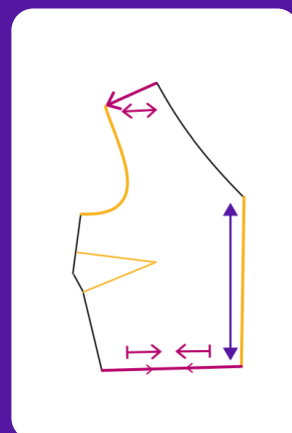


# 5 Questions to answer before altering patterns

Make sure you have these answers before starting any pattern alteration—whether you're following a tutorial or making it up as you go!



1



**Where do I need more or less fabric?**

Note the areas where you need more or less space. Nothing about how yet, just where.

2



**What elements of the garment must stay the same?**

Some areas are already perfect, and you want to make sure those areas are not affected.

3



**What areas need to be on the straight grain?**

Where do you need the least stretch? This rarely changes much, but is good to keep in mind.

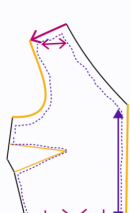
4



**What seam lines need to change length?**

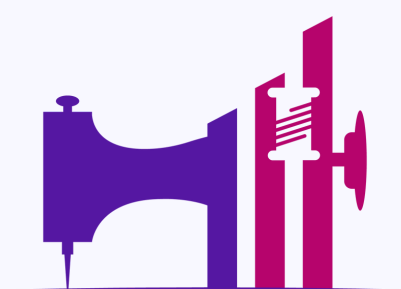
Mark which seams need to be lengthened or shortened (and by how much).

5



**How much precision do you actually need?**

There's no reason to stress over making a pattern more perfect than you can cut or sew.



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