

Presented By

THE SEWING WORKSHOP

Sew Confident 2024 - The Vault Extended Sizes Pattern Grading Instructions

Patterns included in Sew Confident 2024 - The Vault were created originally in earlier years. Pattern sizing has changed over the years. Please use the Size Measurements in the pattern instructions to determine the pattern size you need for the best fit. These pattern sizes do not reflect current sizing standards so please ignore the "size" number and make a skirt that fits you.

These directions are for taking the Metro Skirt pattern and "grading" it up 3 additional "sizes". Use your measurements to determine the best pattern size for your body. Cheri Golden wears a size 20, or 2x in many retail clothing brands. The Metro Skirt in a size 24 is a great fit for her. The skirt skims the tummy and the hips creating a great look. Cheri is 5'7" tall and shortened the skirt 2" using the lengthen / shorten line.

A note regarding pattern "grading". Grading a pattern involves adjusting the measurements to create multiple sizes while keeping the style and proportions of the original design. Grading is not the same as making custom fit changes to a pattern. An example: in larger sizes it is common for the front waist on a body to be lower than the back waist. Put a tape measure around your waist. Stand in front of a mirror and look from the side to see if your waist is lower in the front. If so, this is a fit issue, not a pattern size issue. You will still need to make fit adjustments to the pattern for your specific body. Start with Linda Lee's booklet Fashion Fitting Encyclopedia. Another resource for curvy bodies is Jenny Rushmore's book Ahead of the Curve.

Tools Needed:

Pencils Erasers Hip Curve Ruler Sewing Gauge

Metro Skirt - Extended Sizes

Make the following changing to your pattern pieces:

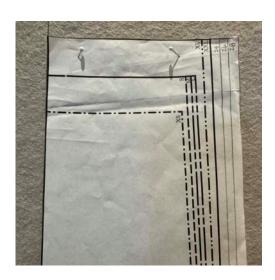
Pattern Piece 2 - Center Front Panel and Pattern Piece 4 - Center Back Panel

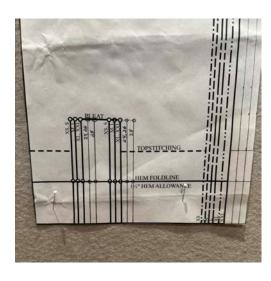
For size 24 add 1/4" to seam allowance that runs the entire length of the skirt (waist to hem). For size 26 add 1/2" to seam allowance that runs the entire length of the skirt (waist to hem). For size 28 add 3/4" to seam allowance that runs the entire length of the skirt (waist to hem). Note: In these photos all 3 additional sizes have been marked but you can mark your pattern for just the one size you have decided to create.

Mark the 1/4", 1/2", or 3/4 frequently along the seam line using your Sewing Gauge. Connect marks using a Hip Curve ruler. Note - the seam allowance is not a straight line, it is a curved line and it is important for the fit that it remains curved.

On the pleat at the skirt bottom, add 3/16" next to the XL, XXL marks for sizes 24 and 26. Add a total of 3/8" for size 28. You are not changing the size of the pleat, you are moving the pleat towards the seam that runs from waist to hem.







Pattern Piece 1 - Front Pocket Panel and Pattern Piece 3 - Side Panel

For size 24 add 1/4" to both seam allowances that run the entire length of the skirt (waist to hem).

For size 26 add 1/2" to both seam allowances that run the entire length of the skirt (waist to hem).

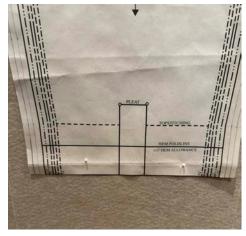
For size 28 add 3/4" to both seam allowances that run the entire length of the skirt (waist to hem).

Mark the 1/4", 1/2", or 3/4 frequently along the seam line using your Sewing Gauge. Connect marks using a Hip Curve ruler. Note - the seam allowance is not a straight line, it is a curved line and it is important for the fit that it remains curved.

No changes to the pleat at the skirt bottom on these 2 pattern pieces.







Pattern Piece 5 - Pocket Facing and Pattern Piece 6 - Pocket

No changes to the top (waist) of the skirt on all main skirt pieces and the pocket pieces (pieces 1-6) for all extended sizes.

For size 24 add 1/4" to both seam allowances that run the length of the pattern pieces. For size 26 add 1/2" to both seam allowances that run the length of the pattern pieces. For size 28 add 3/4" to both seam allowances that run the length of the pattern pieces.



Pattern Piece 9 - Waistband

For size 24 add 2" to each end of the waistband pattern piece, 4" total. For size 26 add 4" to each end of the waistband pattern piece, 8" total. For size 28 add 6" to each end of the waistband pattern piece, 12" total.

Dots on waistband for sizes 24, 26, and 28: Start at the Center Front, mark dots in both directions along the waistband (ie: the first marks for size 24 is 4 1/4" left of the center front line and 4 1/4" right of the center front line, etc). Mark dots as follows:

Size 24 - mark dots at 4 1/4", 12 7/8", 19 1/4", and 25 7/8" from the Center Front Size 26 - mark dots at 4 1/2", 13 1/8", 19 1/2", and 26 1/8" from the Center Front Size 28 - mark dots at 4 3/4", 13 3/8", 19 3/4", and 26 3/8" from the Center Front



Pattern Piece 7 - Optional Slit Facing and Pattern Piece 8 - Optional Loop No changes needed on these 2 pattern pieces.