Chapter 4 Basics of Garment Making

Introduction

This course is in continuation of the course in class XI. Advanced skills required for converting fabrics into a stitched garment with value addition are covered in this year is curriculum. The emphasis is on how to finish the openings and on assembling of complete garment.

Basic Preparation

Prior planning and clarity is necessary for the performance of the exercises.

Read handouts, appropriate lab manuals and textbooks before performing the practical.

Follow all precautions and regulations while working in the lab.

Listen carefully to any introductory remarks and experimental procedure given by your teacher.

Make sure that your working space is clean and organized, and all the required stocks and materials are kept ready.

Maintain discipline in your working area.

Recording Practical Results

Practical results should be recorded in the recommended record/file neatly and legibly with great care. The record of exercises may be done under following headings:

1. **Introduction/Aim**

   State precisely the purpose and objectives of the experiment in two or three sentences.

2. **Materials and methods**

   The requirements such as equipment, materials, etc. should be given here. Apart from this, methods should also be described along with principles of the techniques used.

3. **Sample / Results**

   The sample should be attached here.

4. **Discussion and Conclusions**

   Here, the results should be interpreted and conclusions be drawn.

5. **References**

   Reading material that was consulted for the experiment should be given as reference (e.g. your lab manual) along with the name of the author and the book, pages referred to and year of publication.

Safety rules in the laboratory

- Safety rules to be observed while working on the machine: Safety is important to everyone and it is one's responsibility to maintain a safe working place.
- When operating the machine, do not be careless.
- Always inspect the machine before starting work. Be sure it is clean and threaded correctly, with no loose threads on the pulley belt and all guards in place.
- When in doubt, ask the teacher.
- Report any injuries or accidents immediately to the teacher.
- Wipe up any oil spilled on the floor immediately to prevent anyone from slipping.
- Operate machines only with permission.
- When sewing on a power machine, wear low heel shoes and close-fitting clothing. Avoid loose-fitting sleeves, sweaters, jewellery, ties and ribbons when operating the machine. If your hair is long, tie it at the back.
- Do not tilt your chair forward or backward while operating the machine.
- Use both hands to raise and lower the machine head.
- Always keep your head above the table.
- Keep your feet off the treadle when you are not operating the machine.
- Keep your feet off the treadle when you are setting or threading the needle.
- Turn the motor off when you are not stitching.
- Turn the motor off before cleaning, oiling or adjusting the machine.
- Turn the motor off before removing or replacing the pulley belt and run the machine out. Wait until all motion has stopped.
- Turn the motor off in case of an emergency or when in doubt.
- Turn the motor off before unplugging the machine.
- Do not use your hand to stop and start the hand wheel.
- Use your hand only to set the hand wheel.
- Before operating the machine, close the slide bed cover. When operating the machine, keep your hands, scissors and other sharp objects away from the belt.
- Keep the machine and work station clean with all tools in the side drawer.
- Unplug the machine at the end of the day.

- Know the location of the main power switch, outlets and fuses in case of an emergency.
- Do not remove any safety devices from the machines.
- Turn off the iron at the end of the class.
- Always place the iron on the iron pad to avoid burning the ironing board cover.
- When trimming or cutting, put all trimmings in the wastebasket.
- Scissors should be handed to another person with the handles toward the person.
- Never toss or throw scissors or equipment.
- Do not eat or drink in the work area.
- Keep your machine covered when not in use.

PRACTICAL EXERCISE - 13

Objective

Stitch a continuous placket sample.

Principles

A placket is a finishing provided to an opening in a garment. It should be designed and styled in sufficient length to permit ease and convenience of dressing.

Placket openings are used on sleeves, front or back neckline to allow for ease in wearing a garment.

Plackets are planned as an extension for placement of buttonholes, snaps and other fasteners.

Some plackets have buttons and buttonholes while others do not.

When designed for neckline openings, the placket can end at the neck edge or extend beyond the neck and become part of the collar.

The measurement can vary to create different effects.

The type and length of placket selected depends on:

- Placement of placket.
- Function of placket.
- Style and design of garment.
- Use of garment.
- Type and weight of fabric.
- Care of garment.
- Method of construction.

A Continuous placket is easy to make and serves as the basis for a number of variations. It is a one-piece placket that is widely used on cuffed sleeve openings to permit the hand to fit through sleeve circumferences, bloomers, children's dresses, skirts, trousers etc., where zipper application would detract from appeal of the garment and in neckline openings as an alternative to other fasteners or closures.

Requirements

Machine & sewing kit (as given in Annexure I)

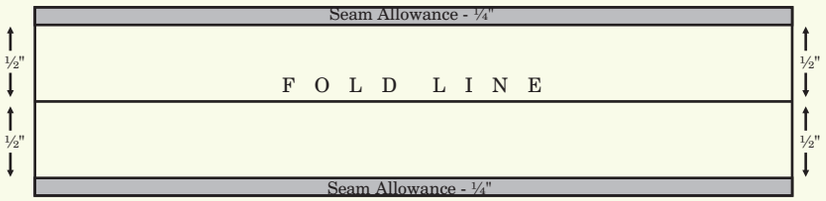
Pre Lab Preparation

Student should be familiar with the safety rules.

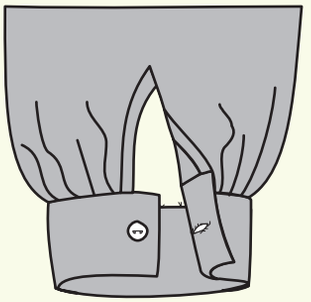
Cut the pattern piece for length of the piece. Take double the length of the finished placket opening and add 1" extra. (The 1" extra length of the binding strip is for emergency only. If measurements are accurate and the placket is properly made, this amount should be cut off after the binding is stitched in place.) The width of the piece will be twice the width of finished placket facing (which is usually ½" for 1 side) plus two times seam allowances (which usually is ¼")

PATTERN PIECES

2 X length of finished placed +1"



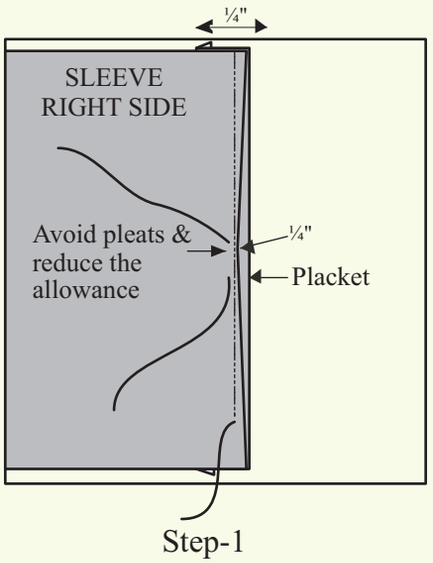
CONTINUOUS PLACKET



Procedure

1. Place the right side of the placket on the wrong side of the sleeve opening and start stitching near the edge leaving a distance of ¼". As you come to the center of the placket, maintain ¼" seam allowance of placket piece and reduce the allowance of the garment piece. Take care so that no pleat formation takes place at this point.

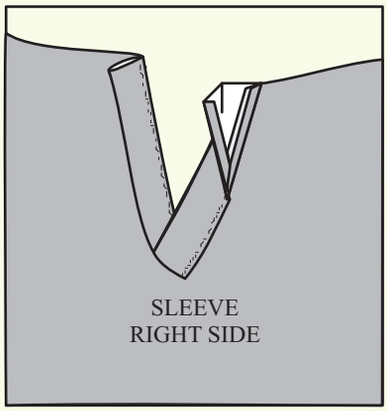
CONTINUOS SHIRT PLACKET



Step-1

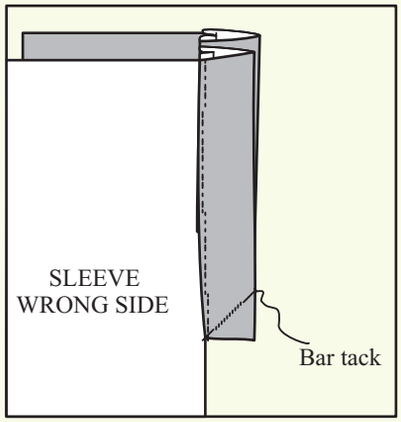
2. Fold the allowance (other side) of the placket and place it on first stitching line. Then stitch in place from right side of the sleeve. Take care that stitching at the back is the same i.e. if it

is on top, it should be maintained on top throughout and if it is in ditch then maintain it throughout. In good quality plackets, this seam is on top at the back.



Step-2

3. From the wrong side of the sleeve, stitch both the upper and under of the placket, two to three times diagonally (at 45°) near end. This is known as Bar Tack.



Step-3

Observations

The placket should be finished neatly and close properly with both ends on top of each other. The buttons should not gape open, especially near the bust.

Viva Questions

1. What purposes this placket used for?
2. What is the importance of a bar -tack?

PRACTICAL EXERCISE - 14

Objective

Stitch a basic shirt placket sample.

Principles

A basic shirt placket is an extension placket where buttons and buttonholes are placed on the facing which is created by extending the center front on both sides.

Requirements

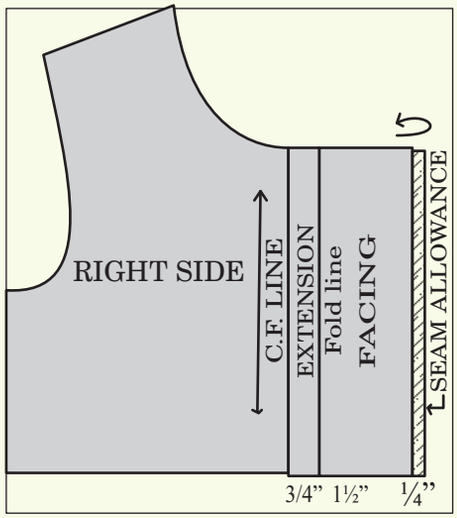
Machine & sewing kit (as given in annexure I)

Pre Lab Preparation

2 Pattern pieces required - one for the upper part and the second for the under part.

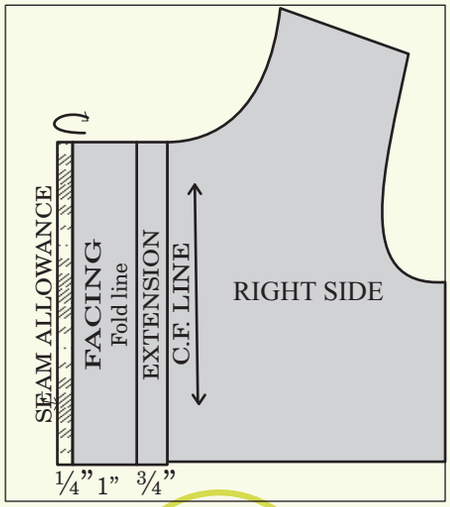
Upper Part

1. Trace the bodice till the Centre Front line.
2. Mark the extension which can be:
   - Half the button + 1 cm i.e. Radius of the button + 1cm.
   - Diameter of the button.
   - A standard measurement of ½" or ¾" as taken for men's shirts.
3. The line of extension is the fold line. Make a standard facing of 1½" with an allowance of ¼".
4. Turn the allowance towards wrong side of the facing.
5. Turn the fold line towards wrong side of the garment piece. (If facing has to be aligned to the selvedge when placed on fabric then no seam allowances is taken).
6. Cut out the pattern.



Under Part

1. Flip the pattern horizontally and trace it.
2. The under part is made in the same way as the over part. The difference is the facing, which is 1". Otherwise stitching line of under part will be visible on the front of the placket.



Procedure

Upper Part

1. Trace the pattern on the fabric and mark the position of the lines.
2. Turn the allowance towards the wrong side of the fabric.
3. Turn the facing also in the same way from the fold-line i.e. towards wrong side of fabric.
4. From the wrong side of the fabric, stitchon the edge of facing as illustrated.

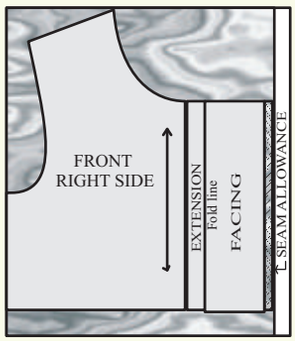
Under Part

1. Trace the pattern on the fabric and mark the position of all lines.
2. Turn the allowance towards wrong side of the fabric. In same way turn the facing also.
3. From the wrong side of the fabric, stitch on the edge of facing as illustrated.

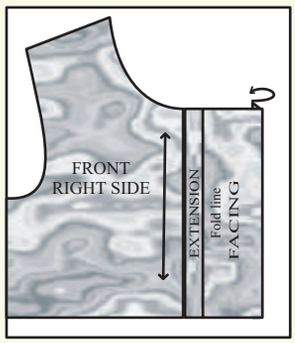
Observations

1. The placket should be finished neatly and close properly with edgesneatly on top of each other.
2. The buttons should not gape open, especially near the bust.

UPPER PART



Step-1



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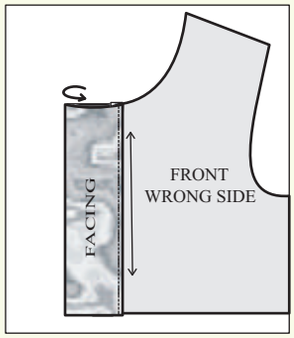

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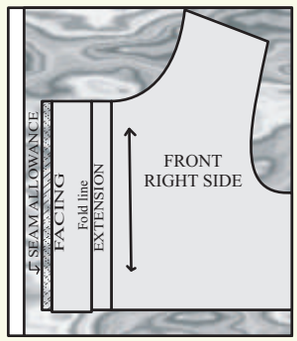
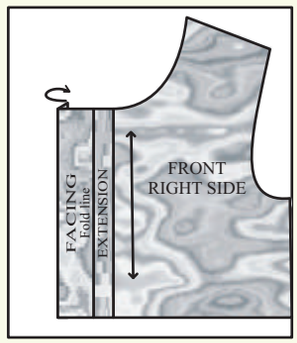
UNDER PART



Step-1



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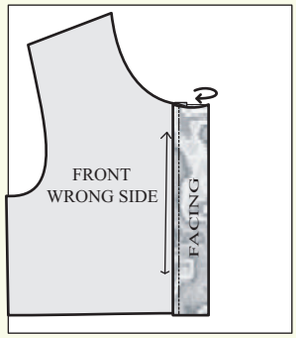


Step-3

Viva questions

1. What are the factors on which the width of the placket depends?
2. Apart from the shirt where can this placket be used?

PRACTICAL EXERCISE -15

Objective

Stitch a sample of shirt placket with facing.

Principles

The shirt band/the strip on the right side of shirt front in which the buttonholes are made, eliminates the need for facing.

An extended self-facing is used on the left front.

The finished shirt band is 1½" wide but construction techniques vary depending on the fabric and style of the shirt.

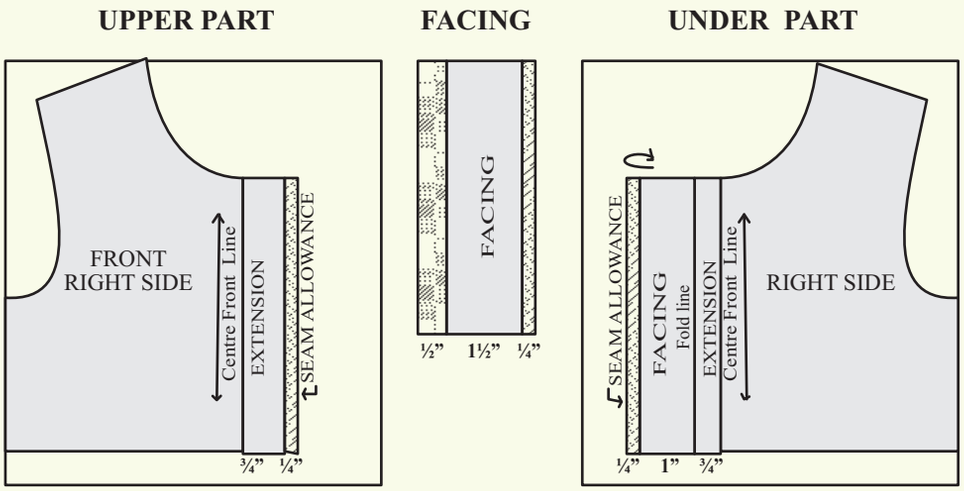
Requirement

Machine & sewing kit (as given in annexure I)

Pre Lab Preparation

Under Part

Trace the bodice and make extension of ¾" which is half of finished placket. Keep an allowance of ¼".



Facing

A straight strip of the length same as placket opening is taken. Mark ¼" seam allowance on one side and ½" seam allowance on the other side.

Under Part

Flip and trace the other half of bodice and mark extension of ¾" and facing of 1" then mark the seam allowance of ¼".

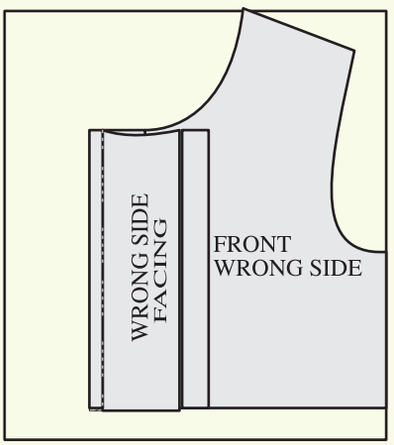
Procedure

Upper Part

1. Place right side of the facing over wrong side of garment piece and then stitch leaving the ¼" allowance near edge.
2. From right side of the fabric, turn facing towards right side. Press the seam allowance (½") of facing towards wrong side of facing. Iron in place.
3. Leave allowance of ¼" from both the sides and stitch in place from right side.

Under Part

1. Trace the pattern for under part on the fabric.
2. Fold the seam allowance of the facing towards the wrong side of the fabric.
3. Again turn this facing towards the wrong side of the fabric, stitch in place. (For diagram refer steps of construction for under part of simple shirt placket.)



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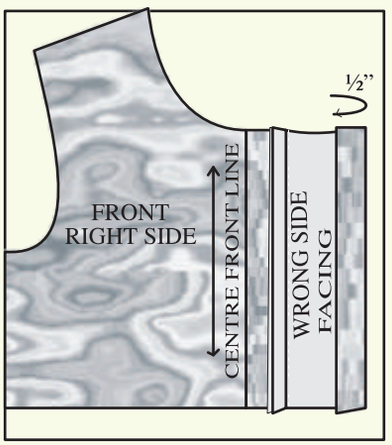

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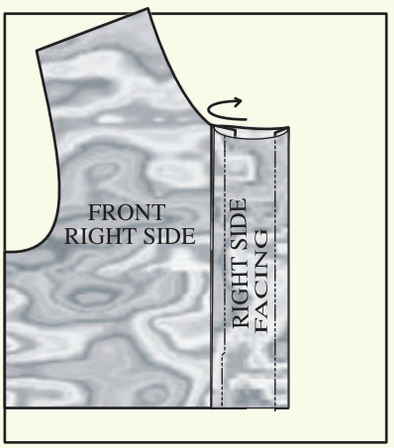
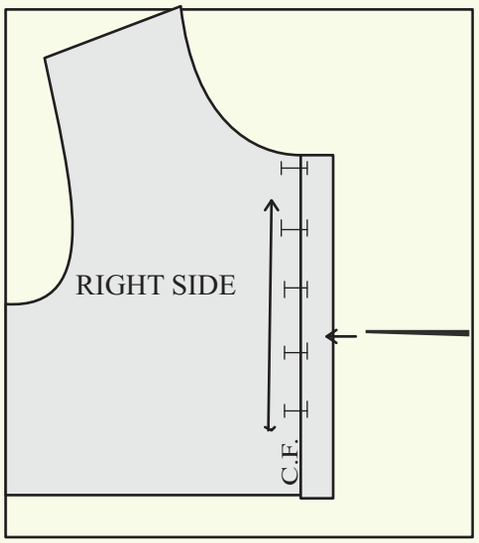


Step-3

Placement of Buttons

The button extension is equal to the width of the button. As a general rule the neckline of the front bodice is lowered by ¼" at the centre front for comfort, whenever a basic neckline is required. The first buttonhole is placed on center front, down from neckline an amount equal to the width of the button. This ensures that the button will not extend into the neck. Placement of the last button hole depends on the need or the requirement of the garment. The rest of the button holes are marked on the even division between the first and the last. It is a good idea to place a button close to the apex or bust point. This ensures that the garment does not gape open at the centre front due to movement, which may cause a pull on the bust.



The size of the button hole equals the width of the button plus 1/8" for the button to go in easily. The button hole is marked so that width of the button is on the garment side of the centre front and extra 1/8" is on the extension.

Observations

The placket should be finished neatly and close properly on top of each other. The buttons should not gape open specially near the bust.

Viva questions

1. Give common uses of this placket.
2. At what distance from the neck edge should the first button be placed on the placket?

PRACTICAL EXERCISE - 16

Aim

Stitch a sample each of Extended facing, Bias facing and Shaped facing.

Principles

A Facing is a fabric piece used to finish raw edges of a garment at such locations as neck, armhole and front and back opening. A facing is shaped to fit the edge it will finish either during cutting or just before application.

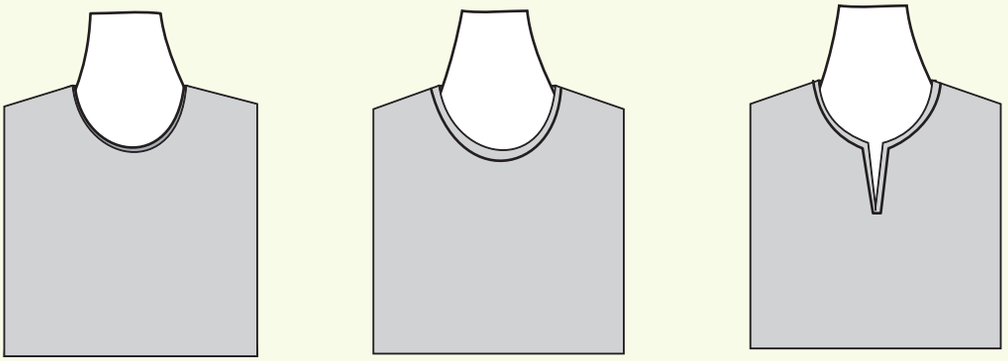
There are three categories of facings:

- Shaped facings
- Extended facings
- Bias facings

A Shaped facing is cut out, using a pattern, to the same shape and on the same grain as the edge it will finish. A Bias facing is a strip of fabric cut on the bias so that it can be shaped to match the curve of the edge it will be applied to. After a facing is attached to the garments edge, it is turned to the inside of the garment and should not show on the outside.

In order to reduce bulk, both shaped and bias facings can be cut from a fabric lighter in weight than the garment fabric. Since the extended facing is cut as one with the garment, the garment and facing fabric are **generally** the same but sometimes may vary according to the design.

NECK LINES



BIAS BINDING | BIAS FACING | SHAPED FACING

Requirements

Machine & sewing kit (as given in Annexure I)

Pre Lab Preparation

Bias Strip

Bias strip is prepared as a strip of matching or contrasting fabric. Bias for binding, piping and tubing is a true bias and is defined as the diagonal line established by a 45^0 degree angle, intersecting length and cross grain of a square. The bias of the fabric offers the maximum stretch, flexibility, and elasticity needed to conform to a curved edge.

Preparation of Bias Strip

1. Find the true bias of the fabric by folding fabric with lengthwise grain parallel to the crosswise grain. The folded edge is the true bias.
2. After locating true bias, draw the width and the desired number of strips needed for desired length of bias and then cut it.
3. Often the bias strips are not long enough to complete a continuous sewing step. Adequate number of strips must be joined before starting to sew bias binding or facing.
4. Now place the cut out bias strips at right angles, right side facing right side.
5. Stitch bias strips with a ¼" seam allowance at angles.
6. Continue to join bias strips as needed for the desired length.
7. Press all seams open and snip extended points.

   Once the strip is ready it can be applied on the neckline

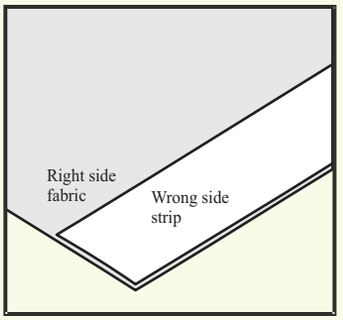
Procedure

A. Neckline Finished with Bias Binding/Extended Facing

A standard bias strip is 1 to ½ inch wide.

Steps of construction

1. Place the garment on sewing table wrong side up. Now place the bias strip on the garment with right side facing wrong side (of garment), matching both the raw edges.
2. Stitch with a ¼" seam allowance.
3. Fold the bias strip over ¼" and use iron instead of press down.
4. Fold bias binding over along stitch line and use iron instead of press down.
5. Fold bias strip over Wrong Side of garment just covering first stitch line.
6. Slip stitch along the edge of bias binding.



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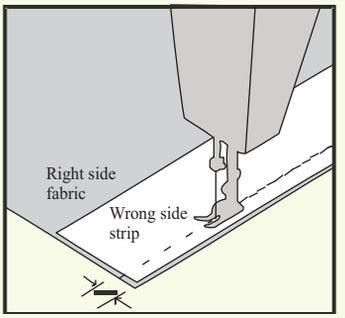

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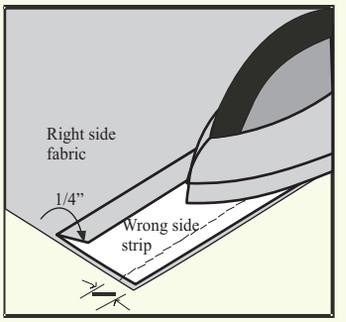

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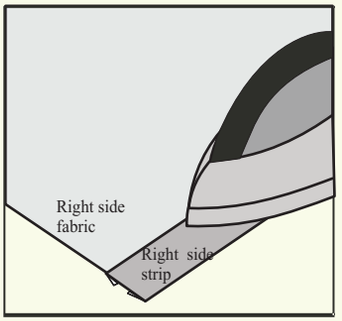

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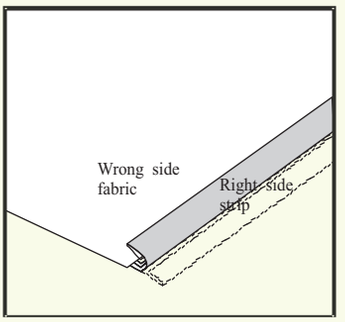

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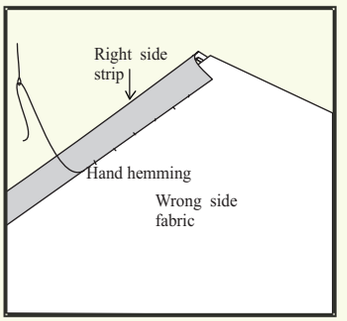


Step -6

B. Neckline Finished With Bias Facing

A bias facing is a strip of fabric cut on the bias which is attached to the garment neckline so that it can be shaped to match the curve of the edge it will be applied to.

After a facing is attached to the garment, it is turned to the inside of the garment and should not show on the outside i.e. right side of the garment.

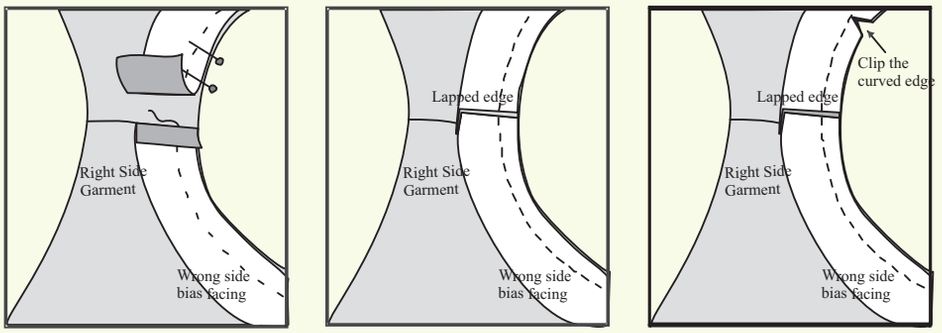
The finished width of bias facing should not be more than ½".

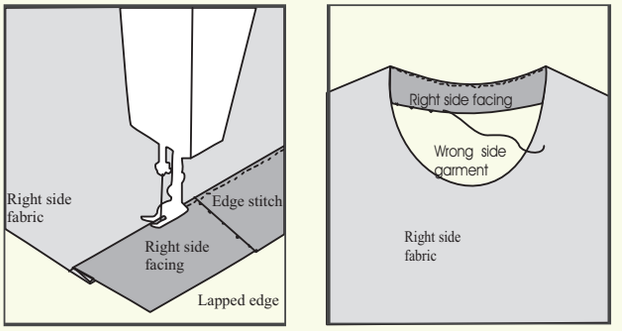
Steps of Construction

1. Face right side of bias strip to the right side of the garment neckline. When applying the binding, fold back the starting end ½" and align the fold with the garment seam line. Pin binding in place and stitch to within 3" of starting point.
2. Trim away excess binding at this end to ½" beyond fold of starting end. Lap this end over the beginning fold and stitch the rest of the way across, through all thicknesses. When the binding is turned, the end folded first will be on top; stitch or slip stitch it with the other end.
3. Clip the curved seam allowance.
4. Open the facing away from the garment Iron all seam allowances towards the facing. To keep facing from rolling to the outside of garments, the seam should be under

stitched with facing and seam allowance extended away from garment. Stitch from right side close to neck seam line, through facing and seam allowance.

5. Turn the other edge of the facing towards its Wrong Side. Iron and slip stitch.



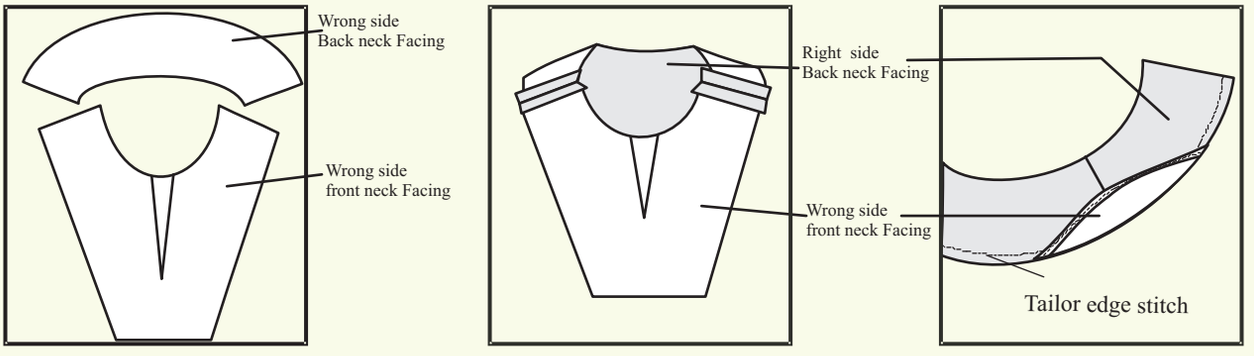


C. Slit Neckline with Shaped Facing

A neck line shape which is finished with shaped facing i.e. instead of finishing raw edges of fabric at neckline with bias strip as used earlier, it is finished with a facing which is of the same shape as the neckline.

Steps of Construction

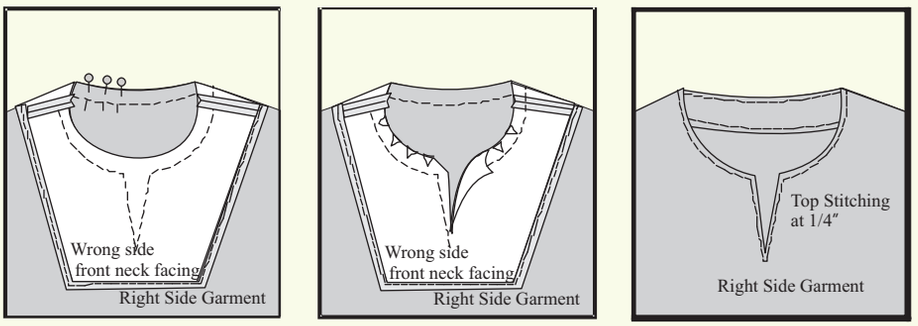
Preparation of facing



Steps of Construction

1. Interface the wrong Side of the facing of both front back.
2. With Right Side together and the markings matched, seam stitch the front facing sections to the back facing sections at shoulders. Iron seam flat as stitched then open.
3. Keeping seam allowances open, tailor edge finish the facing by turning under 1/8" Iron. Stitch close to folded edge.
4. Right Sides together, matching notches, markings and seam lines, pin facing to neck and machine.
5. Trim diagonally across cross seam allowances at shoulders. Clip curved seams, also slash the opening at front neckline and clip the corners.
6. Place seam Wrong Side up, using the tip of the iron, press seam open.
7. Turn facing to inside of garment, allowing seam line to roll inside slightly, now top stitch at a distance of ¼".

Steps of Constrcution



Step -4 Step -5 Step -6

Observations

The ready piping should not be more than ¼" wide and should look neat and straight with no extra twist or pucker.

Viva questions

1. What is true bias and what are its characteristics?
2. What is facing? Where all it is used?