PDF Sewing Tutorial

Fully Lined Coat

For Connie Lowe Big Stella Dolls

©Designed by Petrana

sasha-doll.com

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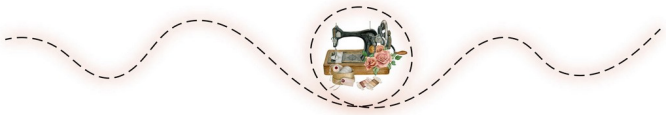

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You may make the garment for your enjoyment or to add it in your selling line if you credit me for the pattern and the design.
This is not a commercial pattern for mass production!

A bit about myself.
Sewing and dolls are things I loved from a very young age.
After my daughter was born I started to collect dolls for her in mind, but very soon I realized that I was buying them for myself and that is how my doll collecting and sewing for dolls began.
I have no professional background in sewing so, everything I learned was via trial end error.
I love it when doll's clothes have the same quality and fit as children's clothes do so, it is a pleasure for me to create beautiful garments and I love each one I make. In the past 15 years I have been making and selling doll's clothes and I am proud of the fact that my work is of great quality and appreciated.

I hope you will find my patterns easy to understand and you will have lots of fun making doll's clothes with them.
If you have questions you can always message me!
Petrana

Please familiarize yourselves with the printing instructions first which are available on the last page of this tutorial (just before the patterns).

Video Tutorials are available here:

By clicking on the YouTube icon you'll be sent to the YouTube Video at the beginning of the relevant step.
Not all operations have a shortcut so the best is to watch the whole video, especially if you never made a lined coat before. I filmed all of the steps of making the coat so all is there!

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Fully Lined Coat

This is a classic A-Line coat, designed to fit over clothes. It can be worn over short or long sleeve garments including knitted.

Sewing Level: Advanced beginner
Fabric Suggestions: Cotton baby cord (21 wales), flannel, cotton, lightweight denim, lightweight suiting wool.
For the lining use cotton, preferable cotton lawn but even quilting cotton is fine.
Materials: For the coat you will need one FQ (18" -22") and the same amount for the lining

Even if you have only a little experience in sewing I am sure you'll be able to finish the coat and to a great result.
The only "tricky" part is the attaching of the sleeves.
Once you do it, it will become your favorite coat and this coat will be a step to some more advanced designs that I am planning to release on patterns.
I think most of you will be able to finish it for under 2 hours, after you pick the fabric you want to use :-)
I often spend most of the time looking for the specific fabric in my stash than the sewing part itself

On the next page you'll see pictures of a coat and a dress I made using the same pattern.
The fabric I used for the lining is a FQ (Fat Quarter/one fourth of a yard of fabric) and it was sufficient to make a matching dress too.

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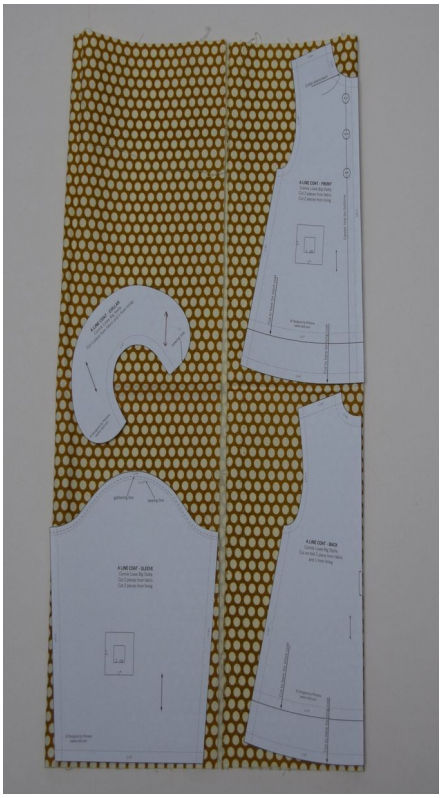
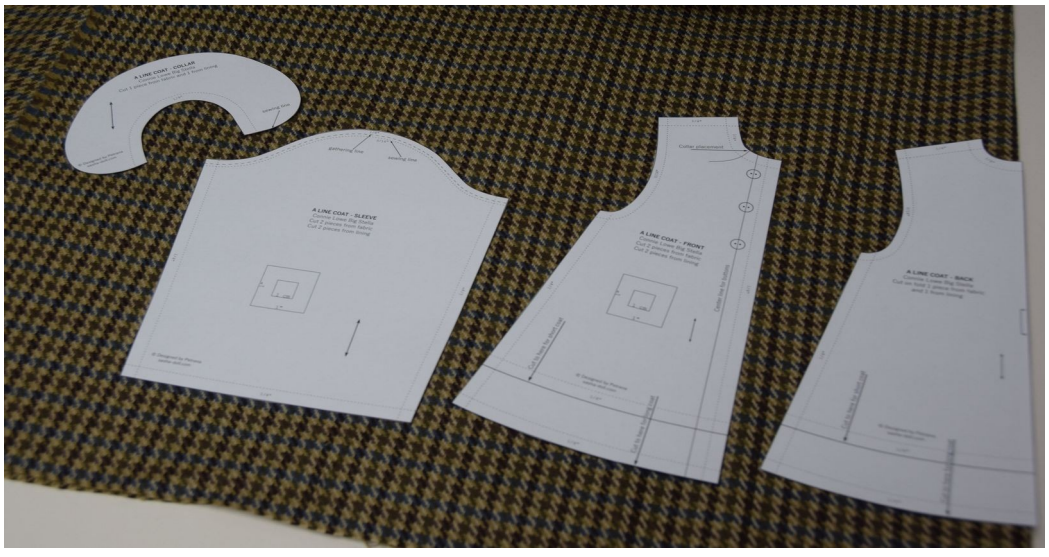


Different layouts how to position the pattern pieces over the fabric on FQ (18" x 22") and on a long FQ (10"x 44").
for a fabric with a nap such as corduroy, velvet, suede
and for a non-directional fabric prints or plain.



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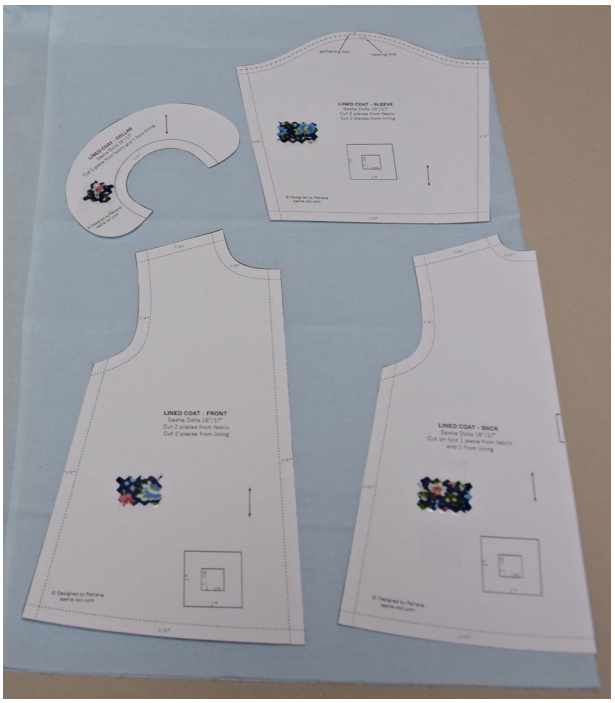
Below is another idea of how to position the pattern pieces over the fabric for the coat. As you can see the Back of the coat is positioned at the fold and all pieces are in the direction of the grain line.
When using corduroy or a fabric with a nap make sure you cut all pieces in one direction.



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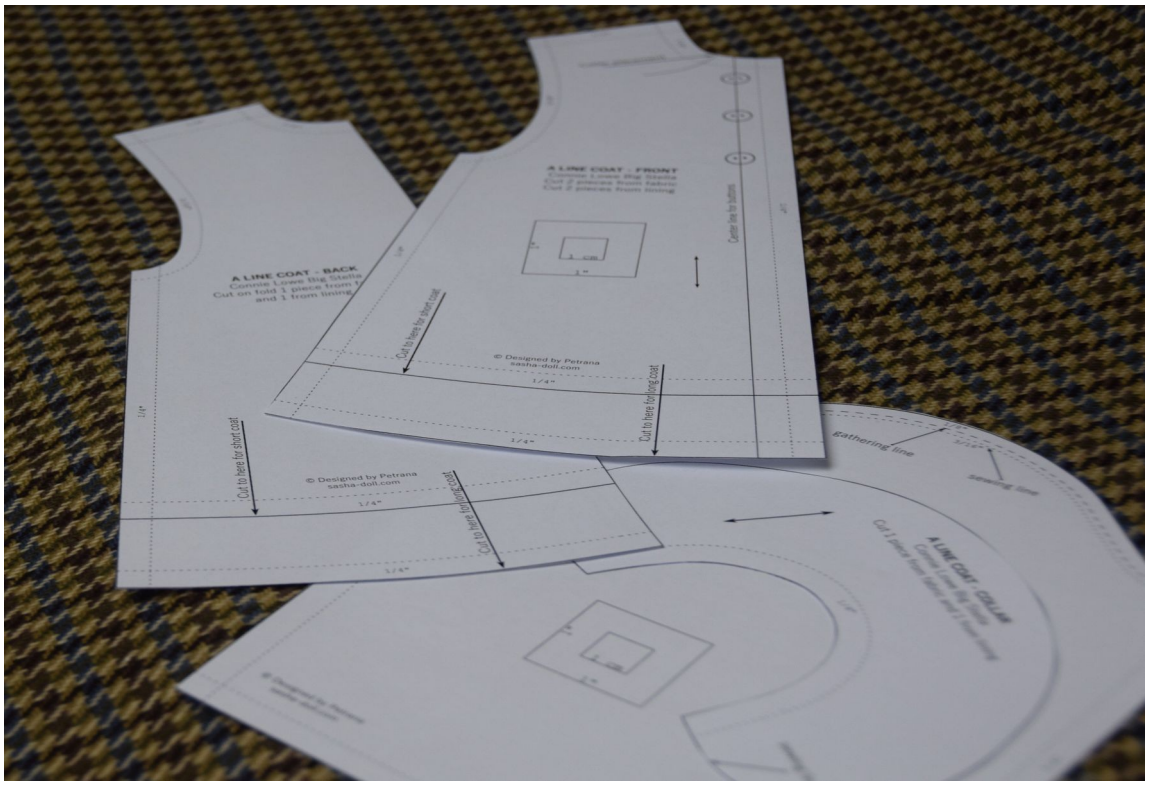
Avoid using red and black for lining as it will stain the body.

It's good to test a patch of the fabric you want to use – spay a little water over and iron over a white piece of fabric. If it does not stain the fabric it is safe to use.
Denim usually bleeds even after a few washing so the best is to use denim from preloved clothes :-)



Cut out the pattern pieces with a sharp scissors over the line.

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If you are not cutting on folded fabric, make sure you are cutting the right pieces and not to end with two left or two right front pieces!

Use a fabric marker to trace the collar over the back side of the fabric. There are many markers available on the market. I personally prefer the water erasable as when I remove the marker I have the collar a bit damp and in this way I can form the curved sides much better later on.

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With the right side inside pin together the fabric of the coat at the shoulders, do the same with the lining and sew on the machine. Use a straight stitch with a length of 2-2.5. Don’t forget to secure the beginning and the end of each seam by reverse stitch!

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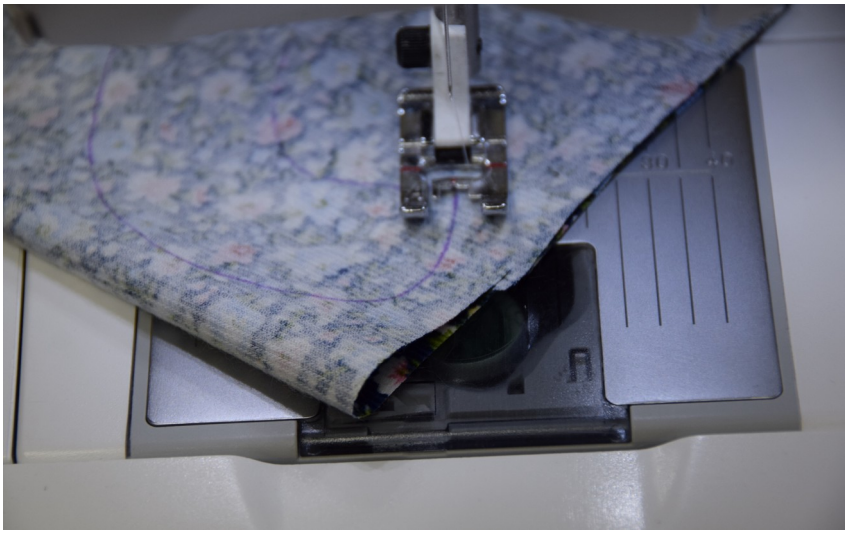
Press the the finished seams.

Open them flat and press again. Do the same with the lining.



Sew slowly the curved side of the collar using a stitch between 1-1.5mm and leave the neck edge open. If your machine has the option to position the needle down use it as you will have to make stops while sewing and if the needle is not into the fabric during the stop, the fabric fill move and this is going to result in a break in the curve.

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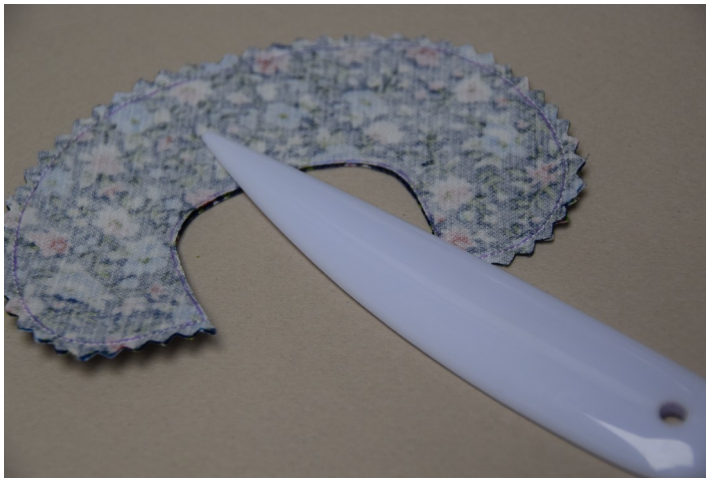

If you have pinking shears use them to cut out close to the seam, but be careful not to cut too close. If you don't have those use the regular ones and make clips towards the seam. Cut out the neck line. Using a point turner form the shape of the collar and iron. If you don't have one you can use the back of a small spoon or a butter knife :-)

Fold the collar in half to find the center of it and press over to form a fold. You can mark with a pin or a fabric pencil if you prefer. The wrong side of the collar is the one in the fold!

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Fold on half the bodice of the coat to find the center back and press over or mark with a pin or a pen.

Position the center of the collar over the center of the back of the coat.

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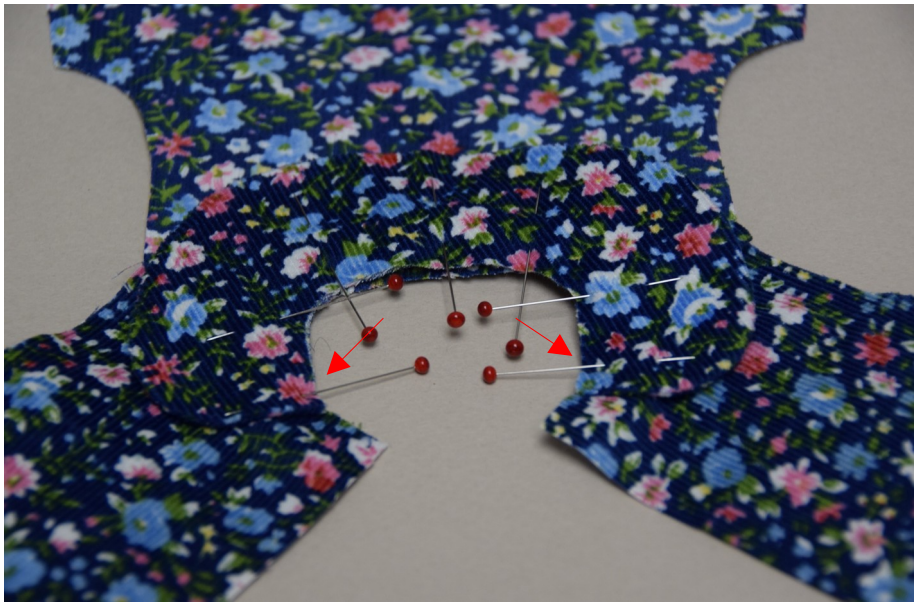

Pin the collar to the coat facing. You can baste by hand and remove the pins.

Make sure you have the exact same distance from the end of the collar to the ends of the front openings.

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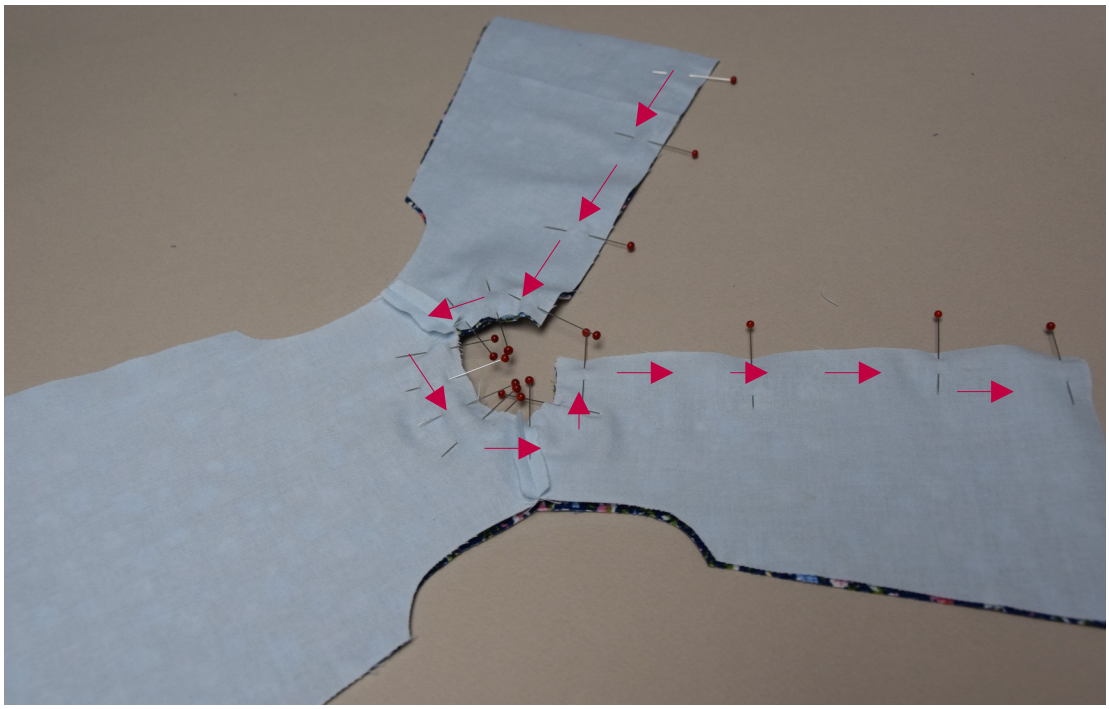
With the right side inside position the lining over the facing and pin all the way to the front end. The collar is in between the facing and the lining. Think about sandwich :-)



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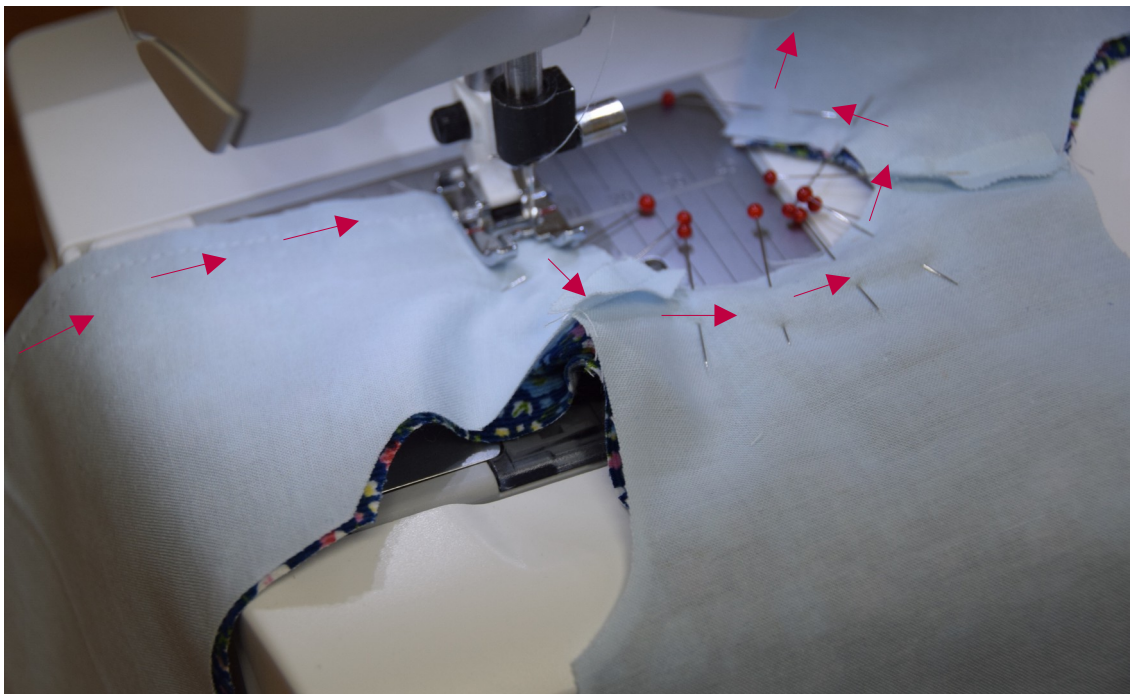

Sew up one side, around the neckline and down to the other side. At the corners stop with the needle down into the fabric and then do the corner.

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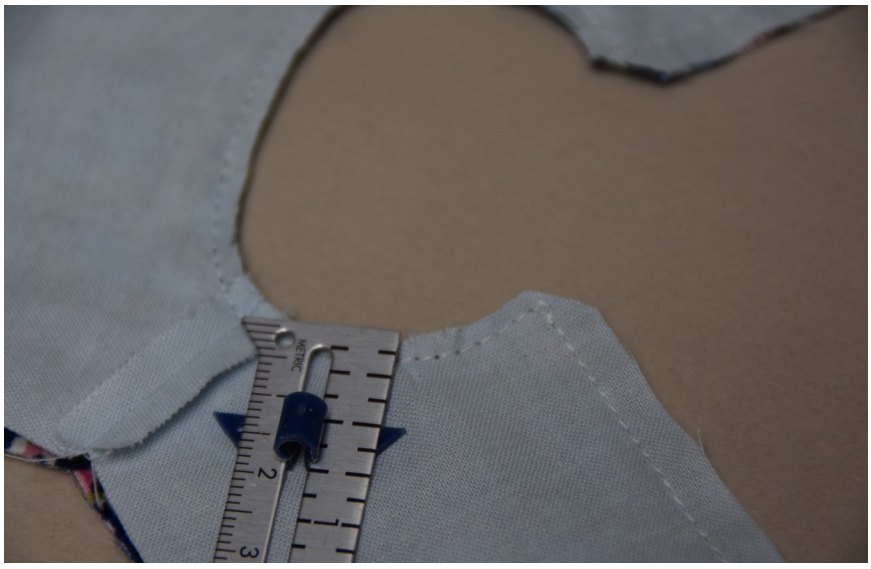
Trim closely into the seam allowance. Be careful not to cut the seam line and clip the corners.



Press with the iron over the seam.

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Turn over the right side outside and press with the iron.

Press from both sides and try to keep the back side of the collar not to be visible on the outside.

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Close to the edge run a basting stitch with a length between 3.5-4 to the sleeves (face and lining) and leave around 3” on each side.
The basting stitch is to help you to match the sleeve with the armhole perfectly.

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Before attaching the sleeves measure the length of the front sides. They must be even from inside and outside.

Secure the ends with 2 pins by each side and carefully pull the upper tread just a bit. Once you are satisfied with the amount of gather add some extra pins to hold the sleeve in place.
Please watch the video! 1:00:27 - YouTube

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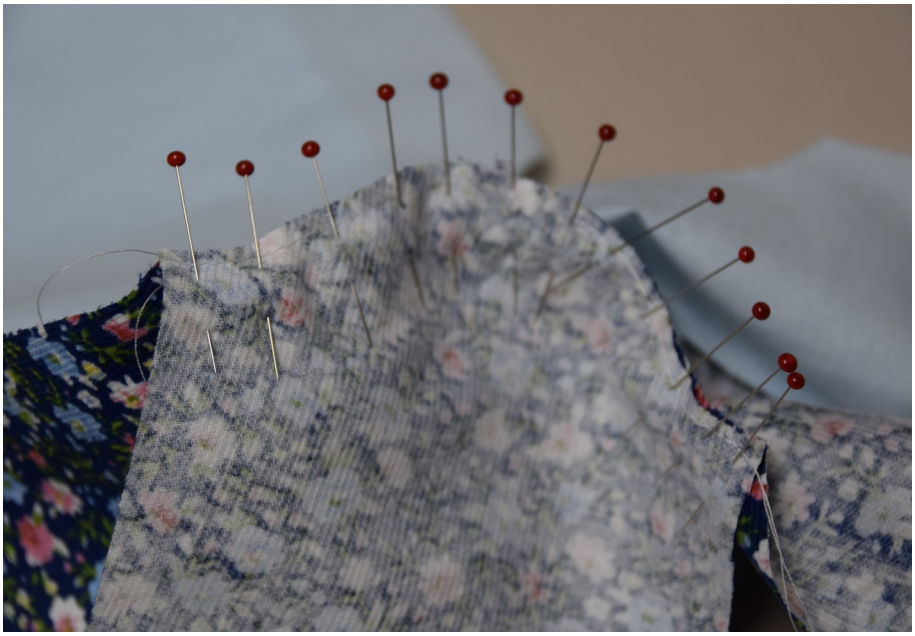
A close up photo of how much you have to gather



Secure with pins and if you wish you can baste by hand and remove the pins.

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This is the shape you have to get before sewing the sleeve. You may need to stretch a bit the arm openings to have the sleeves to lay well over them or to make a small notches into the armholes.

If you are not confident to stitch over the pins baste by hand. Keep the basting stitch no more than ¼" deep into the fabric.

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Secure the stitch at the beginning and sew slowly. If you have a “pleat” formed just before reaching it stop with the needle down and pull the top of the fabric towards the starting stitch. 0:43:16 YouTube

Repeat the same for the sleeves of the lining

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Attach the sleeves to the lining of the coat first if you are not very confident with the sleeves. You can also use a longer length stitch, like 2.5-3. For this step you can also use a tread that does not blend with the color of the fabric in case you need to unpick.

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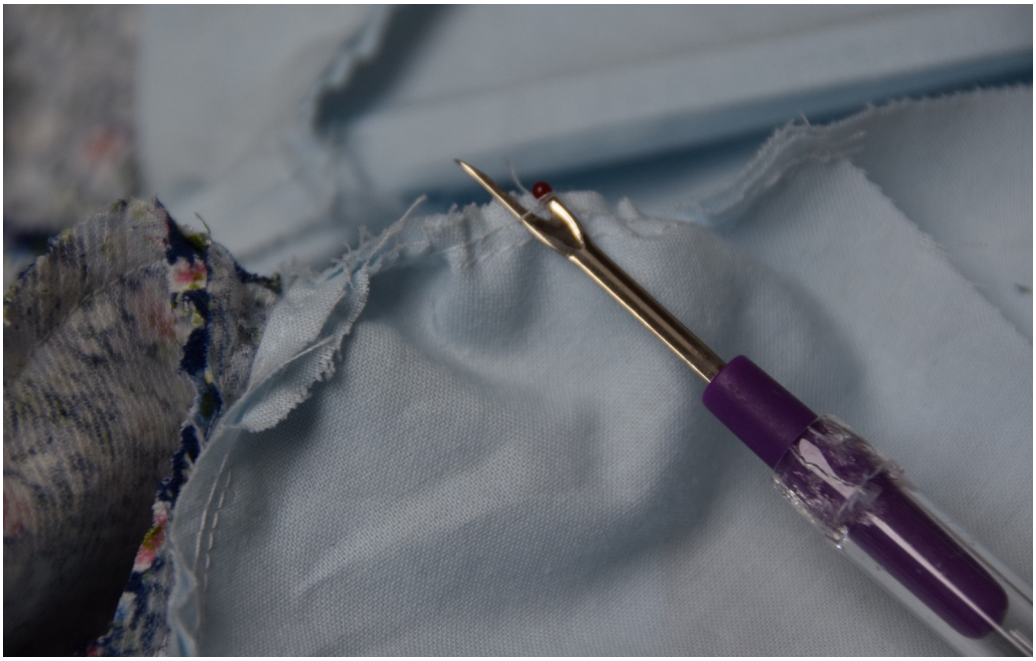
Remove the gathering treads from the sleeves. Wooden toothpick works better as it will not cut the thread. I also use it to distribute the gather of sleeves, skirts or to help me to guide the fabric close to the needle :-)



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Trim close to the seam on all sleeves, and remove from the seam allowance to avoid bulk.

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This is how it should look from inside (wrong side). With the iron press the seam towards the neckline.

Turn over and press the seam from the right side. Do the same steps for the facing of the coat.

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Open flat so the right side faces you and separate the facing from the lining as shown on the picture. With the right side inside pin the sleeve to the lining to the both sides and stitch in place. 1:00:27 YouTube

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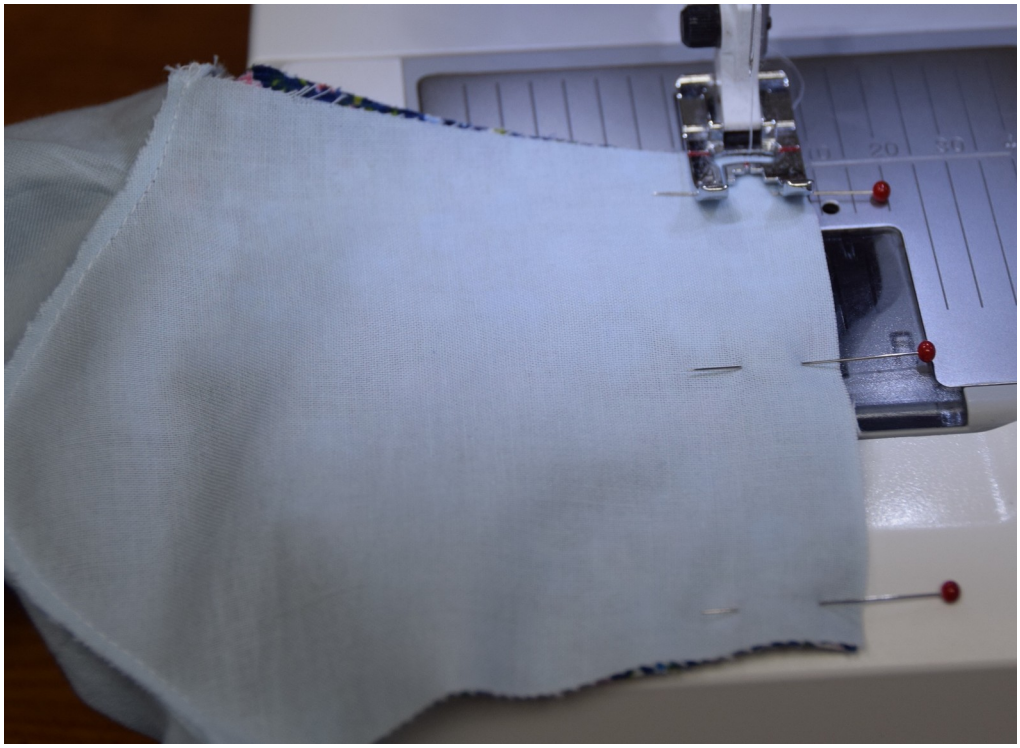
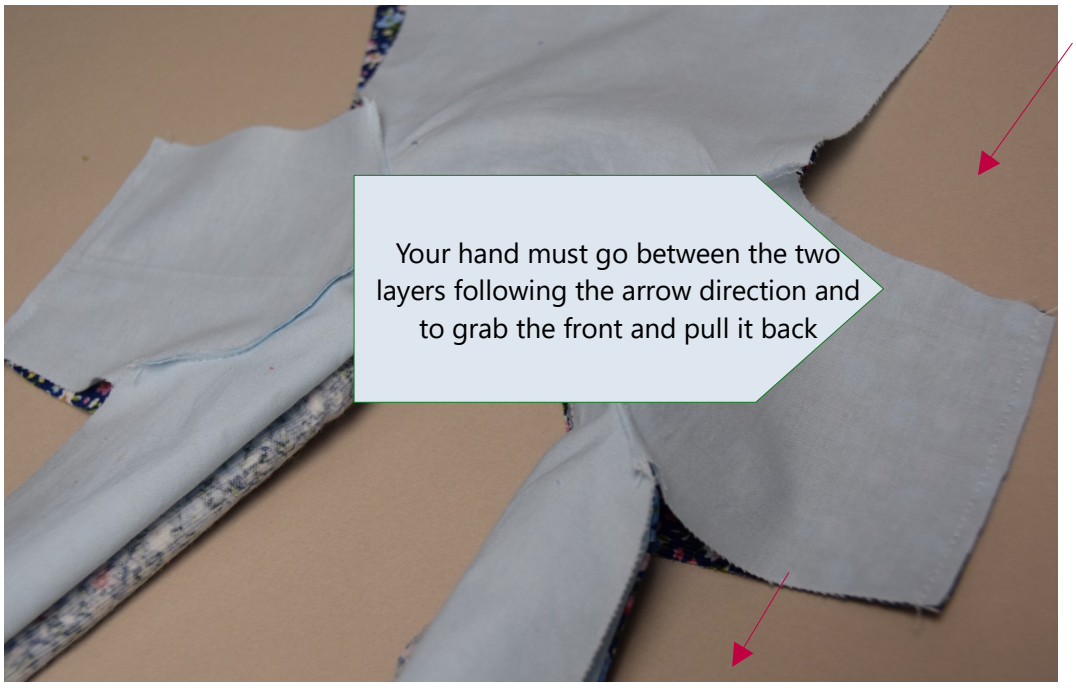


Press the seams, open flat and press again.



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Now you need to grab from the back of the coat the front side and and pull them through the sleeve opening to the other side. Better watch on the video how to do it :-) 1:03:48 YouTube

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Use the red arrows from the picture above as a guide where to pin first and then add more pins between. You can hand baste and remove the pins before stitching.

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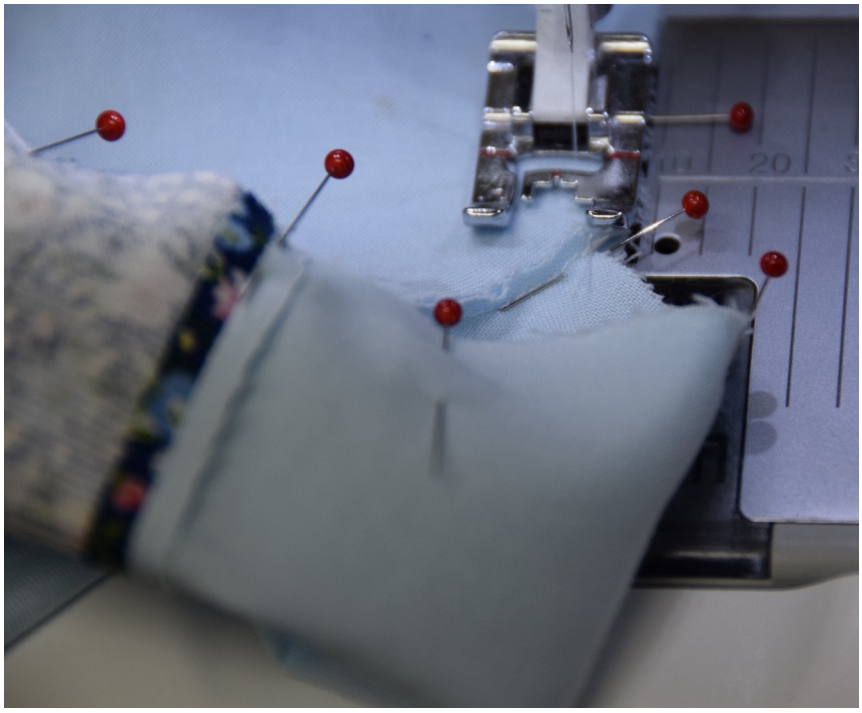

To turn out the coat you need to have an opening in the lining. It's better to do this on your first seam.
Start stitching the lining, secure in the beginning and sew around 3/4".
Secure with a reverse stitch. Lift the presser foot and move the fabric approximately 3/4" to the armpit seam. Start sewing with a secure stitch and continue to the end.
Sew the other side from end to end with a secure stitch. 1:07:49 YouTube

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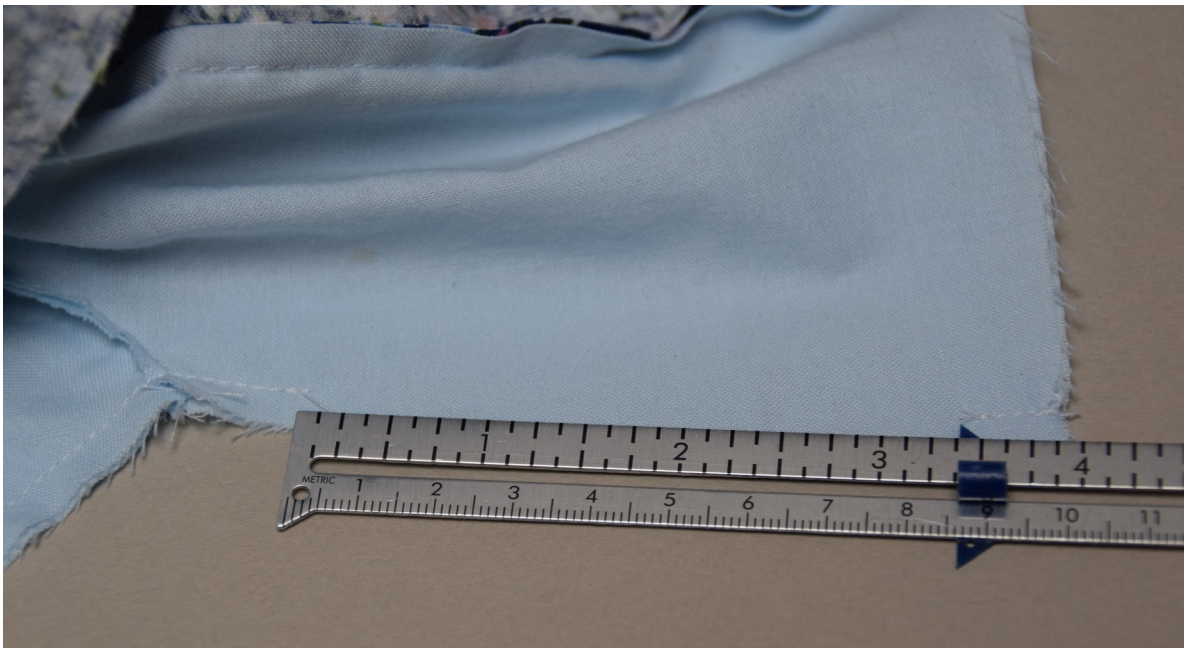
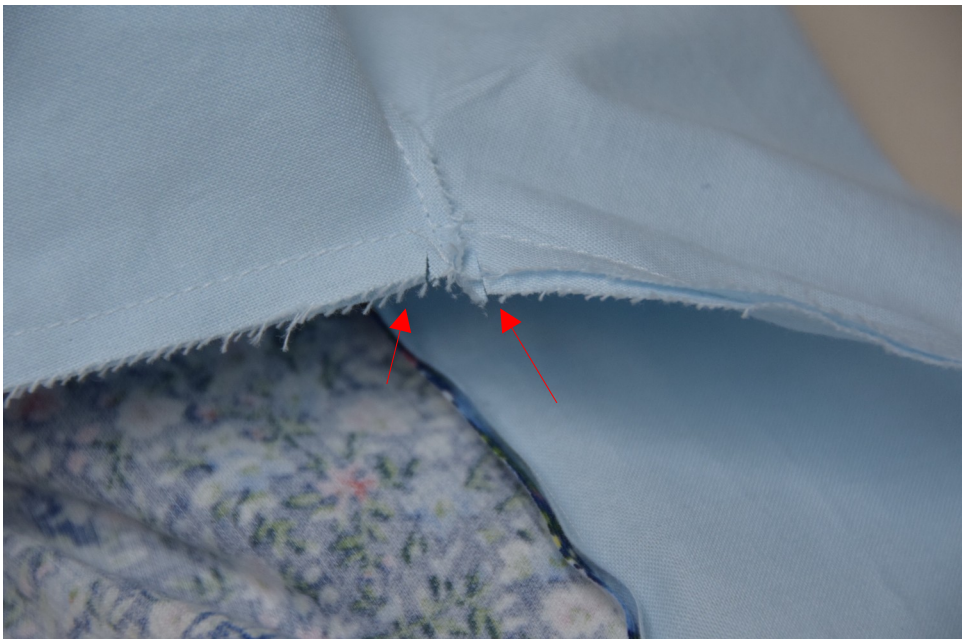


The gap should be approximately as shown above.



Clip into the allowance on both sides facing coat/lining

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Trim the seam allowance between armhole seams on the lining and facing. Do not trim the sides as you need the fabric to keep the side seams nicely open after it is pressed.

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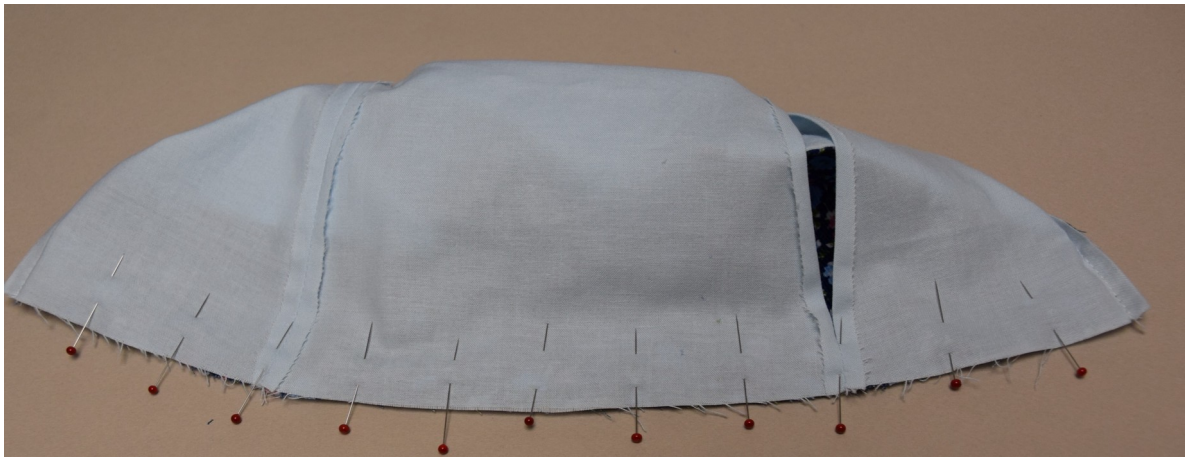
With the right sides inside pin together the facing to the lining, use as a guide the side seams. If they don't fit perfectly one over the other you can stretch a bit. If its more than ¼" I am afraid you will have to unpick and to do again the side seams.



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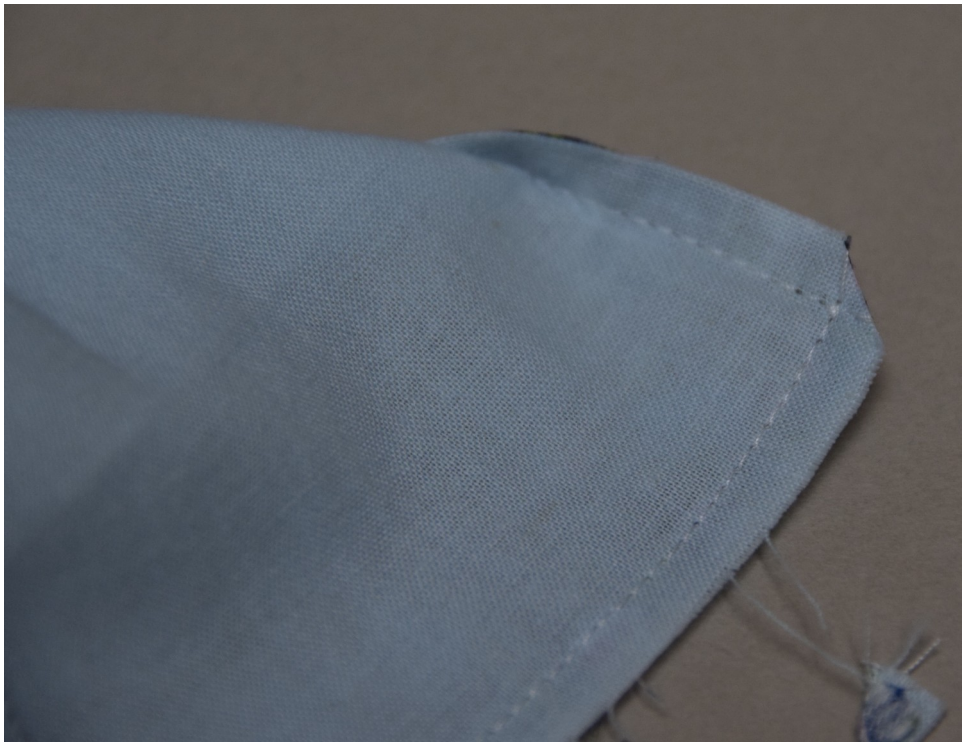
Stitch with a straight stitch and when you are done clip the corners and trip the seam allowance.



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Press the seam, turn out the coat and press again.

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Close the gap by hand stitch and iron the coat. Sew some snaps and if you wish you can add decorative buttons on the top and your coat is ready!

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I hope you are pleased with your result!
If you have questions, please contact me and I'll do my best to get back to you as soon as possible!
Thanks for making it to the end!
Petrana

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Print Instructions:
This page provides additional information related to printing.
Please read it fully before printing.

These patterns are distributed as a PDF file which is great at preserving the actual size which is important for pattern printing.
But in order to print the patterns to the correct size
you have to be aware of the scale issue associated with printing.

When printing, by default, the software is configured to fit all content within the page margins. If the content is larger than the print area of the page the software will squeeze it to make it fit.
This is fine for any document where deviation from actual size is not a problem.
But for printing patterns this is a big problem.
If you don't pay attention there is a good chance your patterns will be smaller in size when printed.

Apple MAC and Windows PC use different terminology when it comes to printing so, it's not easy to provide detailed instructions for every case.
In general though, you are aiming to print the document to actual size.
Various settings that you might see i.e. "Fit to Page", "Scale to Fit", "Crop to Fit" are all incorrect and should be avoided since they change the real size of the document.

The way to verify the printout is correct is to confirm that the 1 cm / 1 inch squares present on the pattern page(s) are of those same exact distances by measuring them.

Also, this document comes as A4 size but the patterns can be successfully printed even on "Letter" size paper since sufficient margins have been left on the top and the bottom of the pattern page(s). All that is required is to print to scale of 100%.

In summary, when printing the patterns ensure that you are printing to 100% scale.
If you want to print the Sewing Tutorial print with settings "Fit to Page", "Scale to Fit", etc.

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