



**The Weaver  
Sews**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmz2mYvnteUP11-LvK8-eNg>

# **600 Walking Vest INSTRUCTIONS A or B**



The 600 Walking Vest has rectangular neck and armhole bands and a square armhole perfect for using a contrast like a handwoven scarf or an inkle or tablet woven band. Side vents. Fully lined. Optional shawl collar with bound buttonhole included. <https://www.weaversew.com/shop/600-walking-vest.html>

**A has no darts, B has a horizontal bust dart.**

Size	Finished Bust Circumference		Finished lower width		Finished Length
	A	B	A	B	
Brown	36 7/8" (93.6cm)	NA	49 1/2" (125.7cm)	NA	46 1/8"(117.1cm)
Green	39 5/8" (100.6cm)	40 3/4" (103.5cm)	52 3/8" (133cm)	52 5/8" (133.6cm)	46 3/8"(117.7cm)
Red	42 5/8" (108.2cm)	43 5/8" (110.8cm)	55 1/4" (140.3cm)	55 5/8" (141.2cm)	46 5/8"(118.4cm)
Blue	45 3/8" (115.2cm)	46 5/8" (118.4cm)	58" (147.3cm)	58 3/8" (148.2cm)	46 7/8"(119cm)
Orange	48 1/2" (123.1cm)	49 1/2" (125.7cm)	60 3/4" (154.3cm)	61 1/4" (155.5cm)	47 1/8"(119.6cm)
Purple	NA	52 1/4" (132.7cm)	NA	64" (162.5cm)	47 1/4" (120cm)
Lime	NA	55 1/4" (140.3cm)	NA	67" (170.1cm)	47 1/2"(120.6cm)

### Yardage requirements:

Yardage requirements assume that you are using a one-way design, so that all the pattern pieces will be cut in the same direction. However, handwoven fabric can often be cut in both directions so that pattern pieces can nest close to each other, which requires less fabric. Matching weft patterning and hand-painted warps will require more fabric.

	18"(46cm)	24"(61cm)	36"(92cm)	45"(115cm)	60"(150cm)
Brown	5 1/2 yds (5m)	5 1/2 yds (5m)	2 3/4 yds (2.5m)	2 3/4 yds (2.5m)	2 3/4 yds (2.5m)
Green	6 1/2 (6m)	5 1/2 (5m)	2 3/4 (2.5m)	2 3/4 (2.5m)	2 3/4 (2.5m)
Red	6 1/2 (6m)	5 1/2 (5m)	2 3/4 (2.5m)	2 3/4 (2.5m)	2 3/4 (2.5m)
Blue	7 (6.4m)	5 1/2 (5m)	2 3/4 (2.5m)	2 3/4 (2.5m)	2 3/4 (2.5m)
Orange	7 (6.4m)	5 1/2 (5m)	2 3/4 (2.5m)	2 3/4 (2.5m)	2 3/4 (2.5m)
Purple	7 (6.4m)	5 1/2 (5m)	4 1/2(4.1m)	2 3/4 (2.5m)	2 3/4 (2.5m)
Lime	NA	5 1/2 (5m)	4 1/2(4.1m)	2 3/4 (2.5m)	2 3/4 (2.5m)

The **Shawl Collar** variation will require additional fabric.

- 18" (46cm) -wide fabric: all sizes require an additional 3 yards (2.7m).
- 24" (61cm) -wide fabric: Red, Blue, and Orange require an additional 1 1/2 yards (1.3m). Purple and Lime require an additional 3 yards (2.7m) (No additional yardage needed for Brown and Green)
- 36" (92cm) -wide fabric: No additional fabric required for Brown and Green, 1 1/2 yards (1.3m) for all other sizes.
- 45" (115cm) and 60"(150cm) -wide fabrics need no additional yardage.

- Lining fabric: 3 ½ yards (3.1m), 45" (115cm) -wide fabric This includes enough for 2" (5cm) -wide bias strips for seam finishes. Be sure to preshrink your lining fabric.
- Fusible knit interfacing: 1 ½ yards (1.3m), 20" (50.8cm) wide **for neckband variation**; 3 yards (2.7m), 20"(50.8cm) wide **for shawl collar variation**  
<https://www.weaversew.com/shop/htcw-fusi-knit-interfacing.html>
- ¼ yard(11cm) woven cotton fusible interfacing for optional bound buttonhole facing.  
<https://www.weaversew.com/shop/pellon-shape-flex.html>
- One or more 1"(2.54cm) - 1 ⅛"(2.8cm) button/s for optional bound buttonhole/s.

## Recommendations For Handwoven Fabric

My recommendations are to sett your fabric much denser than you would think. Try 8/2 Tencel at 36epi, 10/2 perle cotton at 30, 5/2 at 20, etc. It will ultimately depend on the structure, and your beat and the loom. I have seen fabrics in just about every fiber and combination of fibers you can imagine. Note: The fabric cannot be too thick, because it gets tough fitting multiple layers through the sewing machine. Any fiber works, if you can weave it, but I find woven cloth for garments will have the best results if at least part of the fabric is a protein content, like wool, which can be fullled up to create a denser, more stable fabric.

Sampling can be advantageous here. I have had students produce wonderful fabrics with a cotton or Tencel warp and [Jaggerspun's Zephyr \(wool/silk\)](#) weft, [Webs' Colrain Lace \(Merino/silk\)](#), or [Silk City Fibers' Wool Crepe Deluxe \(Merino/rayon\)](#) which can be fullled up for a stable, dense but pliable fabric, great for a jacket or vest.

Start with commercial fabric if you are intimidated. Commercial fabric can give you an idea of what weights work for what silhouette.

Here are some of my basic suggestions:

- Sett it denser than you think.
- Avoid long floats, which make a fabric less stable.
- If you want a lighter fabric, choose a thinner yarn, not a looser sett.
- Avoid weft patterning, repeats and blocks. They are hard to match for side seams and such.
- **If you use a hand-painted warp, make sure there is a repeat!**
- Wash your fabric well.



*Wash Your Fabric!*

<https://youtu.be/ivqviCQqL88>

Finishing is important. **ALL FABRICS SHOULD BE WASHED PRIOR TO SEWING!**

The exception here would be fabrics that were processed, dyed, felted, steamed, etc. They would already be preshrunk. If using handwoven fabric, or something commercial that has not been in contact with moisture, steam, water, or whatever, please machine wash your completed fabric **AT A MINIMUM** on **GENTLE CYCLE** for

3 minutes in **COLD OR WARM WATER** using a laundry detergent. This is even suitable for wool and mohair. Fabric may be hung to dry or machine dried if the fabric warrants this type of processing. Test, Test, Test! When fabric is completely dry, it should be steam pressed. You could even have the dry cleaner press it if your iron is inadequate.

## **NOTES FOR CUSTOMIZING THE PATTERN FOR YOUR BODY:**

- **Test the Pattern first.**
- There is a "Y" line and a "Z" line for lengthening and shortening on each of the pattern pieces except the pocket. The "Y" line crosses both the front and back bodice above the bustline; shortening here will raise the dart and the armhole. Don't forget to remove the same amount from the neck band or collar and the armhole band. The "Z" line crosses the front and back bodice above the pocket. You may lengthen or shorten here to maintain the lower edge circumference, otherwise lengthen or shorten at the hem.
- **There is a generous amount between my sizes, so consider cutting between two sizes for a more custom fit.**
- For fuller hips, consider combining sizes, for example – green for the upper body transitioning to the larger red size for the lower body.
- For more information on basic pattern alterations, please download the free PDF tutorial from my website  
<https://www.daryllancaster.com/Webfiles/BasicPatternAlterations.pdf>

**Digital monographs for sewing handwovens, seam finishes, edge finishes and closures are available for purchase from my website.**  
<https://www.weaversew.com/shop/digital-monographs.html>

# **Walking Vest Directions**

## **CUTTING OUT THE VEST**

Handwoven fabrics are typically 18"(46cm) or 24"(61cm) -wide. Since the pattern was drafted with the center back placed on a fold, you will need to make an adjustment for these narrow fabrics. To do this, add a 5/8"(1.5cm) seam allowance to the center back. When you cut out your vest, align this new center back cutting line with the selvedge so the seam will automatically have a clean finish.

605 neck and 608 armhole band sections are designed so that one long edge has no seam allowance. This edge should be placed along the selvedge, giving you a clean-finished edge. If a clean selvedge is not available, or if you are using a commercial fabric, add a  $\frac{5}{8}$ "(1.5cm) seam allowance to the long edge, where indicated on the pattern. Consider using a contrast fabric for these bands.

- Roll out needle-ready fabric right side up
- Cut singly
- Check grainlines
- Don't forget to flip pattern pieces

## **CUTTING DIRECTIONS:**

### **FROM HANDWOVEN FABRIC,** cut singly:

- **1 BACK:** To cut a full back, pin pattern in place and cut one half up to center back line. Unpin and carefully flip at center back line, keeping the lower edges aligned; repin pattern piece and finish cutting out BACK. [If fabric is too narrow for a full back, add  $\frac{5}{8}$ "(1.5cm) seam allowance to center back edge before cutting and cut 2 backs. Use selvedge edge, if appropriate, so there will be no need to finish the center back seam.]
- **2 FRONTS:** Cut one and flip for the second.
- **2 ARMHOLE BANDS:** Cut one and flip for the second. **Position one long unmarked edge along the selvedge edge so there will be no need to finish that edge.** [If no selvedge edge is available, either add a  $\frac{5}{8}$ "(1.5cm) seam allowance to unmarked edge before cutting OR plan on clean-finishing these edges with a Hong Kong finish.]
- **FOR NECKBAND VARIATION: Cut 2 NECKBANDS,** flipping for second. Position the long unmarked edge along the selvedge so there will be no need to finish that edge. [If no selvedge edge is available, either add a  $\frac{5}{8}$ "(1.5cm) seam allowance to unmarked edge before cutting OR plan on clean-finishing these edges with a Hong Kong finish.]
- **FOR SHAWL COLLAR VARIATION: Cut 4 SHAWL COLLARS.** Cut 2, then flip and cut two more.

USE TAILOR'S TACKS TO TRANSFER ALL DOTS AND MARKINGS.



### **FROM FUSIBLE INTERFACING,** cut:

- 4"(10cm) -wide lengthwise strips of Fusi Knit Interfacing for neckbands and armhole bands. For shawl collar variation, you will need four 8"(20cm) -wide lengthwise strips, each approximately 56  $\frac{1}{2}$ " (143.5cm) long.

### **FROM LINING,** cut:

- **2 FRONTS** (fold fabric and cut 2; no need to cut singly)
- **1 BACK** (place center back on fold)

- **4 POCKETS**

- 6 yards(5.4m) length of **2”(5cm) -wide bias** for side seam and hem finishes
- If you were unable to cut ARMHOLE BANDS and NECKBANDS on selvedge, a Hong Kong finish is a good alternative to adding  $\frac{5}{8}$ ”(1.5cm) seam allowances. To do this, you will need an additional 4 yards (3.6m) of 2”(5cm) -wide bias.

Use pencil, dressmaker’s carbon, chalk or disappearing marker to transfer all markings to lining.

**Note: The side seams could show in this garment since the lining is a drop lining and not attached at the hem. The Hong Kong seam finish is recommended, but there are other options to clean-finish the edges; see below.**

Options to clean-finish an edge:

1. Hong Kong Seam Finish. See page VI. Perfect for an unlined jacket or coat.
2. Using  $1\frac{1}{4}$ ”(3.1cm) bias-cut, 15 Denier nylon tricot, fold it over the seam allowance and stitch. Be careful with the iron, as nylon can melt.
3. Stitch along the very edge of the fabric, **with the direction of the grain**, to prevent raveling.
4. Use a serger, if available. Do not trim the seam allowance with the knives and take care to serge in the direction of the grain even if it means serging upside down. This can be done in combination with option 3 to keep the serging right side up.
5. Use a decorative machine edgestitch on the very edge of the fabric. Using an edgestitching foot, stitch with the direction of the grain and make sure the seam allowance does not compress widthwise. This step can be improved by first fusing  $\frac{3}{8}$ ”(1cm) -wide crosswise cut Fusi Knit tricot to the edges on the wrong side of the garment sections. This will stabilize the edges for decorative stitching.

The above options are illustrated step by step in a free PDF available here.

<https://www.darylancaster.com/Webfiles/OptionsToCleanFinishAnEdge.pdf>

## **HONG KONG SEAM FINISH:**



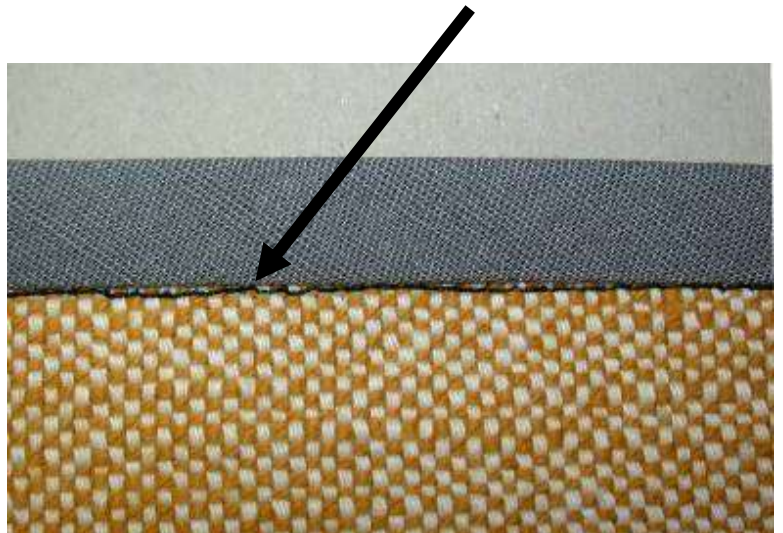
- With right sides together, place bias strip on garment section, cut edges even. Using the presser foot as a guide, stitch  $\frac{1}{4}$ " (6mm) to  $\frac{3}{8}$ " (1cm) from cut edge.



- Press binding strip away from fabric.



- Wrap binding tight around cut edge, pushing the binding towards the wrong side. Do not press.
- Stitch in the ditch close to the binding.





- Trim excess binding from the wrong side.

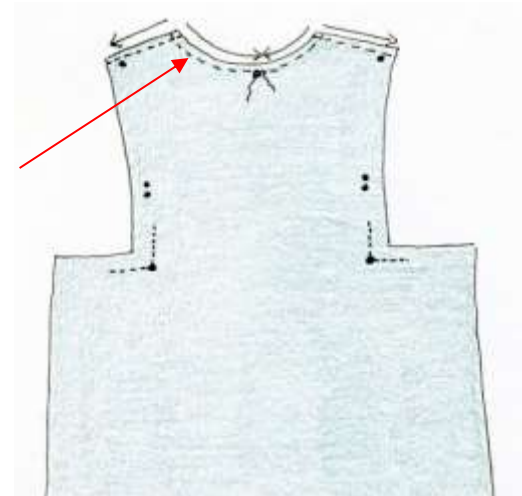
**5/8" (1.5cm) Seam allowance included.**  
**1 1/2" (3.8cm) Hem allowance included.**

## ASSEMBLING THE VEST

### **BACK:**

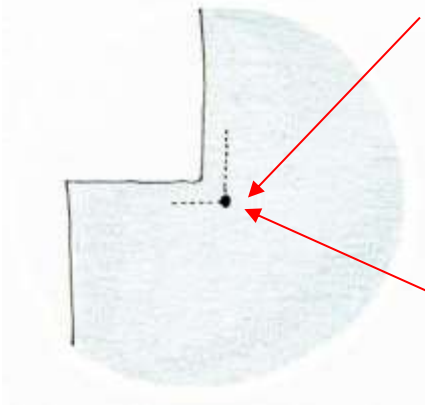
- Recommended machine stitch length for handwoven fabric is 10 stitches per 1" (2.5cm).
- Staystitch back neck and shoulder seamlines: **1/2" (1.3cm) from cut edge, regular stitches, follow arrows**

**NOTE: Directional stitching means to stitch in the direction of the fabric grain. Doing this helps keep the fabric from stretching and minimizes any distortion. The arrows on the illustrations indicate the direction to stitch for both staystitching and seam construction.**



For a more in-depth discussion of **Stay Stitching** and **Directional Stitching**, please watch my video at <https://www.threadsmagazine.com/2019/08/23/staystitching-basics-video>

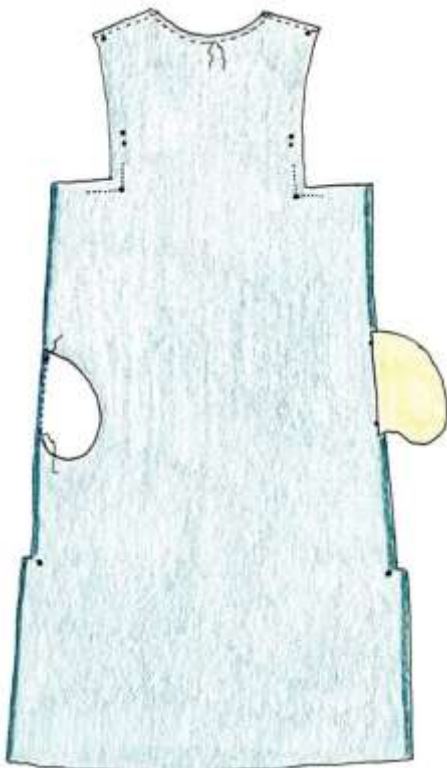
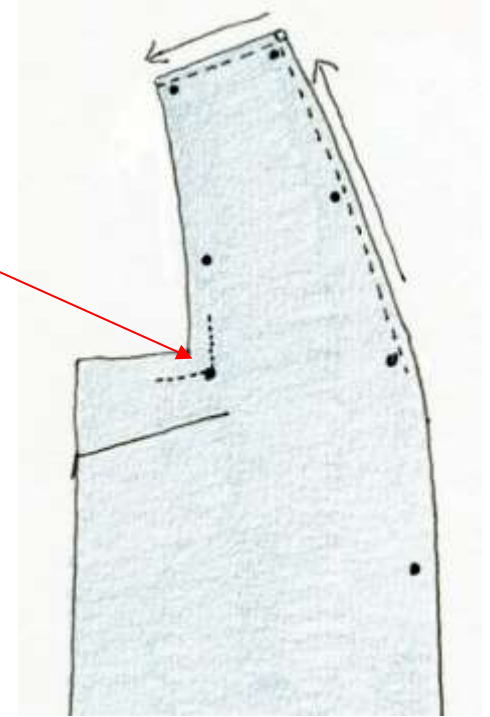




- Reinforce at the underarm dot, using the shortest stitch your machine can make. Stitch **on the seamline** [ $\frac{5}{8}$ "(1.5cm) from cut edge] extending the stitching approximately 1"(2.5cm) on either side and pivoting at the dot. Use matching thread. **CAUTION: THIS IS NOT STAYSTITCHING! USE SHORT STITCHES AND STITCH ON THE SEAMLINE!**

## **FRONTS:**

- Staystitch front neck and shoulder seamlines. (follow arrows)
- For the B pattern, sew bust darts, matching dots. Press flat, then down.
- Reinforce at the underarm dot, using the shortest stitch your machine can make. Stitch **on the seamline**  $\frac{5}{8}$ "(1.5cm) from cut edge, extending the stitching approximately 1"(2.5cm) on either side and pivoting at the dot. Use matching thread. **CAUTION: THIS IS NOT STAYSTITCHING! USE SHORT STITCHES AND STITCH ON THE SEAMLINE!**



## **LINING:**

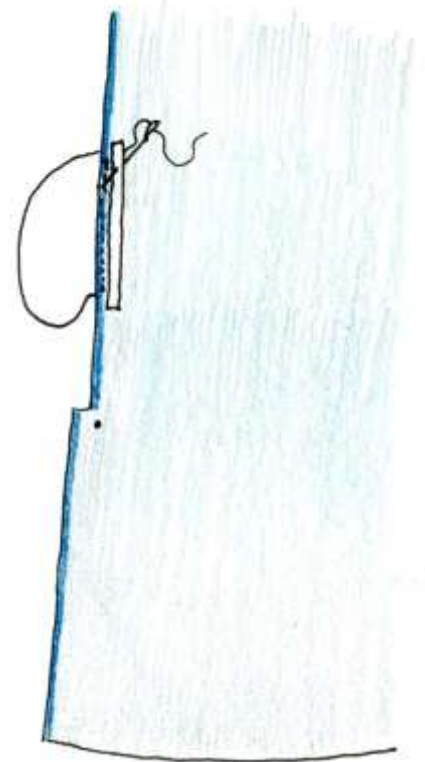
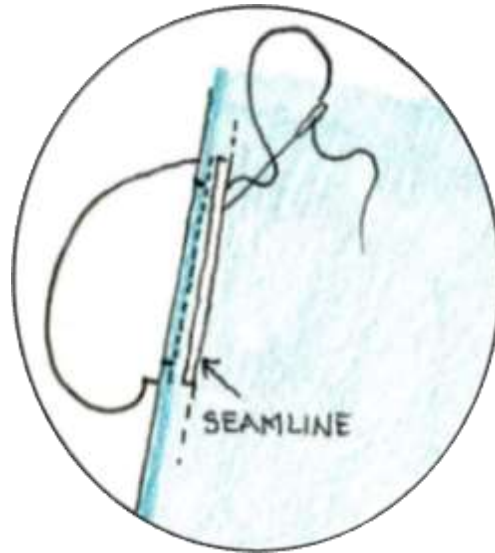
- Repeat above steps for both the lining front and lining back.

## **SIDE POCKETS:**

- With right sides together, pin one pocket section to the side of each garment back section, matching pocket marks. Stitch, using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ "(6mm) seam allowance.
- Press pocket section away from garment.
- With right sides together, use a strip of bias lining to apply a Hong Kong seam finish to side vent and side seam allowances including the straight edge of pocket. See page VII.

- **Repeat for garment front.**

- On the **wrong** side of one front section, pin one long edge of narrow twill tape along the garment seamline, the length of the pocket.  
Twill tape should lay on the seam allowance, with one long edge right along the seamline.  
Handstitch both long edges of twill tape in place invisibly, or stitch through center by machine (which will show on the outside).  
Repeat for the other front and both back sections.

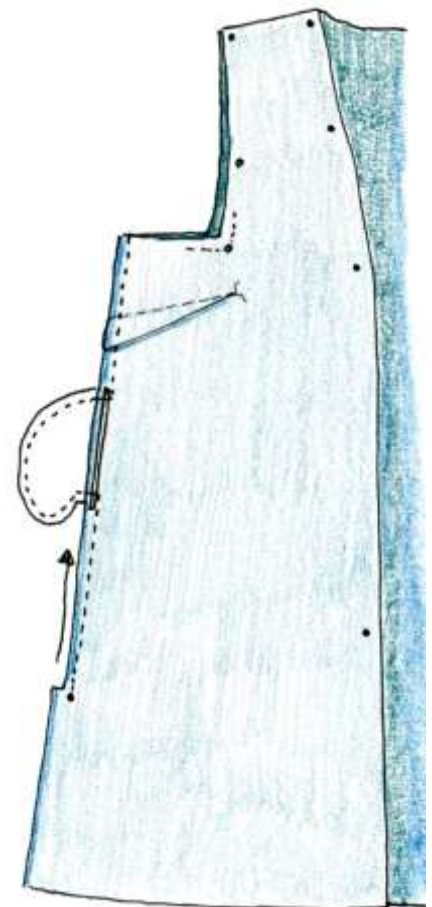


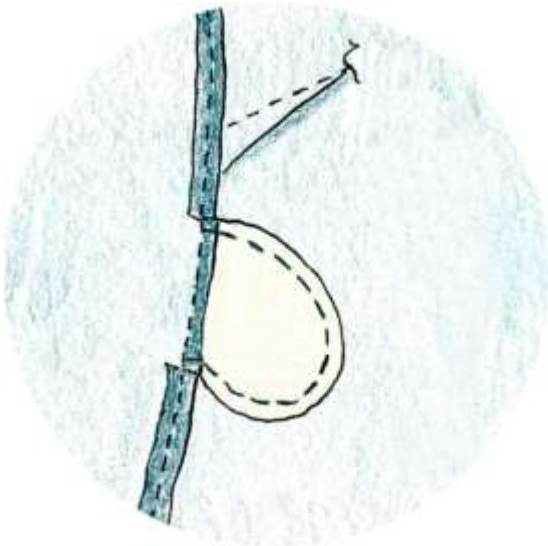
## **SIDE SEAMS:**

- With right sides together, pin side seams, matching pocket pieces.

**Note: Start pinning what you know is correct: match the two layers at the bottom edge, dots, pocket marks, and underarm edges. Ease everything in between to fit.**

- From the dot at the top of the vent [ $\frac{5}{8}$ "(1.5cm) seam allowance], stitch up towards the first pocket mark, pivot and stitch around the pocket to the second mark, pivot and continue up the side to the underarm, finishing the side seam.





- Clip back seam allowance above and below the pocket to allow the pocket to fall towards the front.
- Clean-finish pocket edges, reinforcing clipped area. See page VI for clean-finishing options.

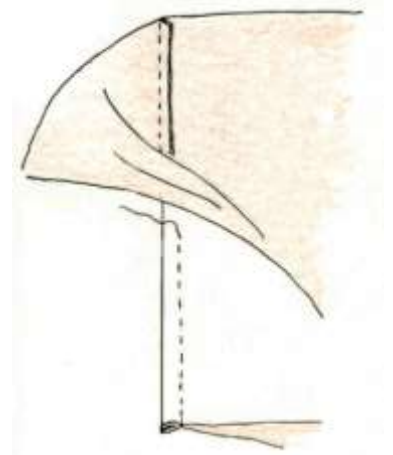
- Press side seam allowances open above and below the pockets.

- Using a French seam, match, pin and stitch side

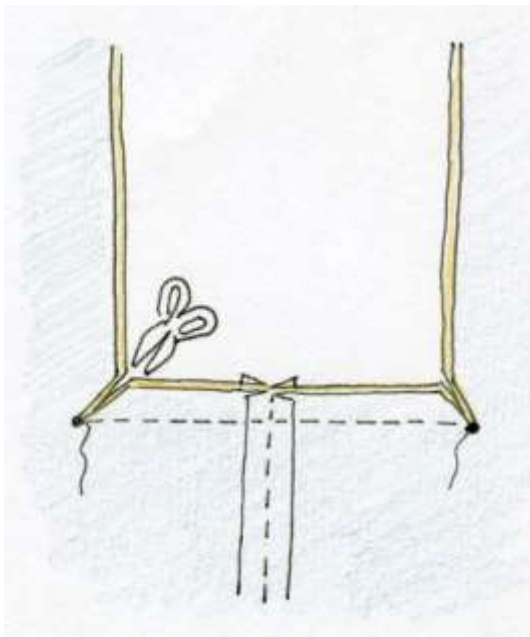
seams of lining as above, eliminating pockets.

For a French seam, see illustration left. Stitch wrong sides together using a 1/4" (6mm) seam allowance. Press. Trim. Turn right sides together and stitch 3/8" (1cm) from edge, encasing the 1/4" (6mm) seam allowance.

- Clip seam allowance diagonally at lower dot to release vent and press seam allowance towards back.

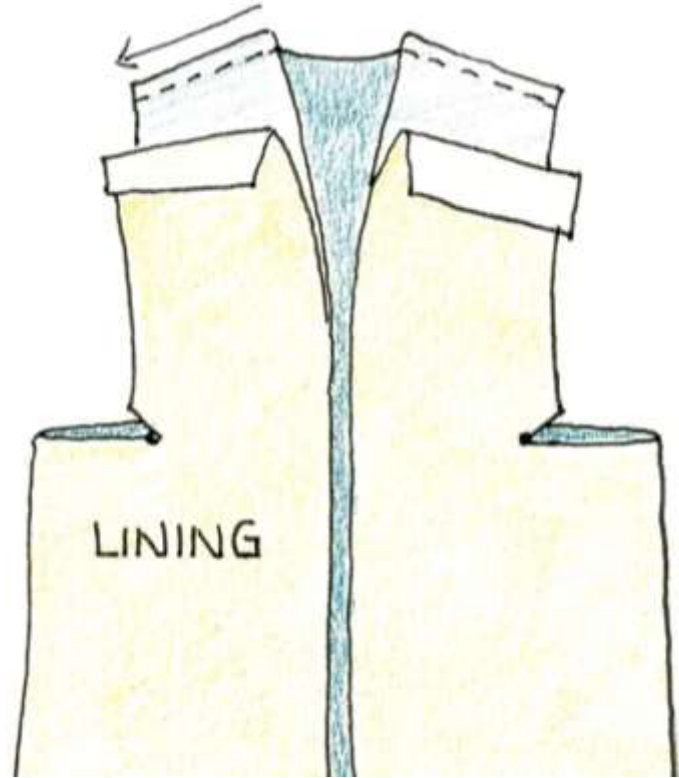


## **UNDERARM SEAM:**



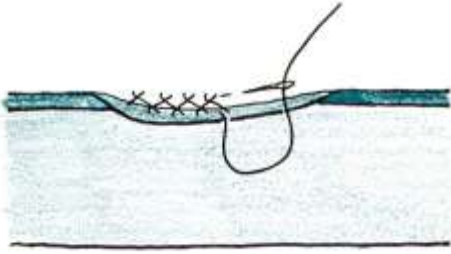
- With right sides together, pin underarm seam allowance of lining to walking vest, matching side seams and reinforced dots.
- With the vest fabric on top, and the lining fabric against the feeddogs, stitch carefully from dot to dot, covering the reinforcing stitching and carefully backstitching at each end. Make sure backstitching does not go past the dots.
- Clip inside corners, through both layers, to, but not through, the reinforced dot.
- Trim vest underarm seam allowance to 3/8" (1cm) and lining seam allowance to 1/4" (6mm).

- Turn lining to inside at underarm and press. **Leave vest and vest lining wrong sides together.** This should now begin to look like a lined vest.
- With right sides together, pin vest front to back at shoulders, keeping the lining folded out of the way.
- Stitch  $\frac{5}{8}$ "(1.5cm) seam in direction of arrow.
- Press seams open.
- Repeat for lining.
- Pin lining to vest, wrong sides together, on all edges except lower edges and vents. Leave the lower edges and the vents unpinned.

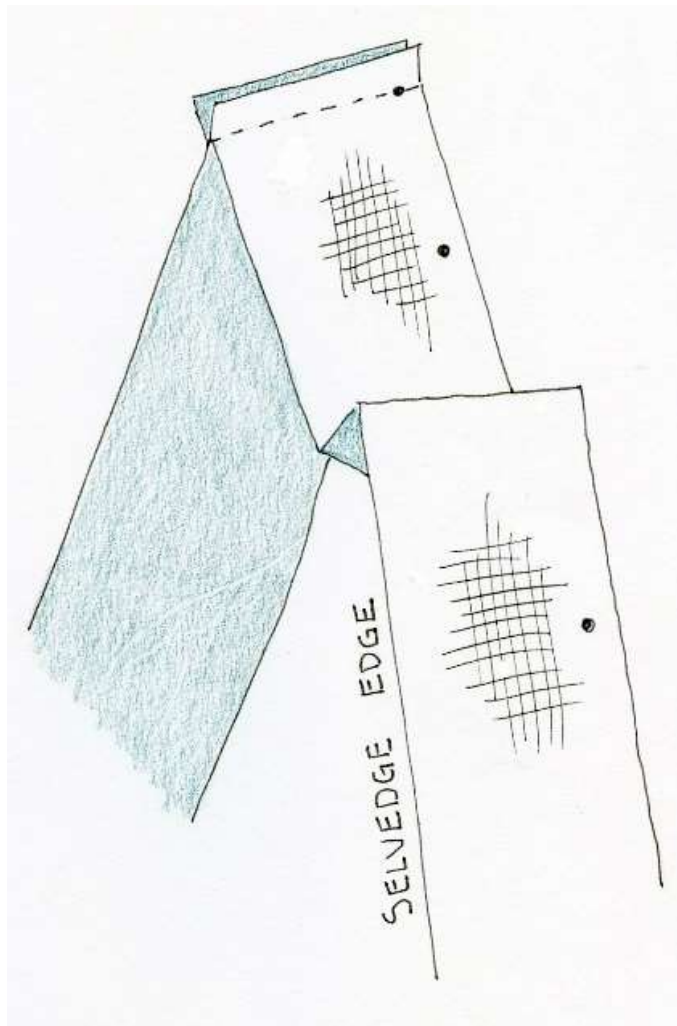


- With the lining face up under the presser foot, machine-baste the armholes together. Machine-baste the neck/front edges together, stopping 4" (10cm) from lower edge. **Machine-baste by stitching with the longest stitch your machine makes,  $\frac{1}{2}$ "(1.2cm) from the cut edge.** This way, if stitching shows when the garment is finished, it can easily be removed.
- Open out vents at lower edge. Using a strip of bias lining, apply a Hong Kong seam finish to the lower edges of the garment only, leaving lining free. **See page VII.**
- Turn up hem 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ "(3.8cm). Steam press. Hand-baste into place.

- Finish hem by hand with a catchstitch, connecting the stitching line behind the hem binding to the garment, leaving lining hanging free.



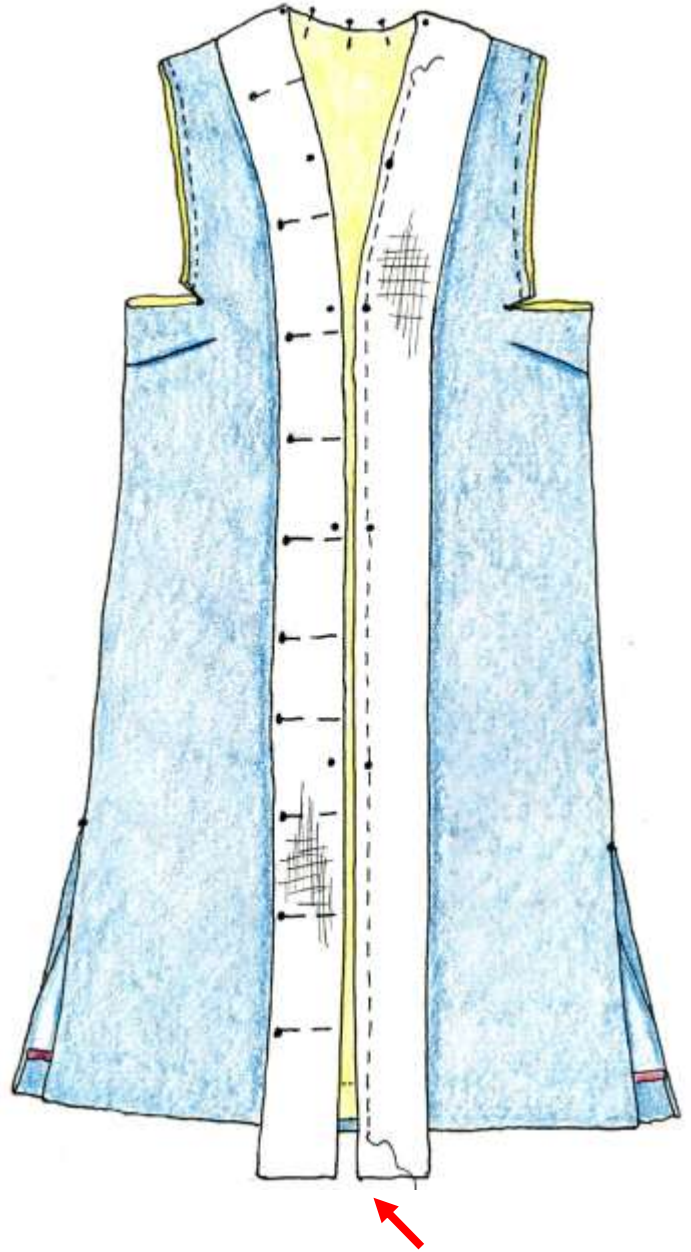
- Turn up lower edge of lining ½”(1.2cm). Press. Turn up again 1 ½”(3.8cm). Press and machine stitch lining hem allowance in place.
- Finish basting lining to garment the remaining 4”(10cm) from lower edge at the center front edges.



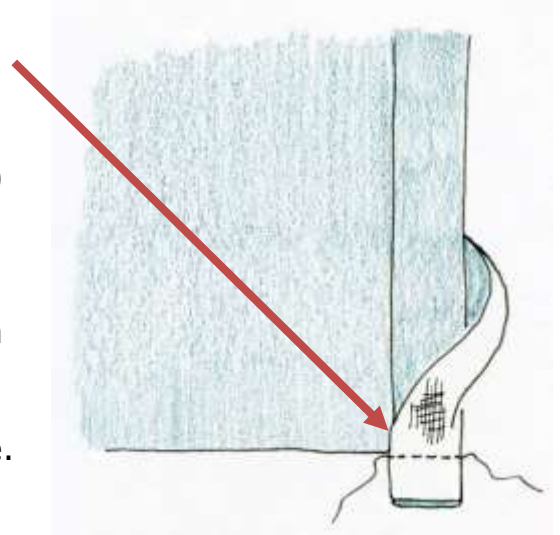
**BANDS:** (see page XV for Shawl Collar variation) NOTE: Though possible, it is difficult to create bound buttonholes in the rectangular neck band because of its width. They are better suited to the shawl collar. Closure options are discussed in my digital monograph <https://www.weaversew.com/shop/digital-closures.html>

- First check to see that both of the bands mirror image each other. The tailor’s tacks should be down the long edge, opposite selvedge. You should have a left and right band.
- Place interfacing on the wrong side of each band. **Steam shrink** interfacing by hovering over the surface with a steam iron, then fuse it to wrong side of each band using a press cloth. I recommend silk organza as a press cloth.
- With right sides together, match the markings, and stitch the center back neck seam of band.

- Press seam open.
- If you added an additional  $\frac{5}{8}$ "(1.5cm) seam allowance on the long-unmarked edge of the band, turn under seam allowance and press. If band does **not** have a finished selvedge, **and you did not add an additional  $\frac{5}{8}$ "(1.5cm) seam allowance**, apply Hong Kong finish to long unmarked edge. **See page VII.**
- With right sides together, pin band edge with markings to back neck and center front edge of vest, matching center back, shoulders, and dots. Ease neck into band, clipping neck seam allowance if necessary. **Band should extend about  $1\frac{1}{2}$ "(3.8cm) below hem.** (If it does not, you probably forgot to turn up the hem on the vest! See page XII.)
- **If the dots are not matching, check that you stitched the back neck seams and not the hem edges when you sewed the band together. Match the dots and ease the rest to fit.**
- With the band facing up under the presser foot, stitch band to vest, starting from one lower edge, around the vest neck, and down to the other lower edge. **(Check before you stitch this seam to be sure that you have enough bobbin thread!)**
- Trim **only** the band seam allowance to  $\frac{3}{8}$ "(1cm).
- Press band and both seam allowances away from vest front.



- Fold lower edge of band back on itself, right sides together, selvedge **even** with seamline.
- Stitch across bottom of band, even with vest hem. Clip corner and grade seam allowances to ¼"(6mm) and ⅜"(1cm).
- Turn and press band to inside. The selvedge edge should meet the front seamline. Hand-baste band in place.
- On inside, slipstitch selvedge edge to front seamline. Remove hand basting.

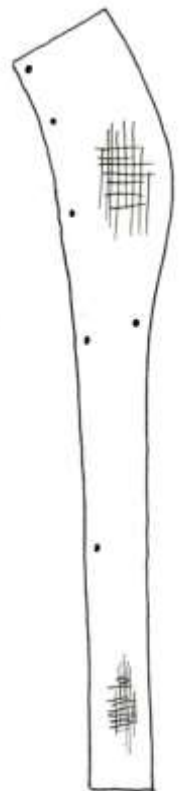


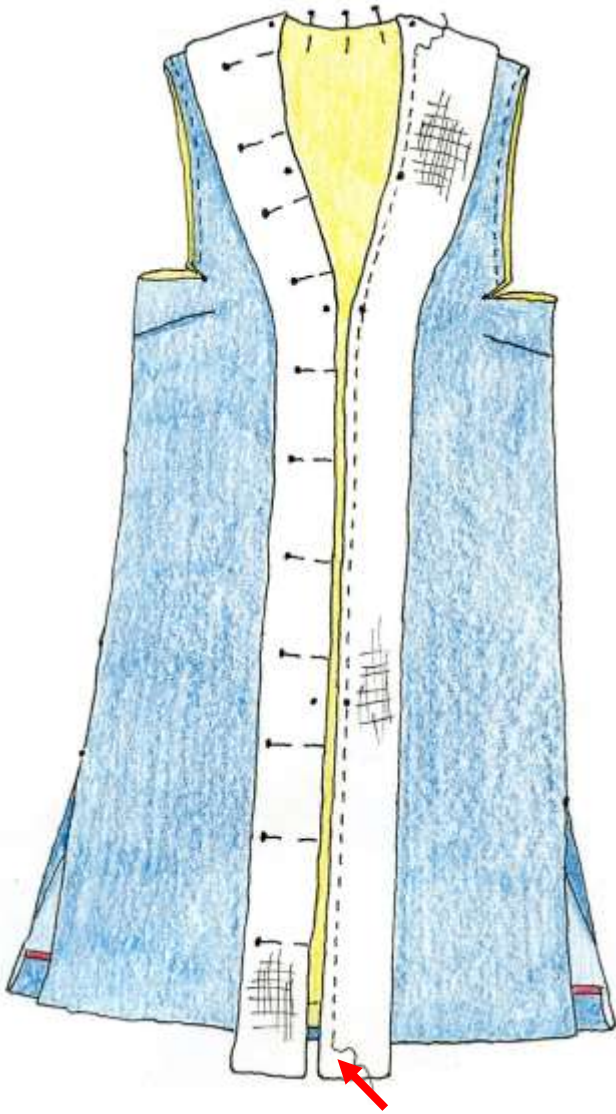
To apply armhole bands and finish vest, see page XXII

## SHAWL COLLAR VARIATION

### UNDERCOLLAR/BAND:

- Place interfacing on the wrong side of each of the four collars. **Steam shrink** interfacing by hovering over the surface with a steam iron, then fuse it to wrong side of each collar using a press cloth. Put two collars aside for later use as uppercollar/facing.
- *If optional bound buttonholes are desired, use the right undercollar/band and follow the directions on page XVII*
- With right sides together, stitch back neck seam of undercollar/band sections. Press seam open.





- With right sides together, pin undercollar/band to garment, matching dots. Clip neckline and undercollar if necessary, to achieve a smooth fit.
- Stitch undercollar/band to front, starting at the lower left edge. Use a walking/even feed foot, if available.
- Trim undercollar/band seam allowance ONLY to  $\frac{3}{8}$ "(1cm).
- Press undercollar/band and seam allowances away from vest.

### **UPPER COLLAR/FACING:**

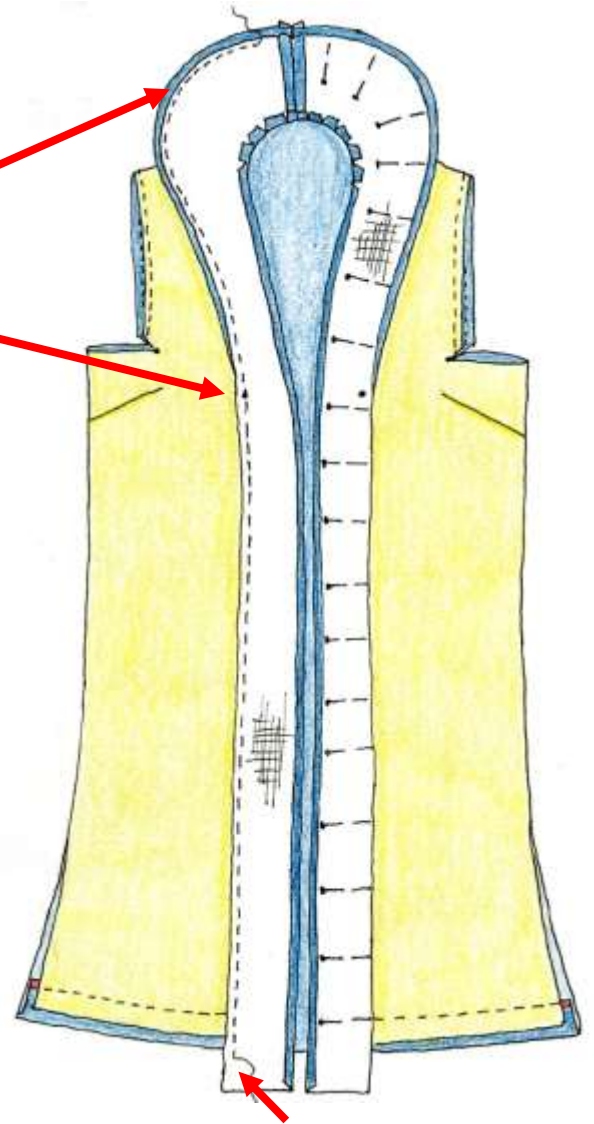
- *If optional bound buttonholes were used, see page XXI for facing the buttonhole.*
- With right sides together, stitch center back seam. Press seam open.
- Fold under and press  $\frac{5}{8}$ "(1.5cm) on long marked edge. Clip seam allowance around neckline if necessary. **For bulkier fabrics, apply a Hong Kong Seam Finish to the long marked edge instead.**

Note: the areas with optional bound buttonhole and buttonhole facings will have to extend towards the coat body for them to fully function. Those seam allowances will be clipped and left extended toward body. Once collars are attached, finish the buttonhole/s and its facing seam allowances together with a small Hong Kong seam finish.

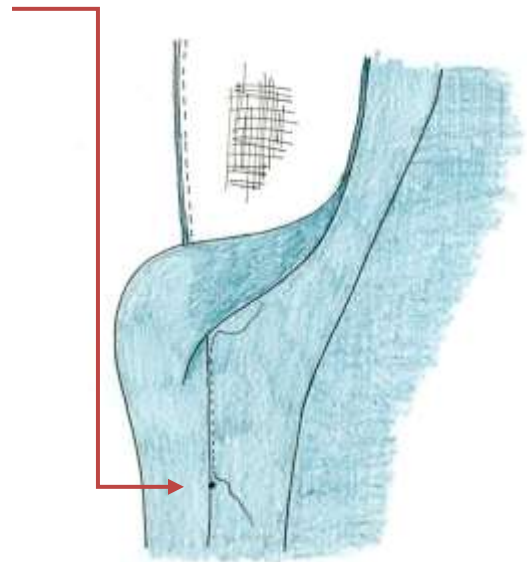




- Turn the vest inside out so lining is visible
- Pin uppercollar/facing and undercollar/band, right sides together, matching center back, and dots. **Shift undercollar so it extends ¼"(6mm) past uppercollar, tapering to nothing at dots.**
- With a walking/even feed foot (if available), stitch uppercollar/facing and undercollar/band together starting at the lower left edge, across the bottom of the facing/band. Pivot at the corner and continue up the left side of the body. As you approach the dot where the undercollar and uppercollar are shifted ¼"(6mm), use the edge of the undercollar as the guide for the ⅝"(1.5cm) seam. Continue around in this manner, back down the other side and across the lower edge of the right front band/facing.
- Grade seam allowances, clip lower corners, and turn right side out.
- Understitch undercollar **from dot to dot** to keep undercollar from rolling out. **To understitch, from the right side machine-stitch undercollar close to edge with normal length stitches, through all seam allowances.**
- Press collars and band/facing.
- Slipstitch remaining folded long edge of band to garment body along seamline.
- Add buttonholes or other closure at markings. *(OR for optional bound buttonholes, slip stitch faced windows behind buttonholes.)*
- Attach buttons at X markings on left front band.

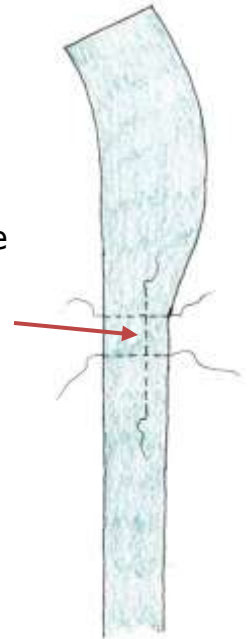


To apply armhole bands and finish vest, see page XXII



## OPTIONAL BOUND BUTTONHOLES for the UNDERCOLLAR/BAND:

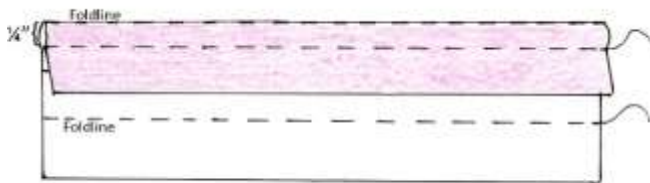
- Machine-baste across interfaced right undercollar/band section at buttonhole placement markings indicated by the tailor's tacks, from one edge to the other. Machine-baste a vertical line, connecting all the buttonhole stop points. **Note: Left edge of buttonhole will disappear into the vest/band seam allowances. Only the stop line marking is needed.**
- Cut a long strip of fabric for the buttonhole lips. Interface if necessary. Strip should be [length of buttonhole plus 1 1/8" (2.8cm) seam allowance] X [number of buttonholes including a test] by 4" (10cm) wide.



- Machine-baste lengthwise through the center of the strip. Machine



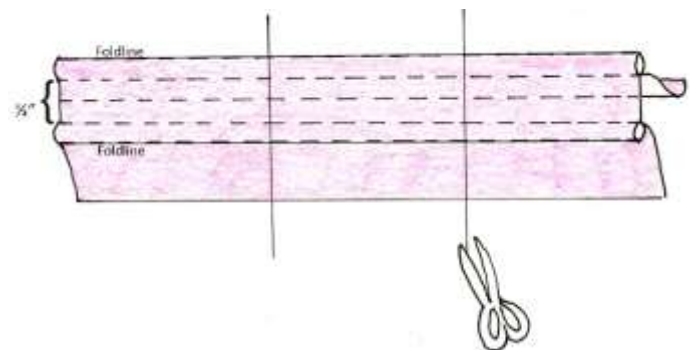
baste an additional row of stitching on either side of center, 1/2" (1.2cm) away. There will be three parallel rows of basting. **The basting stitches on either side of the center line will become foldlines.**



- Fold each long edge to wrong side along outer rows of stitching and press.

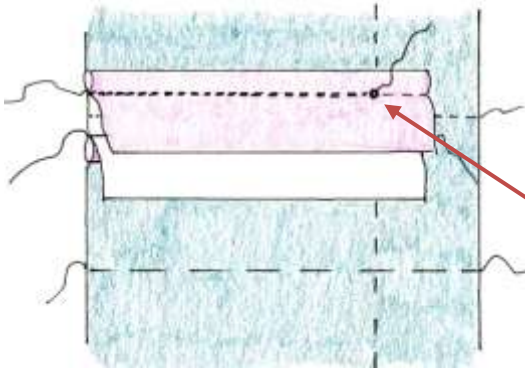
- Mark a line 1/4" (6mm) from each fold; machine-baste along these lines. The two stitching lines must be exactly 1/2" (1.2cm) apart.

- Cut prepared strip into individual pieces [length of buttonhole plus 1 1/8" (2.8cm) seam allowances]. One piece will be used as a test.



- **Make a test buttonhole on a scrap of fabric.**

**Note:** Illustrations show two buttonhole placement lines. However, the pattern only indicates one. If making more than one buttonhole, each step should be completed for all buttonholes before advancing to the next step. Illustration will only show one buttonhole.

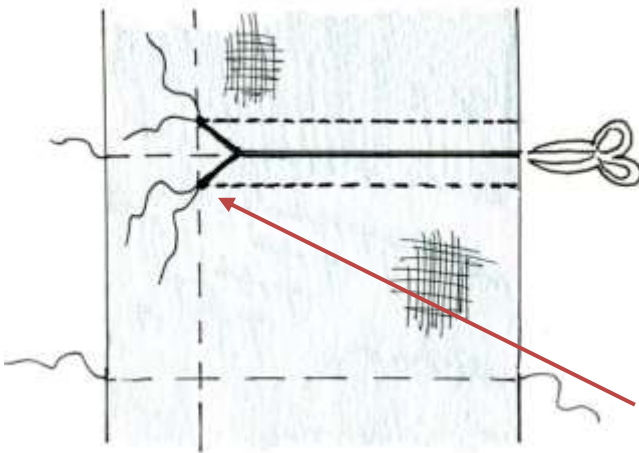
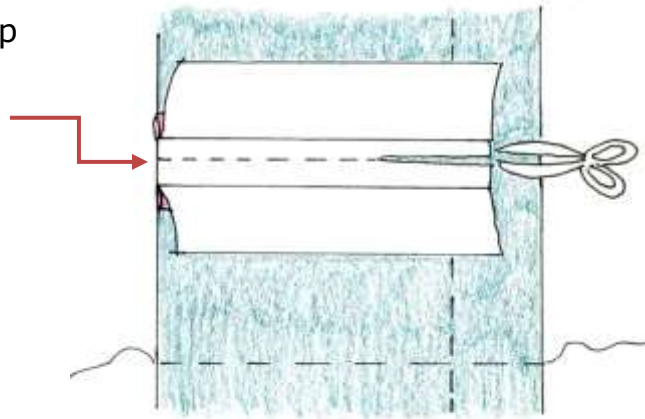
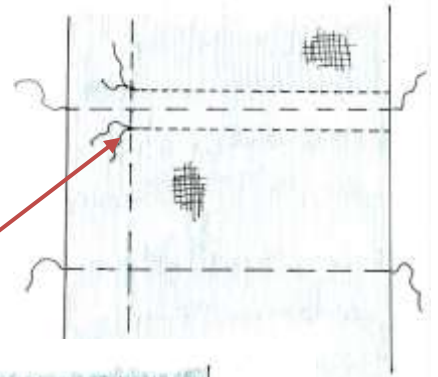


- Pin prepared strip to garment section, right sides together, placing original center stitching line on basted placement line on undercollar/band, left edge even with cut edge of undercollar/band and right edge extending ½”(1.2cm) beyond stop line. Baste along center line to hold in place.
- Transfer stop-line marking onto strip with pen.

- Using small stitches, stitch strip along previous ¼”(6mm) stitching line, through all layers, starting at the left edge and ending at the stop line marking. **Do not backstitch.** Leave 3”(7.6cm) tails.
- Repeat for the other long edge of the strip.

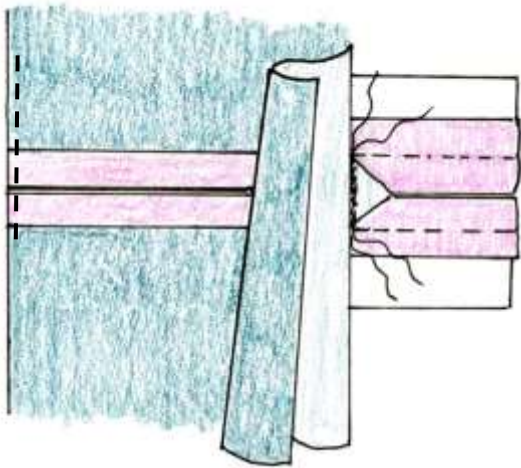
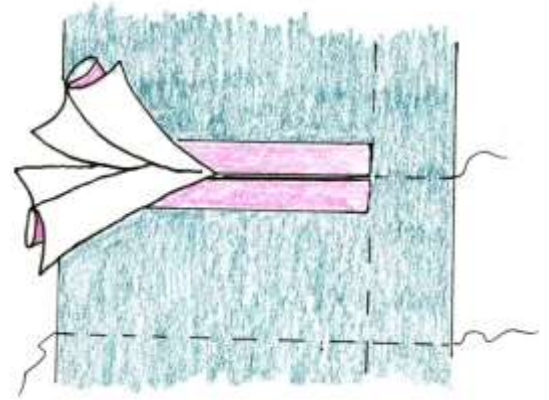
**Check:** On both right side and interfacing side, stitching lines must be on grain, ½”(1.2cm) apart, ending exactly the stop-line. If necessary, pull out a stitch or two, or thread end into a needle and make an extra stitch. **If stitching is not perfect, rip out!**

- Pull thread ends to interfacing side. Knot close to fabric, **do not trim off.**
- Remove center basting thread. Cut strip in two through entire length of center line. **Be careful not to cut undercollar/band section.**



- Turn undercollar/band over. Cut buttonhole opening from interfacing side. Start cutting at right edge and end ¼”(6mm) from stop-line. Cut into each corner as far as possible without clipping stitching. **Be careful not to cut the underneath buttonhole strips.**

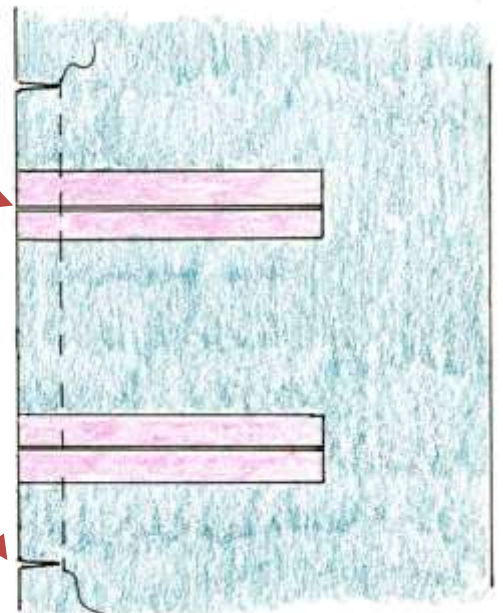
- Push strips gently through opening to interfacing side. Flatten strips and see that lips meet.
- Press.



- Place undercollar/band section on machine, right side up. Fold edge back as far as end of buttonhole, exposing the end of the buttonhole with tiny triangle lying on top of the strip. **Make sure buttonhole lips butt and strip edges are even.** Stitch back and forth across base of triangle at stop-line. Trim off thread ends.

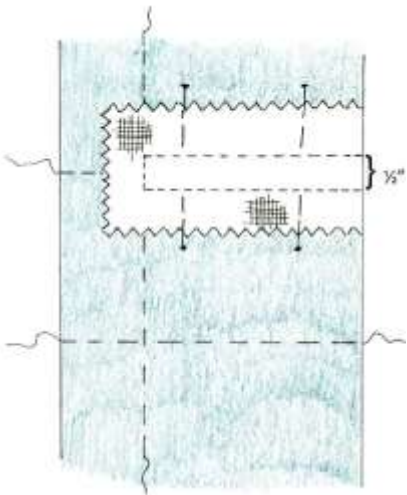
- Remove basting threads from undercollar/band.
- Press finished buttonhole.

- Baste lip edges together, making sure lips butt.
- Clip to basting above and below the buttonholes. This area will remain extended towards the garment body once the uppercollar/facing is attached. Both the band and facing buttonhole extensions can be finished off together with a small Hong Kong seam finish once the uppercollar/facing is attached.
- Continue constructing the shawl collar, following directions on page XV. Refer to page XXI for facing the buttonhole on the uppercollar/facing section.

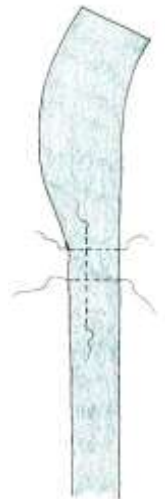


## **FACING THE BUTTONHOLE:**

- Machine-baste along the placement lines and the stop line indicated by the tailor's tacks, on the fused uppercollar/facing section that will correspond to the undercollar/band with the bound buttonholes.



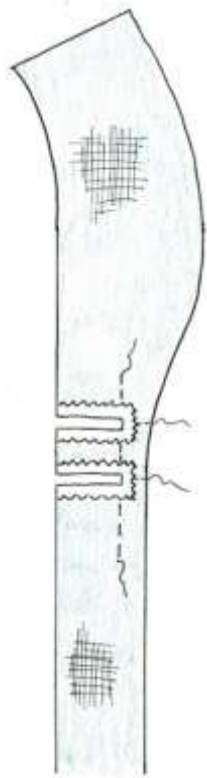
- Cut a rectangular patch of **fusible woven interfacing**, 2 3/8" (6cm) long and 1 1/2" (3.8cm) wide. <https://www.weaversew.com/shop/pellon-shape-flex.html> and pin securely with **right sides together** (glue side facing up) to the facing, centering over the basted placement line and extending past the stop line 3/8" (1cm).



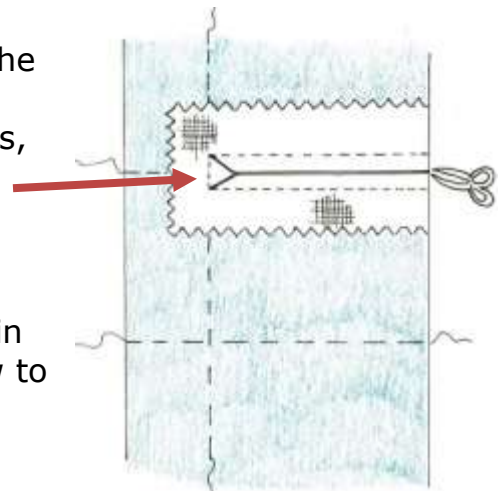
**Note:** It would help to test these steps first on a scrap before cutting into the actual uppercollar/facing.

- Draw the placement and stop lines on the interfacing patch and then, with small stitches, stitch a 1/2" (1.2cm) window starting at the cut edge, centering over the placement line, pivoting at the stop line. This window should be identical to the bound buttonhole.

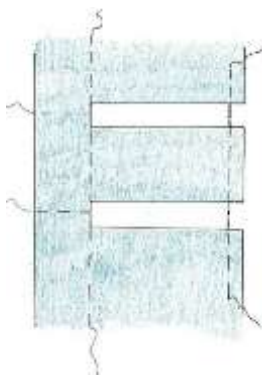
- With sharp scissors, clip through both layers, through the center placement line, stopping 1/4" (6mm) from the end and clipping into both corners, creating a small triangle at the end of the opening.



- Pull interfacing patch through to the wrong side of uppercollar/facing and fuse in place, creating a clean three-sided window to frame the back of the bound buttonhole.



- Complete window opening for any remaining buttonholes.



- Machine-baste edge with openings, trying to keep everything aligned and connected until it can be attached to band facing and finished with a small Hong Kong seam finish.

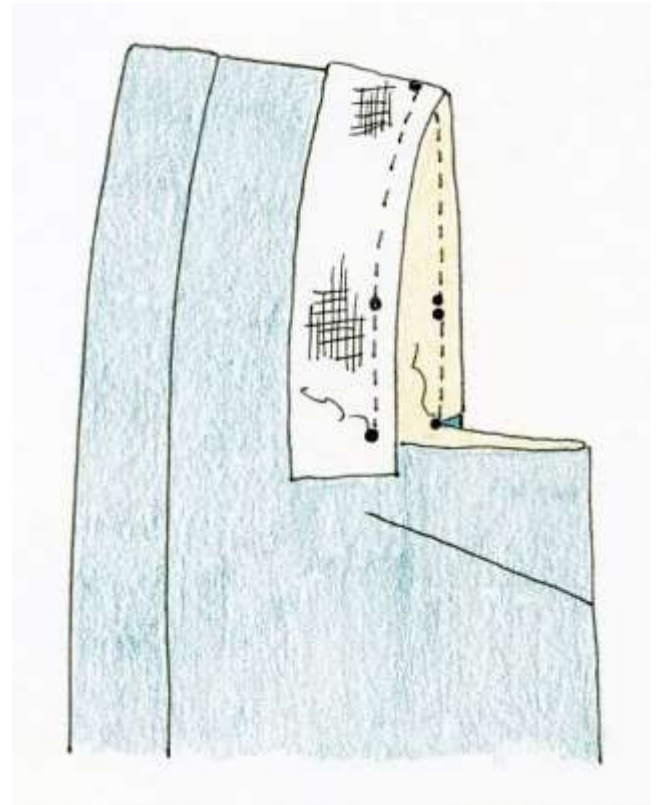
- Remove basting threads that marked buttonhole placement

- Return to page XVI for remaining shawl collar directions.

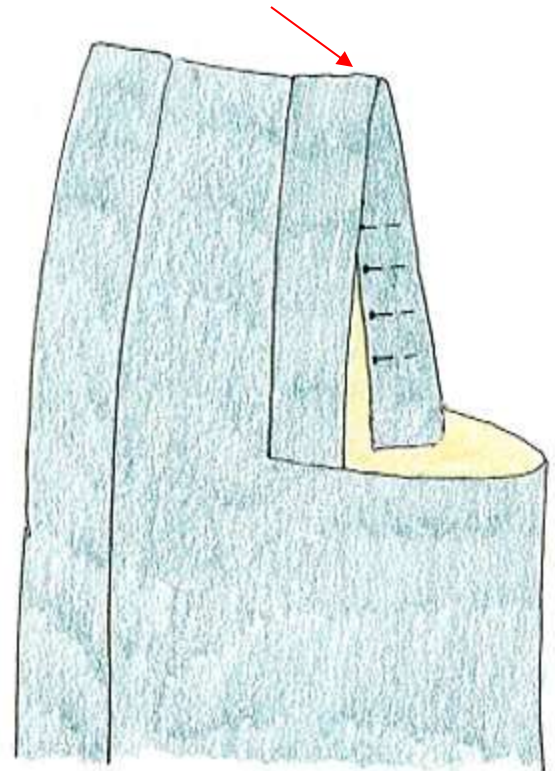
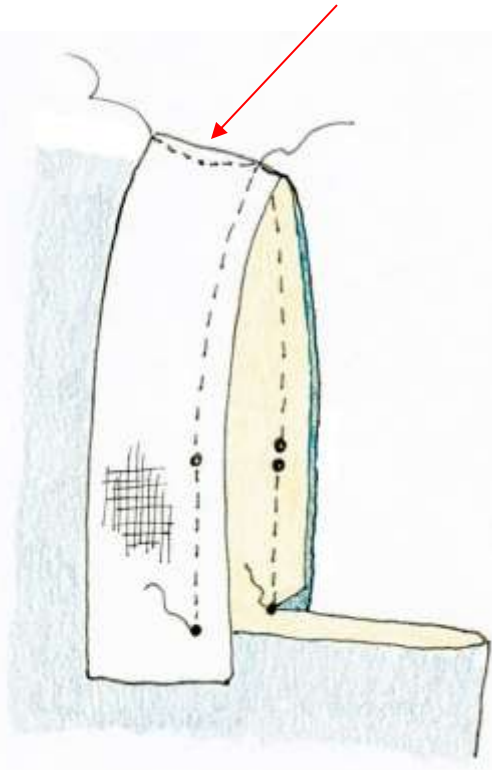
## **ARMHOLE BANDS:**

Note: Width of armhole band is subjective; decide what looks best on you. Consider making the bands narrower, or leave them off altogether, and bind off the armhole edge of the vest with a strip of bias. Directions are for applying the armhole bands as indicated by the pattern.

- Steam shrink and fuse interfacing to the armhole bands.
- If you added an additional  $\frac{5}{8}$ "(1.5cm) seam allowance on the long-unmarked edge of the band, turn under seam allowance and press. If band does **not** have a finished selvedge, **and you did not add an additional  $\frac{5}{8}$ "(1.5cm) seam allowance**, apply Hong Kong finish to long unmarked edge. **See page VII.**
- With right sides together, pin armhole bands to armhole seam allowances, matching shoulders and dots. **(Double dot is in the back, single dot in the front.)**
- With the band facing up under the presser foot, carefully stitch band to armhole on the seamline, starting and ending at lower dots.
- Trim **only** band seam allowances to  $\frac{3}{8}$ "(1cm).
- Press band and seam allowances away from armhole.
- Fold band towards inside of armhole with selvedge meeting seamline. Pin in place. **Do not worry about the bottom edges of the bands at this point. Try on vest.**



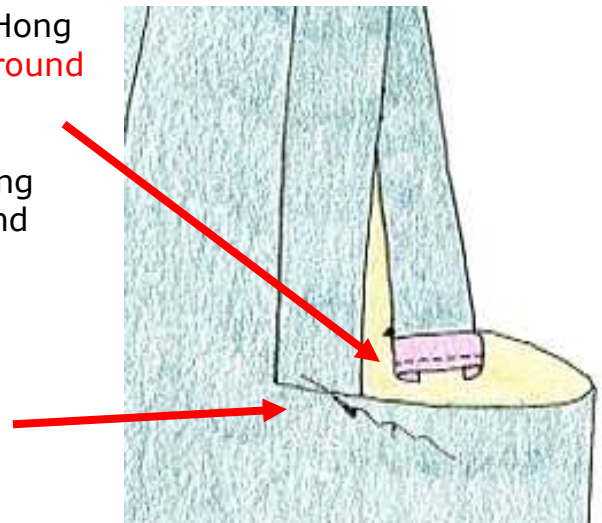
- If armhole band goes uphill at the shoulder like a wing and you do not like this, unpin and open out the armhole band, noting the foldline. Take a small ¼”(6mm) dart, starting from nothing at the selvedge edge, to ¼”(6mm) at the foldline, back to nothing at the seamline. Press dart towards the back of the armhole band.



- Refold band towards the inside, wrong sides together, with selvedge edge meeting seamline. Pin. Hand-baste.

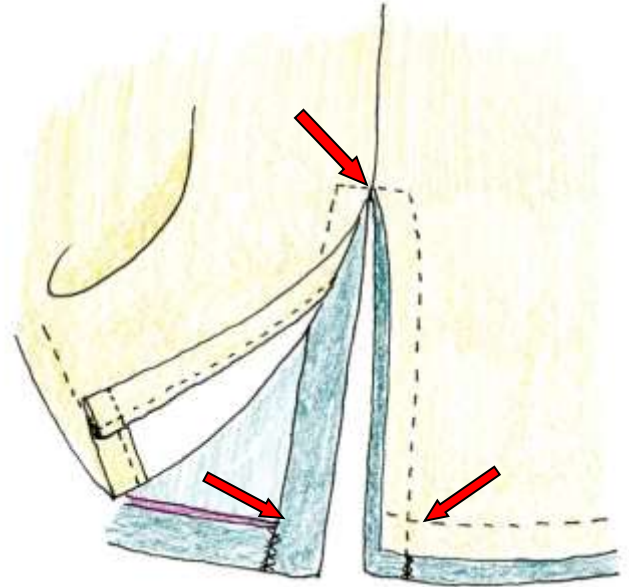
- Slipstitch selvedge edge of band to seamline of armhole.

- Finish bottoms of armhole bands with a small Hong Kong seam finish. **Fold the ends of bias strip around the back of band before attaching.** Stitch.
- Press binding away from band. Finish Hong Kong seam finish by turning binding towards back and stitching in the ditch.
- Remove hand basting.
- Slipstitch underarm of vest to armhole band.

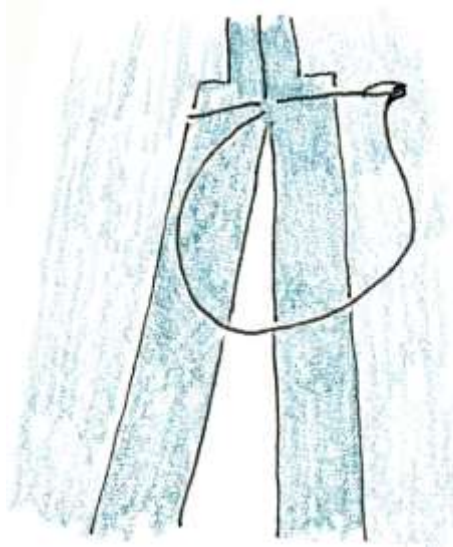


## **TO FINISH:**

- Press vent facings towards the inside on garment fronts and back and secure with an invisible catchstitch underneath the binding or seam finish, as for the hem.
- Press **lining** vent facings towards the inside, turn under raw edges, top stitch vent facings in place.
- To anchor lining to garment, create a one-inch French tack\* at the top of the vent, and at each of the vent facings near the hem, where indicated by the arrows.



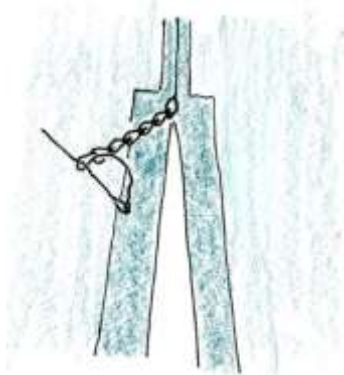
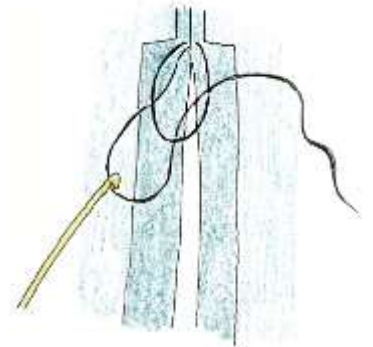
\*To make a French tack, follow the steps below.



1. Use a long doubled waxed thread and take a stitch on the garment wrong side.

2. Go back into the stitch and create a loop.

3. Use your finger or a crochet hook to make a chain.



4. Insert still threaded needle through the last loop of the chain to secure.

5. Attach to the wrong side of the lining by taking a couple of secure stitches.

For inspiration for closures for the front bands, take a look at the digital monograph on closures available in my eShop <https://www.weaversew.com/shop/digital-closures.html>