



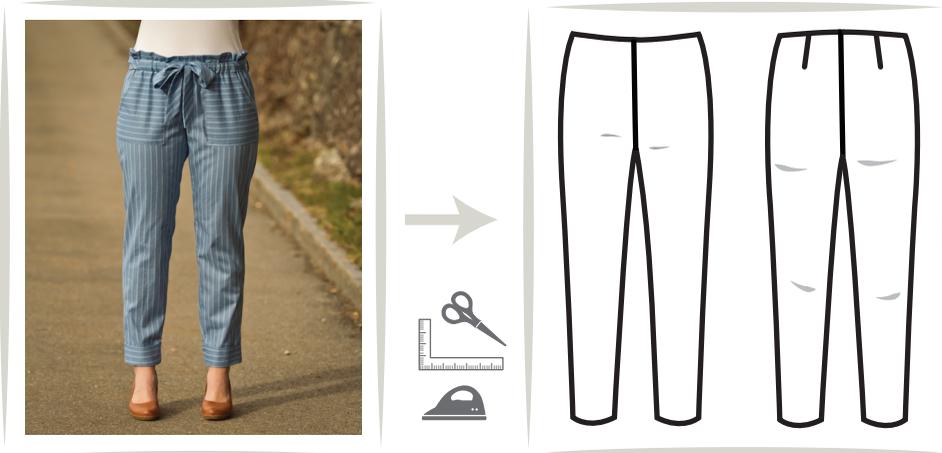
Gina Renee Designs

Helping You Create Clothes that make You Feel Great

by providing Fashionable Sewing Patterns that Fit

Pattern Hack - Base Pattern Pants (Instagram: #PenelopePantsHack #PatternHack & @GinaReneeDesigns)

COPYRIGHT © GINA RENEE 2019



THIS TUTORIAL WILL SHOW YOU HOW TO MAKE THE PENELOPE PANTS INTO YOUR SLACKS BASE PATTERN. I'LL ALSO SHOW YOU HOW TO TURN OTHER PANTS PATTERNS INTO A BASE PATTERN/SLOPER/ OR BLOCK (HOWEVER YOU CALL IT! :)

YOU MAY NEED TO GO THROUGH BALANCING STEPS IF YOU DON'T START FROM A GINA RENEE DESIGNS PATTERN. YOU CAN ALWAYS REFER TO THE FREE PANTS FITTING GUIDE IN CASE YOU NEED TO BALANCE A PATTERN. JUST KNOW, IF YOUR PATTERN IS NOT BALANCED, IT CAN BE AN INDICATION OF OTHER FITTING ISSUES.

EVERY BODY TYPE IS DIFFERENT AND EVERY FABRIC GIVES A DIFFERENT DRAPE. I HIGHLY SUGGEST TO REFER TO THE PANTS FITTING GUIDE TO TAILOR IT TO YOUR BODY. MAKE IT FIT YOU AS BEST YOU CAN!

AFTER YOU CREATE YOUR BASE, YOU CAN CHANGE IT IN SO MANY WAYS TO CREATE YOUR OWN STYLE PATTERNS. ADD YOKES, WAISTBANDS, MOVE DARTS; STYLE IT UP TO YOUR LIKING. YOU'RE THE DESIGNER :)



Table of Contents

TOPIC	PAGE(S)
SLACKS BASE PATTERN SILHOUETTE.....	3
ACCEPTABLE DRAG LINES ALLOW FOR MOVEMENT.....	4
USING A NON-GINA RENEE PATTERN FOR A BASE: ADAPTING YOUR FAVORITE PATTERN TO A BASE.....	5-8
USING THE PENELOPE PANTS (GINA RENEE DESIGNS PATTERN) AS A BASE: SEWING & PINNING THE PENELOPE PANTS AS A BASE.....	9-10
MAKING YOUR BASE PATTERN SMALLER.....	11
CHANGING THE LEG SILHOUETTE.....	12

DO
WHAT
—YOU—
LOVE

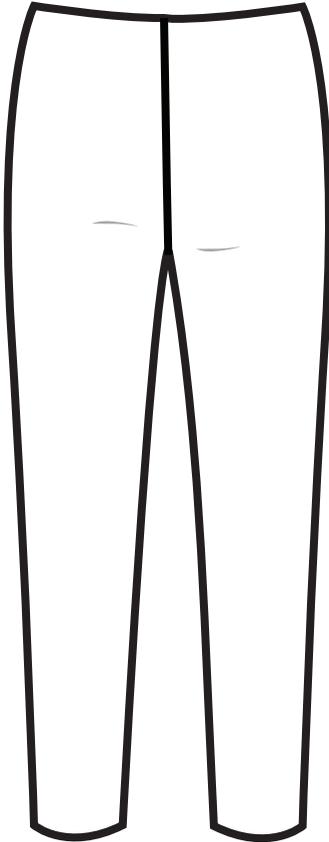
Slacks base pattern Silhouette

BELOW ARE THE DIFFERENT VIEWS OF TRADITIONAL "SLACKS" FITTING PANTS.

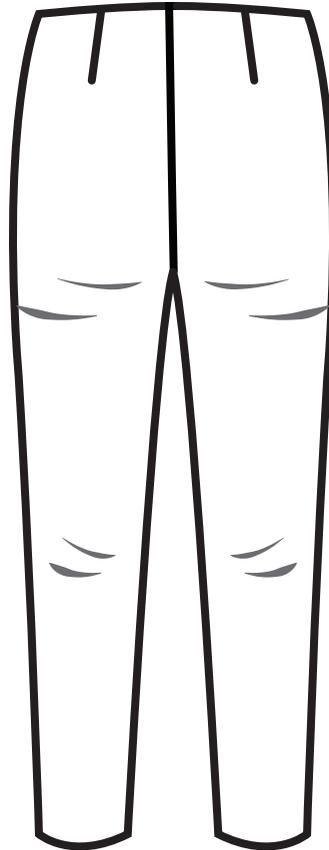
THIS SHOWS THE GENERAL SILHOUETTE AND ACCEPTABLE DRAG LINES FOR YOUR BASE PATTERN. THE BASE PATTERN WILL HAVE BACK DARTS. I PREFER HAVING NO FRONT DARTS AT THE WAIST, BUT YOU CAN ALWAYS ADD THEM USING THE SAME METHOD AS THE BACK DARTS IF YOU WISH.

SLACKS

FRONT VIEW:



BACK VIEW:



SIDE VIEW:



WE STRIVE TO HAVE NO DRAGLINES IN THE FRONT RISE. SOME FABRICS, HOWEVER MAY CAUSE A FEW CREASES IN THE FRONT CURVE OF THE RISE. SOME FITS, FABRICS OR BODY SHAPES JUST CAN'T AVOID ALL CREASES OR DRAG LINES.

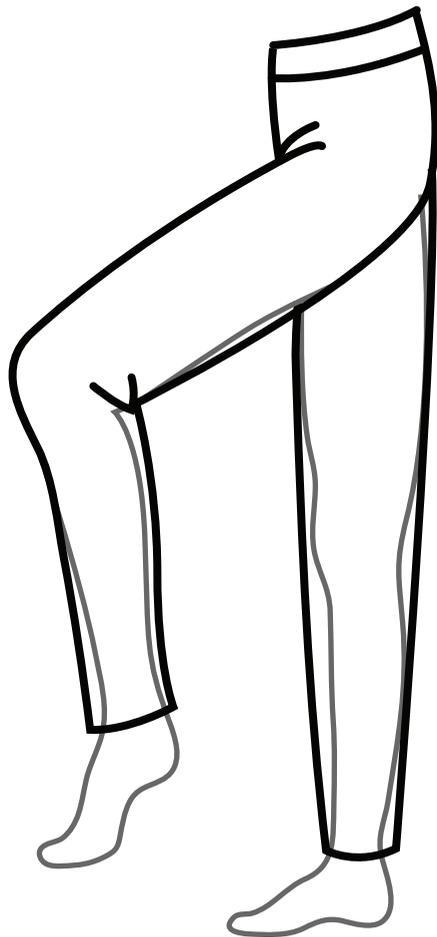
WE WILL ALWAYS HAVE A LITTLE DRAG LINE UNDER THE BUM AREA AND LIKELY A LITTLE AT THE KNEES. THIS IS OK! WE NEED SOME FOR MOVEMENT IN ORDER TO LIFT THE LEG UP. YOU WANT TO MAKE SURE THE DRAG LINES ARE HORIZONTAL, NOT SLANTED OR DIAGONAL. THESE ARE HEALTHY DRAGLINES :)

RISE SITS ABOUT 1/2"-1" BELOW THE CROTCH POINT. THE BACK LOWER BUM AREA IS SLIGHTLY "CUPPED" BY THE FABRIC AND THE THIGH IS SLIGHTLY FITTED.

IN CASE THERE ARE CREASES IN WHICH YOU'RE NOT HAPPY WITH, YOU CAN SEE THE PANTS FITTING GUIDE TO TRY AND IMPROVE THE PATTERN TO FIT YOUR BODY TYPE BETTER.

Acceptable Drag Lines

Allow for movement of the leg



THE PENELOPE PANTS ARE A GREAT STARTING POINT FOR A SLACKS BASE PATTERN. THESE WILL MAKE GREAT CHINOS OR KHAKIS. THE PANELOPE PANTS ARE MADE WITH NON-STRETCH FABRIC. YOU CAN ALWAYS REDUCE THE PATTERN AS NEEDED IN ORDER TO MAKE IT SMALLER FOR FABRICS WITH STRETCH. (PAGE 11).

SOME FABRICS, BODY TYPES OR FITS WILL STILL HAVE DRAG LINES THAT CANNOT ALWAYS BE 100% ELIMINATED.

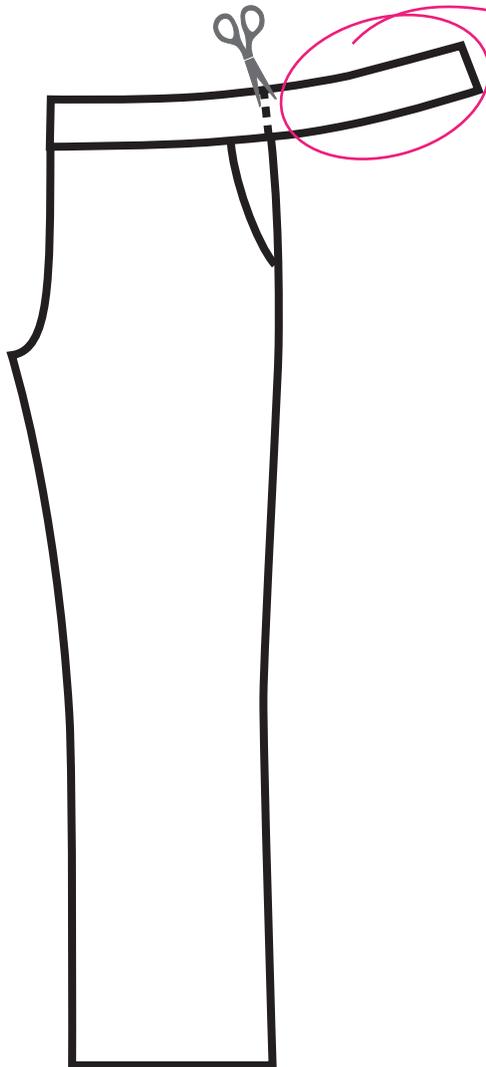
IN GENERAL, THE BACK DRAGLINES SHOULD NOT BE DIAGONAL OR SLANTED WHEN STANDING STRAIGHT. YOU WANT A HORIZONTAL DRAG LINE OR CREASE FOR A “HEALTHY DRAG LINE/ CREASE” AS SHOWN IN THE PREVIOUS PAGE.

***NOTE* AS YOU MOVE, THERE MAY BE DRAG LINES DIAGONALLY.**

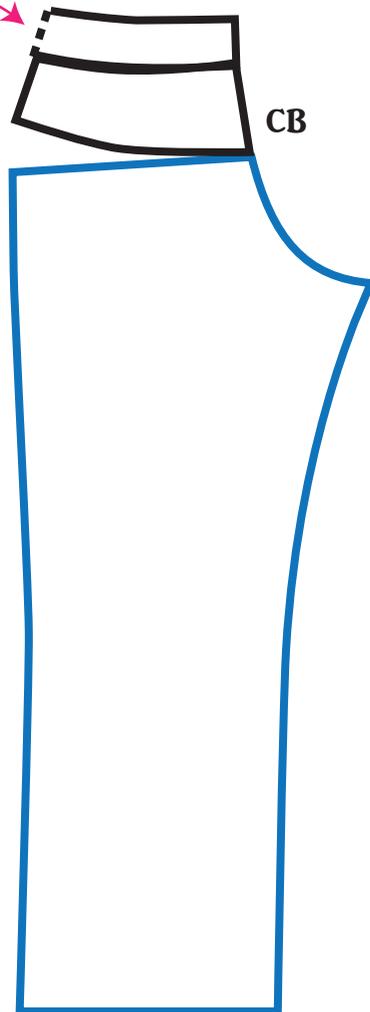
Adapting Your favorite pattern to Hack

REFER TO THIS PAGE IF YOU ARE STARTING FROM YOUR FAVORITE PANTS PATTERN WITH A YOKE AND/OR WAISTBAND. IF YOU ARE STARTING FROM THE PENELOPE PANTS PATTERN, YOU CAN SKIP TO PAGE 9 :)

STEP 1: TAPE THE POCKET FACINGS AND WAISTBAND PIECES TOGETHER AT THE FRONT. MARK THE WAISTBAND AT THE SIDE SEAM AREA AND CUT THE BACK WAISTBAND AWAY FROM THE FRONT.



STEP 2: TAPE THE YOKE AND BACK WAISTBAND PIECES TOGETHER AT THE BACK.



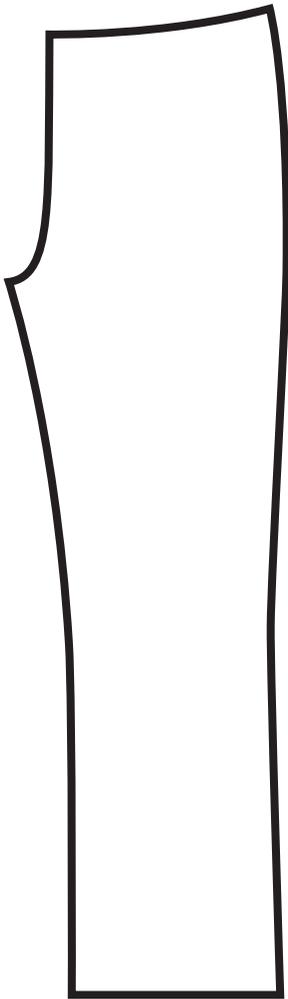
IF YOUR PATTERN PIECES DON'T FIT TOGETHER WELL LIKE THE ABOVE SHOWN, SKIP TO PAGE 8.

Adapting Your favorite pattern to a base pattern

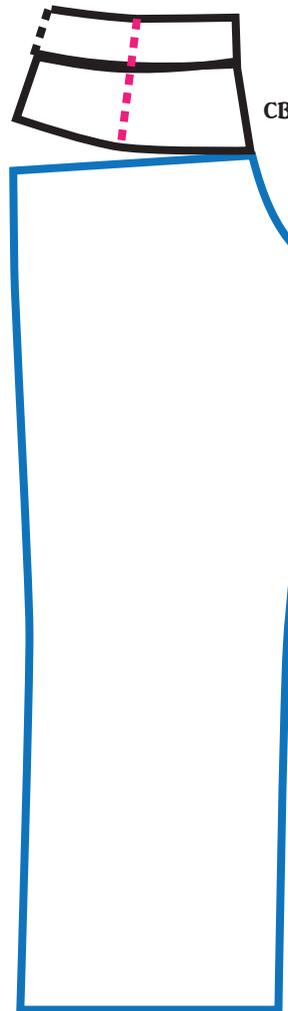
~ Easy way of creating a back dart ~

***ONLY PROCEED WITH THIS METHOD IF ALL YOUR PATTERN PIECES FIT TOGETHER WELL IN THE PREVIOUS STEP. ALSO, ONLY PROCEED WITH THIS STEP IF YOU ARE PLEASED WITH HOW THE WAIST FITS YOU. IF THE THE PIECES DON'T FIT TOGETHER WELL OR THE PANT DOESN'T FIT YOUR WAIST WELL, YOU'LL SHOULD SKIP TO PAGE 8.**

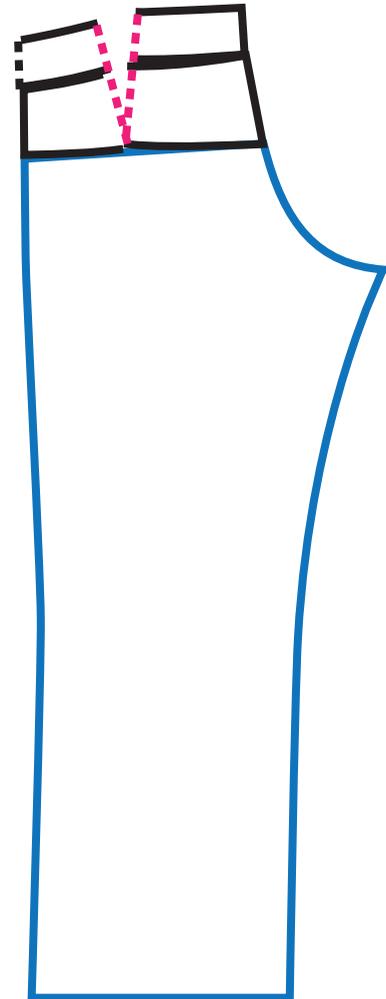
STEP 3: ELIMINATE THE WAISTBAND SEAM AND POCKET SEAM. YOUR FRONT PATTERN PIECE IS DONE!



STEP 4: DRAW A STRAIGHT LINE WHERE THE DART WOULD TYPICALLY BE.



STEP 5: CUT ALONG THE LINE AND JOIN THE YOKE TO THE LEG PANEL TO CREATE THE DART.

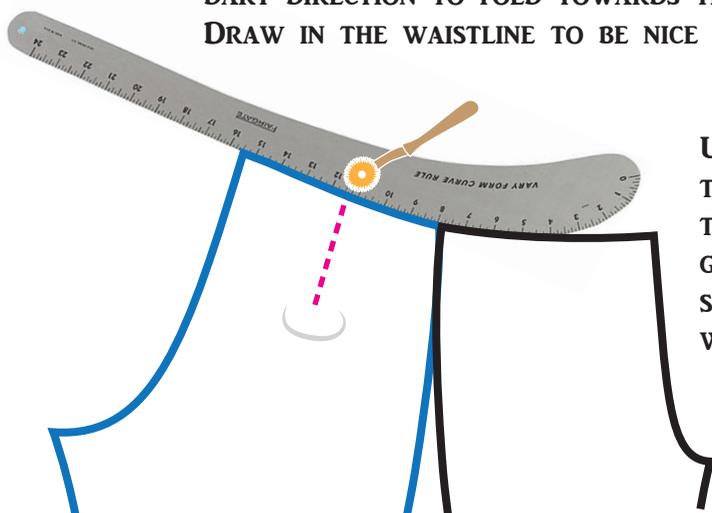


Adapting Your favorite pattern to a base pattern

~ Easy way of creating a back dart ~

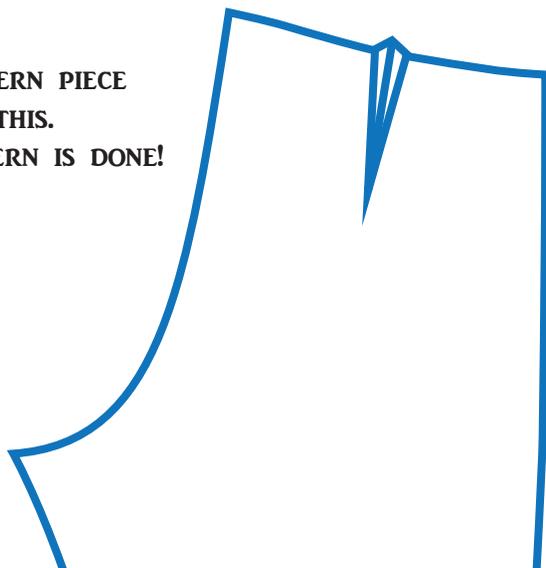
***ONLY PROCEED WITH THIS METHOD IF ALL YOUR PATTERN PIECES FIT TOGETHER WELL IN THE PREVIOUS STEP. ALSO, ONLY PROCEED WITH THIS STEP IF YOU ARE PLEASED WITH HOW THE WAIST FITS YOU. IF THE THE PIECES DON'T FIT TOGETHER WELL OR THE PANT DOESN'T FIT YOUR WAIST WELL, YOU'LL SHOULD SKIP TO PAGE 8.**

STEP 6:
CLOSE THE DART ON THE PATTERN. (I PREFER THE DART DIRECTION TO FOLD TOWARDS THE CENTER BACK.)
DRAW IN THE WAISTLINE TO BE NICE AND SMOOTH.



USE A POINTED TRACING WHEEL TO AUTOMATICALLY GET THE DART SHAPE AT THE WAIST.

STEP 7:
YOUR BACK PATTERN PIECE WILL LOOK LIKE THIS.
YOUR BASE PATTERN IS DONE!



YOU CAN NOW SKIP TO PAGE 9 AND FOLLOW THE SEWING STEPS 1-6 TO MAKE A FITTING SAMPLE. YOU'LL CROSS CHECK THE FIT OF YOUR BASE PATTERN. IF YOU NEED FITTING ADJUSTMENTS, REFER TO THE FREE PANTS FITTING GUIDE.

Adapting Your favorite pattern to a base pattern

~ Making the side seam straight & adding a dart later ~

IF YOUR PATTERN PIECES DON'T FIT TOGETHER WELL, IT'S AN INDICATION THAT THE PATTERN WAS NOT MANIPULATED CORRECTLY FROM THE BASE PATTERN. I WOULD SUGGEST TO EITHER START WITH THE PENELOPE PANTS PATTERN OR IF YOU REALLY WANT TO MAKE IT WORK WITH YOUR PATTERN, YOU CAN TRY THE BELOW STEPS. JUST KNOW THAT YOU LIKELY WILL NEED TO BALANCE YOUR PATTERN AFTERWARDS.

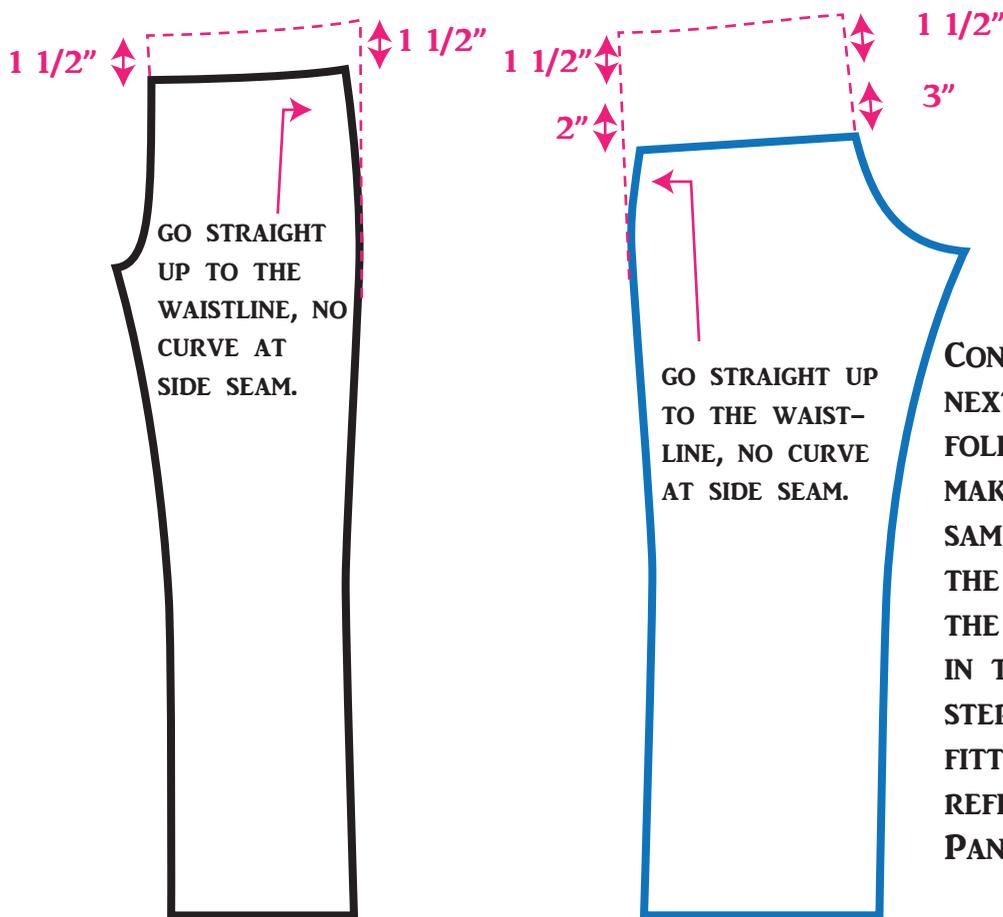
STEPS 1-3: (PAGE 5)

STEP 4: MEASURE THE HEIGHT OF YOUR WAISTBAND AND YOKE PIECES AT THE SIDE SEAMS AND CENTER BACK (CB). BELOW ARE EXAMPLES OF RANDOM MEASUREMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS TUTORIAL.



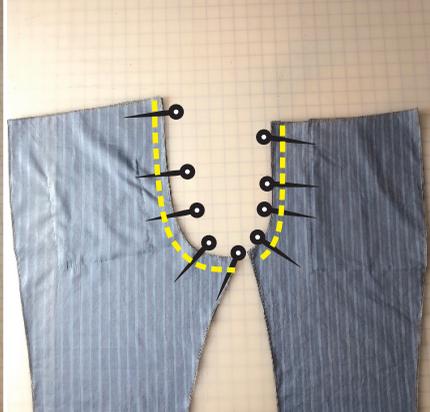
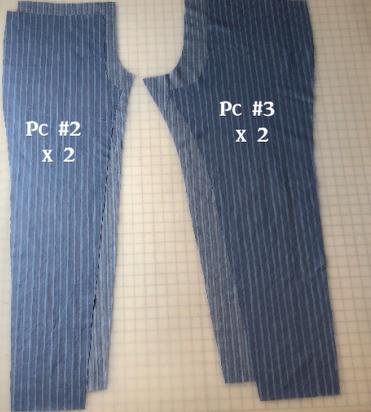
STEP 5:

GIVE TO THE HEIGHT OF THE LEG PANELS AS NEEDED TO BE THE SAME HEIGHTS AS THE YOKE AND WAISTBAND. IN ADDITION, AT THE SIDE SEAM, GO STRAIGHT UP FROM THE HIP. DON'T MAKE THE SIDE SEAM CURVED FOR THE WAIST. WE WILL DO THAT IN THE FOLLOWING STEPS AND ADD THE DART IN THE FITTING PROCESS.



CONTINUE ON TO THE NEXT PAGE AND FOLLOW THE STEPS TO MAKE A FITTING SAMPLE. YOU'LL ADD THE DARTS AND GET THE SIDE SEAM CURVE IN THE FOLLOWING STEPS. IF YOU NEED FITTING ADJUSTMENTS, REFER TO THE FREE PANTS FITTING GUIDE.

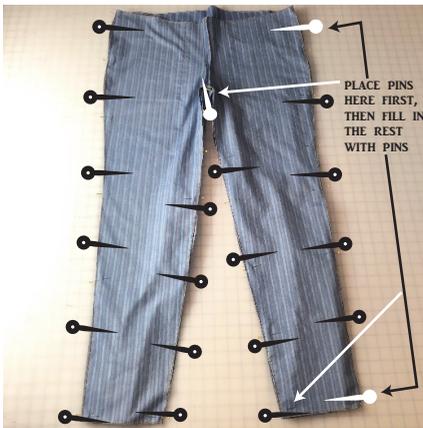
PENELOPE PANTS LEG PIECES



Step 1: Cut out the Front and back leg pieces in a lighter weight muslin or plain cotton fabric. I suggest to take the high waistline. Later you can mark your different waistlines.

Step 2: With faces together, lay the front legs Pcs #2 on top of each other aligning the front rise Seam (4), pin & sew. With faces together, lay the back legs Pc #3 on top of each other aligning the back rise Seam (5), pin & sew.

Step 3: Iron the front rise and the back rise open. On muslin (toilles), I suggest to notch (cut slits) about 1/8" from the stitchline along the curve of the front rise to allow it to lay completely smooth.



Step 4: With faces together, lay the front legs against the back legs. Align the Inseam (6), Place a pin at the rise seams, then at the hem. Align the Side Seams (7), place a pin at the waist and then at the hem. The hems must all align, or you'll risk an inseam twisting. Continue pinning the entire Inseams & Side Seam.

Step 5: I suggest to sew with the longest stitch length in case you want to alter the fit. With the 3/8" seam allowance, sew the inseam. With a 5/8" seam allowance, sew the side seams.

Step 6: Turn the garment inside-out and try the garment on. There will be excess at the waist area since this is an elastic pant. You'll pin on each front piece like a dart, in order to get the side seam to lay as straight as possible (see next photo).



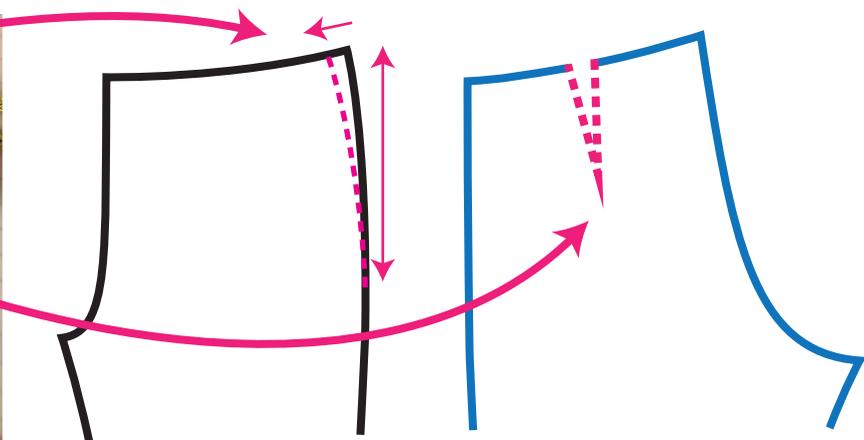
Step 7: Here is a close up shot to see how the side seam should look when the front area is pinned. The side seam should go up as straight as possible.

Step 8: Pin the back legs into two darts (one on each side). It's ok if it's a pointy and deep, a base pattern often will have this when all the fullness is in one dart per leg. The waist should be nice and snug. (Ask for someone to help you pin if needed.)

Step 9: Mark each side of the pins along the front/back sides. MARK both sides in order to know the entire fullness. After you've marked it, remove the pins and take the garment off.

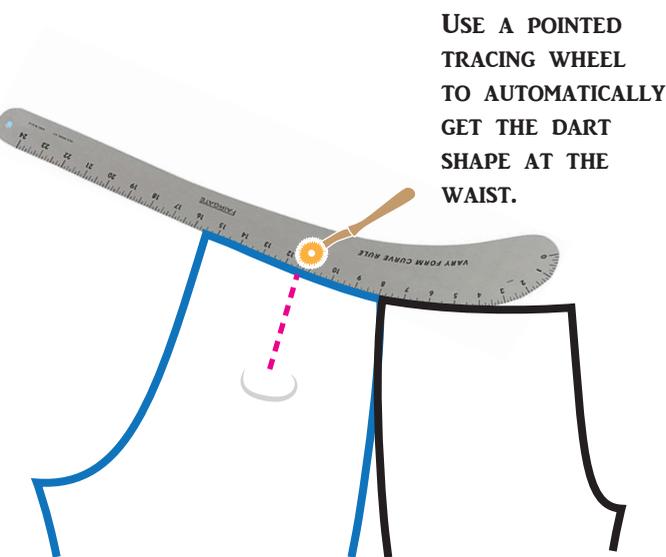


Step 10: Here is my marked garment for the dart location and front pinned area. Measure the dart depths and lengths. If you have a difference between the two, add them together and divide by two to get the average. Repeat this step for the front marked area.

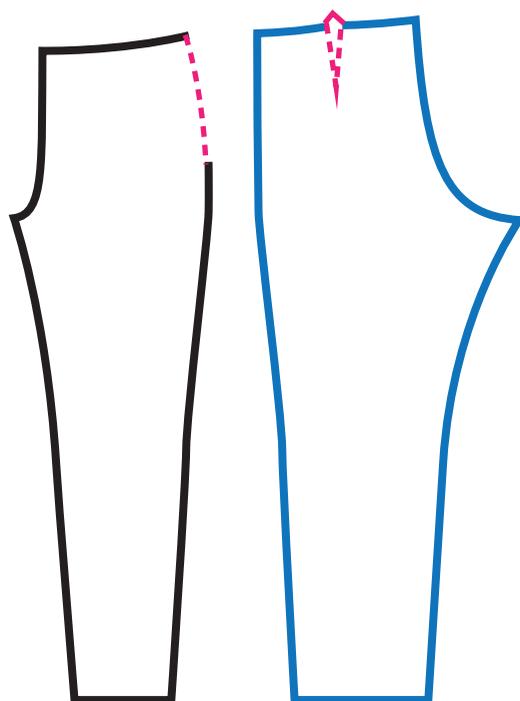


Step 11: Mark the front pattern the amount you've pinned out (taking the average of the two sides). For example, I've pinned 1" on one side and 1 1/2" on the other, $1" + 1\ 1/2" = 2\ 1/2"$ divide it by 2 to get 1 1/4". I marked the pattern on the front waistline 1 1/4" from the side seam. Do the same for the length of that front pinned area.

Step 12: Mark the back darts. The position can vary per person. Choose the position you like best. Repeat the steps of finding the average of the two depths and lengths and mark the pattern.



USE A POINTED TRACING WHEEL TO AUTOMATICALLY GET THE DART SHAPE AT THE WAIST.



Your base pattern is done! You can cut another sample to cross check your dart depth/length and side seam curve.

If you choose to adjust the fit at all, refer to the "How to adjust Pants fitting guide." Note, these are a great start for a slacks base pattern for fabrics without stretch. The options are endless with base pattern manipulation. You can create further fits from this starting point. Have fun and get creative!

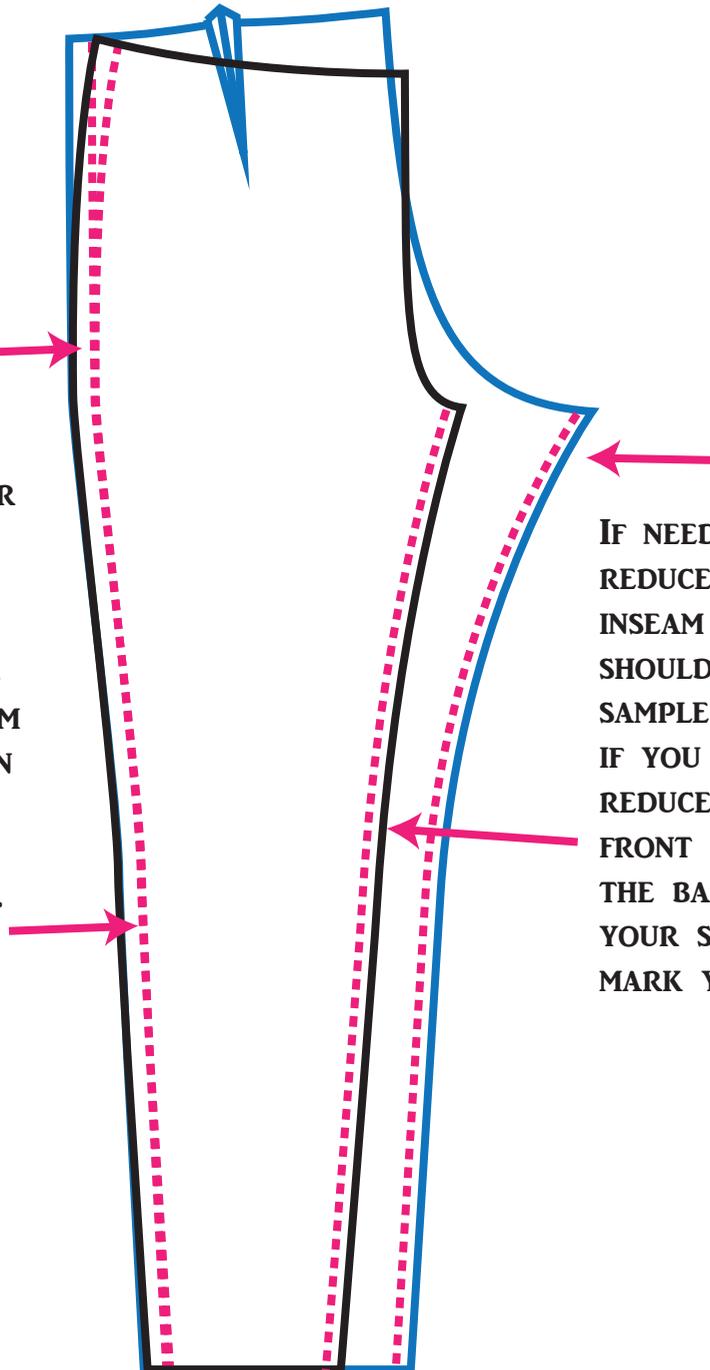
Step 13: Use a hip curve or your favorite curved pattern tool to mark the waistline for a smooth and continuous line. Be sure to close the dart when doing this and align the side seams together. I like to close the dart with the fold towards the center back rise seam.

Congratulations! You're done with your base pattern!

Making your base pattern Smaller

IN CASE YOU WANT TO ADJUST THE BODY TO BE TIGHTER, PIN THE SAMPLE AS YOU WISH IT TO BE, THEN REDUCE AS YOU WOULD LIKE. MAKE SURE YOU CAN SIT AND MOVE AROUND STILL! NOTE, THE PENELOPE PANTS PATTERN IS FOR NON-STRETCH. IF YOU WANT TO USE STRETCH FABRIC, YOU COULD EASILY REDUCE THE PATTERN LIKE THIS.

REDUCE AT THE SIDE SEAM EVENLY ALL THE WAY DOWN. YOU MAY OR MAY NOT NEED TO REDUCE AT THE WAIST. THE IMPORTANT PART IS THAT THE SIDE SEAM STAYS MIRRORED ON FRONT & BACK FROM THE HIP DOWN TO THE HEM.



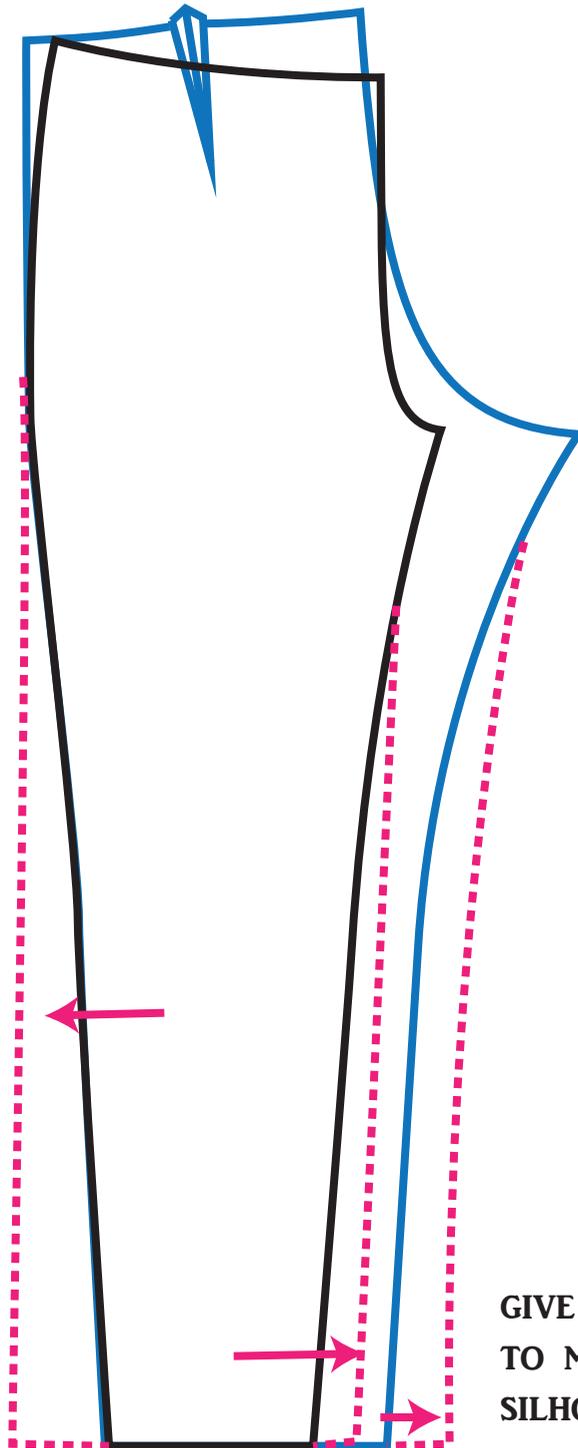
IF NEEDED, YOU CAN REDUCE AT THE INSEAM AS WELL. YOU SHOULD PIN YOUR SAMPLE FIRST TO SEE IF YOU NEED TO REDUCE BOTH ON THE FRONT PANEL AND THE BACK PANEL. PIN YOUR SAMPLE, THEN MARK YOUR PATTERN.

TO MAKE IT BIGGER, YOU WOULD ADD AT THE INSEAM EVENLY ALL THE WAY DOWN TO THE HEM.

Changing the Leg Silhouette

YOU CAN CHANGE THE LEG SILHOUETTE AS YOU WISH BY ADDING OR SUBTRACTING AT THE INSEAM AND THE SIDE SEAMS. THE ONLY RULE: SIDE SEAMS MUST BE MIRRORED! THIS SHOWS GIVING A STRAIGHTER LEG ALL THE WAY DOWN LIKE A STRAIGHT WIDE-LEG TROUSER.

**SIDE SEAM
MUST BE
MIRRORED
FROM THE HIP
DOWN TO THE
HEM. (THE
SAME ON THE
FRONT AND
BACK PANELS.)**



**GIVE TO THE INSEAM
TO MAKE A WIDER LEG
SILHOUETTE.**



Gina Renee designs sewing patterns for YOU.

I ENJOY Creativity.
REALIZE HOW Talented I AM.
VALUE MY Unique CREATIONS.
AM Proud OF MY SEWING SKILLS.
CAN PASS ON SEWING Knowledge TO OTHERS.
CAN KEEP Hand-Crafted ITEMS FOR GENERATIONS.

Gina Renee Designs

PROMOTES THE ART OF SEWING TO CREATE A MORE SUSTAINABLE AND CREATIVE WORLD

NEED TO LEARN HOW TO MANIPULATE (ADJUST) BASE PATTERNS INTO STYLE PATTERNS?
LEARN HOW TO CREATE YOKES, WAISTBANDS, POCKETS BY FOLLOWING ME ON Instagram!

JOIN THE SEWING COMMUNITY GROUP ON Instagram OR FACEBOOK!

BY SEARCHING FOR "GINA RENEE DESIGNS"

SIGN UP TO BE INFORMED OF NEW RELEASES AT WWW.GINARENEEDESIGNS.COM

AND DON'T FORGET TO PIN YOUR FAVORITE PATTERNS TO PINTEREST!

HELPING YOU CREATE CLOTHES THAT MAKE YOU FEEL GREAT
BY PROVIDING FASHIONABLE SEWING PATTERNS THAT FIT.

PROUD
of my
CREATION

COPYRIGHT © GINA RENEE 2019.

All rights reserved. No part of this guide can be copied, filmed or reproduced in any way without written consent of Gina Renee Designs.