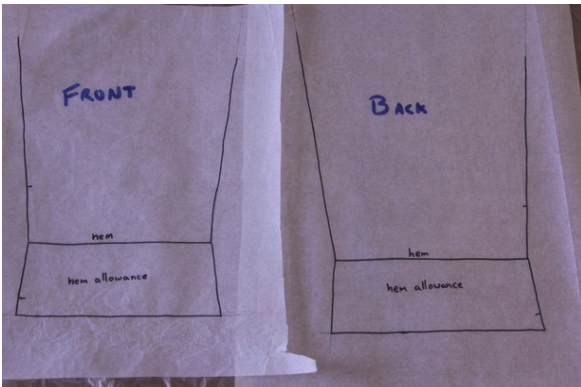
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<http://www.burdastyle.com/techniques/easy-slit-pant-hem--2>



On pants with very narrow hems, I like to add a slit. It makes it easier to put on and looks very chic!

Step 1 — Adjust pattern



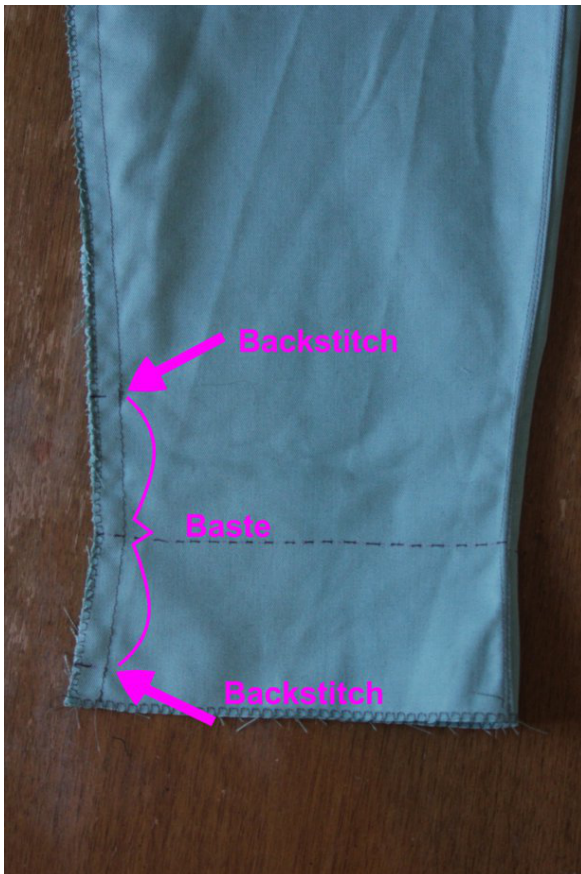
Adjust the pattern so that the hem allowance is 2.5" and the seamlines mirror those of the pant leg, allowing the hem allowance to fit properly inside the pant leg when it is turned up. (Here I've just traced the bottom part of a pants pattern to demonstrate) Along the outside seams, mark points 2" above the hemline and 2" below the hemline. Do this on both the front and back pattern pieces.

Step 2 — Cut, mark and begin construction



Cut out your pattern pieces and make sure that you transfer the hemline and the guide marks (2" above and below the hemline). Sew the inseam. I used a flat felled seam. Finish the raw edges. I recommend overlocking.

Step 3 — Sew outer leg seam



Sew the outer leg seam, backstitching at the guide marks and basting with a long stitch length between the guide marks.

Step 4 — Press seam and open slit



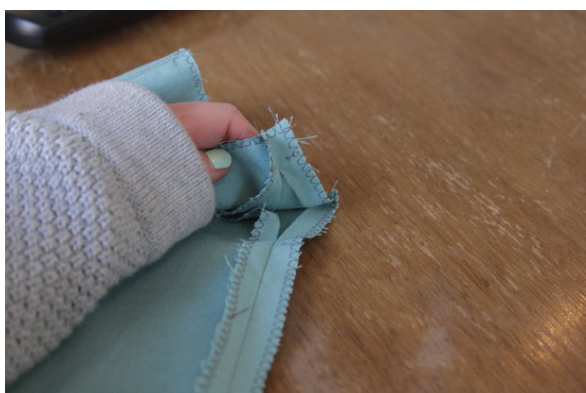
Press the outer leg seam open and rip the stitches between the backstitching at the guide marks. Here I've used pins so it's easier to see where the guide marks are.

Step 5 — Align the slit



Ok. This part is a little tricky to describe but it makes sense once you're actually doing it, I promise! With the pant leg inside out, take just the seam allowance of either the front or back pattern piece (it doesn't matter which) and fold it at the hemline, bring the guide marks together. Make sure that the opposite piece doesn't get in the way. Align the crease that you ironed in before you removed the basting. Basically, you're aligning the seamline from below the hemline with the seamline above the hemline.

Step 6 — Align the slit 2



Here's another image showing how to align the seamline from below the hemline with the seamline above the hemline.

Step 7 — Stitch the slit



Pin in place. Stitch along the crease from the hemline to the guide marks. This line of stitching should meet the backstitching in the side seam.

Step 8 — Repeat steps 5, 6 & 7



Repeat steps 5-7 on the other side of the slit on the same leg.

Step 9 — Turn, press and hem



Turn the pant leg right side out and turn the hem to the inside. Use a point turner to turn the corners of the slit. Use your preferred method to secure the hem - hand stitch, machine stitch or fuse with stitch witchery.

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