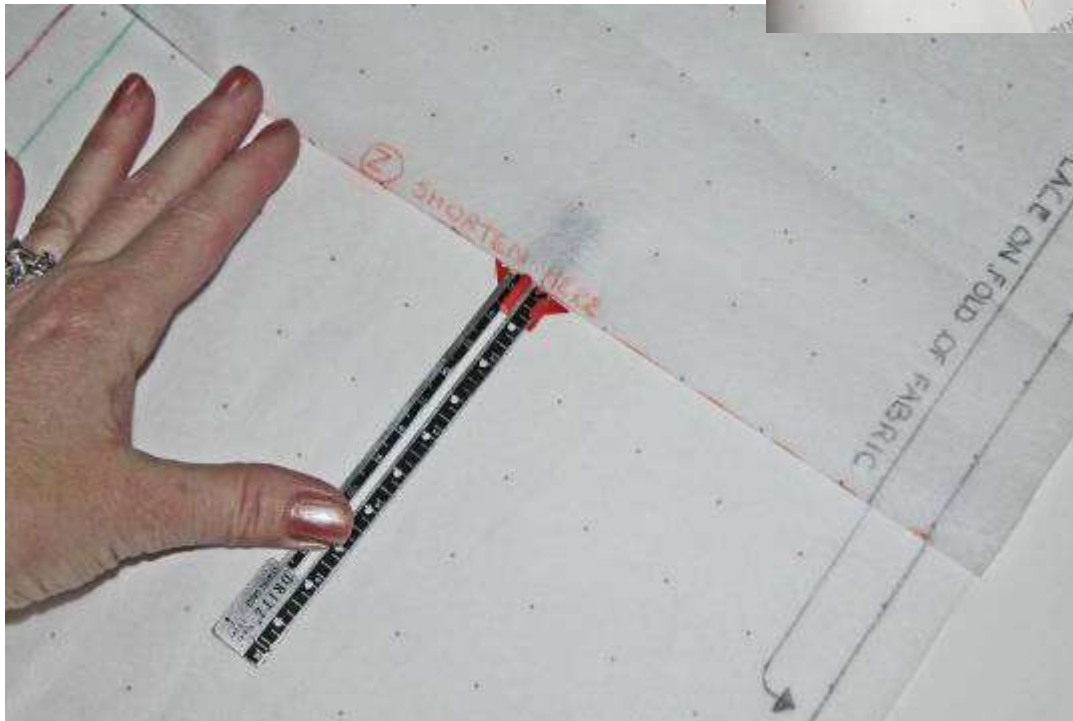
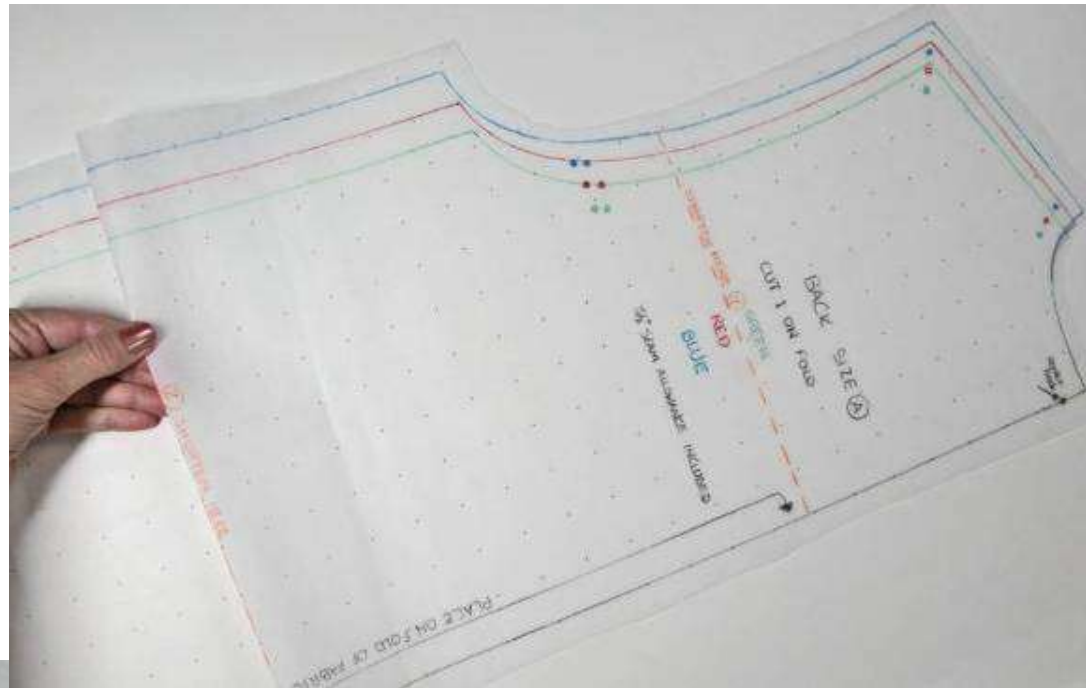


Basic pattern alterations

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TO SHORTEN A PATTERN INTERNALLY

Fold **master pattern** on the 'shorten here' line creating a tuck in the pattern paper.

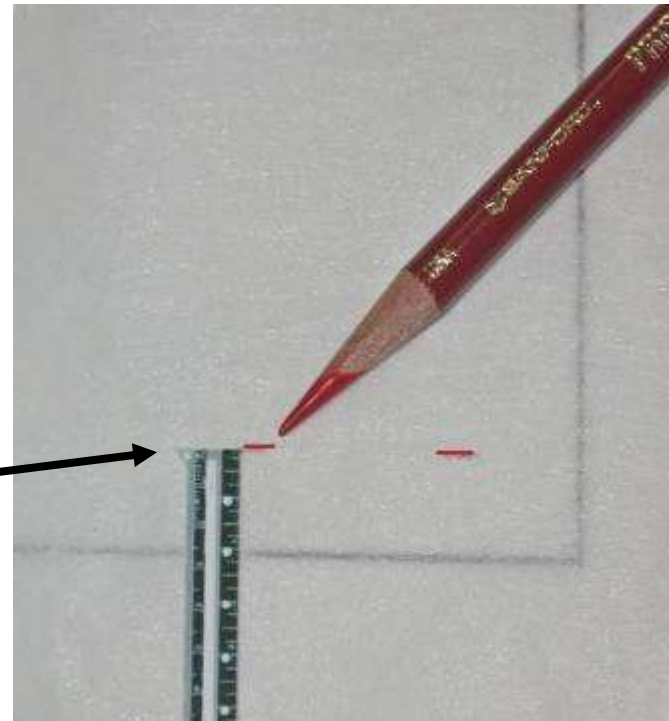
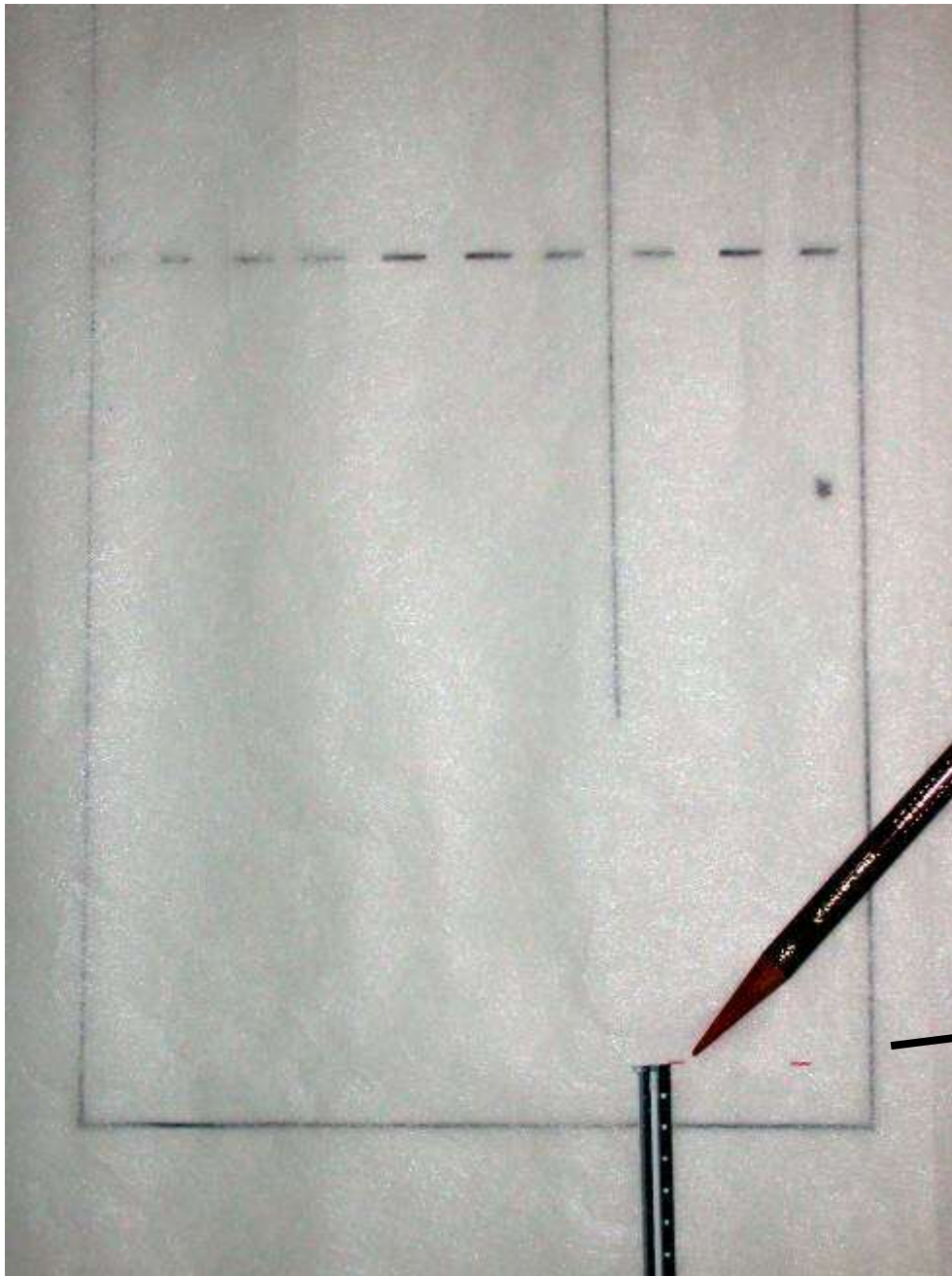


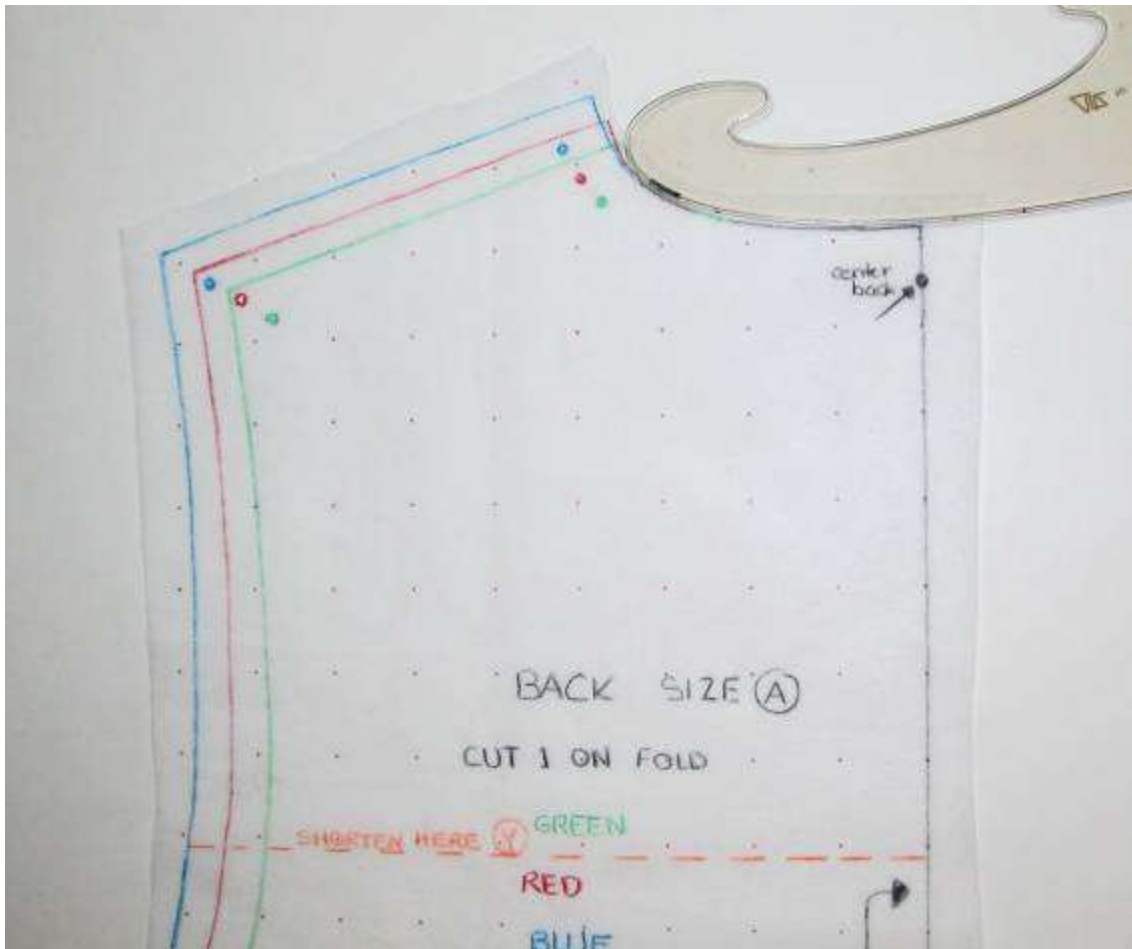
Use a ruler to measure the amount of the tuck, which would be $\frac{1}{2}$ the total desired amount. For example: to shorten jacket two inches, you would tuck pattern on the 'shorten here' line one inch. Secure with push pins.

Remember to any other pattern piece that might be affected!

TO SHORTEN PATTERN FROM THE HEM

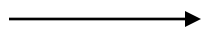
Measure up from hem with a ruler. Mark all along the hem the desired amount, and connect the marks to create the new hemline.





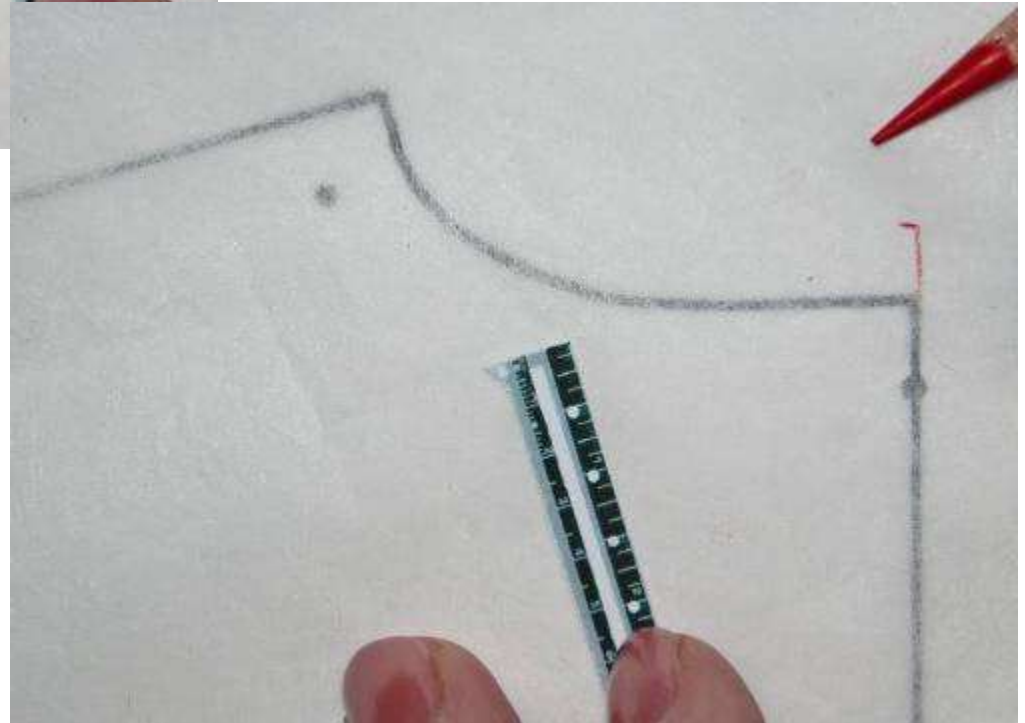
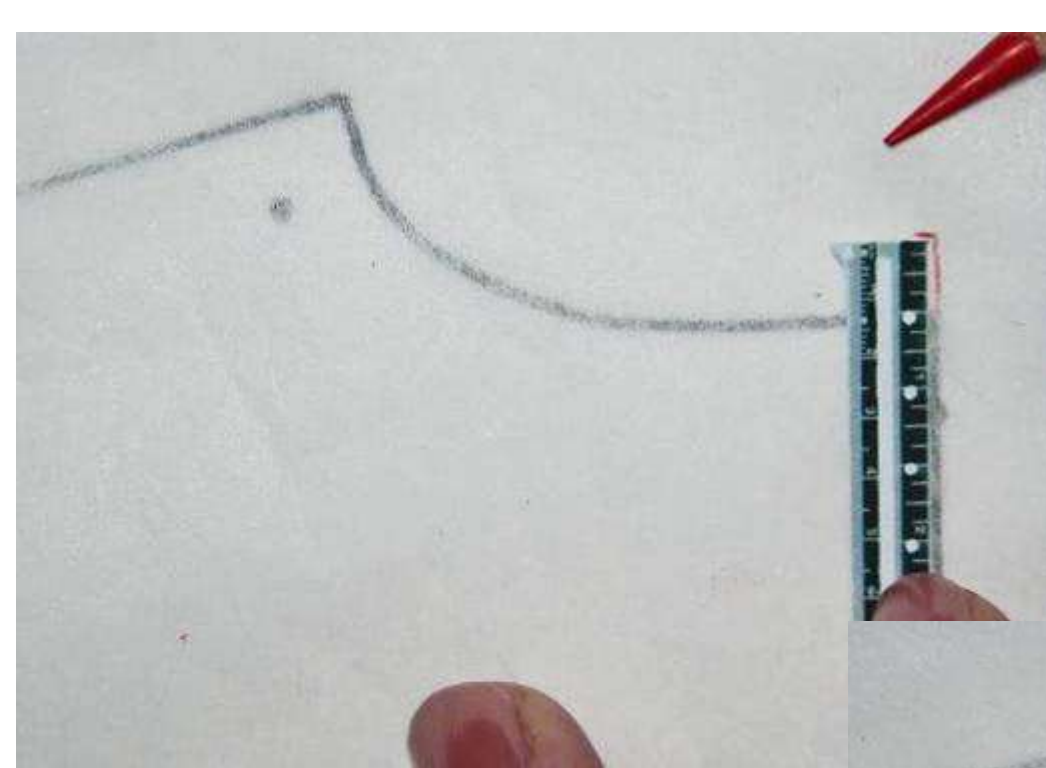
The back neck is shaped by using the French Curve.

The traditional French Curve.



TO RAISE BACK NECK

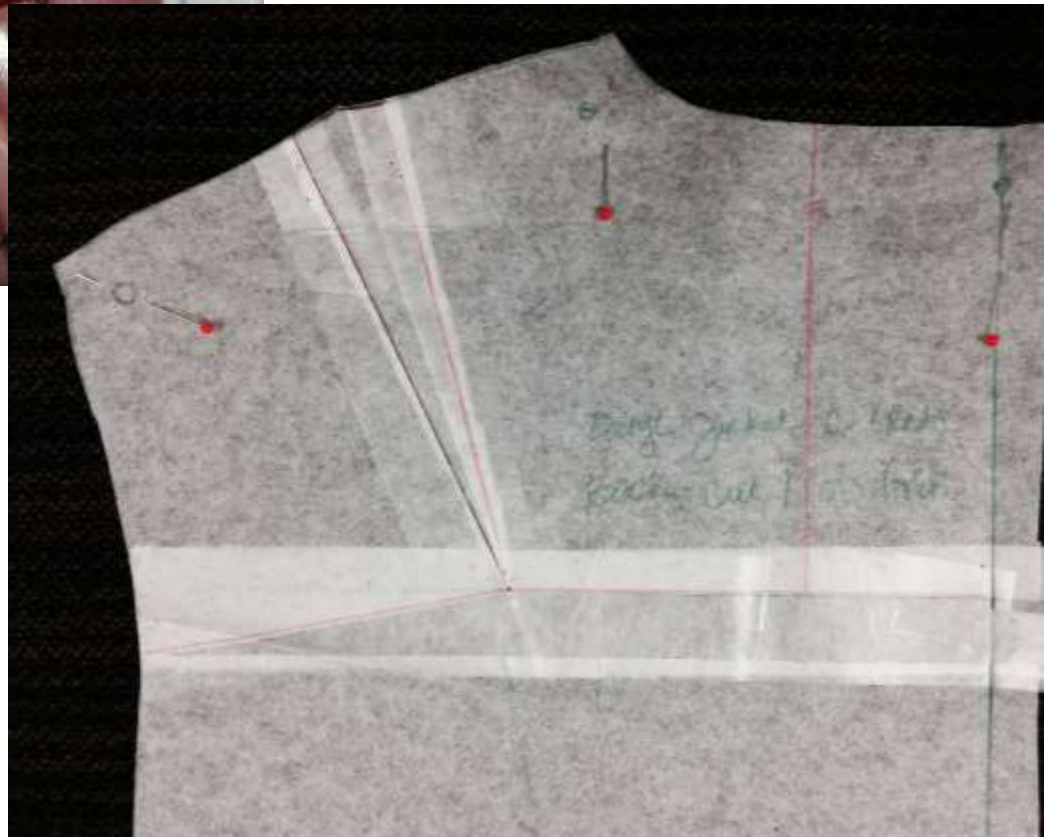
Use a ruler to measure straight up from the center back line, the desired amount. With a contrasting pencil, mark the height of the new back neck.

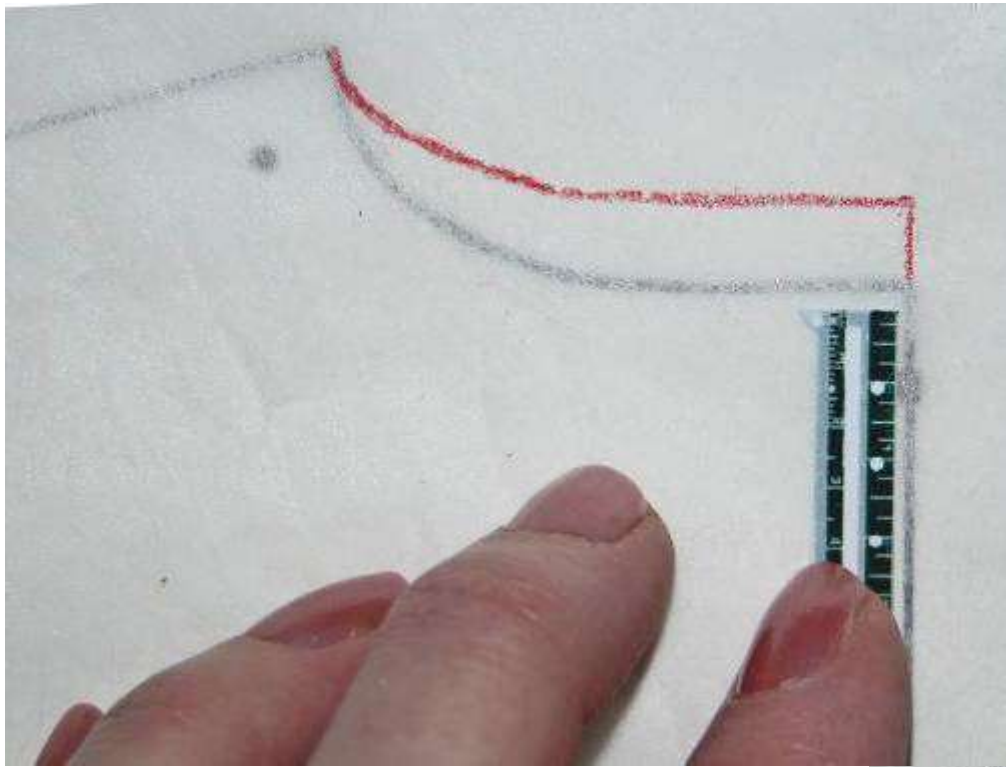




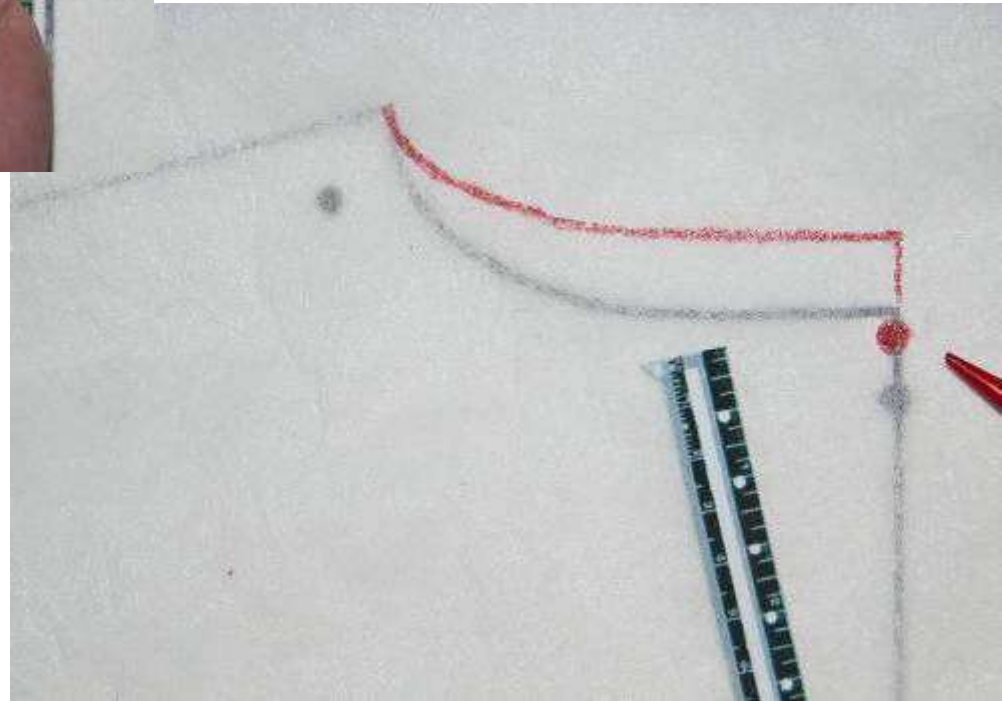
Place French Curve on back neck. Curve should be as close to parallel to the old back neck as possible.

An alternative method is to slice from the center back to the armscye seamline. A second slice comes in from the shoulder to, but not through that cut. When spread the desired amount, a dart will form at the shoulder.



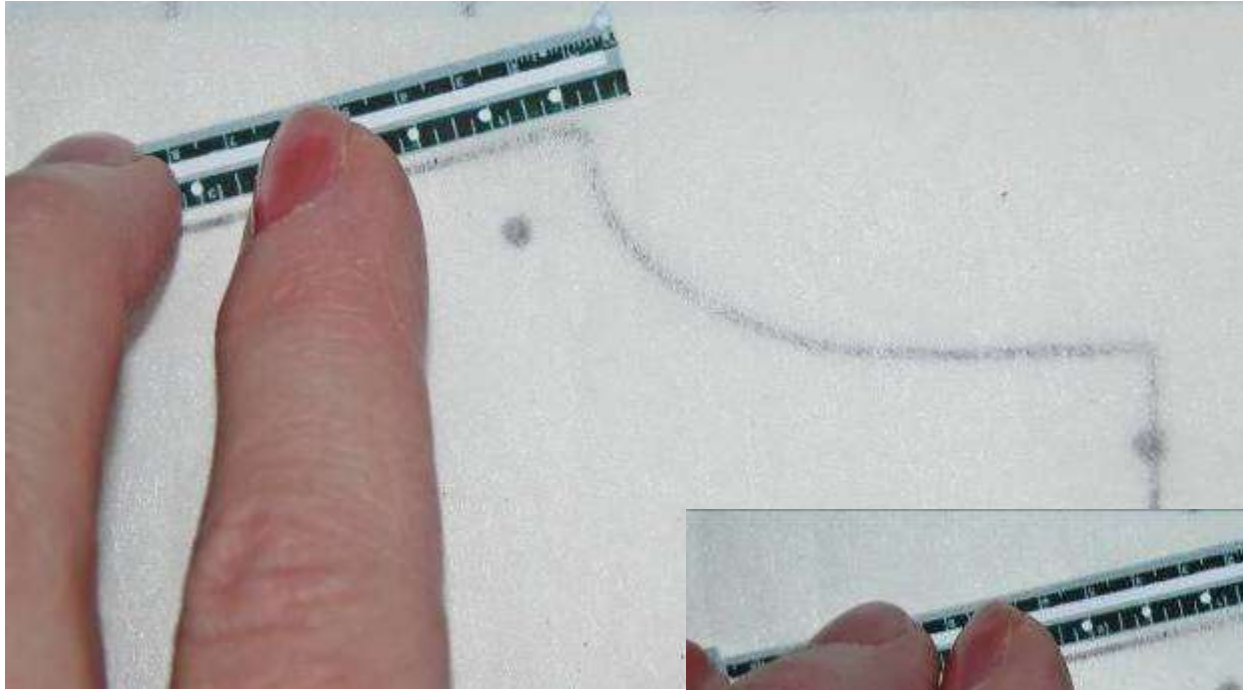


Once new back neck is drawn in, don't forget to raise the center back dot. The dot should sit on the intersection of the neck seam line, and the center back line.

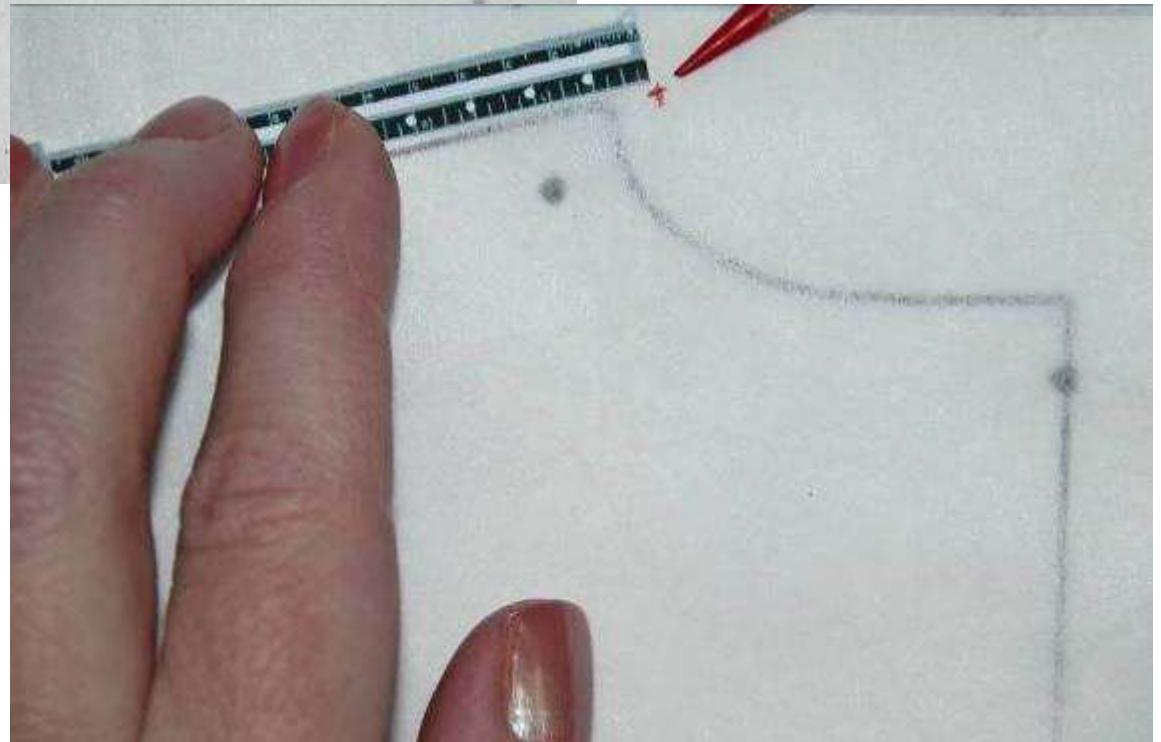


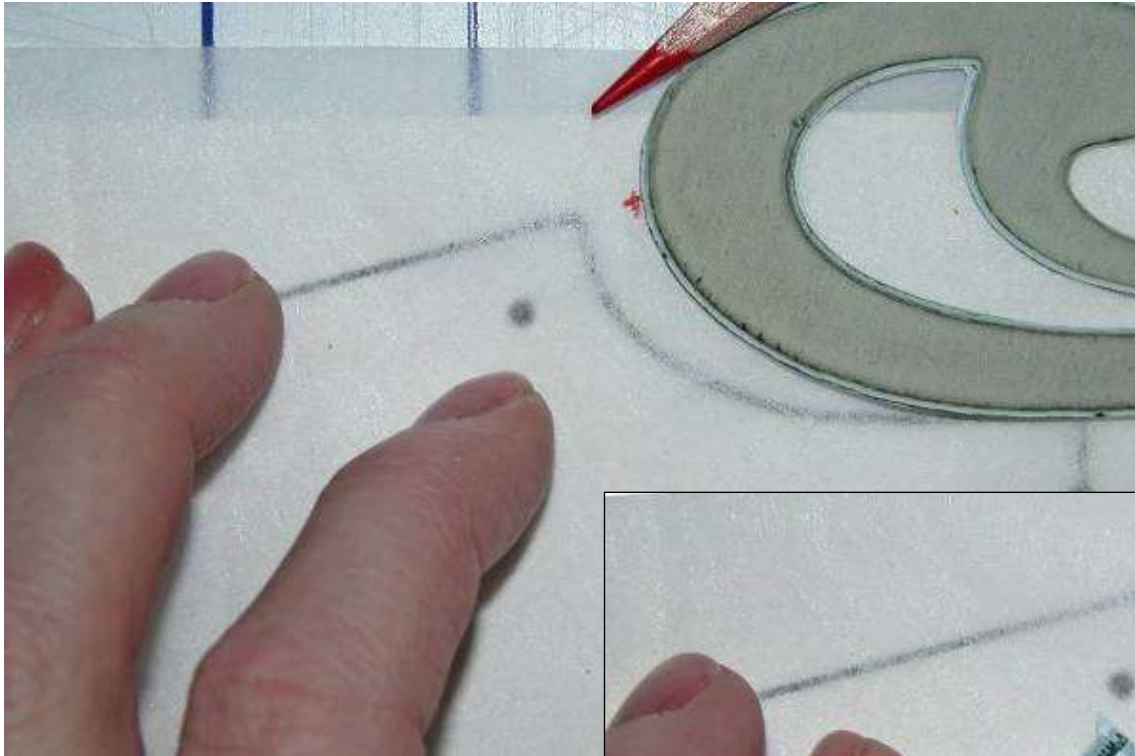
Note: You will need to resize the back neck of the band to fit the new back neck of the garment!

TO EXTEND NECK AT SHOULDER LINE



Use a ruler to measure the desired amount bringing the neckline of the pattern closer to your actual neck.

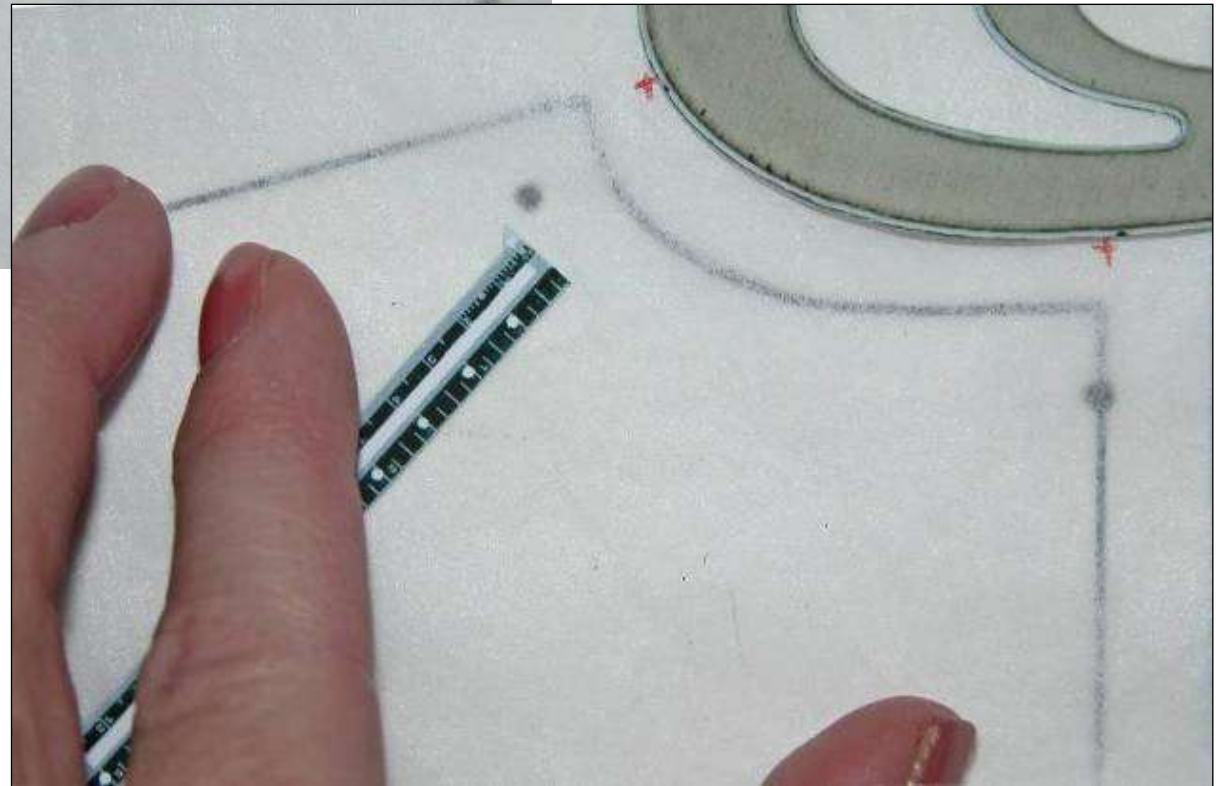


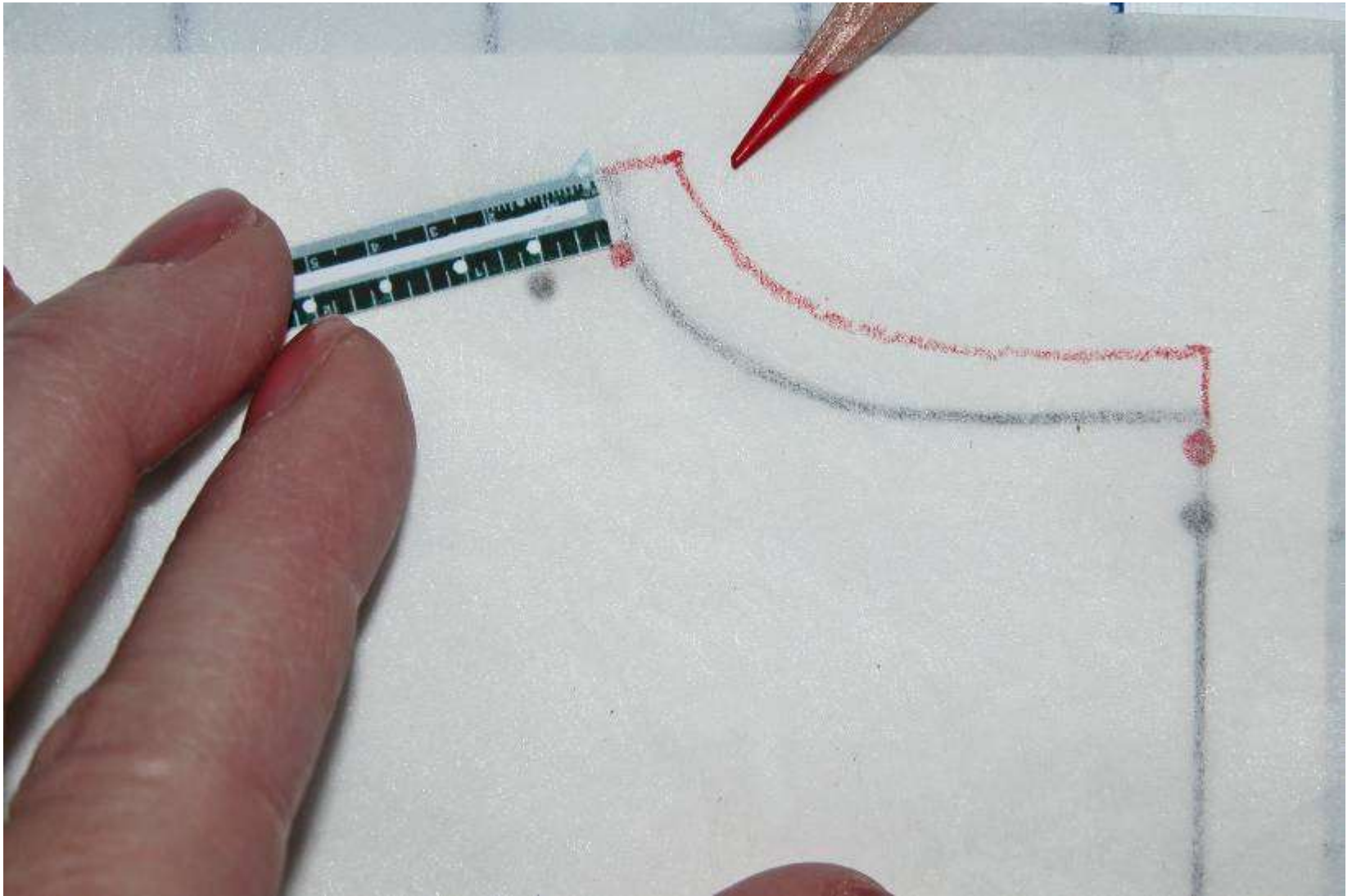


Experiment with the French Curve to find the best shape for the new neckline.

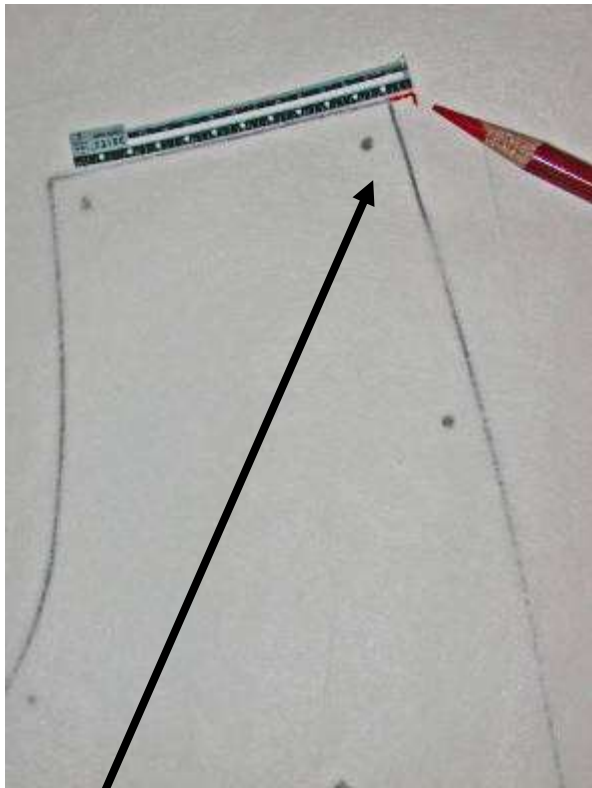


If also raising the back neck, use the ruler to connect the two points.



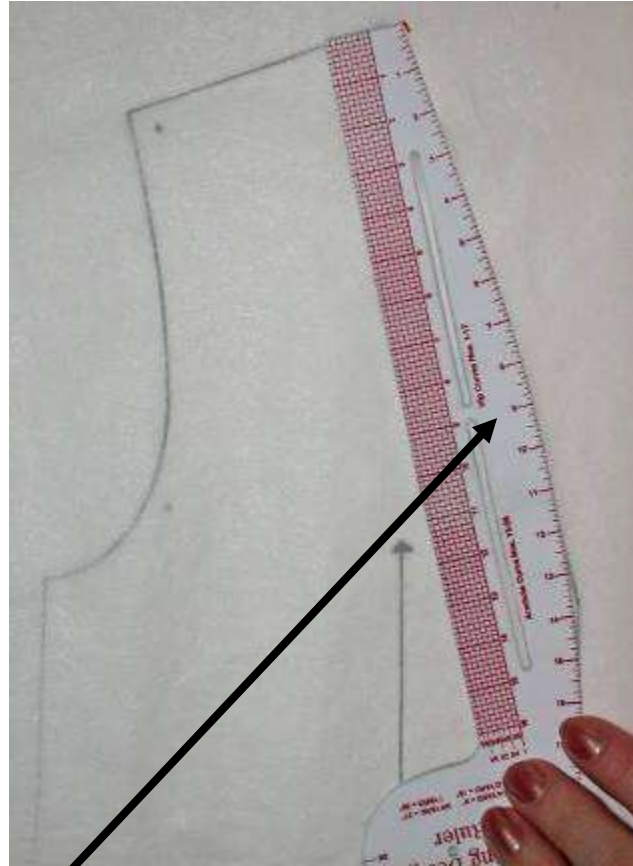


Once the new neckline is drawn, don't forget to move the neckline dot!
You will have to resize the band or collar to fit the new neckline.



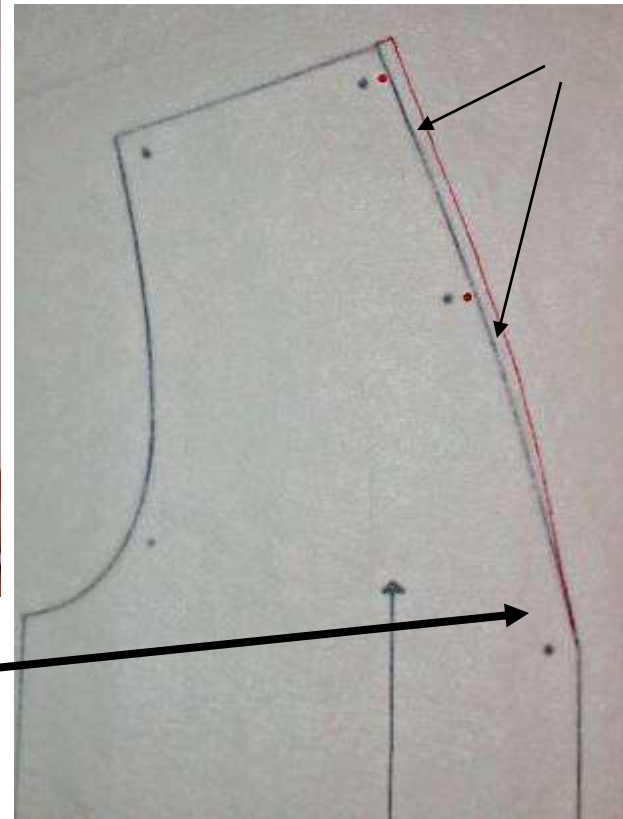
If you extend the shoulder at the neckline on the back pattern piece, you will have to do the same to the front.

Mark amount shoulder will be extended.

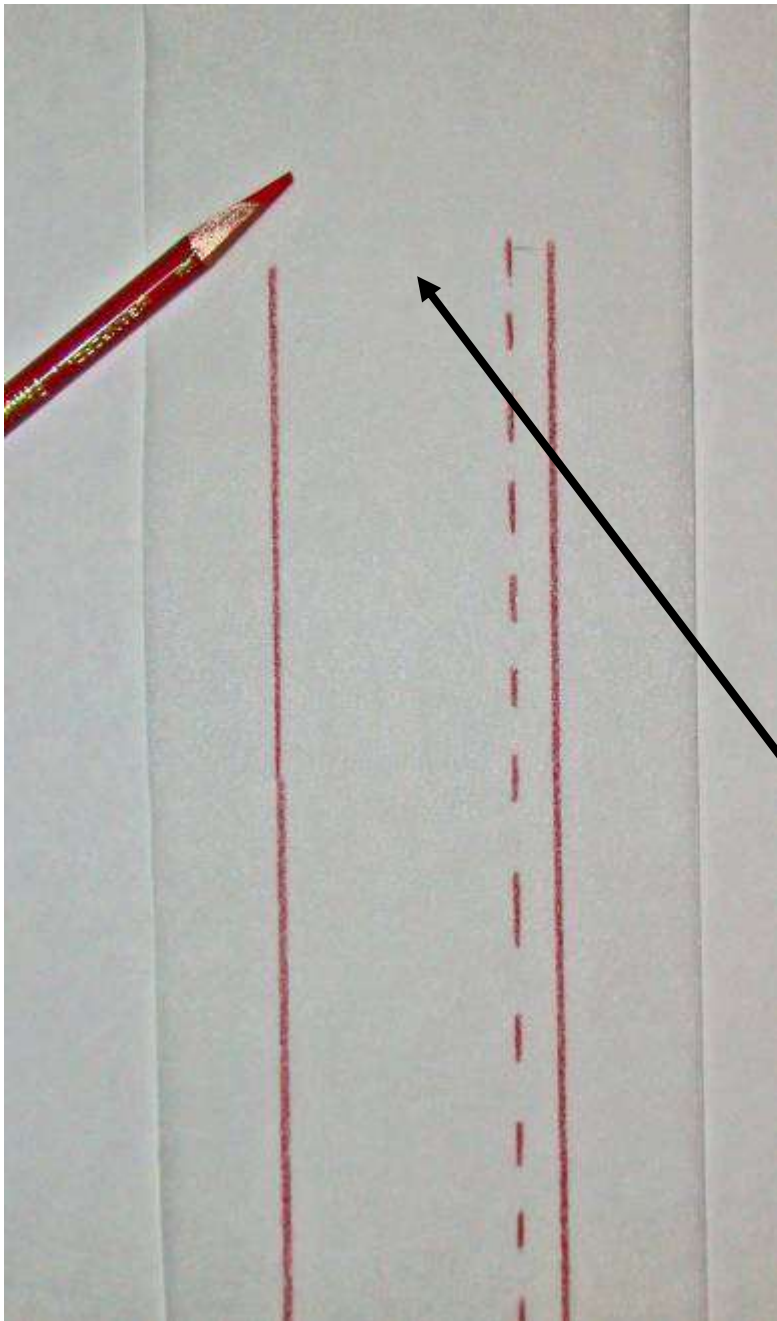


Use the Styling Ruler to redraft the neckline, tapering to nothing.

Don't forget to move the dots!



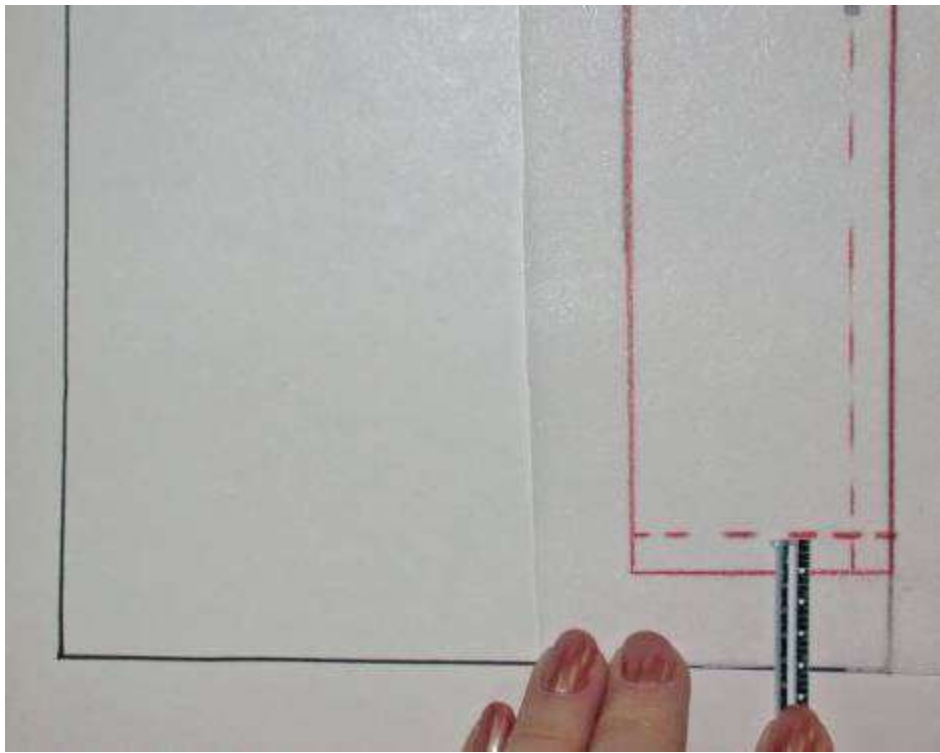
ALTERING THE BAND WHEN CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE NECK



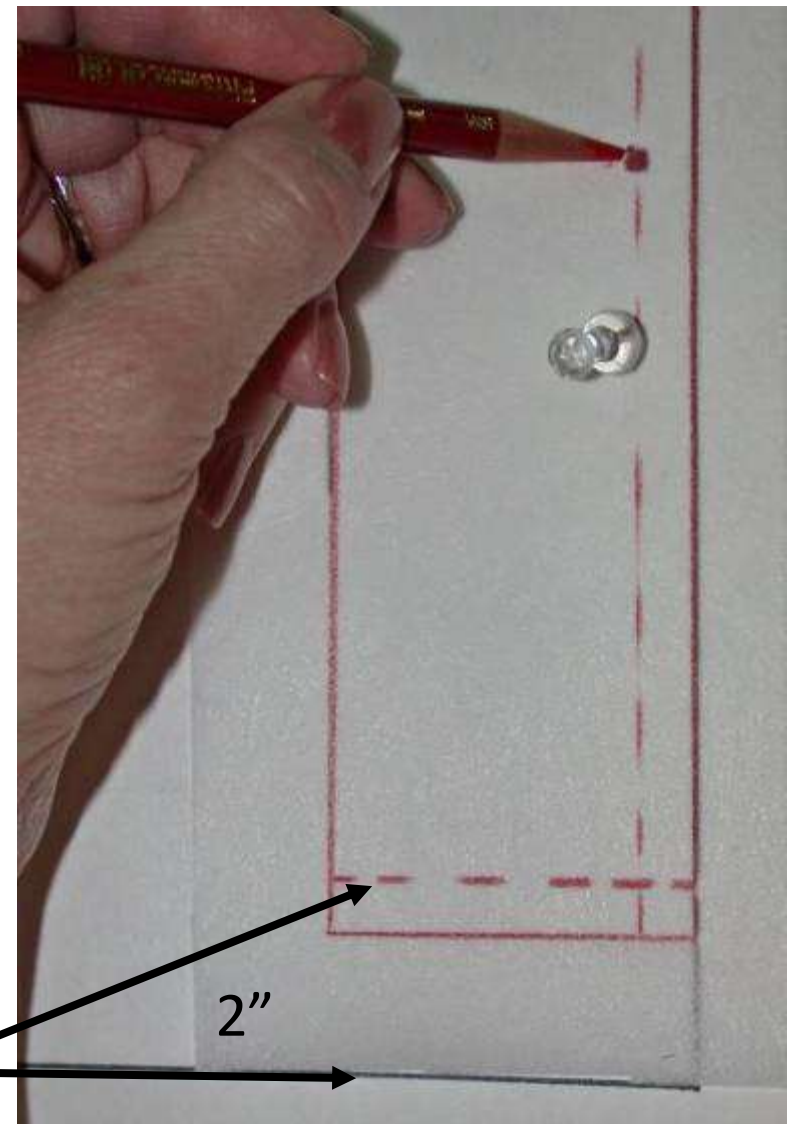
Trace the band pattern from the master.

Do not copy the dots.

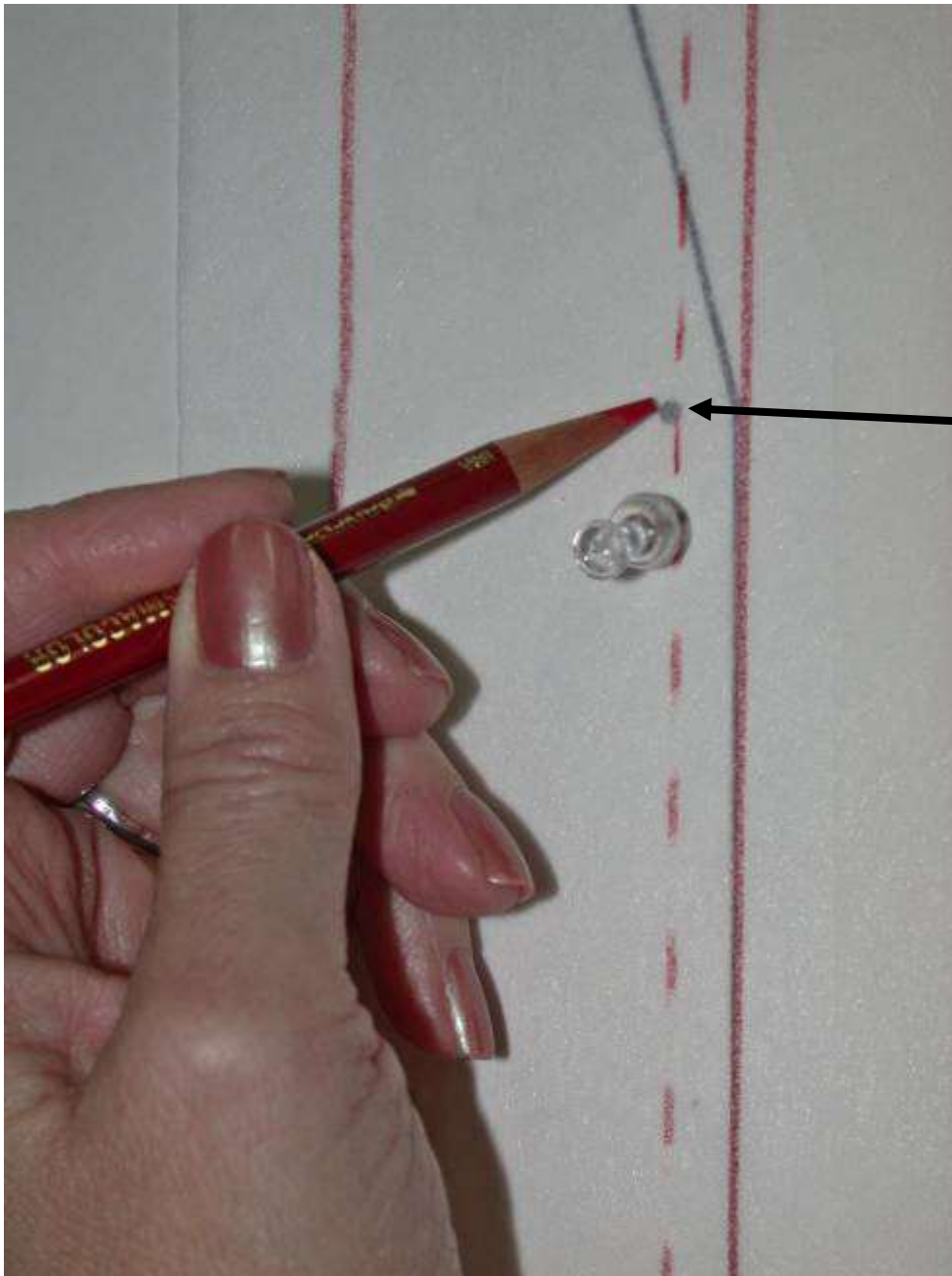
Leave the back neck seam and cutting line unfinished.



Start at the hem of the front pattern piece. Overlay the band pattern onto the front so the cutting lines are on top of each other. The seamline of the bottom of the band should sit on the hemline of the front. Jacket pattern typically has a 2" hem, the vest has a 1 ½" hem.



Place a push pin on the front seam line to anchor band pattern. Trace the square pocket dot.

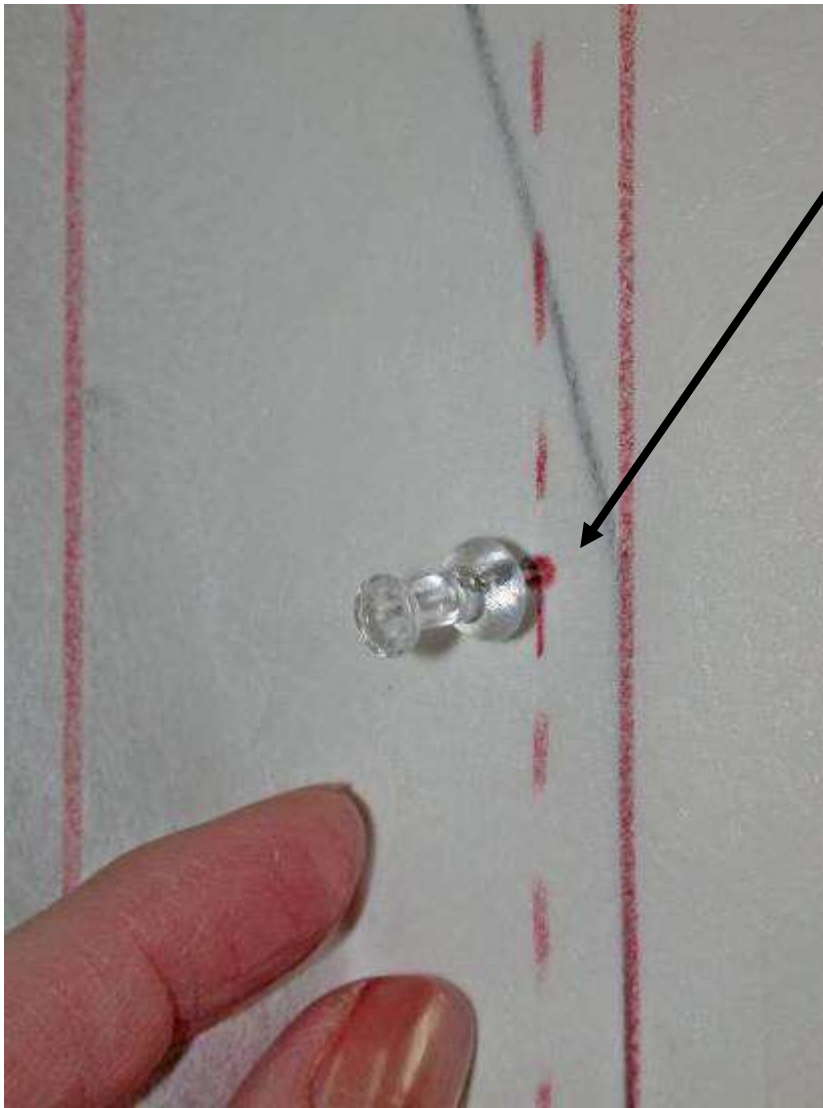


Keep band pattern anchored to seamline of front pattern piece with pushpins.

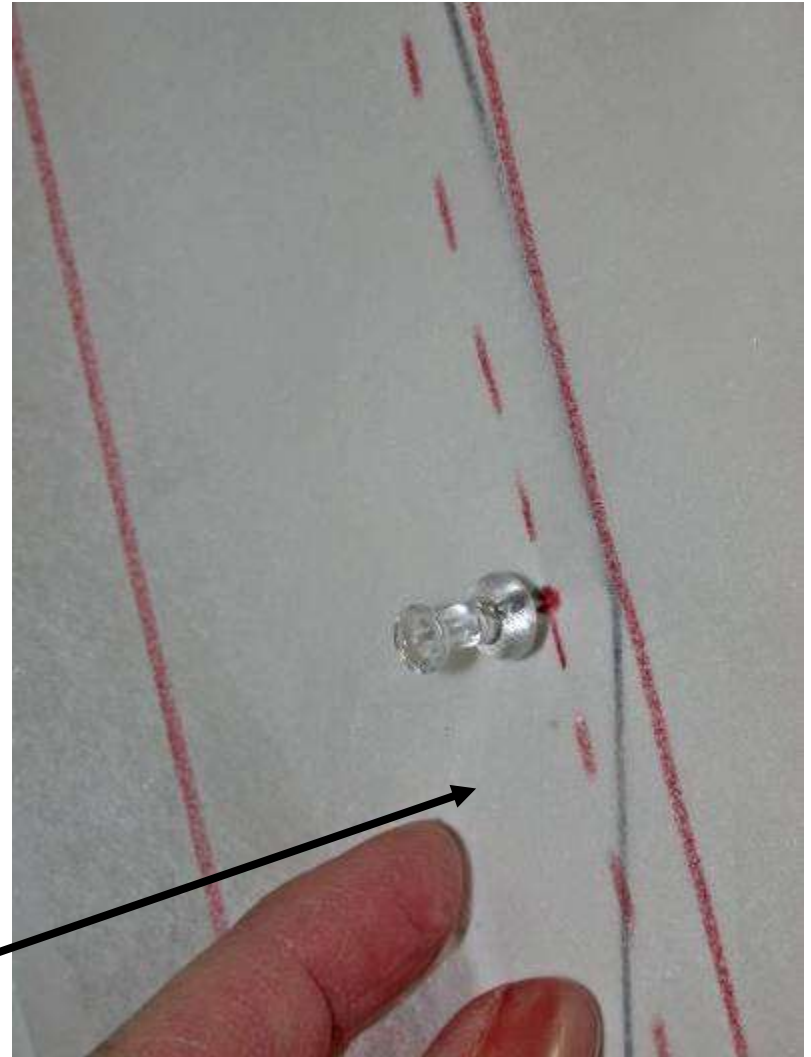
Work up the front from the hem, transferring dots to the band when they appear.

At this point, the neckline of the front pattern piece begins to curve.

Place a push pin in the dot marking the beginning of the front neckline. Use it for a pivot point.



Pivot neck band pattern piece on the push pin to align cutting lines and seam allowances.

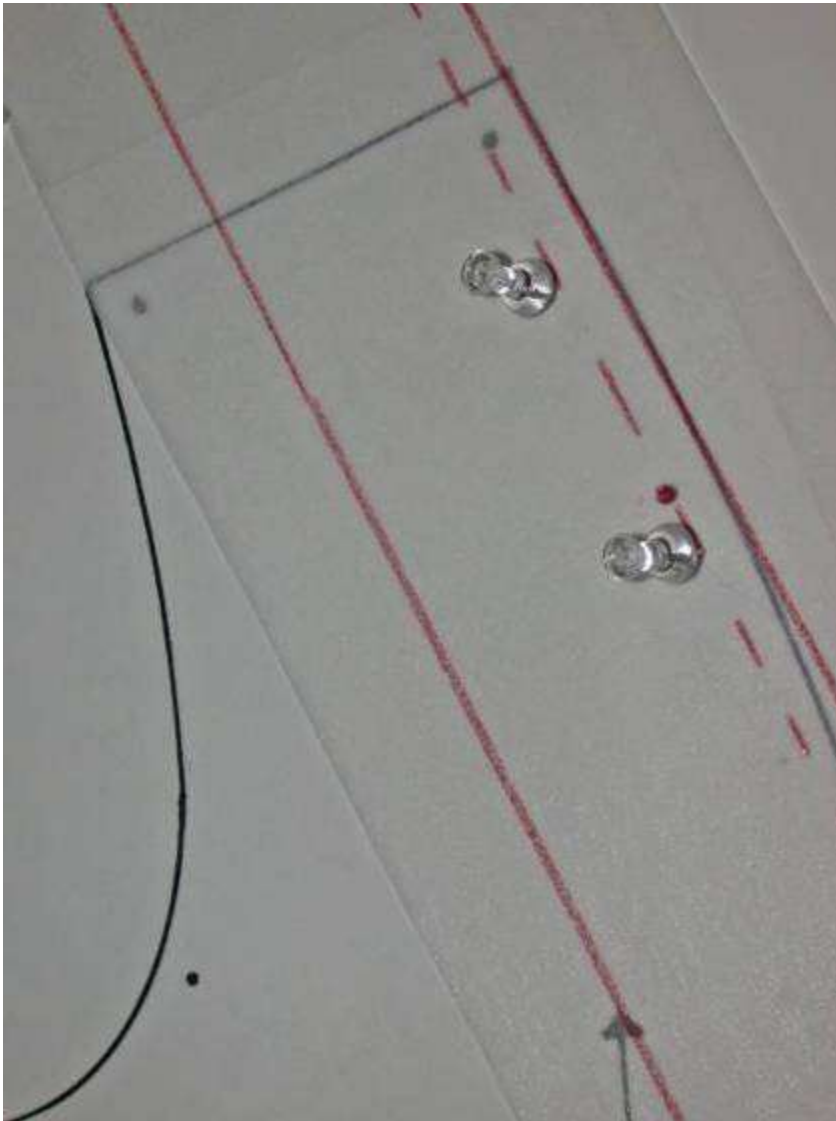


Carefully align cutting lines of band and front pattern pieces as you move up the neckline of the garment towards the shoulder.

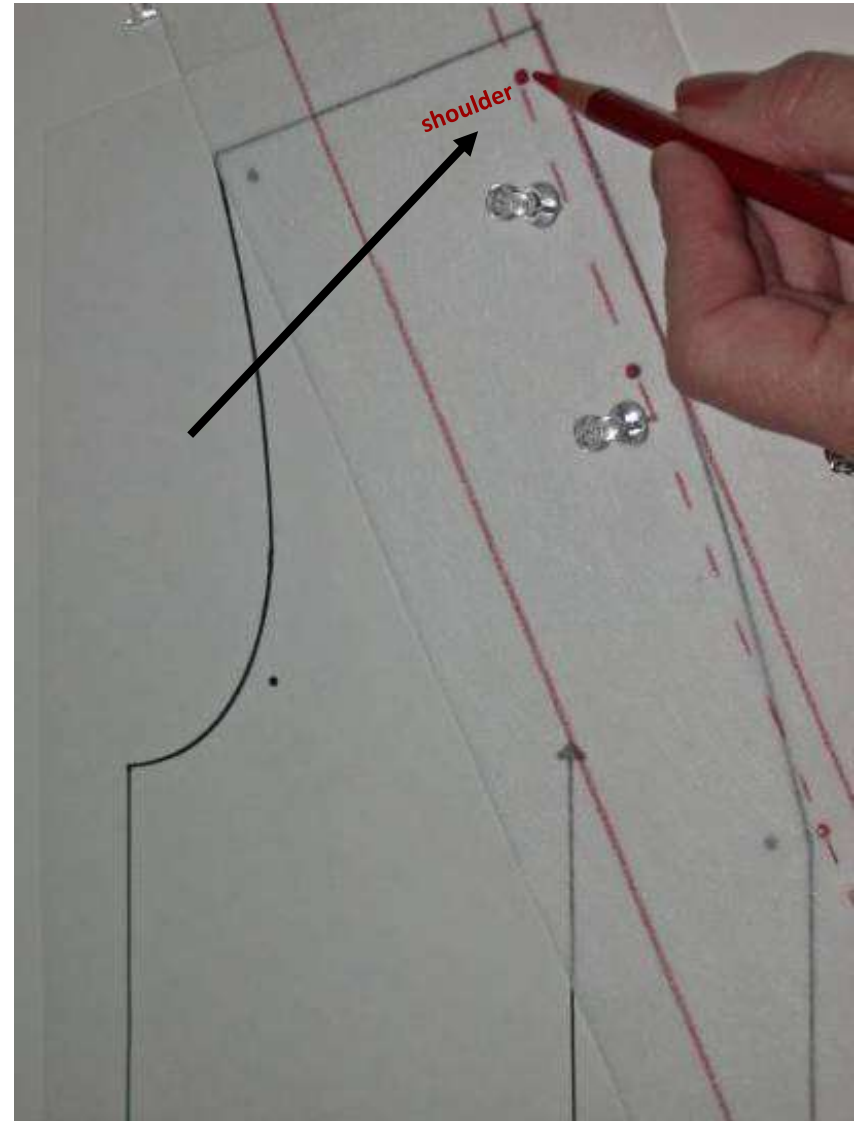
Alternate a pair of push pins, anchoring them in the seam line.



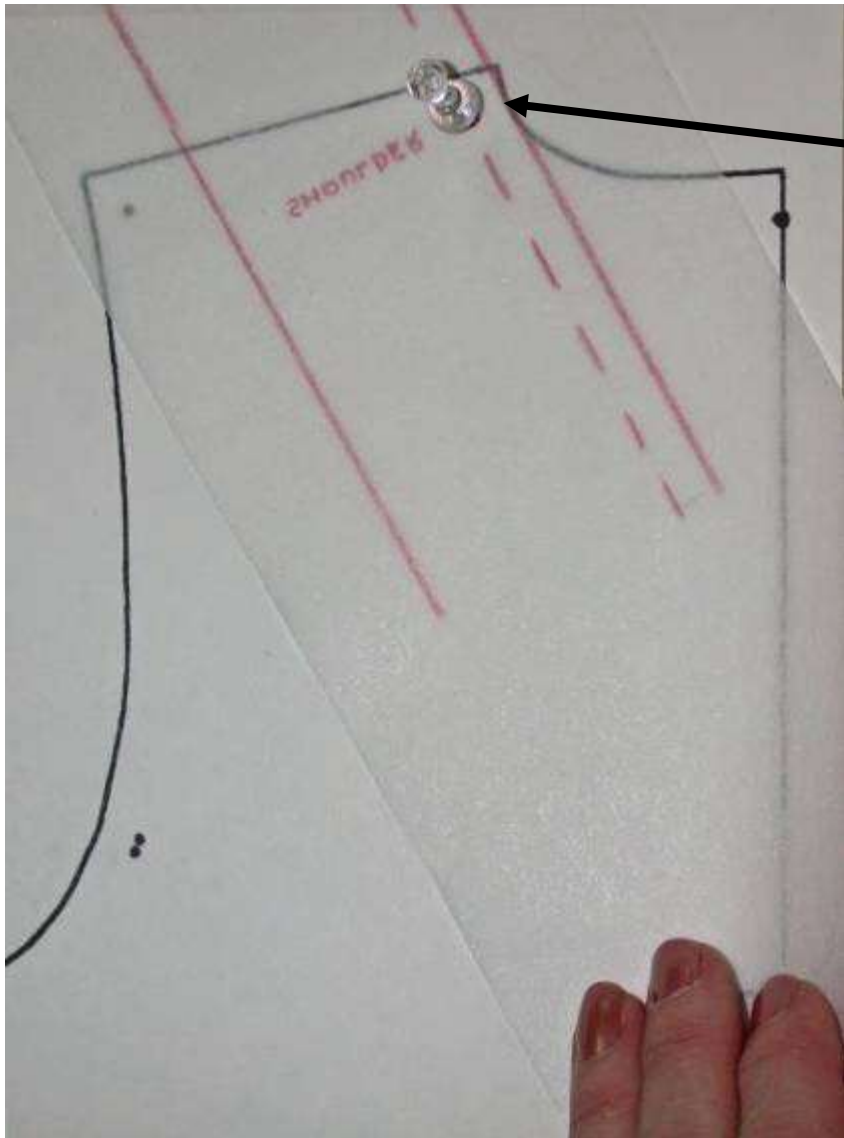
Keep shifting the band pattern piece, pivoting on a push pin, to keep cutting lines aligned. When a dot appears, transfer it to the band.



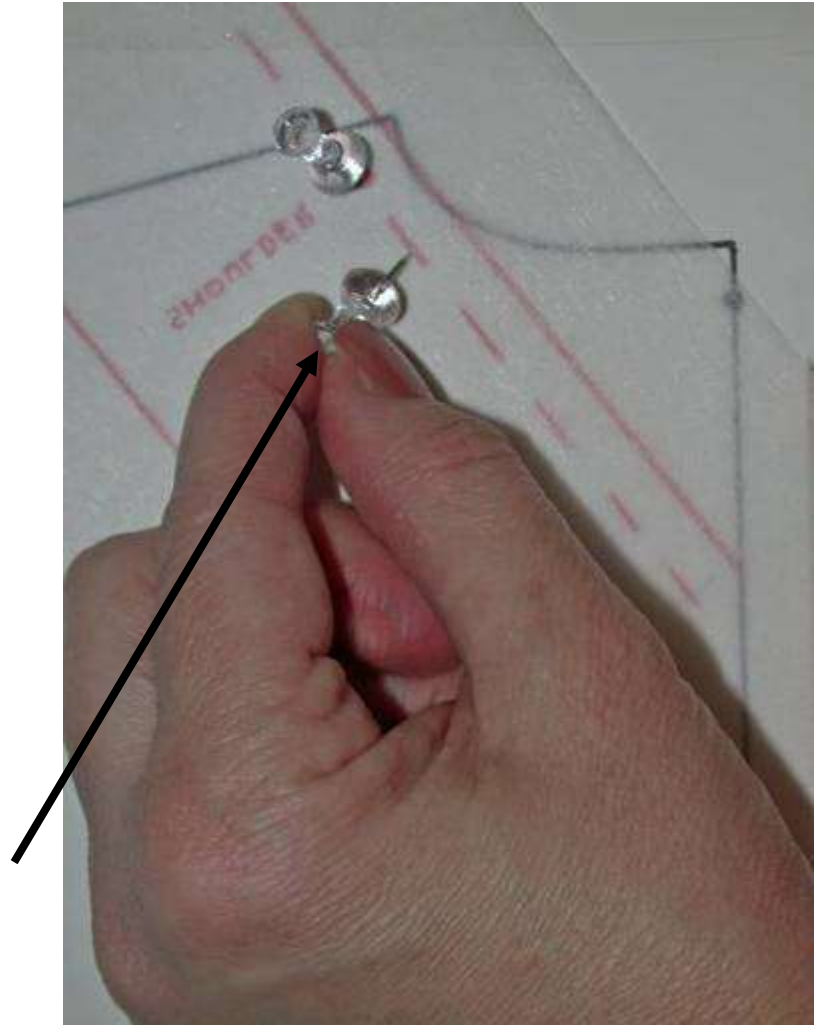
Alternate the push pins up the seam line, transfer the dots when they appear.



Transfer the shoulder dot, and label it.

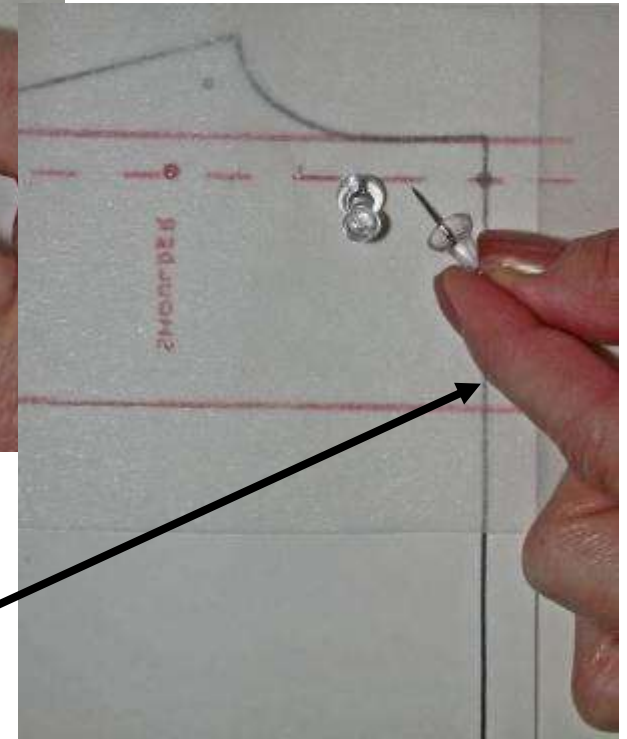
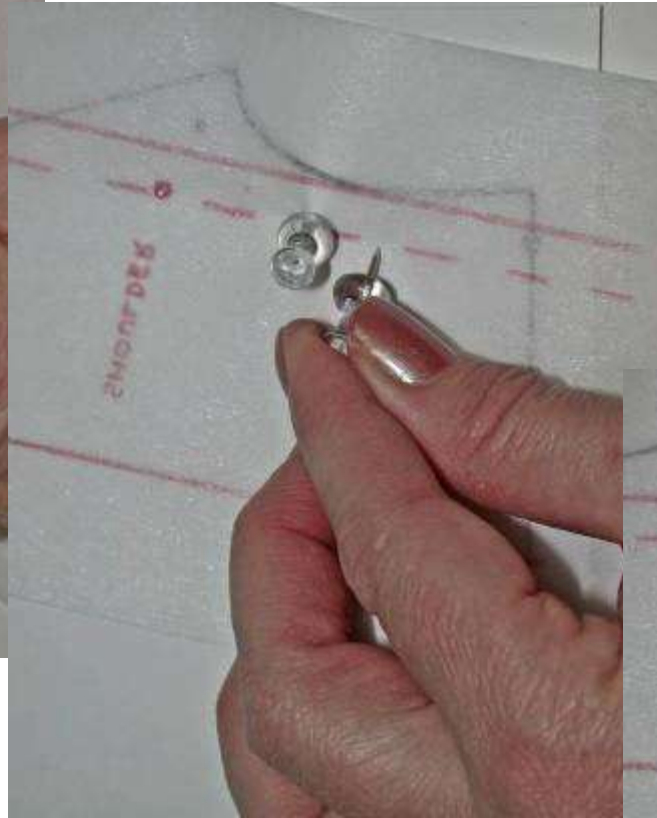


Remove band pattern piece from garment front and turn it over. Place the shoulder dot on the shoulder dot of the back pattern piece. Anchor with push pin.

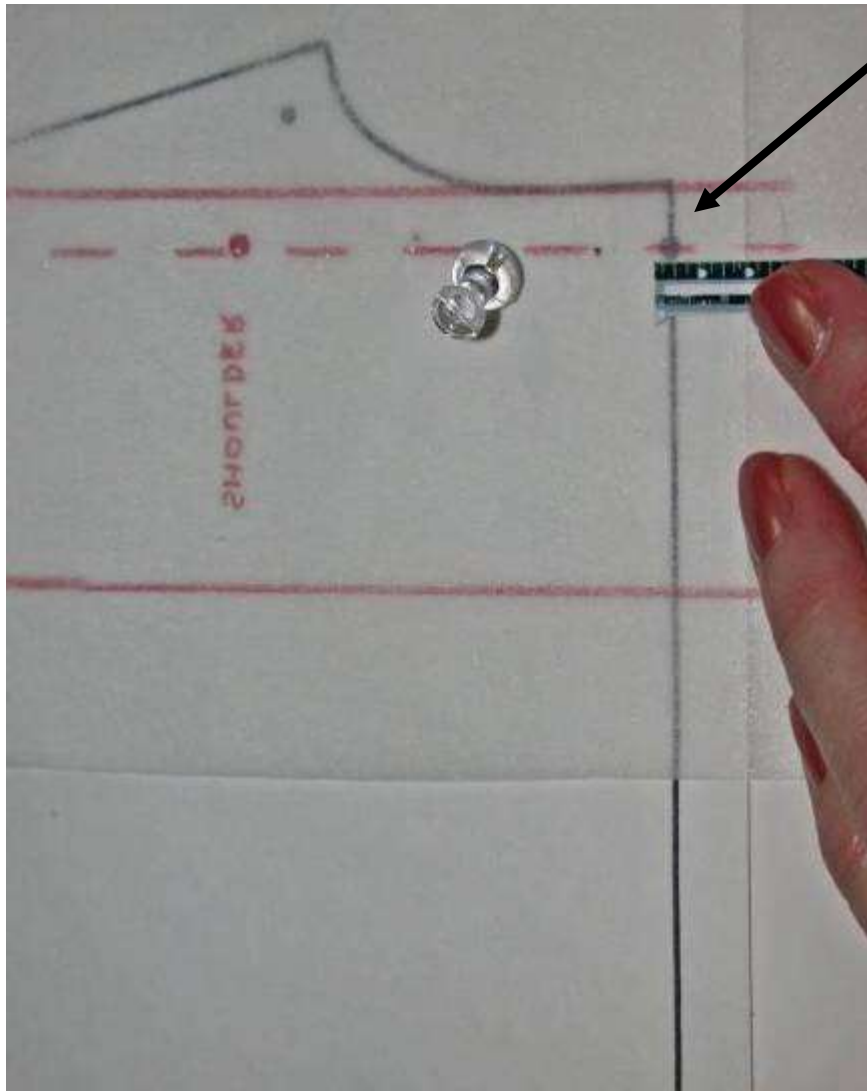


Continue lining up cutting lines, alternating a pair of push pins on the seam line as band curves around the back neck.

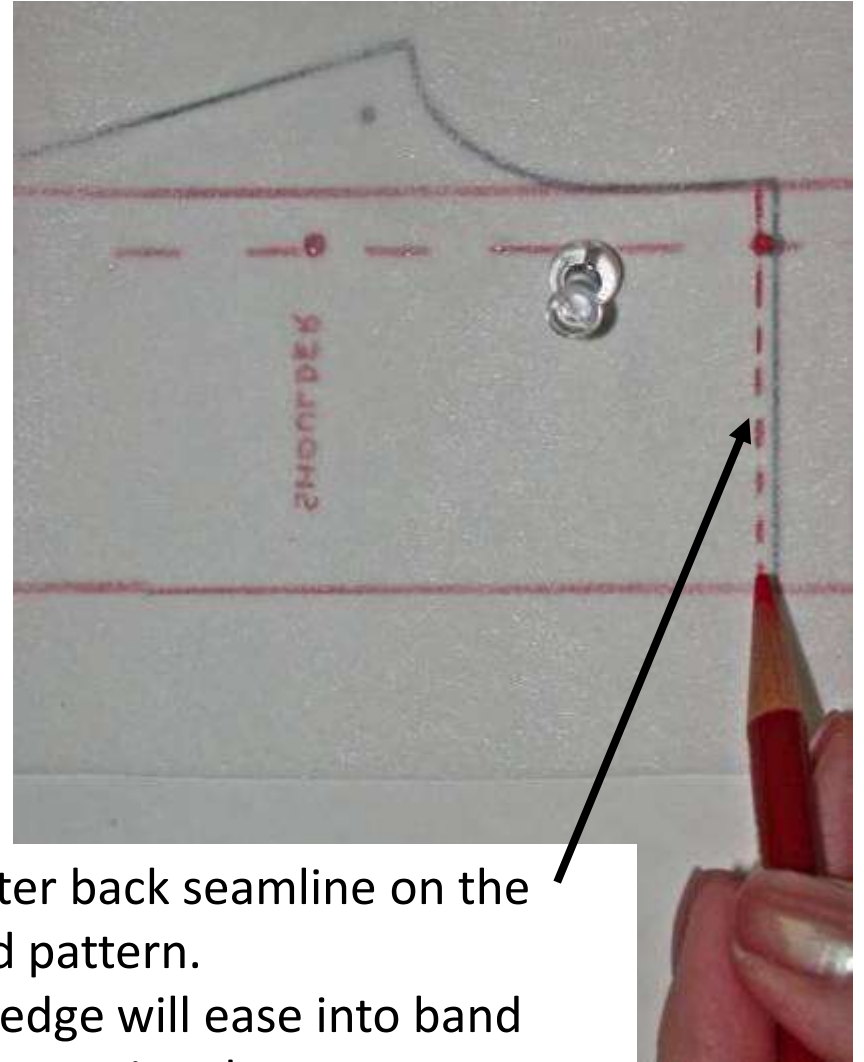
Alternate push pins on the seam line while keeping cutting lines together.



Keep pivoting the pattern piece around the neckline until it is perpendicular to the center back.

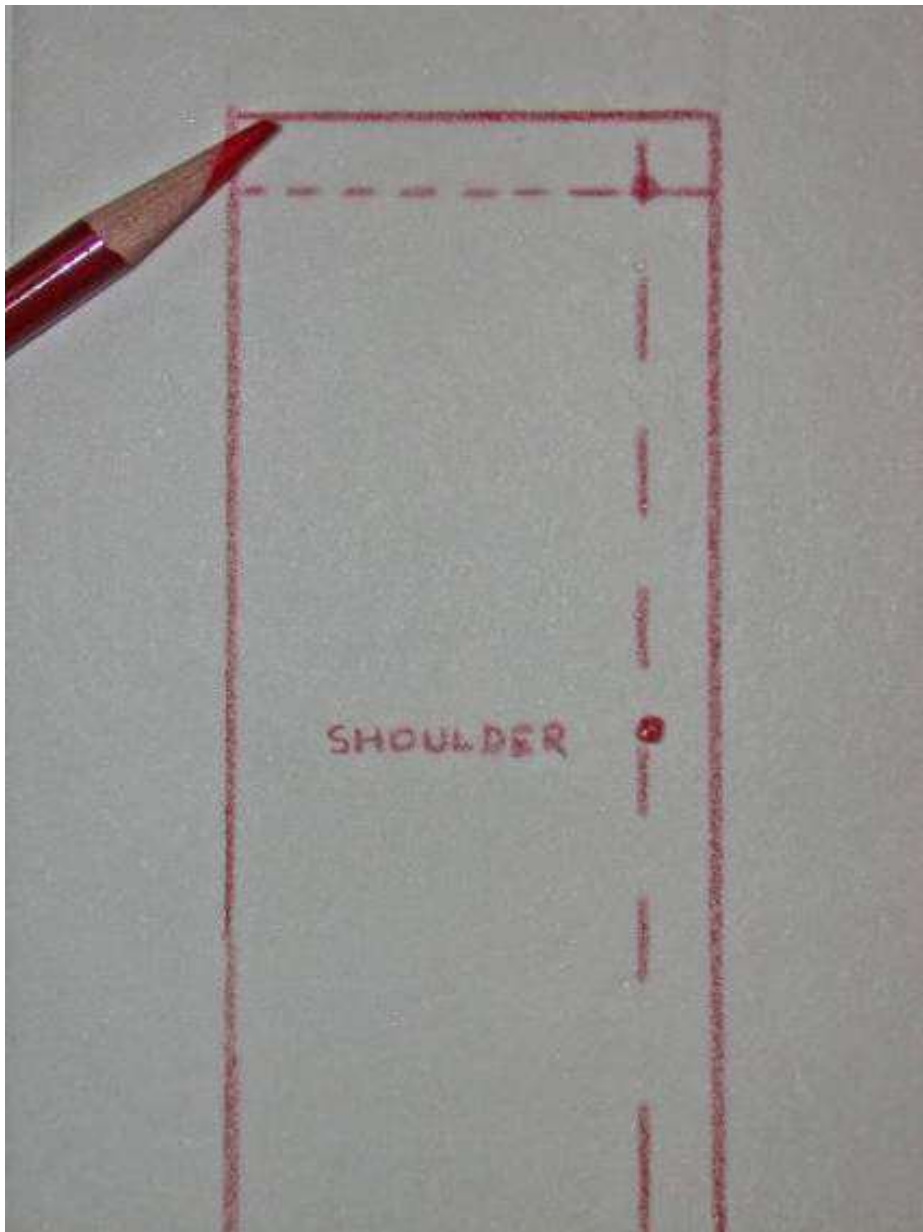
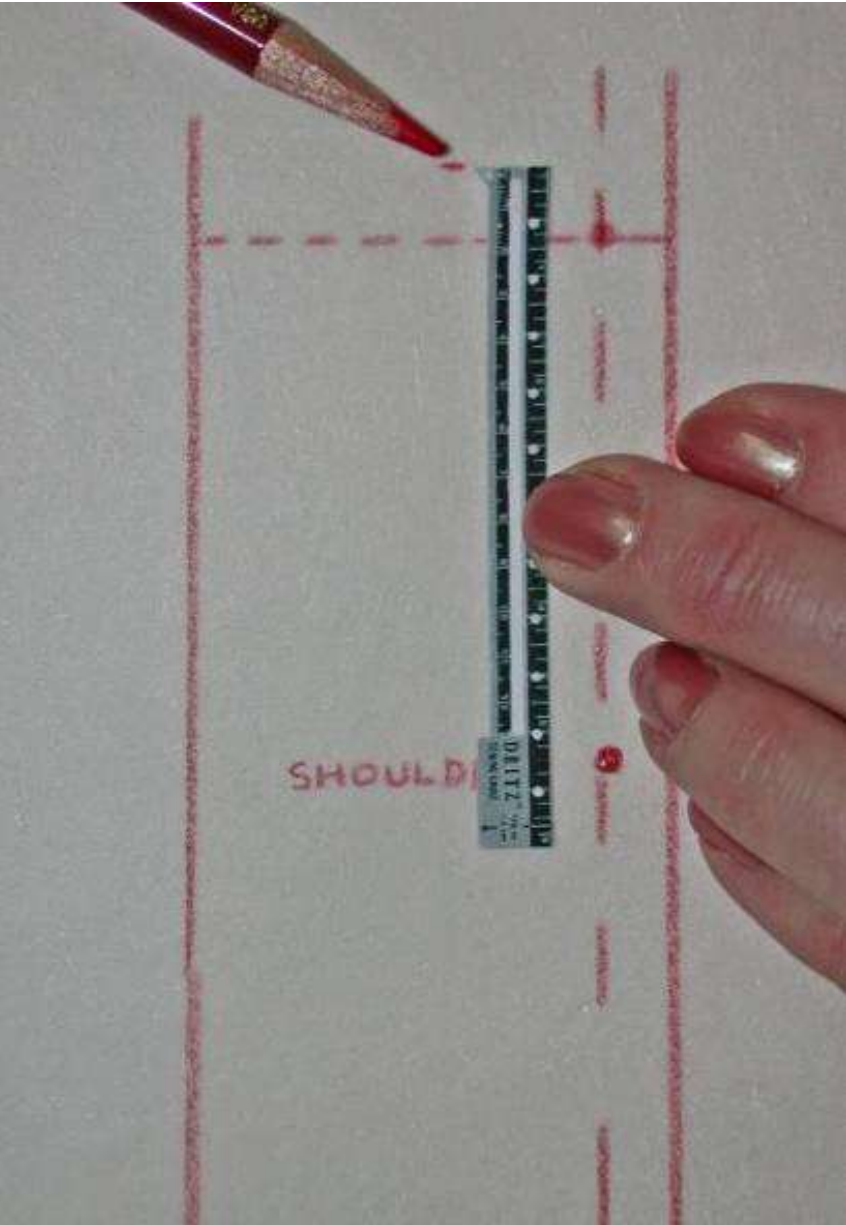


Tip: To get the neck band to fit snug around the back neck, make the band $\frac{1}{8}$ " shorter than the neck edge on each side of the center back. Total $\frac{1}{4}$ "

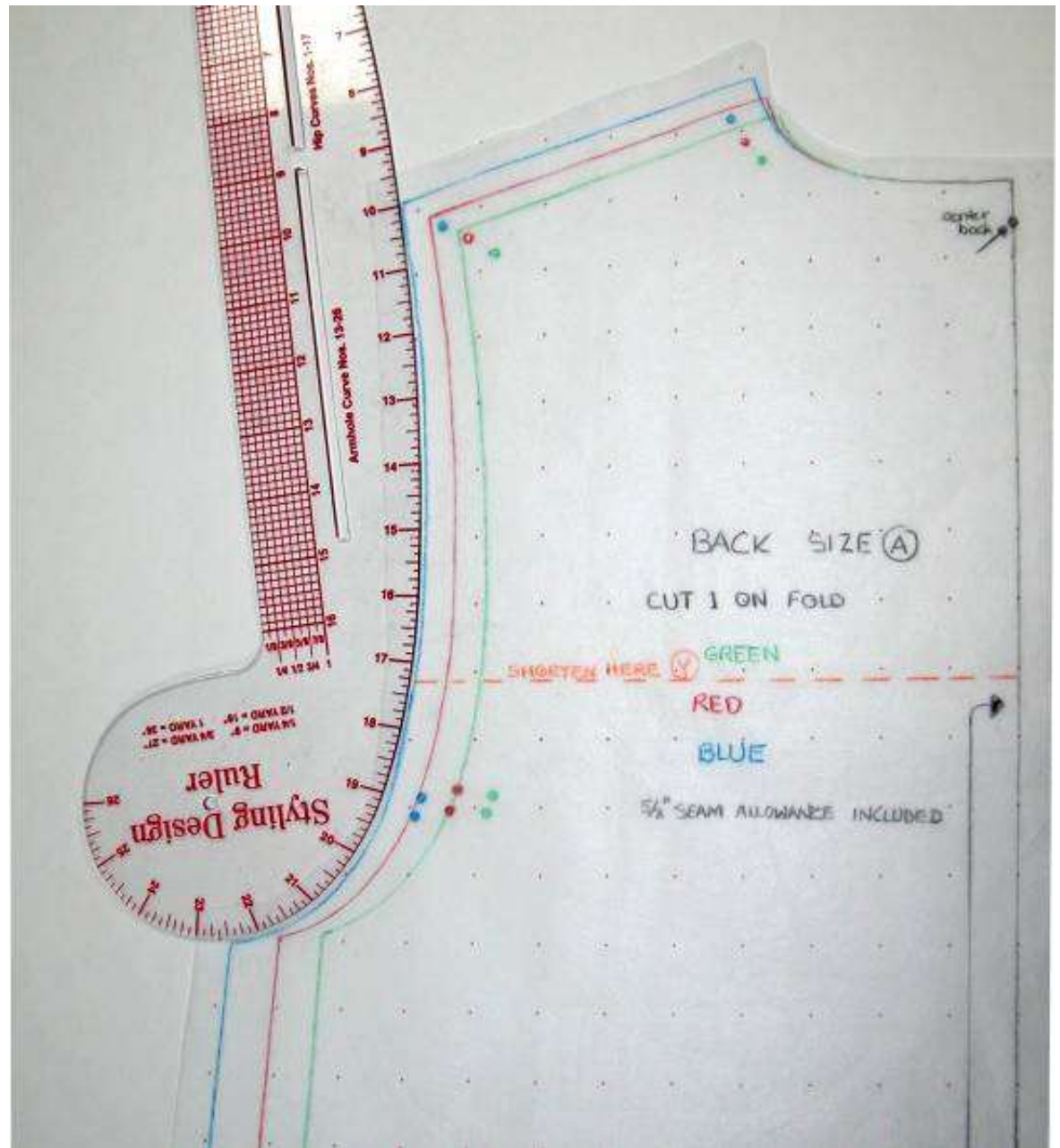


Draw center back seamline on the neck band pattern.
The neck edge will ease into band when constructing the garment.

Use a ruler to mark the cutting line, $\frac{5}{8}$ " from seamline.



The armhole or “armscye” seam is shaped by a special ruler designed for this purpose. Called a Styling Design Ruler, it can be purchased from most notion suppliers.

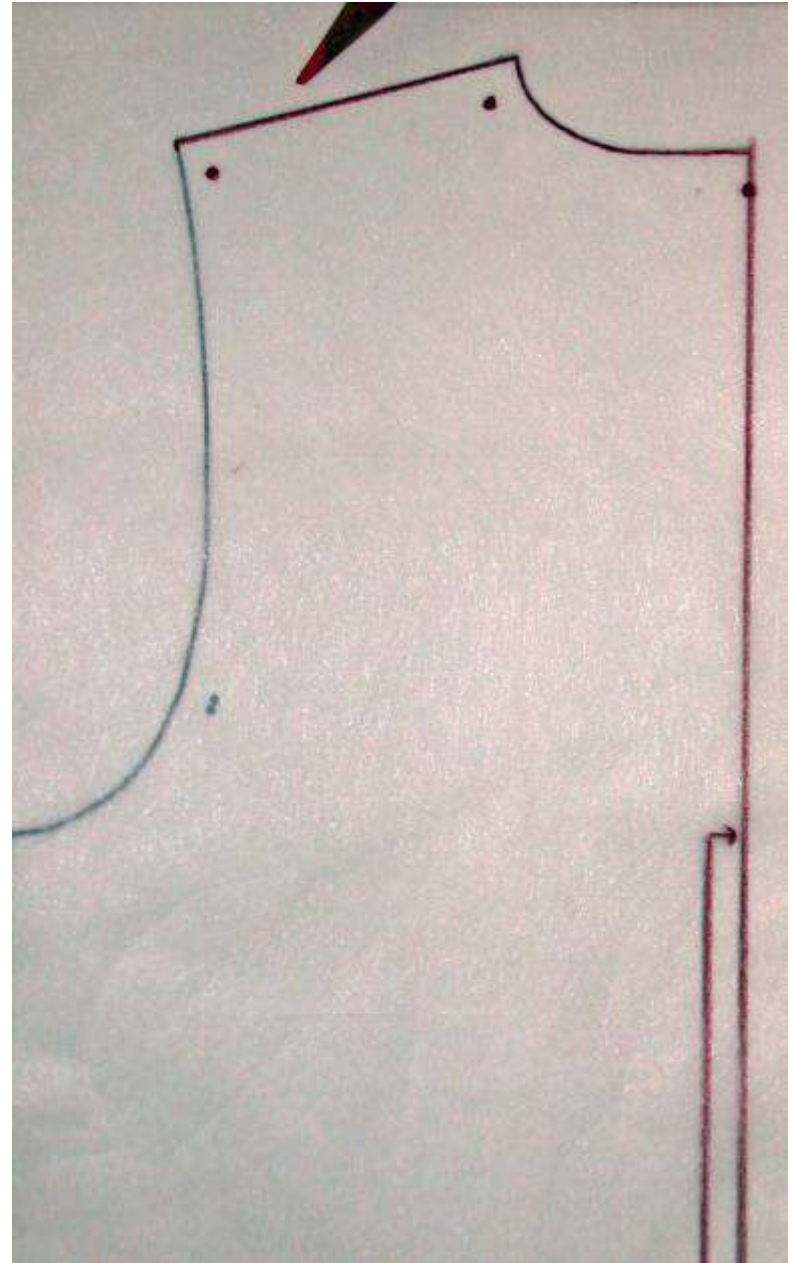


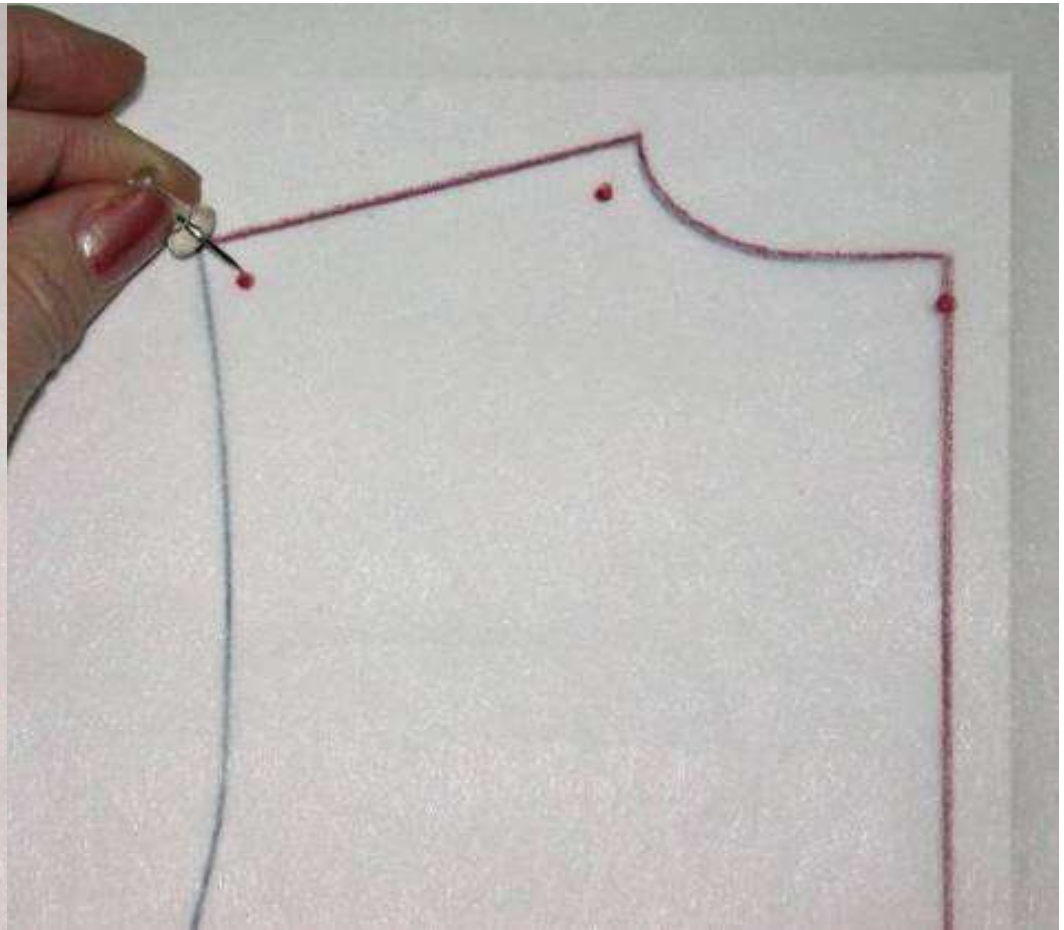
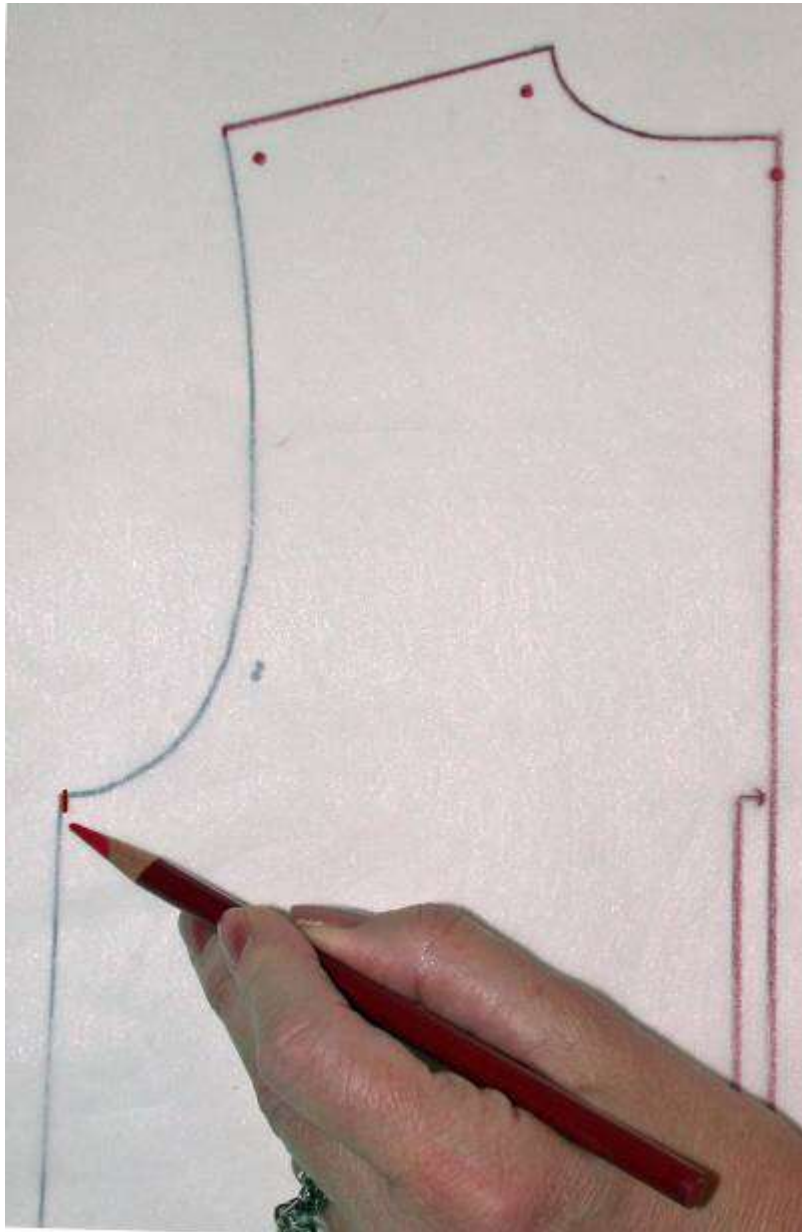
SWING METHOD OF INCREASING OR DECREASING BUST CIRCUMFERENCE WITHOUT ALTERING ARMSCYE.

Note: Illustrations will demonstrate
“increase”.

Trace the back or front edge, neckline,
shoulder and grainlines. Don't forget
the dots!

DO NOT trace the armscye at this time.

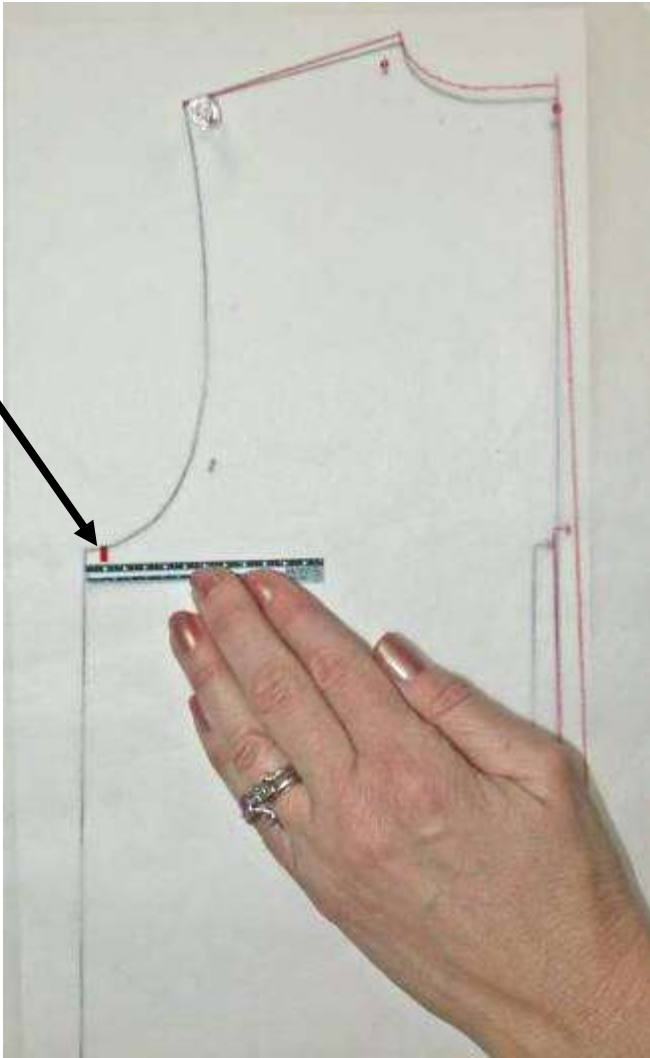
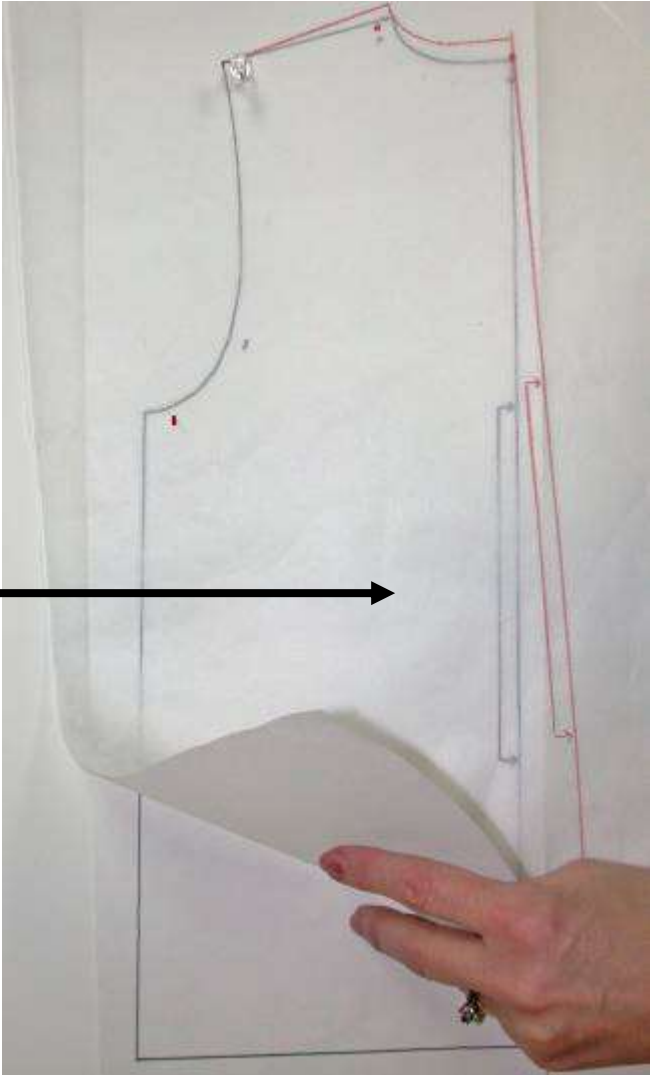




Place a push pin firmly into the shoulder dot at the armhole. This will become the swing or pivot point.

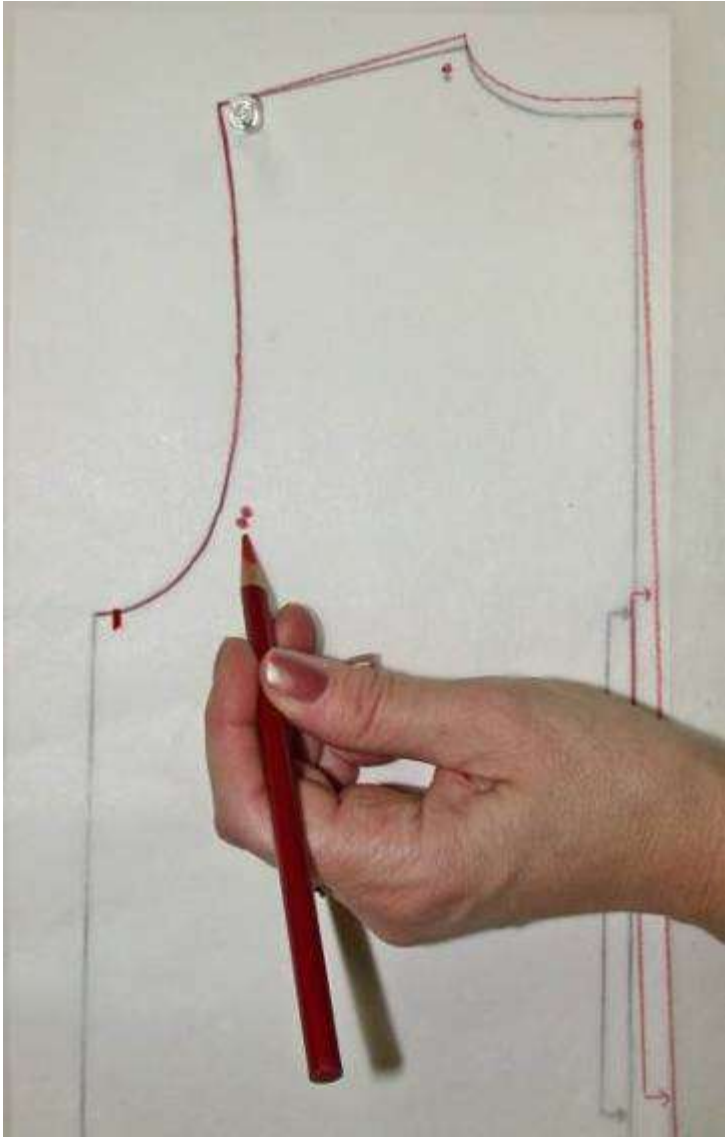
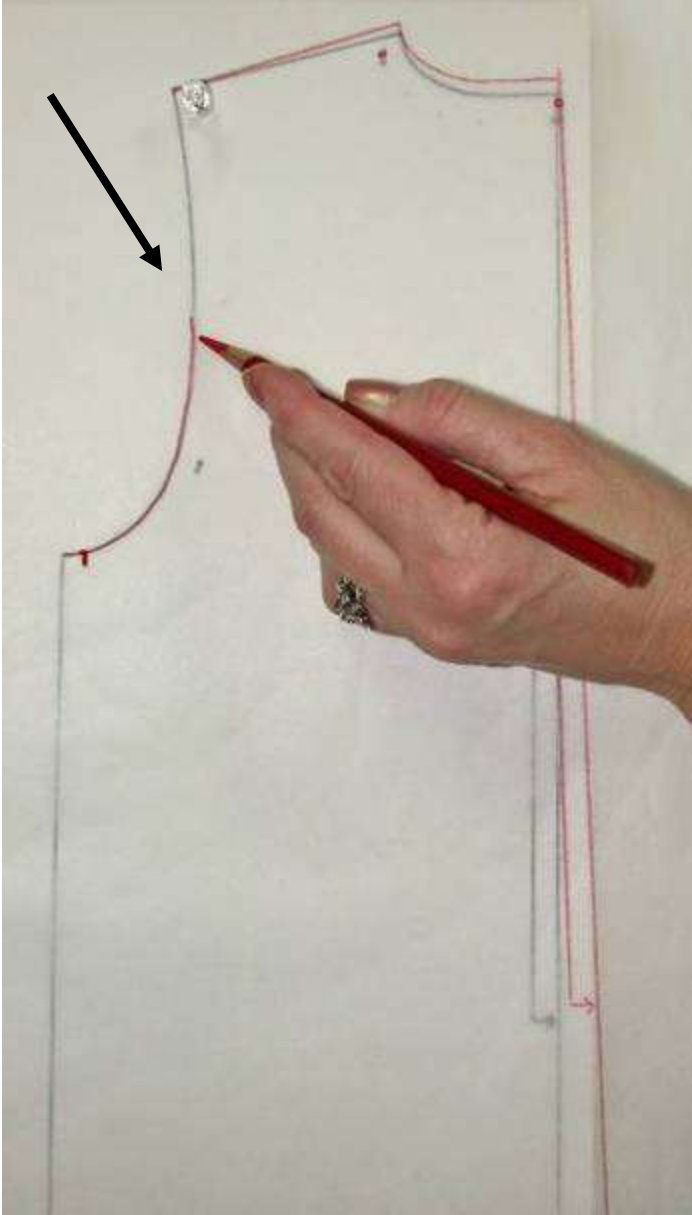
Place a mark on the side seam cutting line where it joins the armhole.

Pivoting on the push pin, swing the tracing medium so that the underarm mark moves away from the side seam cutting line the desired measurement change.

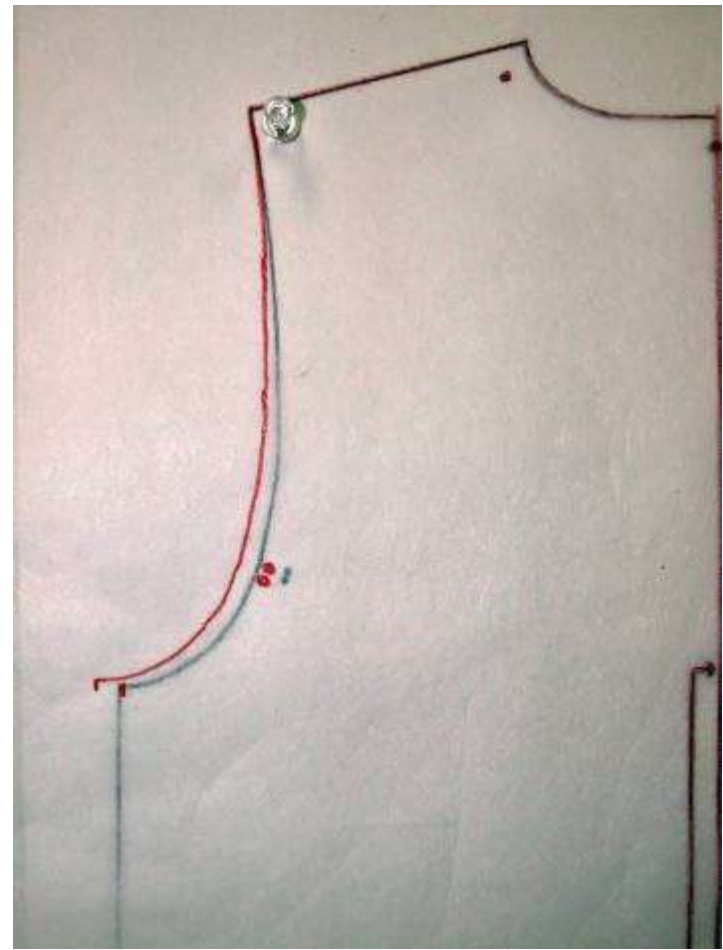
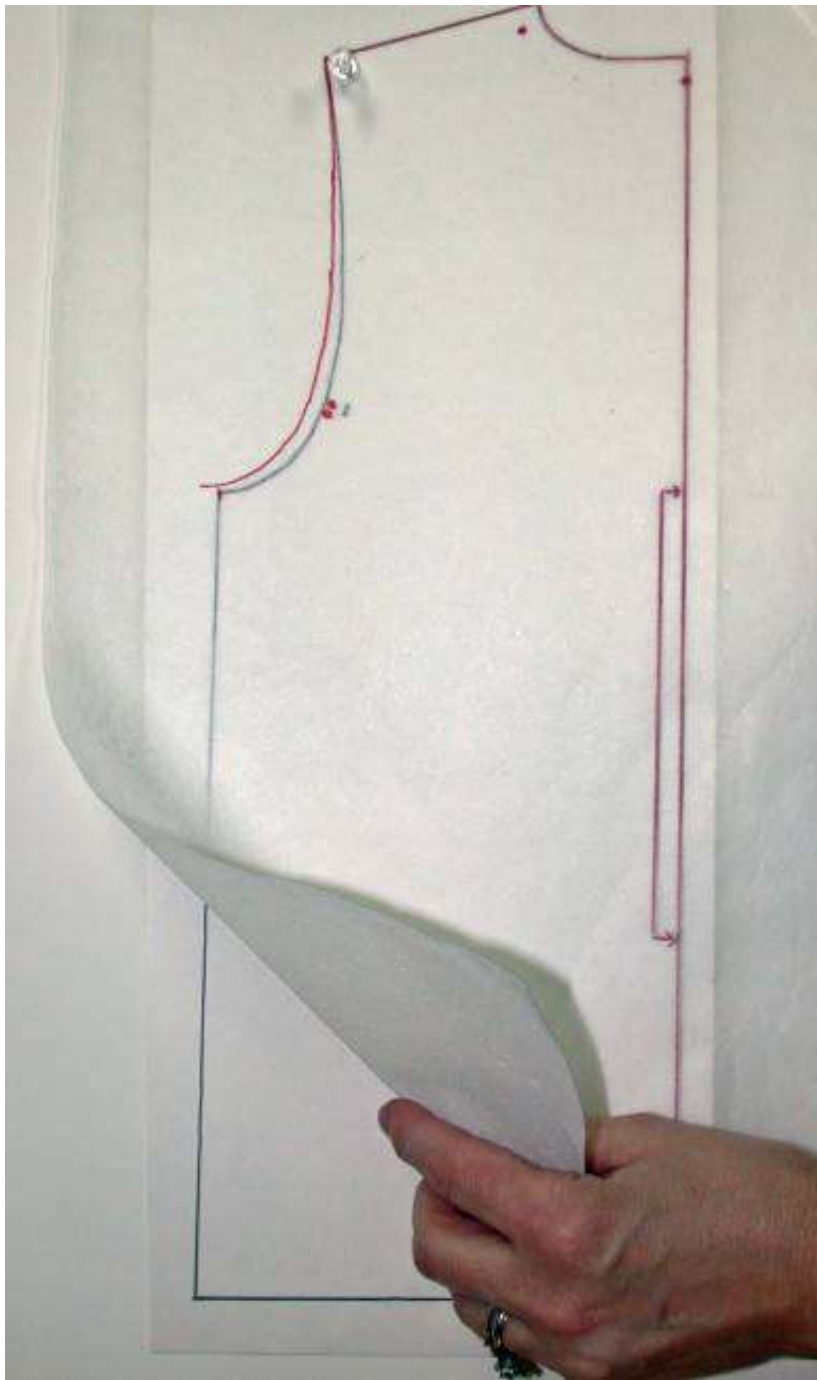


Tip: When working with a circumference measurement, divide by four for the correct amount to alter each pattern piece.

Trace armscye in the new position.



Don't forget to trace the dots!

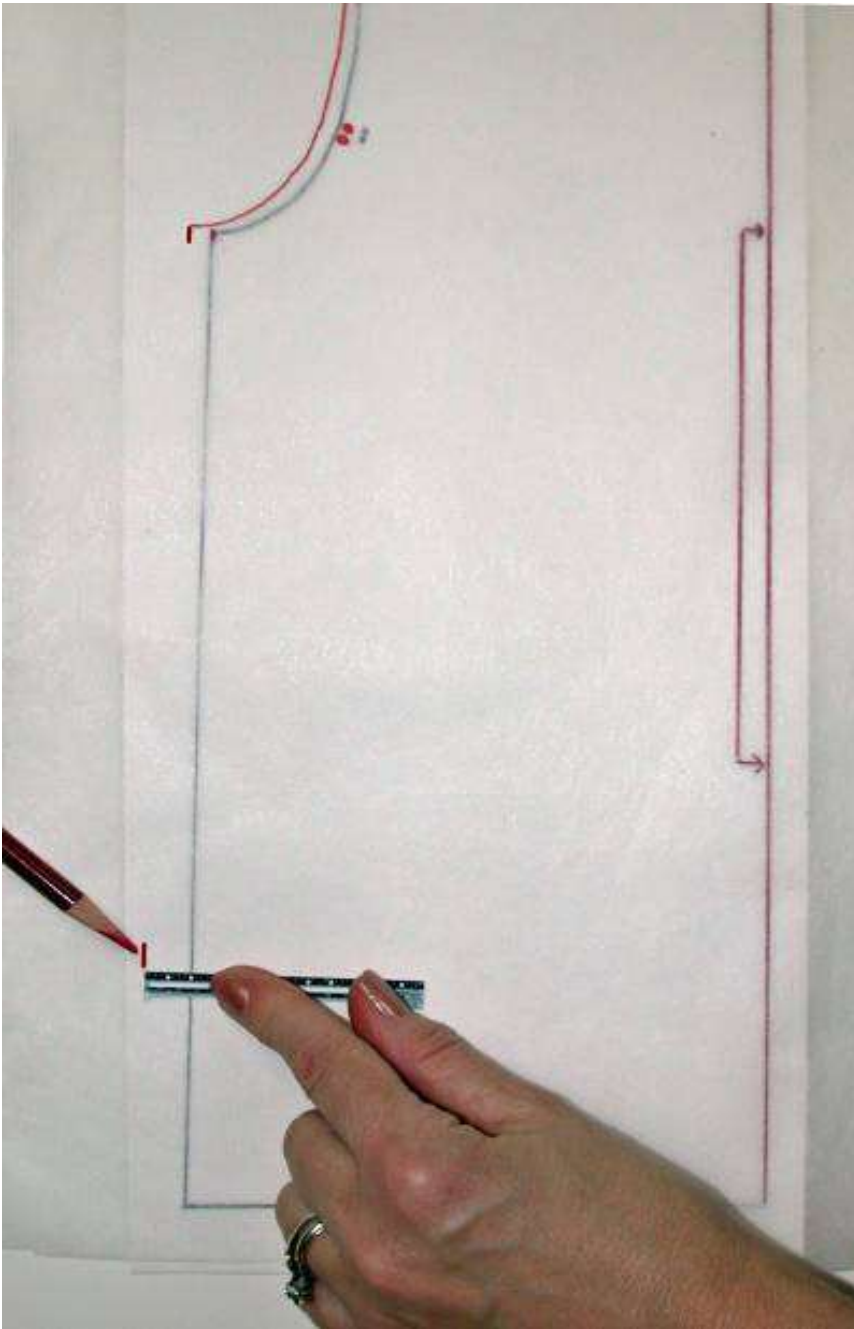


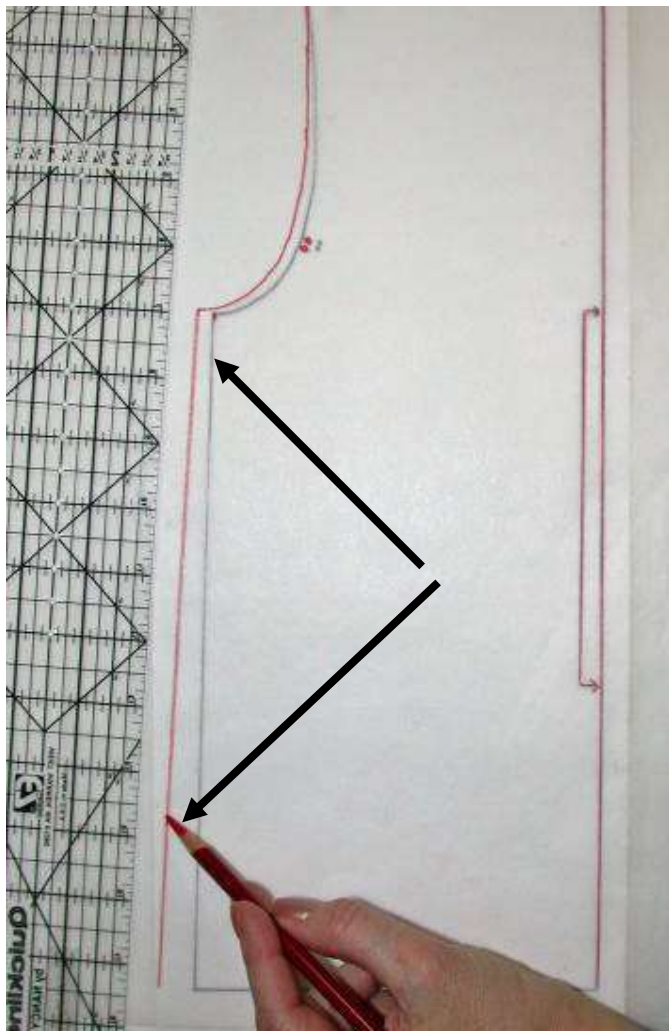
Return tracing medium to its original position. Note the new placement of the armscye and side seam cutting line.

INCREASE HIP CIRCUMFERENCE

If increasing hip, measure up about 5 inches from the bottom edge of the pattern, (where the widest point of the hip is located) less if the garment pattern has been shortened. From that point, measure out the desired amount of increase and make a mark.

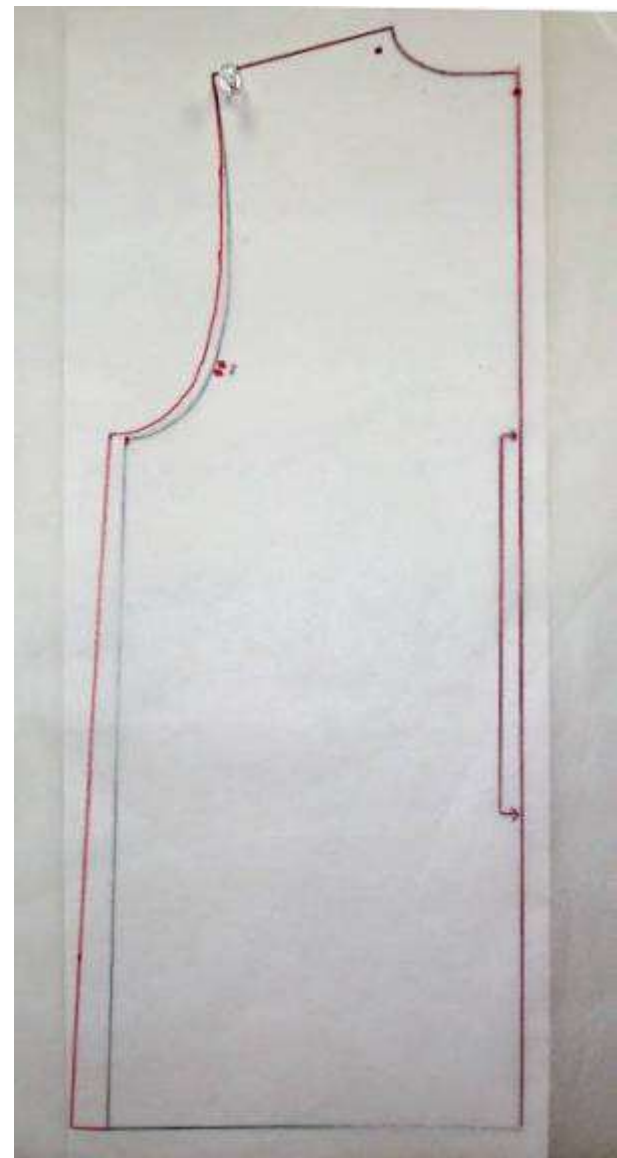
Note: When working with a circumference measurement, divide by four for the amount of increase for each pattern piece.





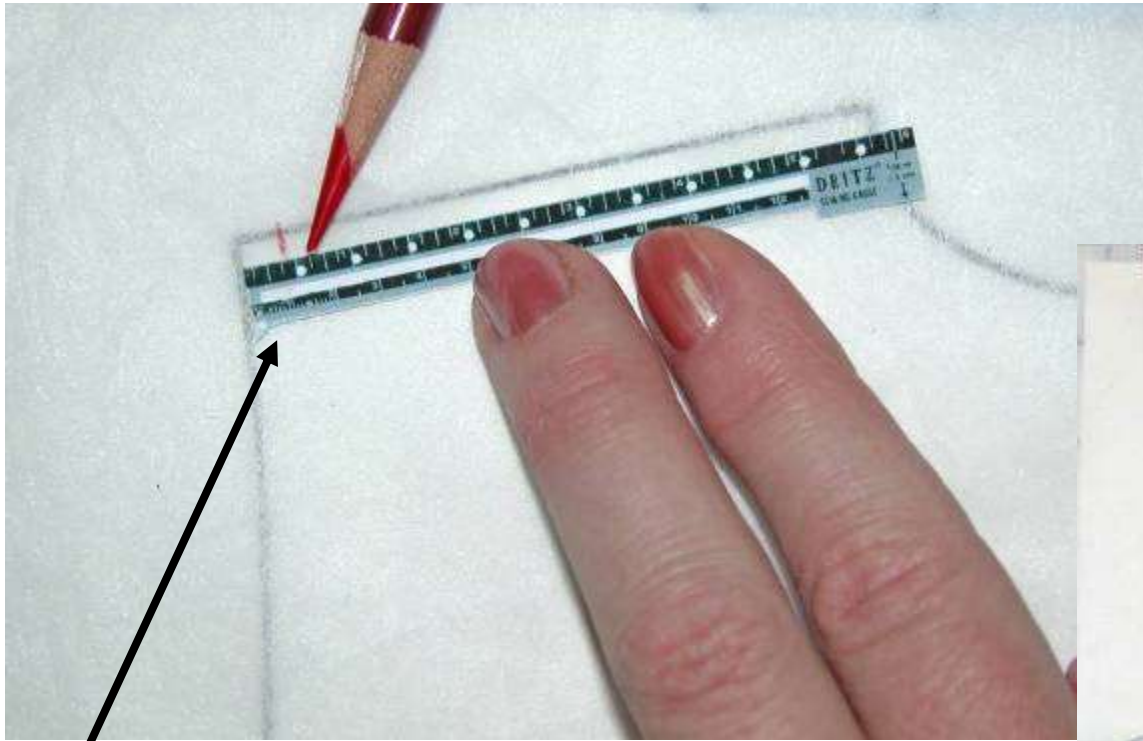
Use a straight edge to connect the new hip circumference mark with the side seam cutting line at the armhole.

Note: see page 37 for truing up a side seam with a dart.



The finished pattern!

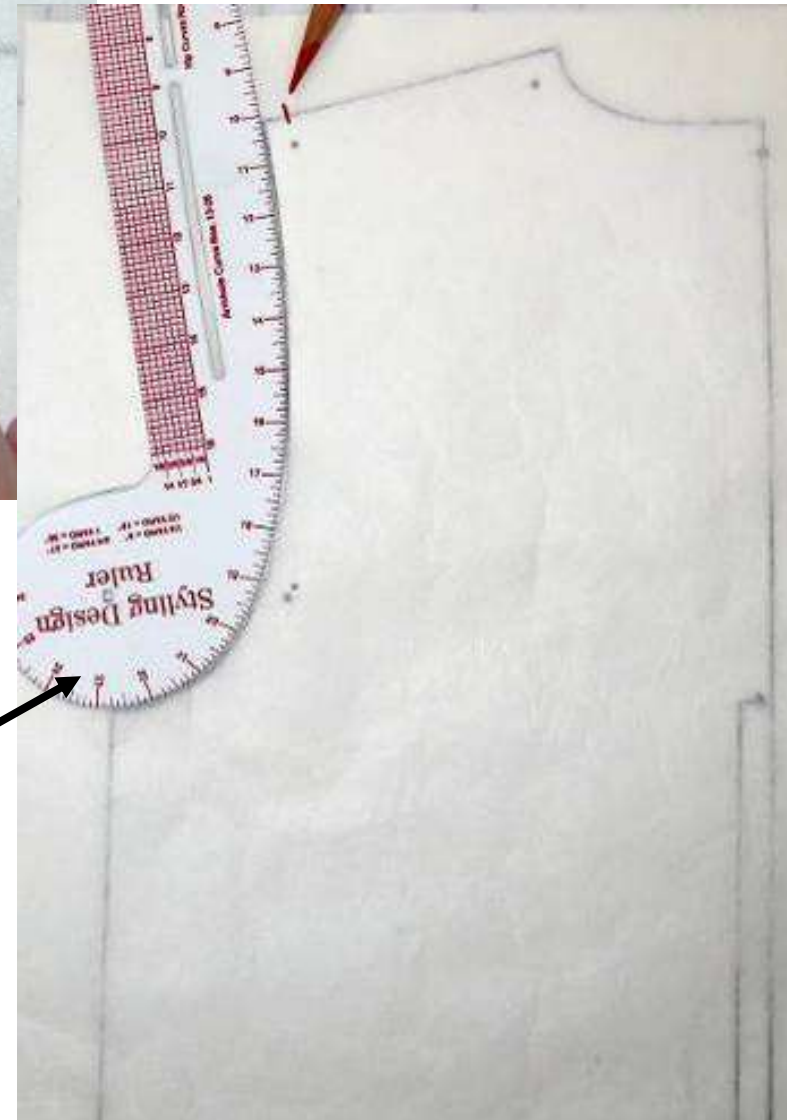
9. TO NARROW SHOULDERS AT ARMSCYE



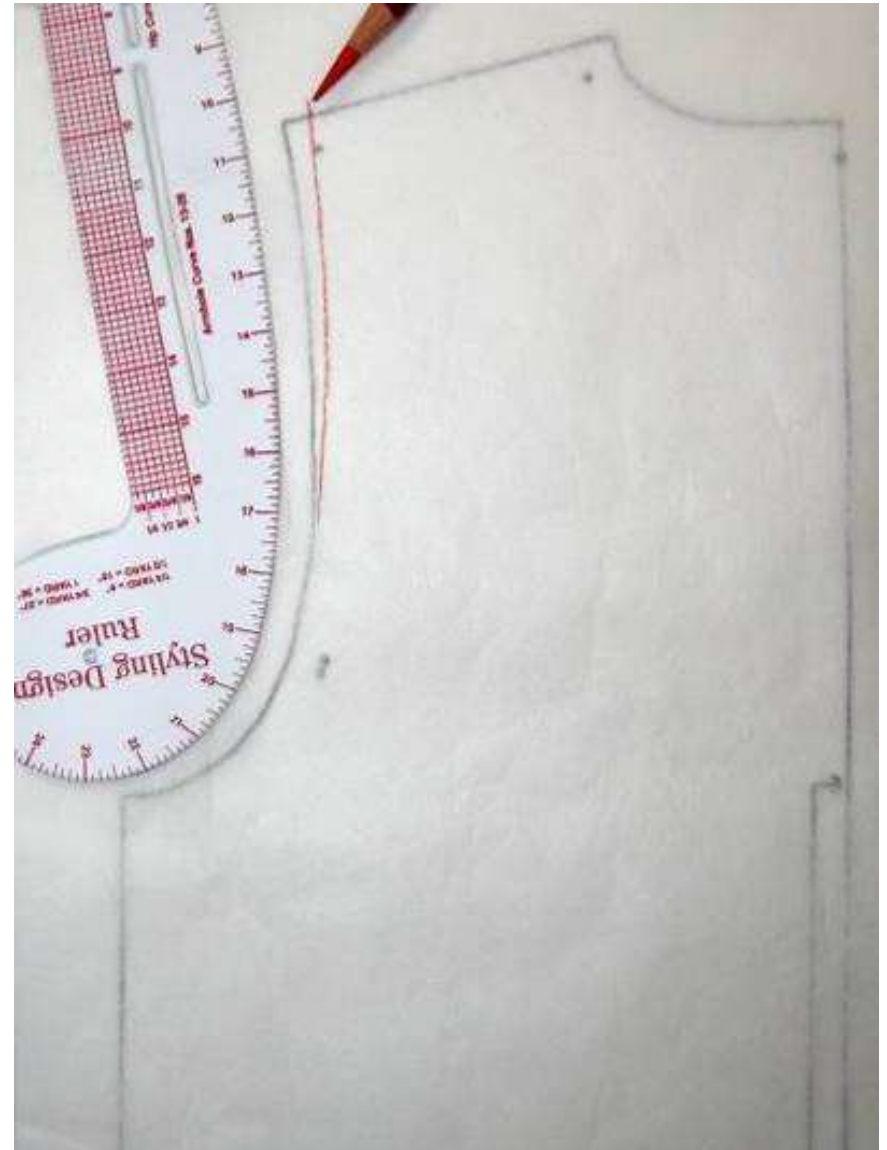
Use ruler to measure in the desired amount from the cutting line of the armhole seam.

Place the Styling Design Ruler on the original cutting line of the armhole seam.

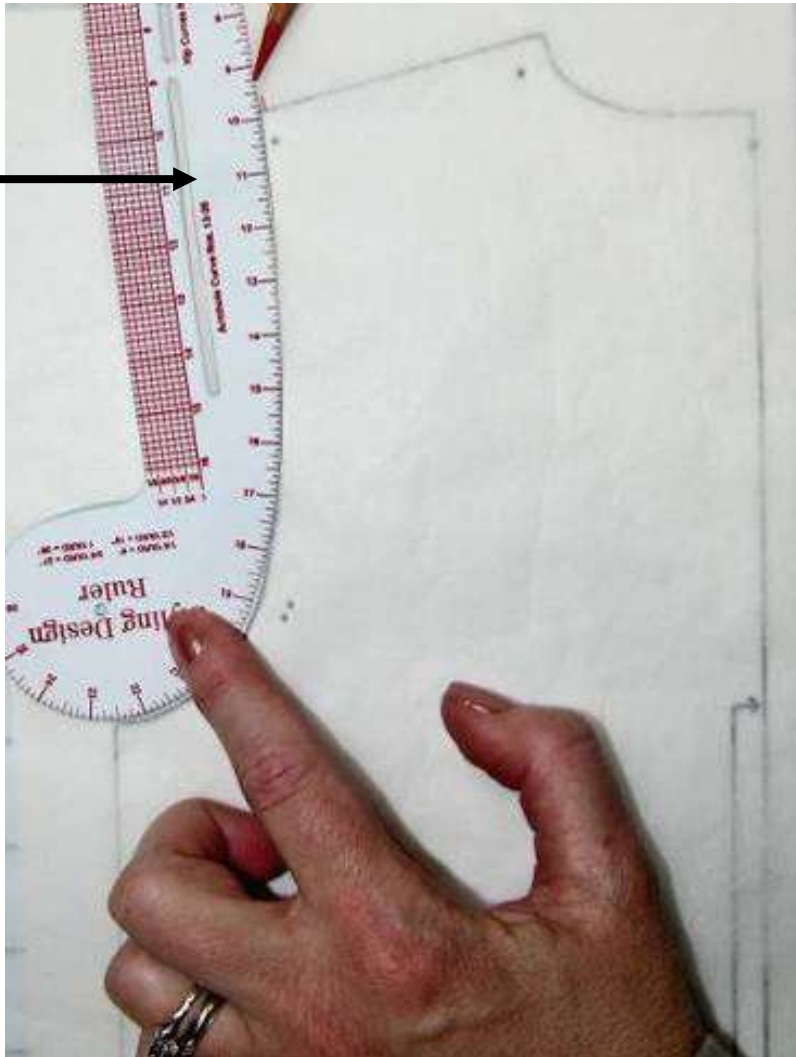
Note: This alteration changes the armhole seam so minimally there is no need to alter the sleeve.

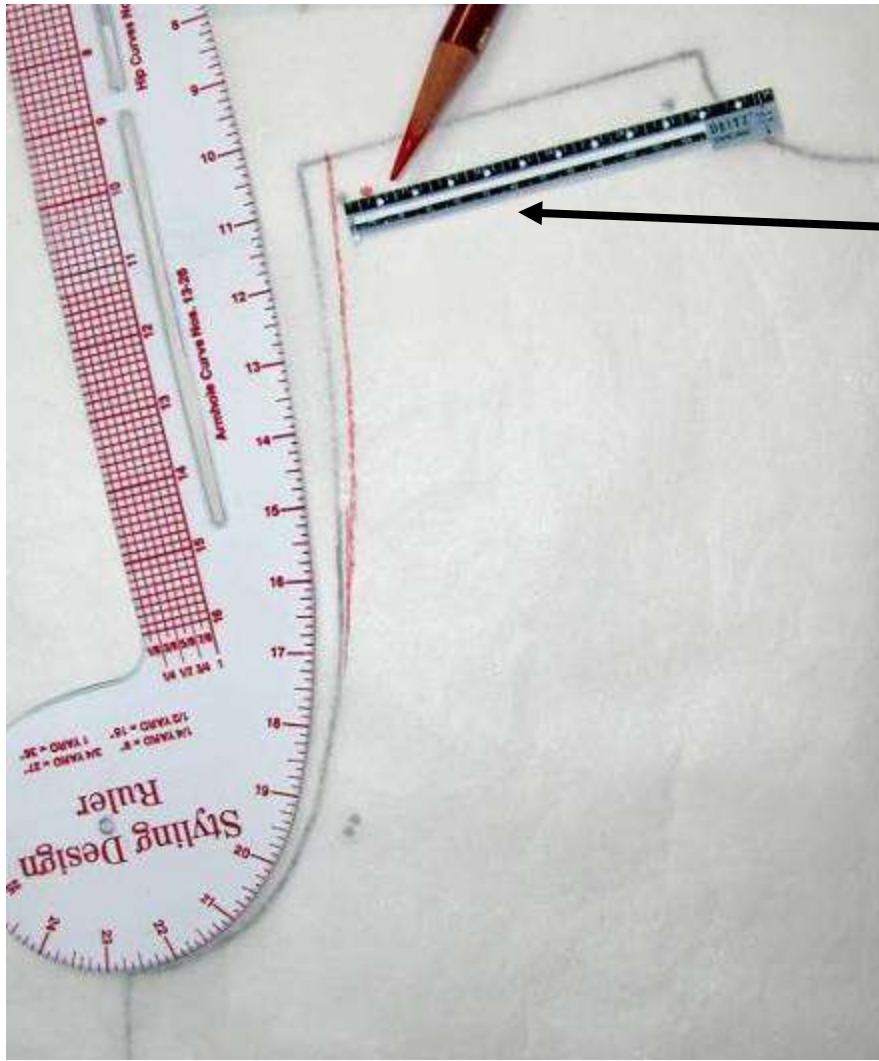


Keep Design Ruler on the cutting line of the lower portion of the armscye seam, tip the ruler in to meet the new shoulder line.



Trace the new armscye cutting line.

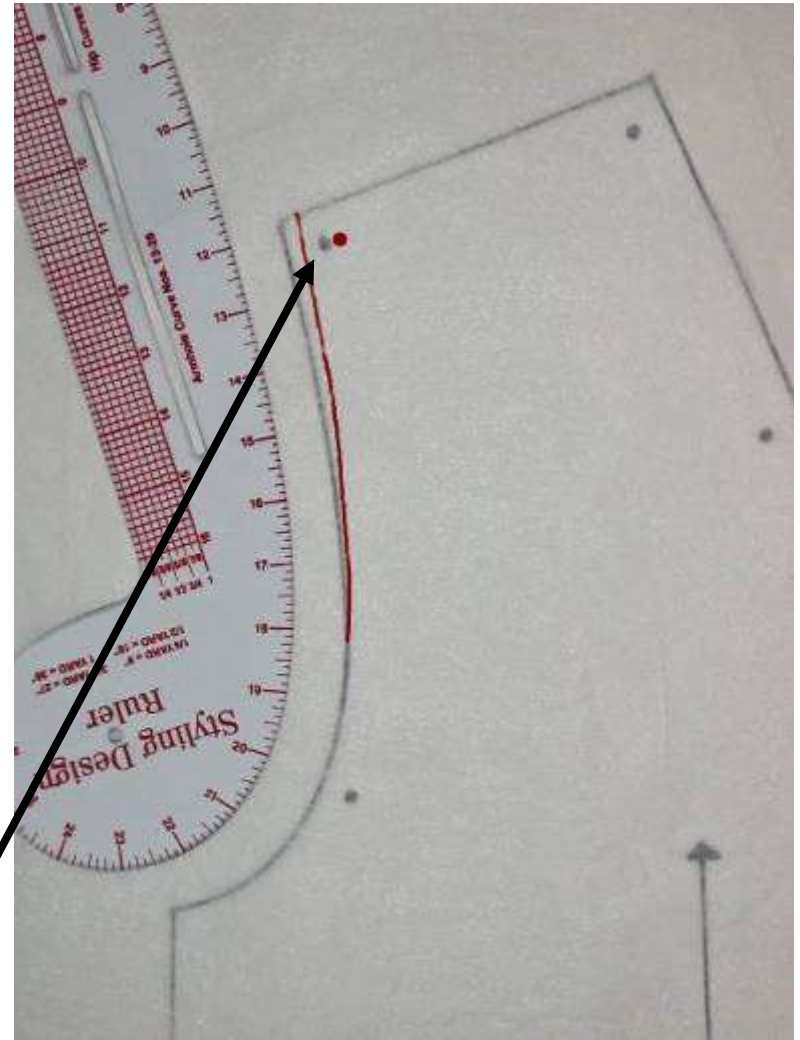




Use ruler to relocate shoulder dot. The dot should sit on the intersection of the shoulder and armhole seamlines.

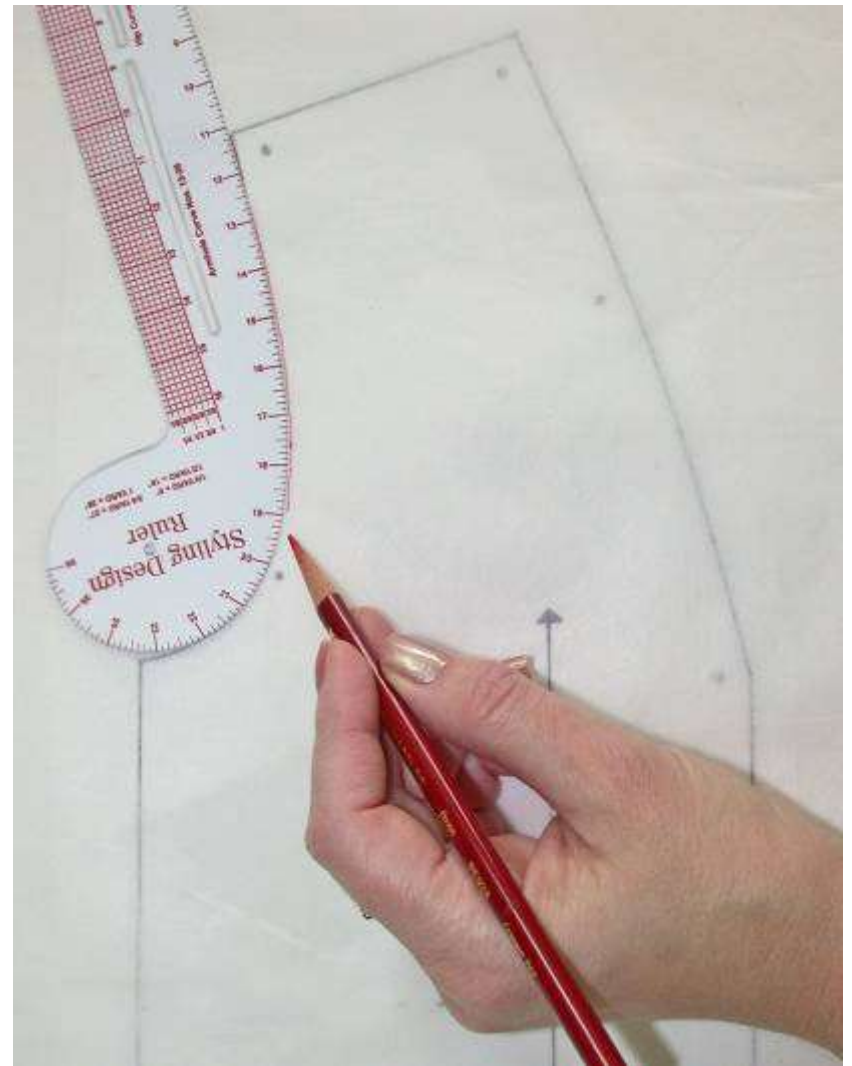
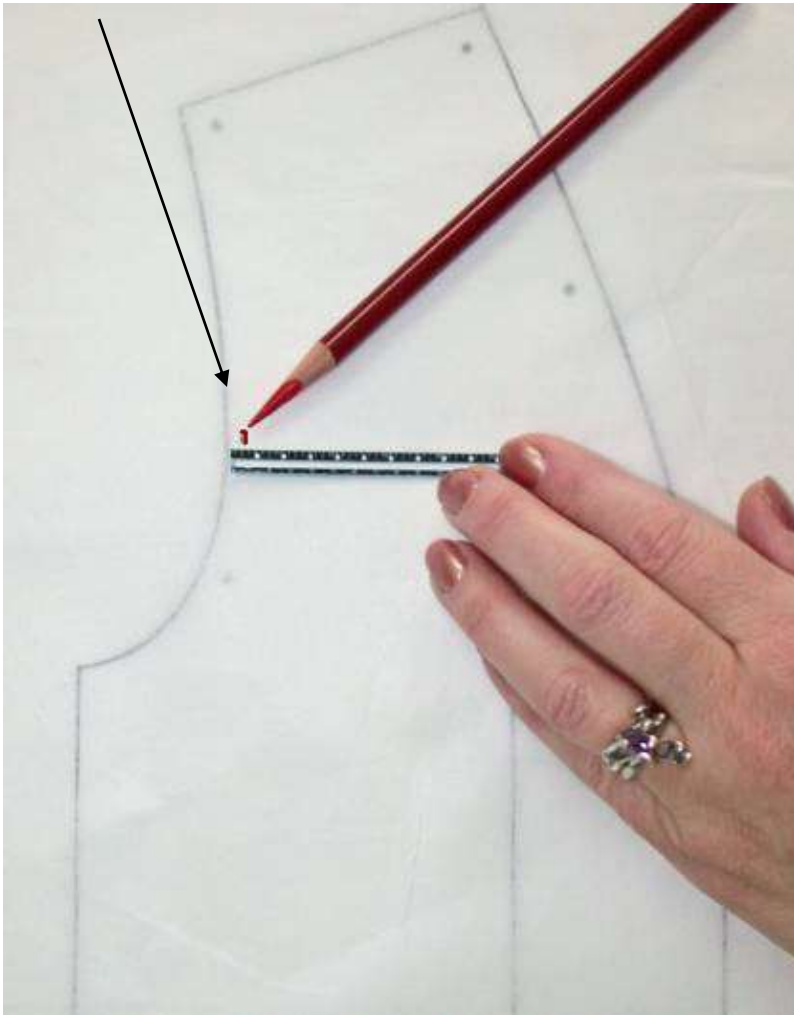
You must also narrow the shoulder on the front pattern piece.

Don't forget to move the dot!

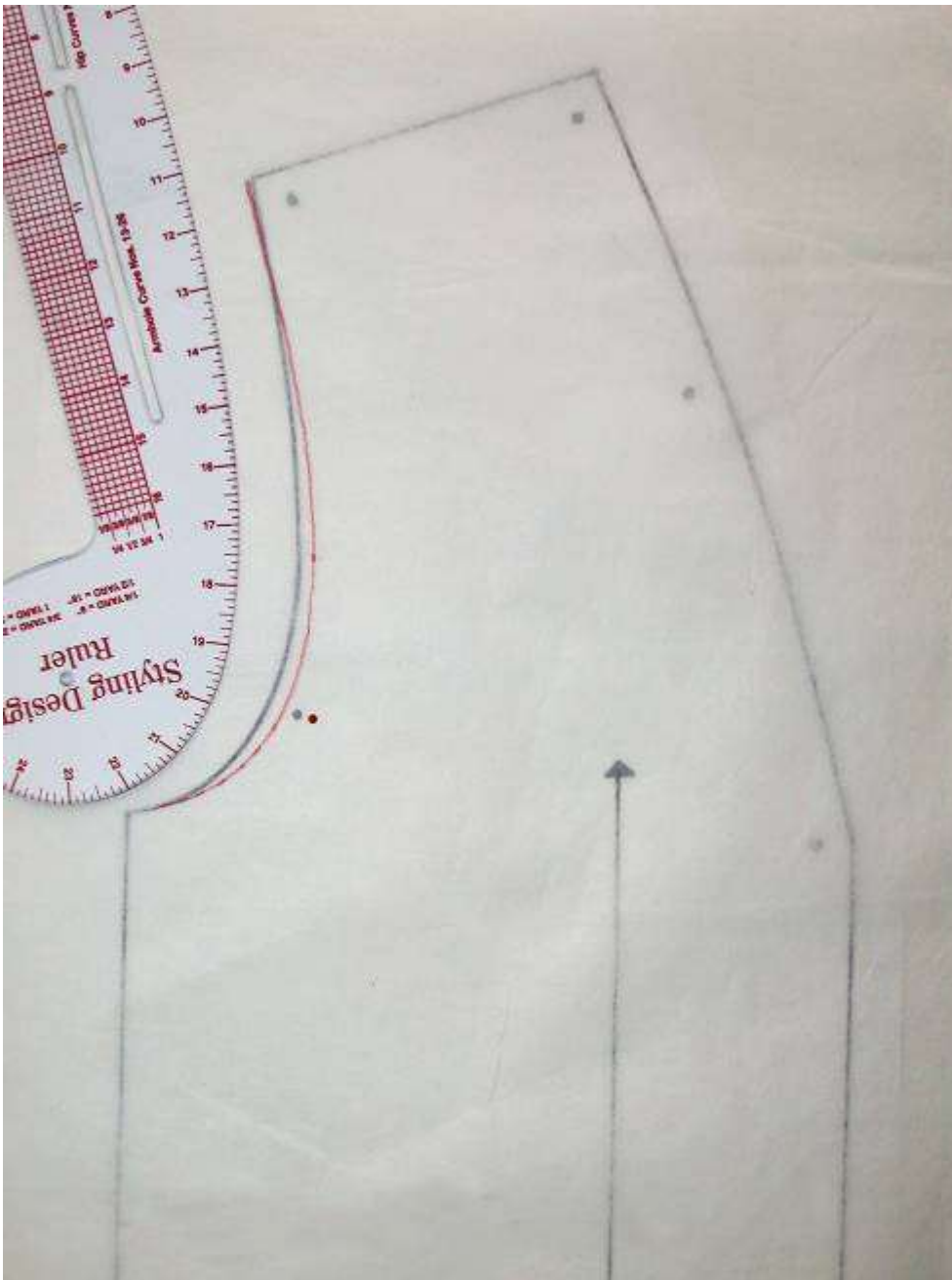


TO DEEPEN ARMHOLE SEAMLINE

Use a ruler to mark the desired amount.



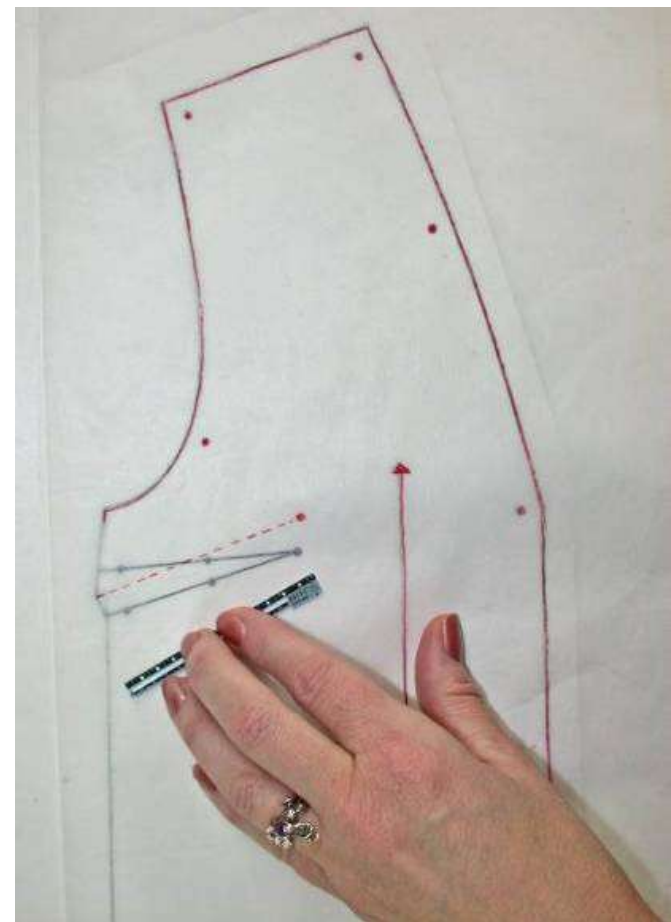
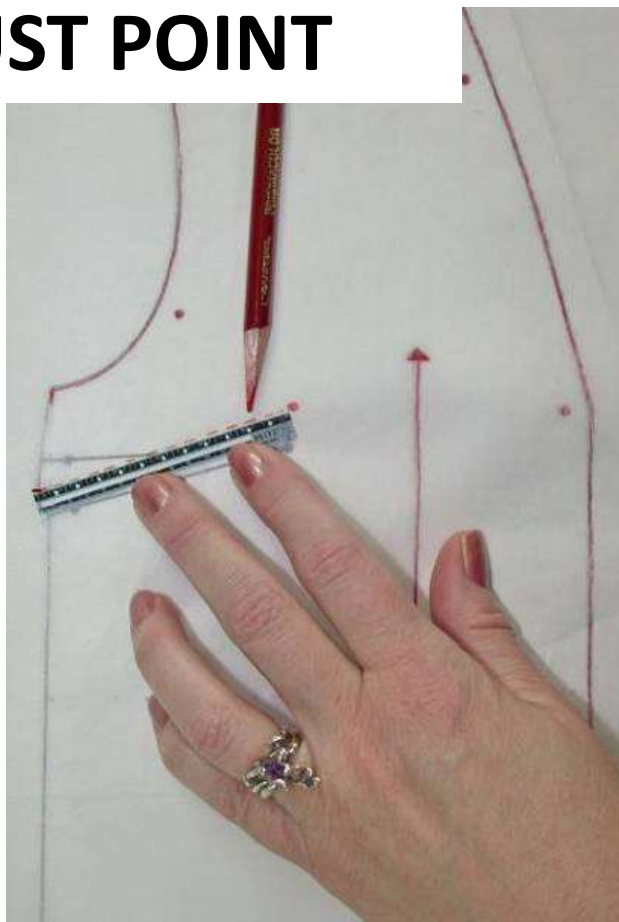
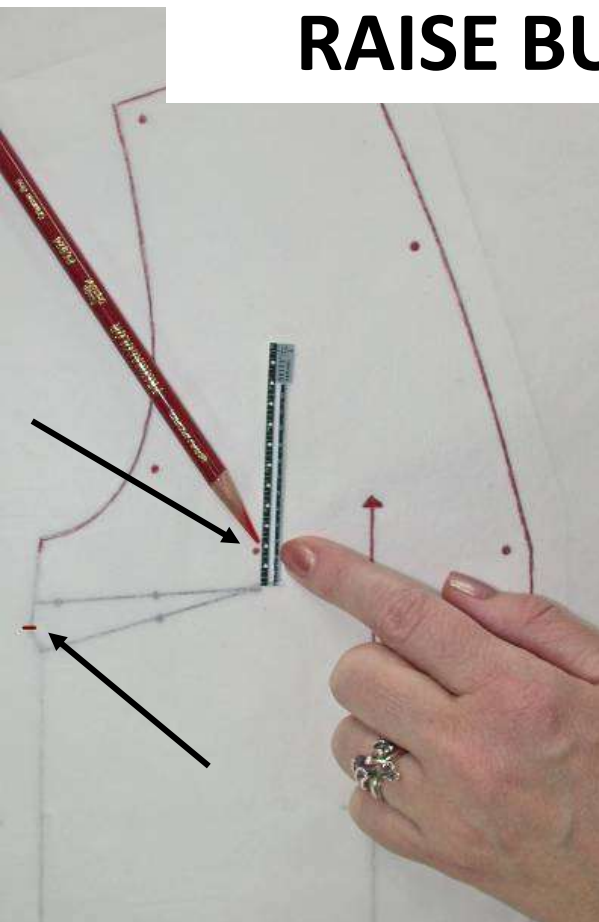
Use the Styling Ruler to reshape the armhole. Move the underarm dot if necessary.



The finished armhole (armscye) cutting line.

Note: The sleeve may no longer fit the new armscye circumference. Adjust sleeve for additional length.

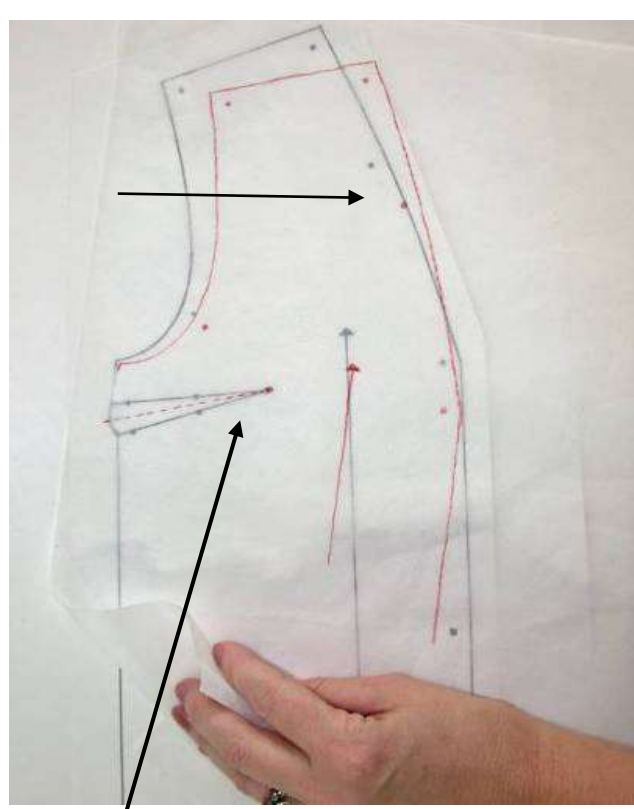
RAISE BUST POINT



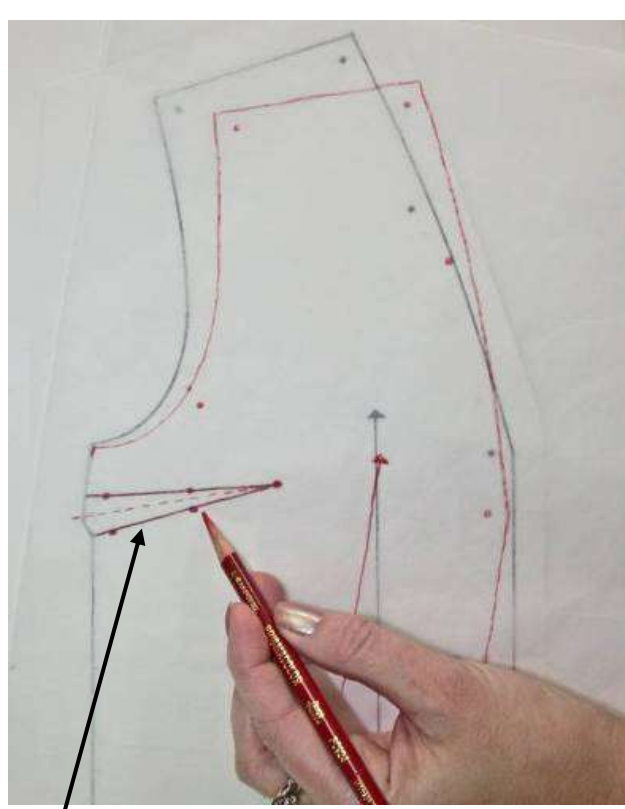
- Begin by tracing front, shoulder, armscye, and grainlines.
- Use ruler to mark desired location of dart point.
- Mark center line of dart at side seam cutting line.

Use a straightedge to connect the two marks.

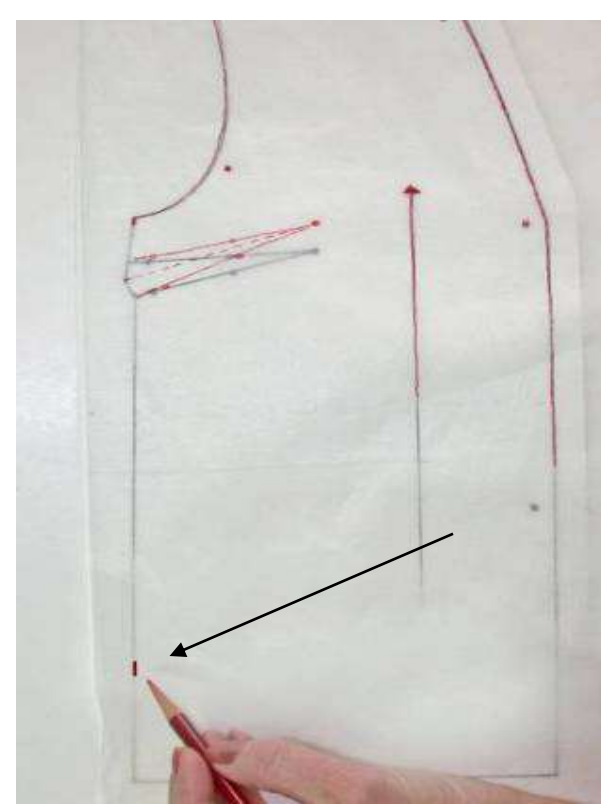
This will be the new dart axis or center line.



Shift tracing medium so that the new dart axis or center line overlays the master pattern.

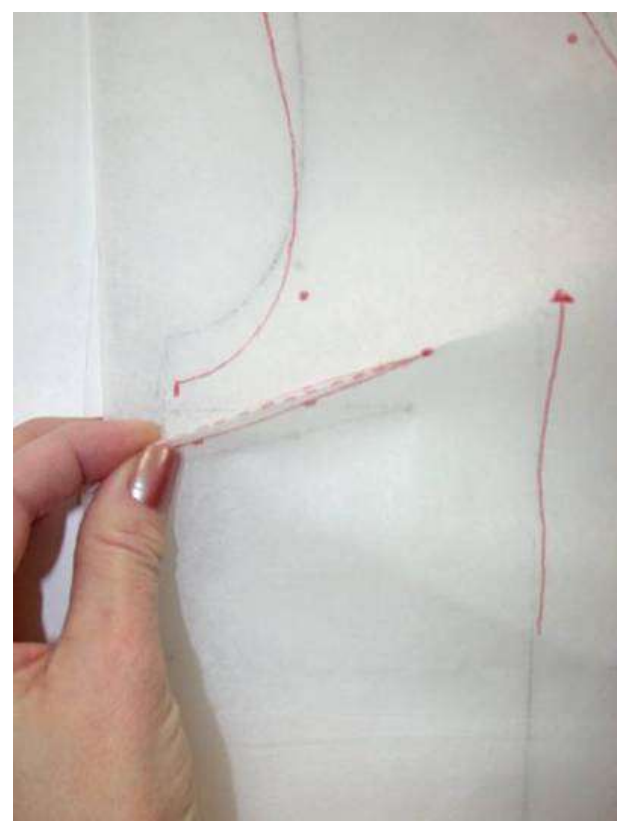


Trace dart from the master pattern.

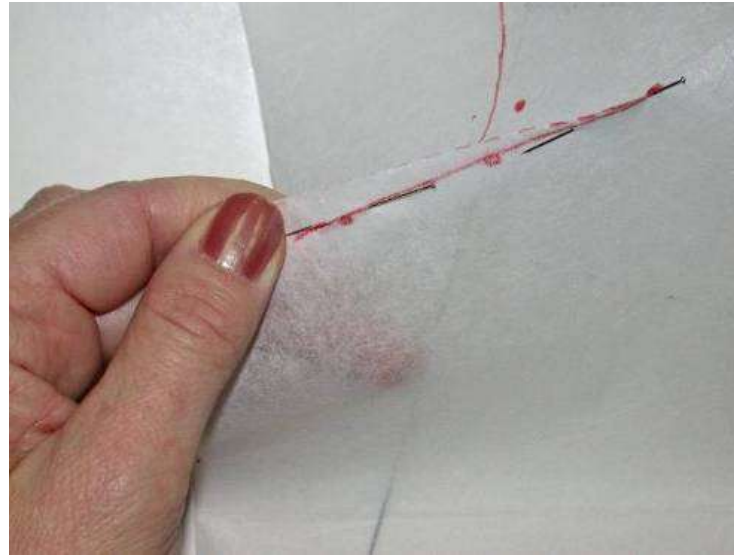


Return tracing medium to its original position. Dart should be pointing to the desired location.

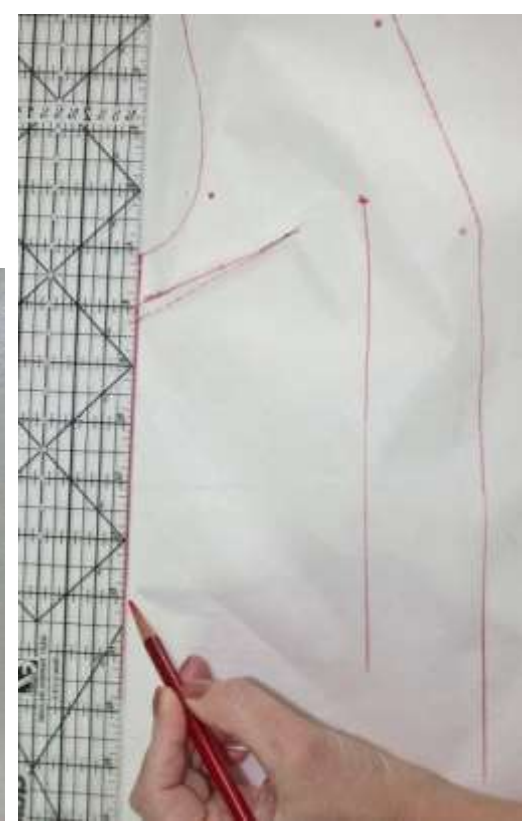
To true up the side seam, first mark the existing side seam near the hem.



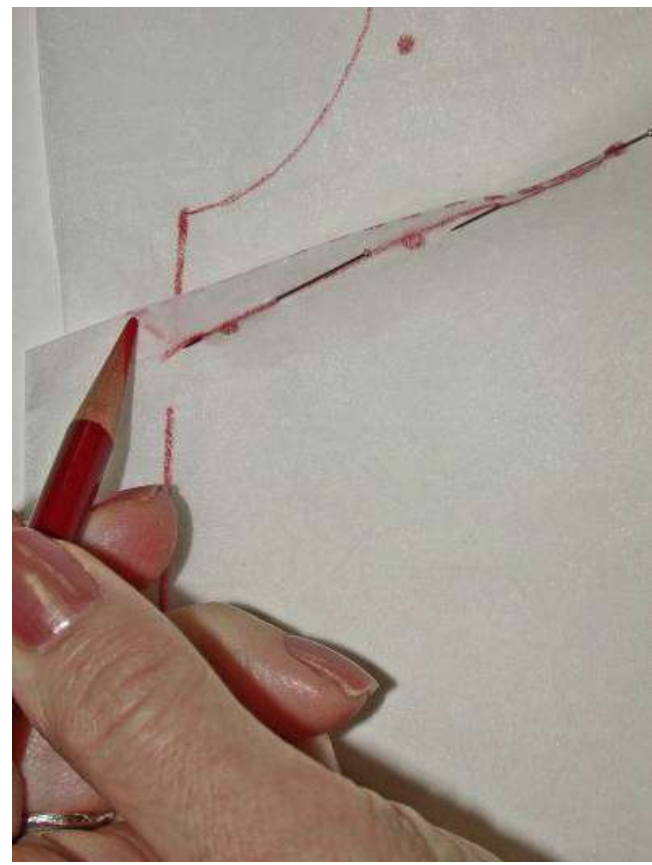
Fold dart on the center line.



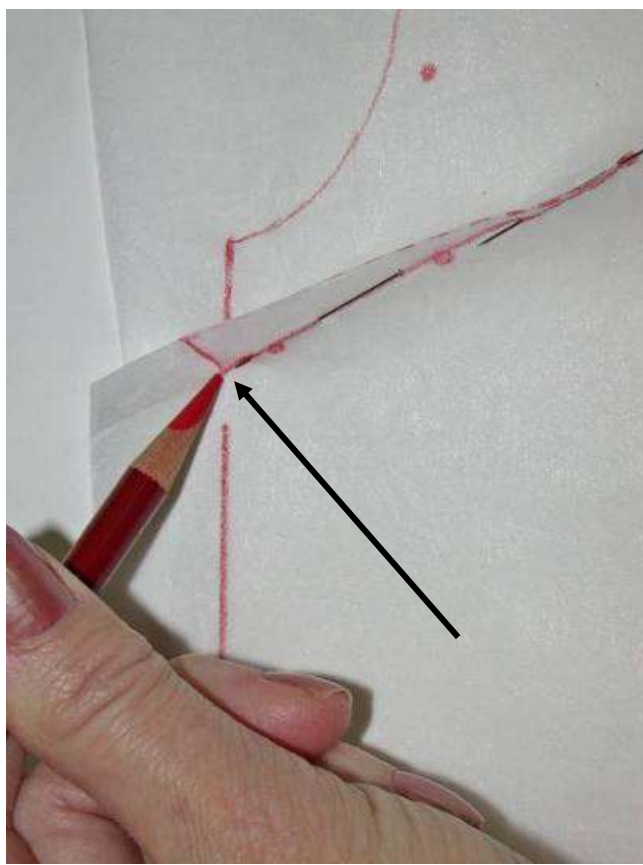
Pin along placement lines as if actually sewing the dart.
Fold dart down towards hem.



Use a straight edge to connect the marks from underarm to hem.

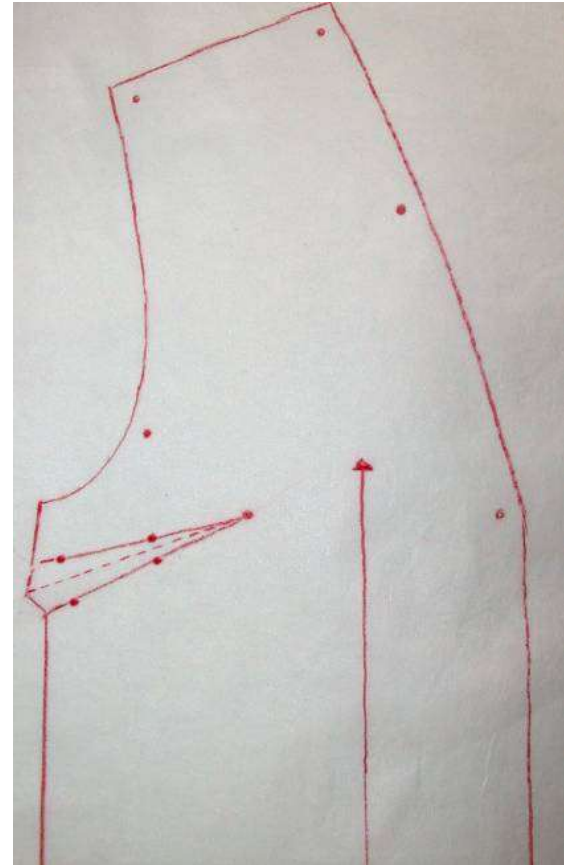


Fold flap of dart up towards the armhole. You will need to draw in the rest of the side seam.



Trace the shape of the upper half of the dart at the side seam.

Finish drawing the side seam.



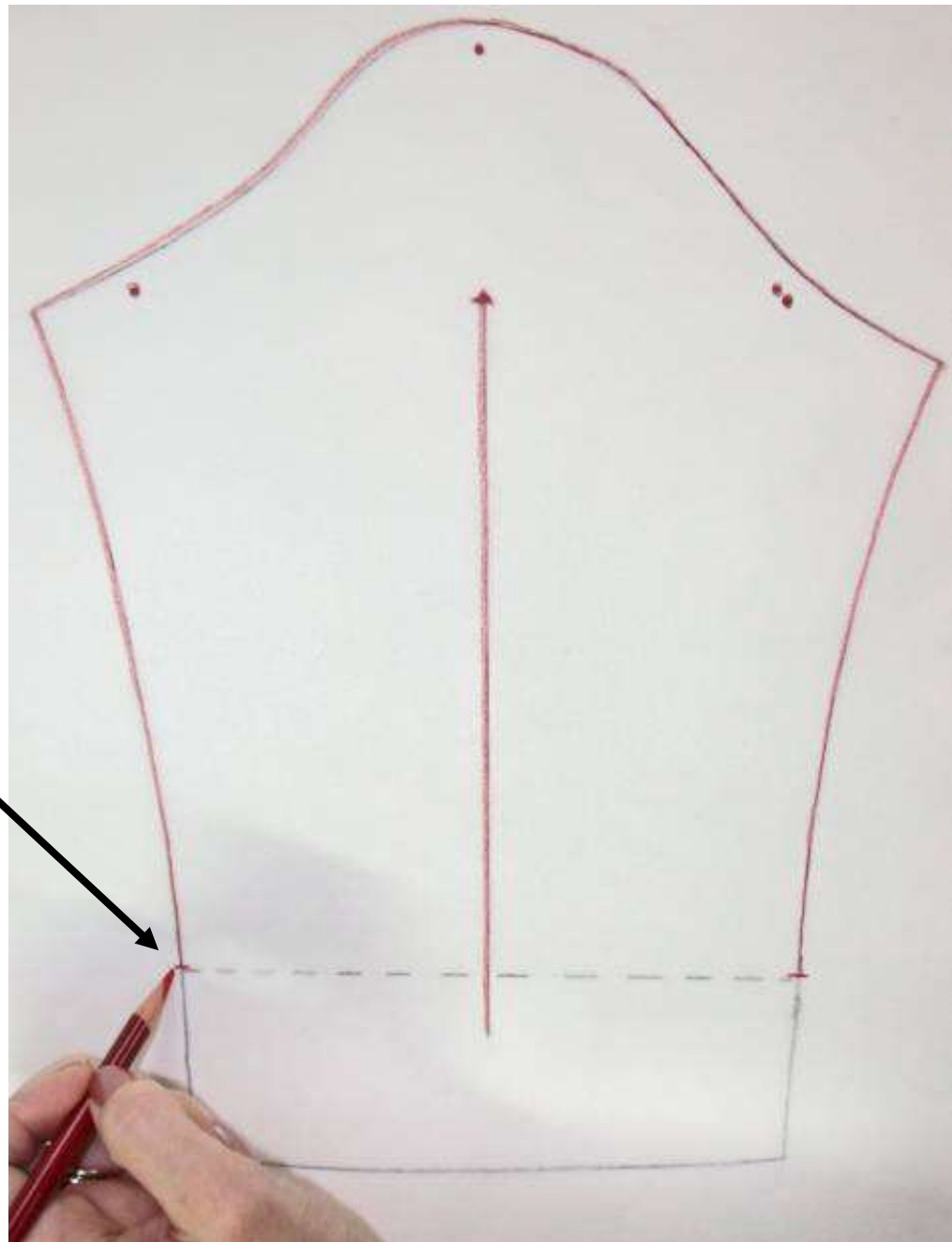
The finished dart in the new position.

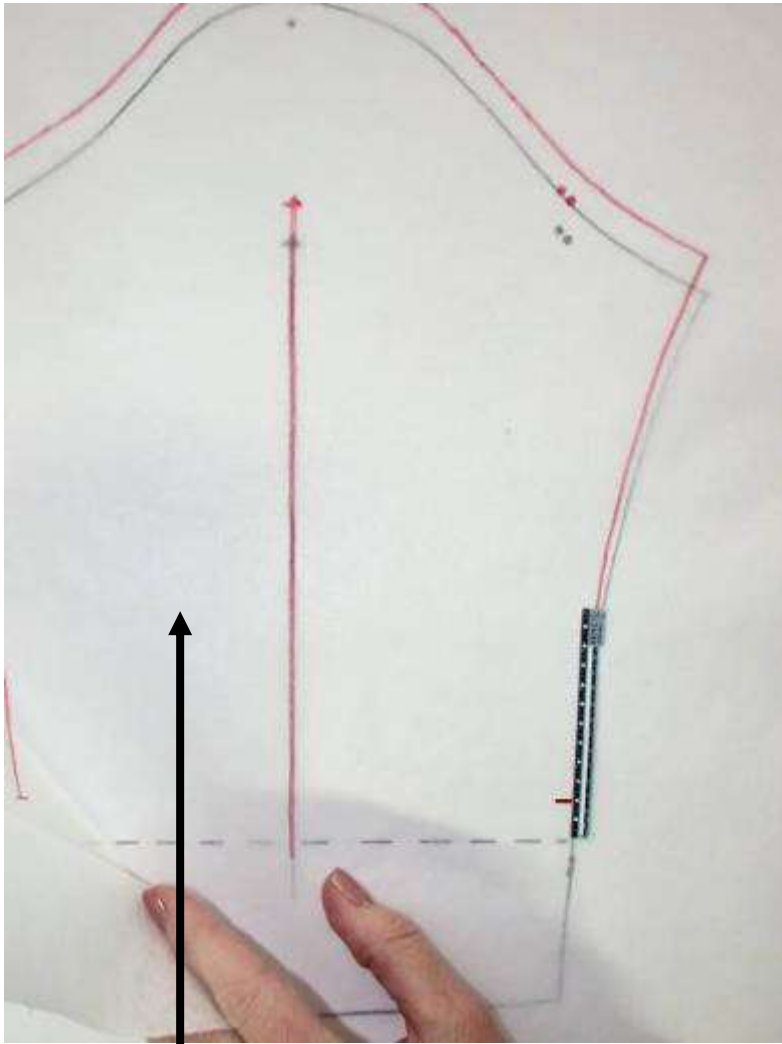
LENGTHEN A PATTERN INTERNALLY

To lengthen any pattern without cutting apart the master pattern, trace the entire pattern above the 'lengthen here' line.

Make a mark at the 'lengthen here' line on both sides of the sleeve.

Note: to shorten a pattern internally, see page 2



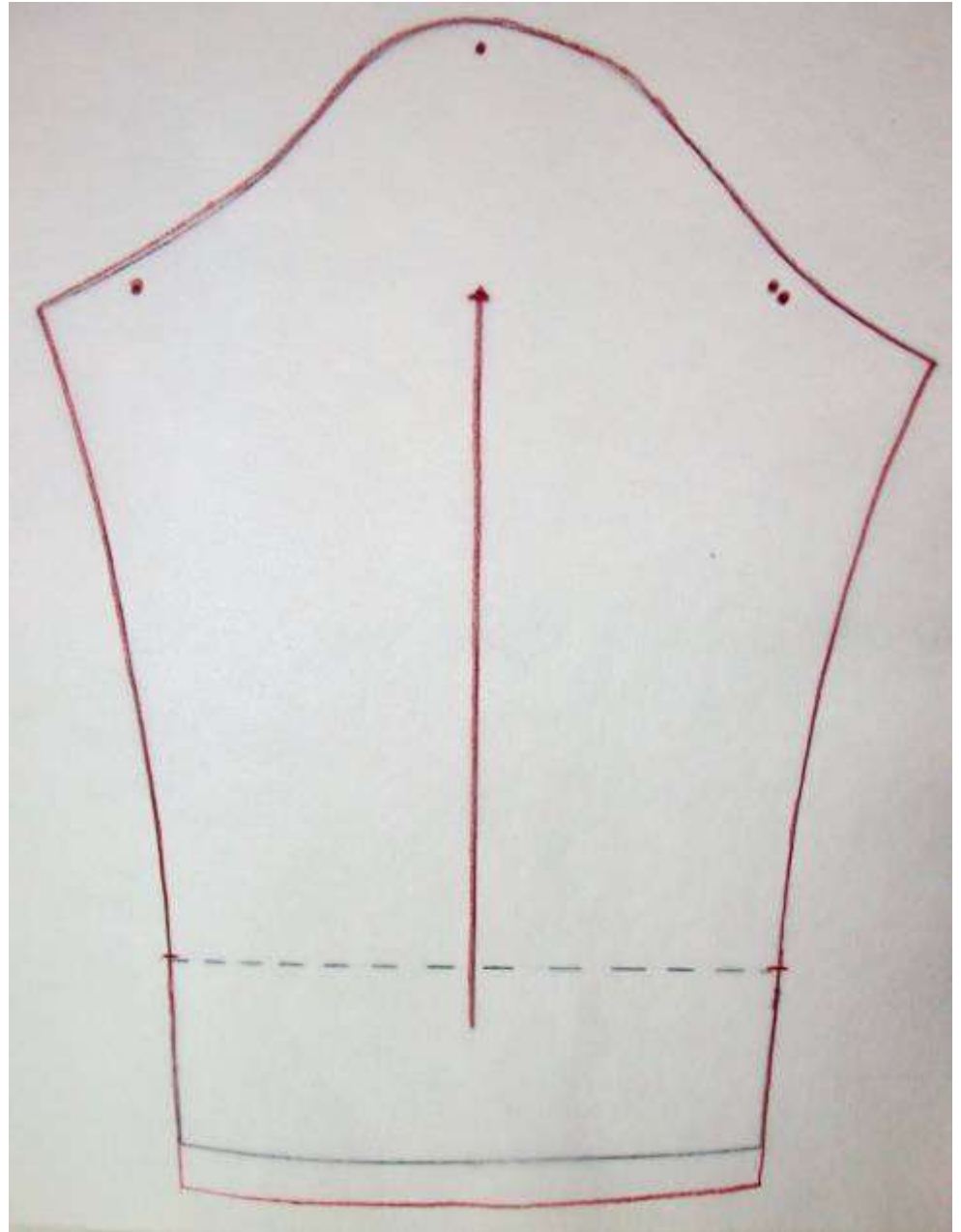


Shift the tracing medium away from the 'lengthen here' line the desired amount of the increase.

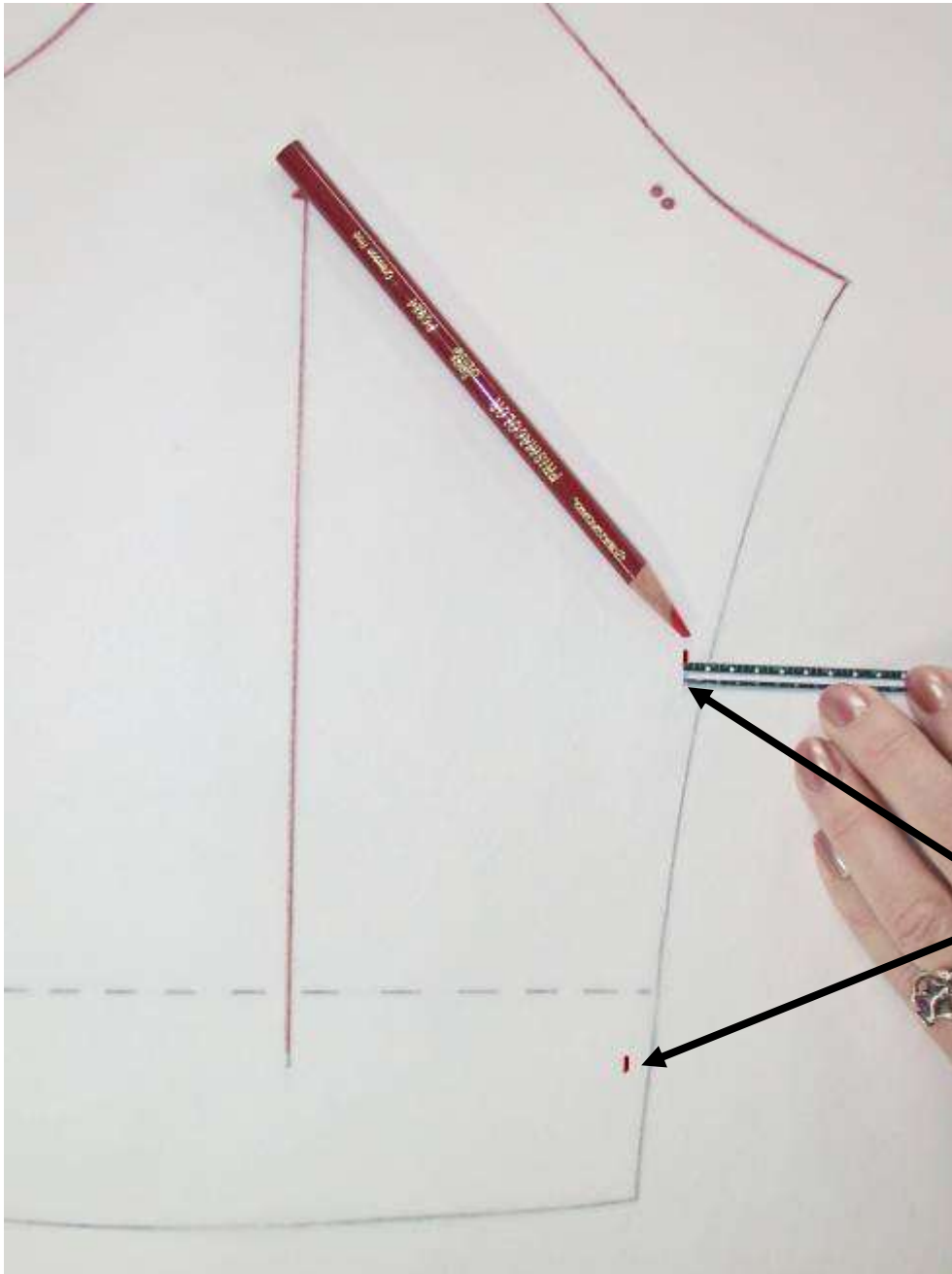


Trace remainder of pattern below 'lengthen here' line.

The finished pattern!

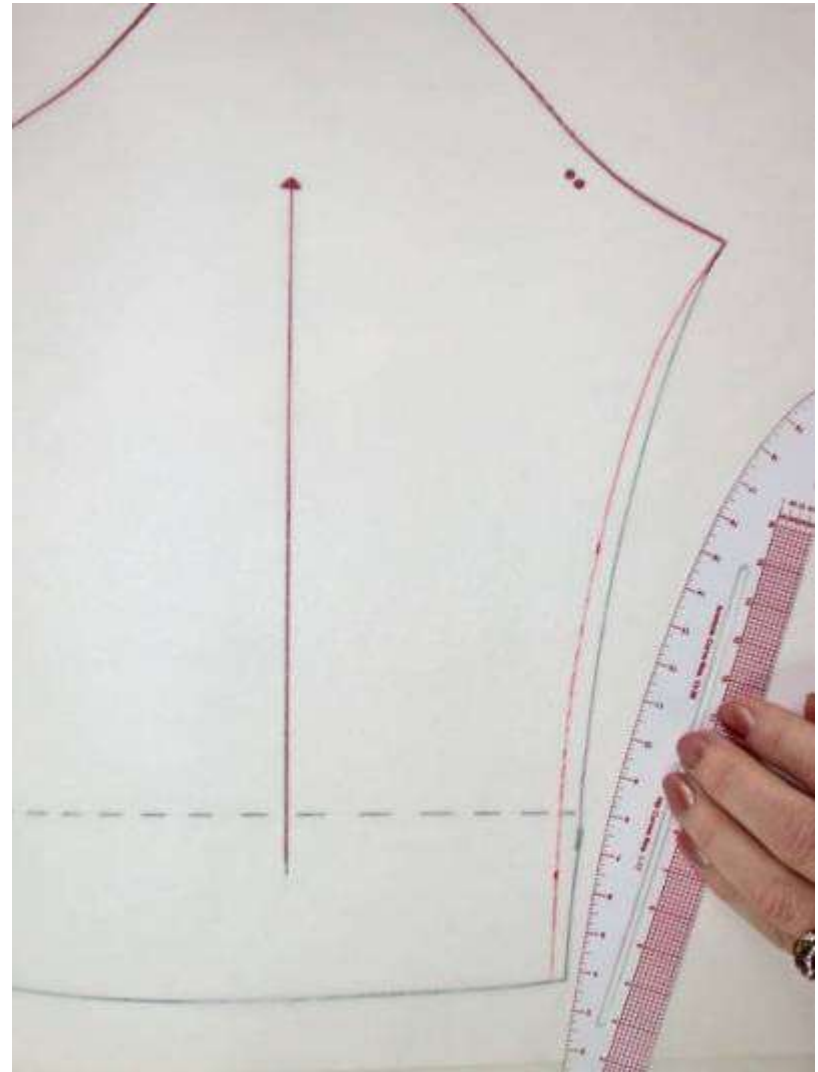
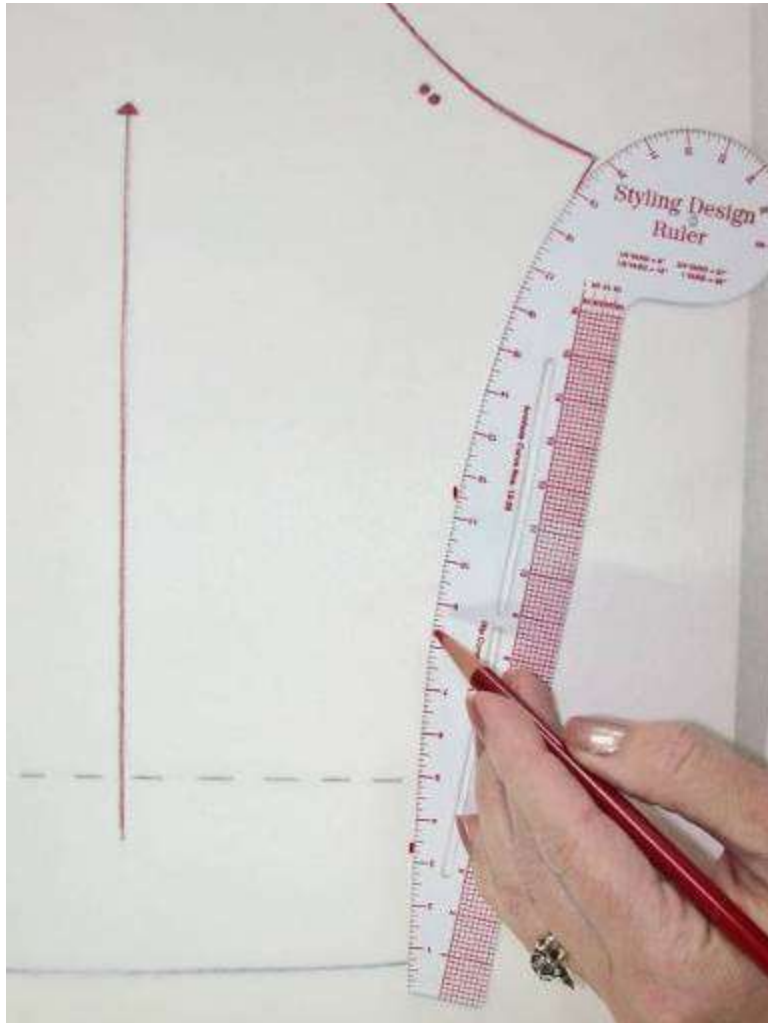


TO NARROW SLEEVES



Use a ruler to measure in the desired amount. Measure at the mid point of the underarm seam and near the hem.

Use the Styling Design Ruler to find a curve connecting the intersection of the armhole and side seam cutting lines and the marks.



Trace the new cutting line.

Repeat for other side of sleeve.

The finished pattern!

