



Can You Hack It?

SWEET SUMMERTIME TUTORIAL

Pattern Hacking 101

Create a whole new look with a few simple changes.

HOW TO USE:

Use this document for ideas and inspiration on how you can take your fitted Sweet Summertime Dress and hack it to create new looks for your Handmade Wardrobe!

The women in this picture all made the same dress, but made it something that they would love to wear and fit their personality and style.



You're the Designer!

01

CHANGE THE LENGTH

Shorten or lengthen your skirt length to create completely new looks. Top length, below the knee, midi or maxi.

02

ALTER THE NECKLINE

Change the neck to suit your style. Raise or lower the original neck line. You can also create a V-Neck line, boat neck line, or draft a facing for a unique neckline.

03

CHANGE THE SKIRT

Add on a gathered skirt rather than the flared a-line skirt.

04

CHANGE THE SLEEVES

Add on the sleeve pattern piece to have short sleeves, long sleeves, 3/4 sleeves. Also learn how to create tulip sleeves and flutter sleeves.

05

ADD POCKETS

Use the Pocket Pattern piece to add pockets.

06

ADD DETAILS

Add a ruffle to the skirt or sleeves. You could also add a fancy trim, or even add a belt. Details can really set your dress apart from the rest.

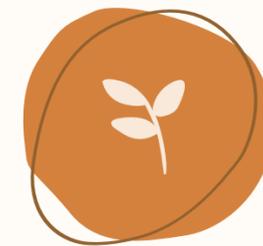
Tools You will Need



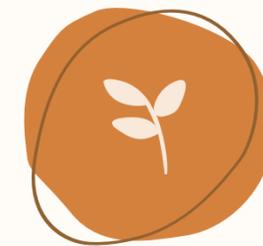
Pattern traced and already altered and fitted to you.



Extra Pattern Trace/
Vielene



French Curve



Pen



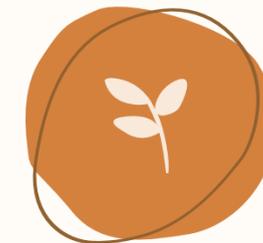
Tape



Test Fabric



Pins



Scissors

01: Change the Length

Simply changing the length of your skirt length can drastically change the look of your garment. Try three different lengths and hems to create a new look.



Change the Length

01

TOP (IN PATTERN)

Use the cutting line in the pattern to create a top.



02

MIDI (IN PATTERN)

Shorten or lengthen the pattern to have it sit above or below your knees.



03

MAXI

Use the Shorten/lengthen tutorial to make your skirt as long as desired.





02: Alter the Neckline

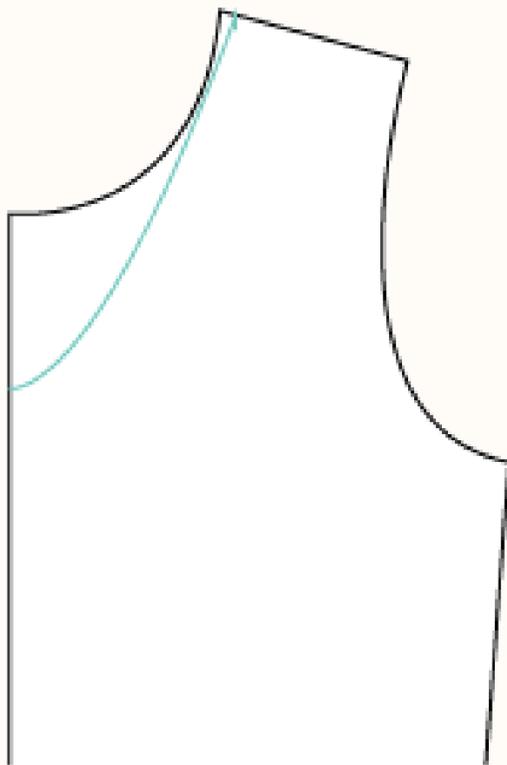
Another way to change the look of your garment is to alter the neckline. Raise and lower the front and back neck line, change to a v-neck, or make your own neckline and draft a facing.

Alter the Neckline

01

V-NECK

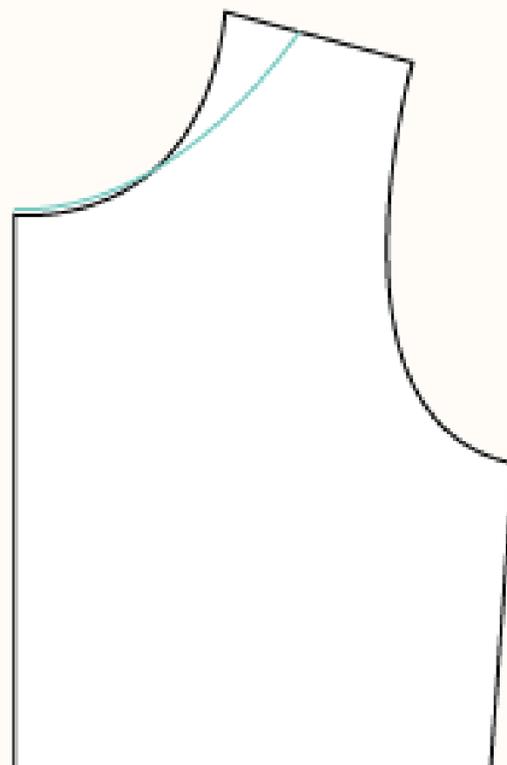
Use your French Curve to go from the shoulder to where you want the V to Stop. I slightly curved mine for a softer V-neck.



02

BOAT NECK

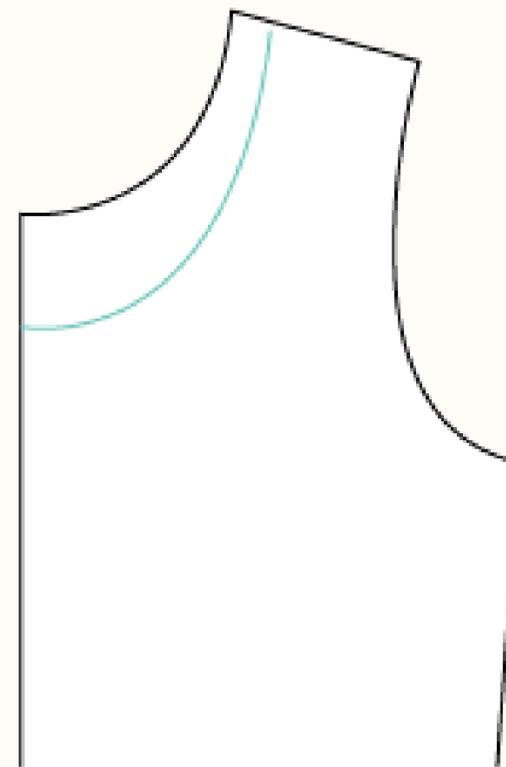
Keep the neck height the same and go out wider in the shoulders on the Front and Back pattern pieces.



03

SCOOP NECK

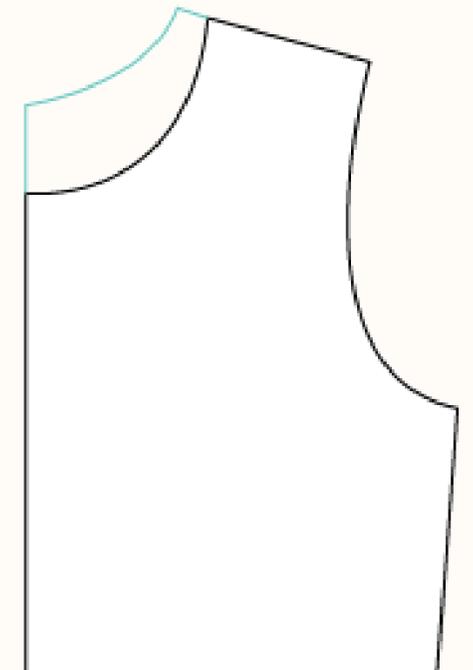
For a wider more open neckline go lower at the front and wider in the shoulders. Repeat for the back.



04

HIGH NECK

Bring the neckline up and in. If you make it too narrow you will need to add a slit in the back, bind the edges, and use a button and loop to get it over your head.



03: Alter the Skirt

In addition to changing the length of the skirt you can also alter the style of the skirt. Create a gathered skirt dress/top or a high-low hem line.



Alter the Skirt

01

GATHERED SKIRT

Cut 2x rectangle pieces and gather them to the fitted bodice.



02

GATHERED TOP

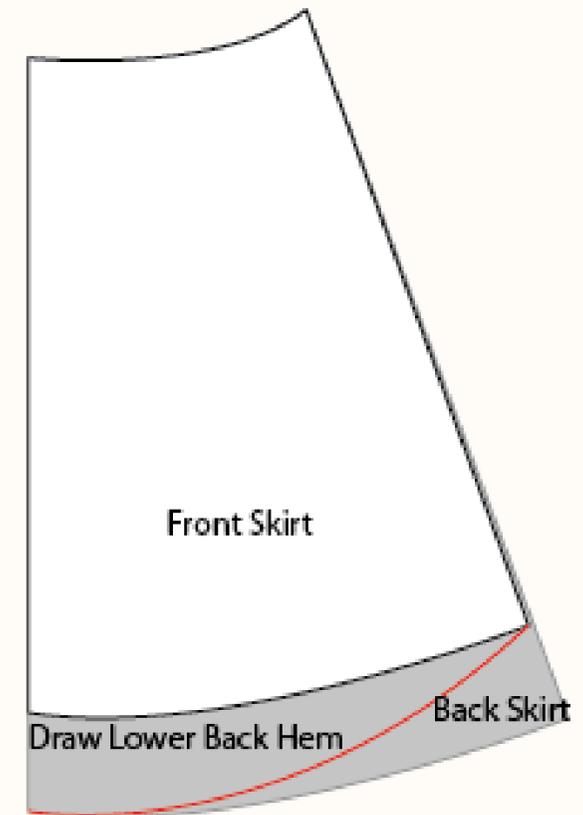
Same as the skirt but a shorter length.



03

HIGH LOW SKIRT

Follow along with the video tutorial.





04: Change the Sleeves

Cap sleeves not your look? Easily change the sleeves of you pattern by using the sleeve pattern. Create short sleeve, 3/4 sleeve, long sleeve, or alter the sleeve pattern to create a flutter sleeve.

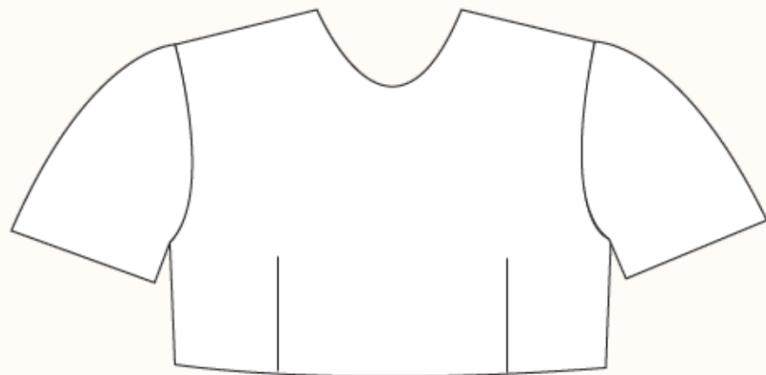
Change the Sleeves



01

SHORT SLEEVES

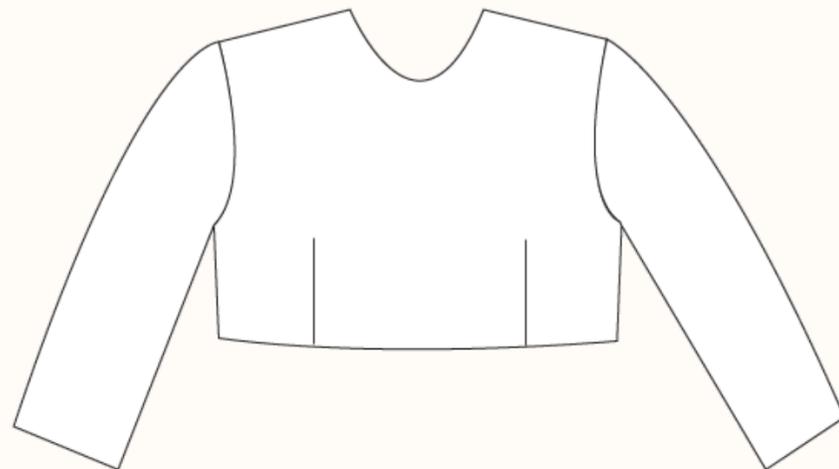
Use the pattern piece and cut on the short sleeve line.



02

3/4 SLEEVE

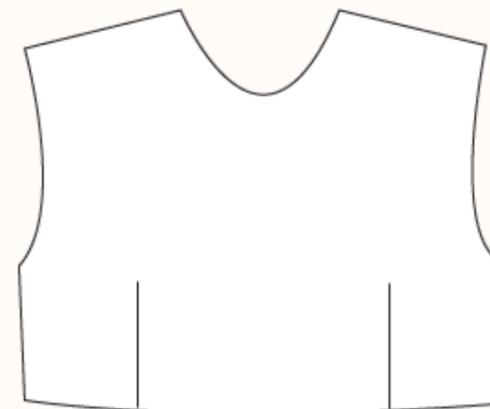
Use the pattern piece and cut on the 3/4 sleeve line.



03

SLEEVELESS

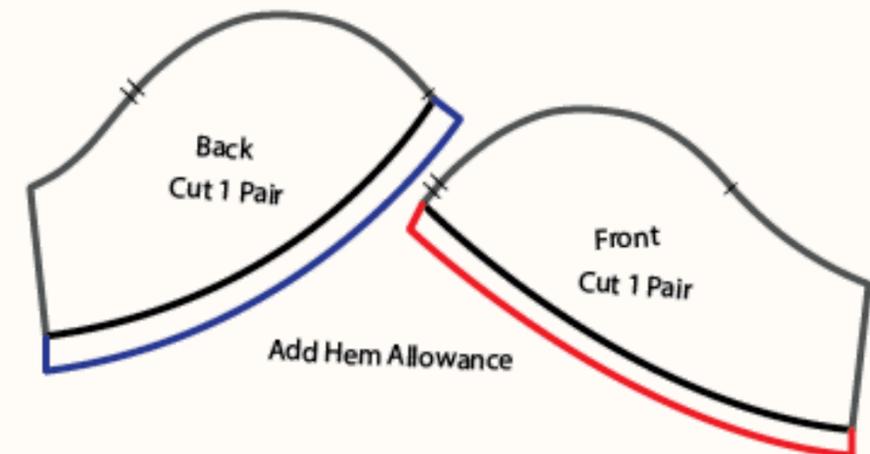
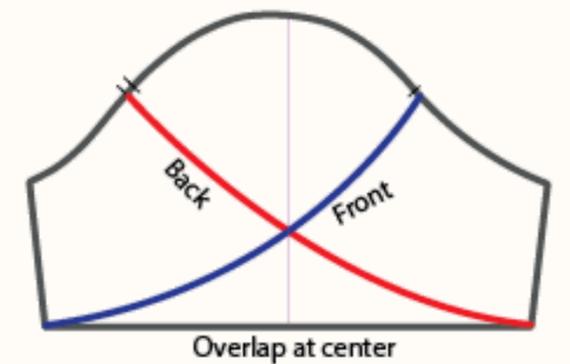
Simply use the same technique that you used to bind the neck to bind the armholes.



03

TULIP SLEEVE

Follow instructions in Hack Video.



05: Add Pockets

What's a dress with out pockets? I love adding pockets to my dress. Use the Front Pocket and Pocket Bag pattern pieces to add pockets to your dress and still be able to insert a side invisible zipper.

Another option is to create and attach patch pockets to the front of your dress.

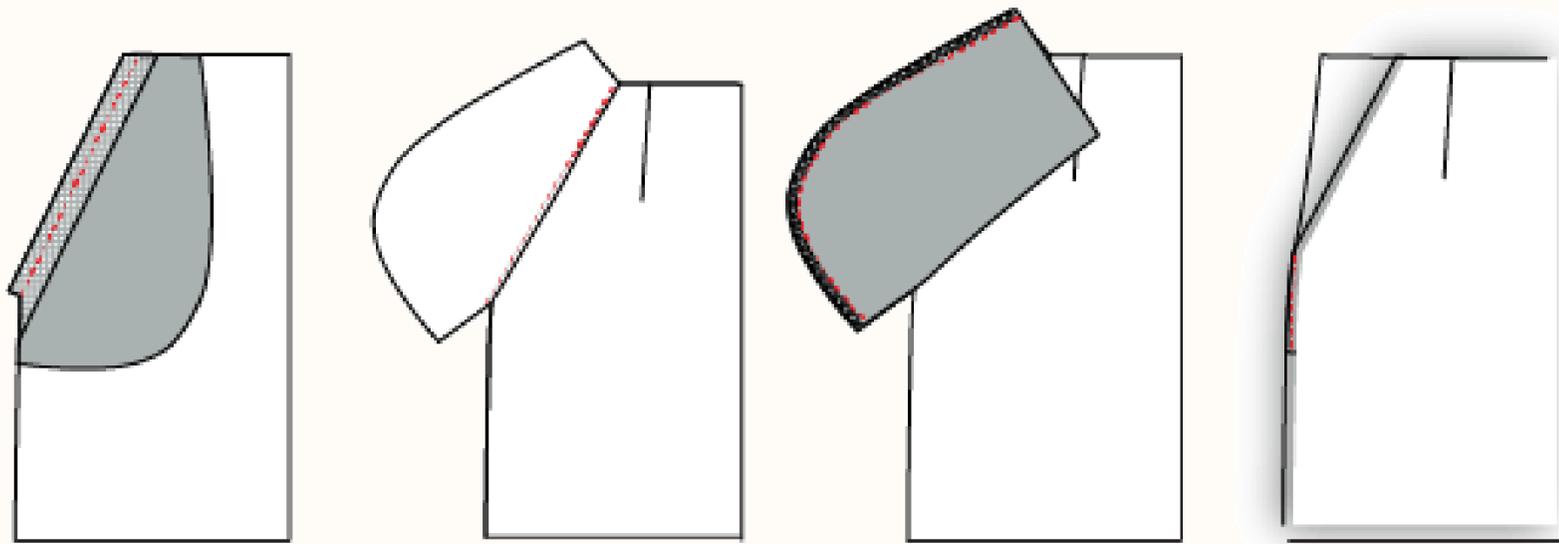


Add Pockets

01

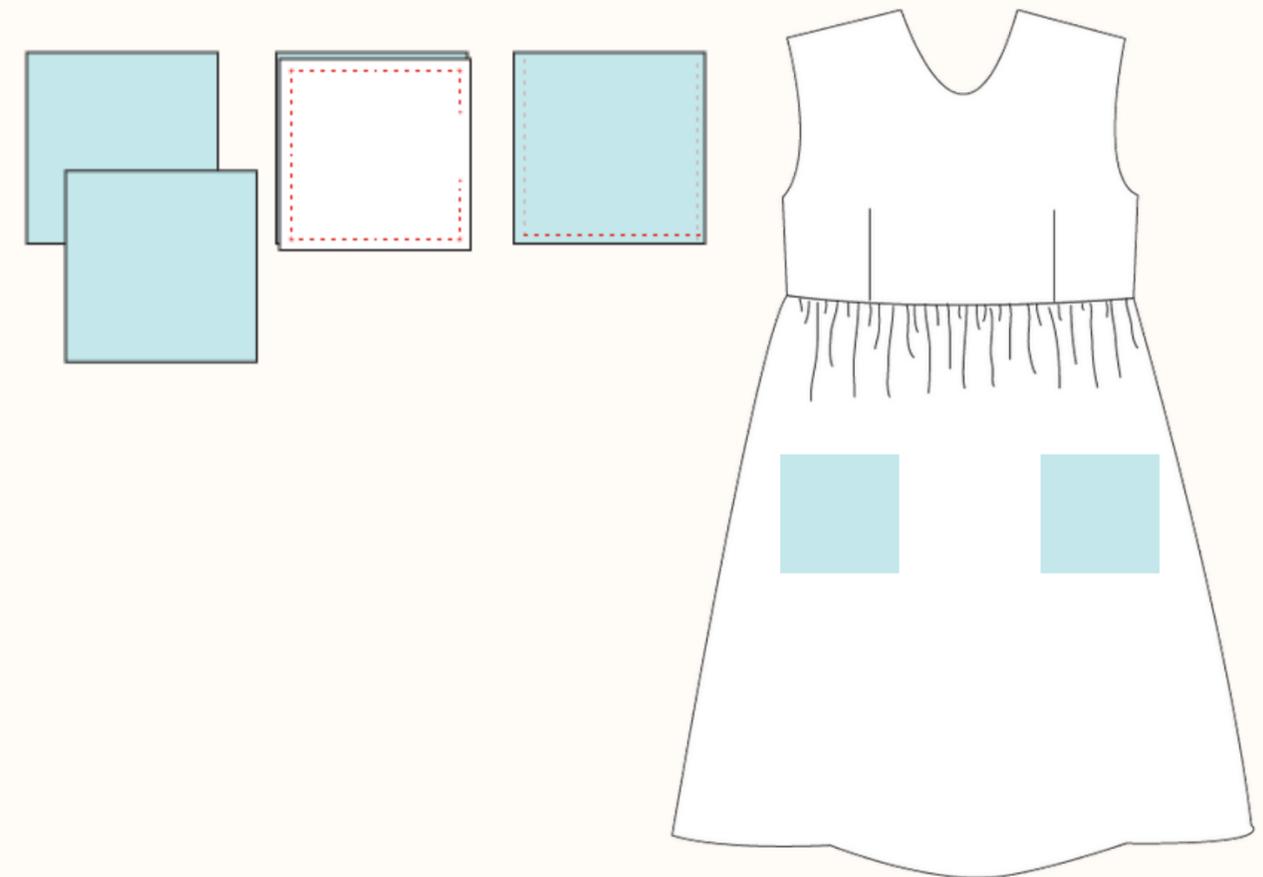
SIDE SEAM POCKETS

Use pattern piece to insert pockets on Front pattern piece.



02

PATCH POCKETS





06: Add Details

Adding details can really elevate your look. Try adding on a ruffle, color blocking, dyeing your own fabrics, add a belt, or some funky trim.

Add Details

01

RUFFLE

Gather up a strip of fabric and attach to the hem to create a ruffle.



02

TRIM

Use fancy trim, pom poms, ric rac, or ribbon to create an interesting trim around a sleeve or hem.



03

MAKE AND ADD A BELT

Make a belt to add a fun pop of color.

