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## CLONING GARMENTS:

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I've heard many times, that someone has an item of clothing that they love, and want a copy of. However, they don't want to sacrifice the garment by taking it apart for a pattern. This method, which is a variation of what is called a "rub-off", gets a pattern from an intact garment without damaging that garment.

It's actually more accurate to get a pattern this way, in that you know exactly what finished seam lengths are, and no distortion is introduced by the stretching that is caused by taking seams out.

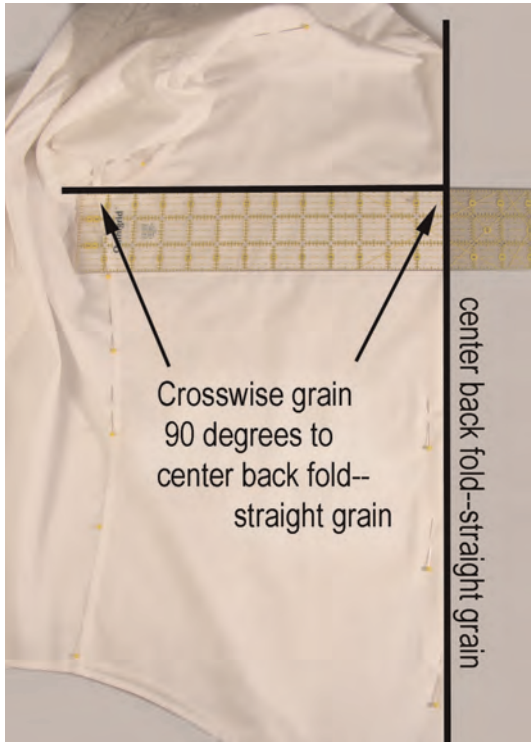
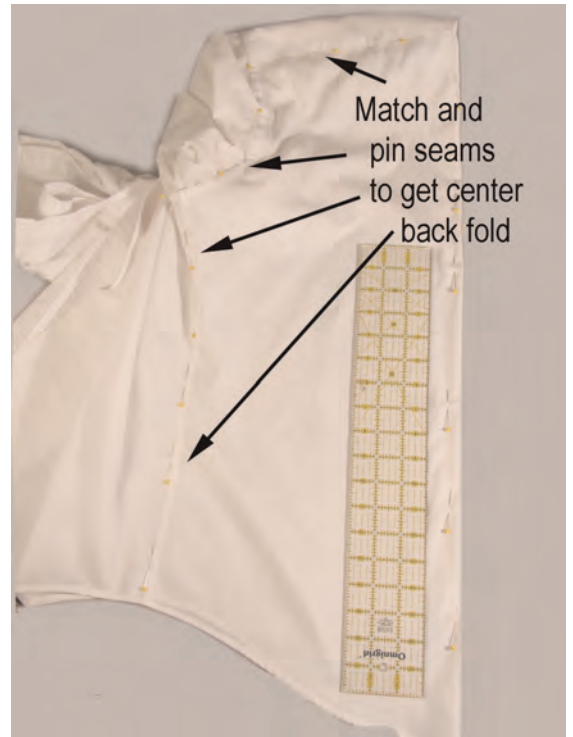
### *Full disclosure:*

Before we go any further, I feel I need to talk about the ethical uses of this method. Under copyright law, if one is making a copy of a garment for their own use, this is legal. Also, if one is making a copy of a garment, to discover how it was made (for educational purposes), then this is also legal. These uses fall under what is called "fair use".

Where you go afoul of the law (of copyright or Karma, or the 8<sup>th</sup> commandment) is if you copy a garment, then sell it as your own creation. Just because "everyone does it" (not everyone actually *does*) doesn't make it right. The courts say that it isn't a violation of copyright, if the "author of the original work" can't see his creation in the final product. So, if you make a copy of a jacket for the fit, then re-design the jacket so that it looks nothing like the original but has the fit you like, you're on the positive side of the ethical divide.

Just saying, as I believe good people will do the right thing, when they know what it is. That said, let's begin!

Generally the center back fold line is also the straight grain line. To find the center back fold line, fold the back in half, matching and pinning the yoke seams, armhole seams, and side seams together.

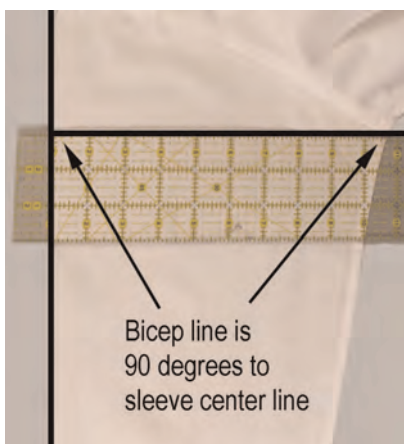
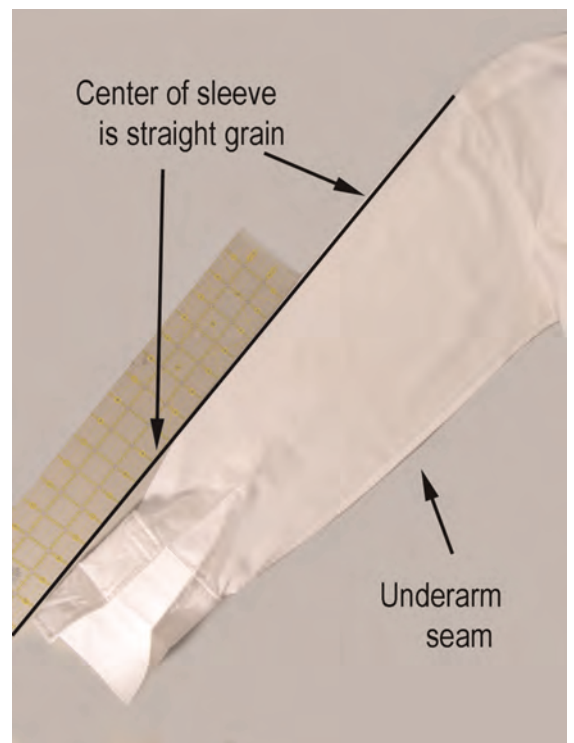


Again, since shirts have tails and therefore no obvious crosswise grain reference, you will assume that the crosswise grain is 90 degrees to the center back fold line.

As you did on the front, use the underarm point, as your reference to place the ruler.

On the sleeve, the assumption is that the center line of the sleeve is the straight of grain, and the bicep line is the crosswise grain.

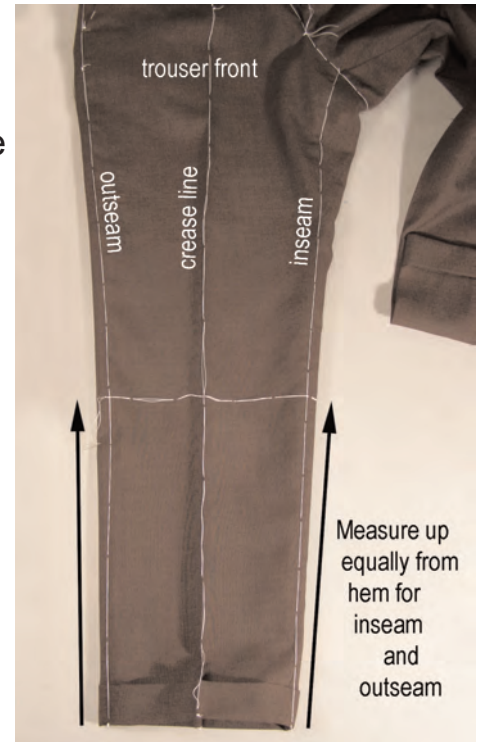
Fold the sleeve where it naturally folds—this fold will fall opposite the underarm seam. As you can see in this example, the fold veers off near the cuff. This is because of the pleats on the sleeve.



Once you establish the center line of the sleeve, use your square to draft the bicep line for the crosswise grain. This line is 90 degrees to the fold center line.

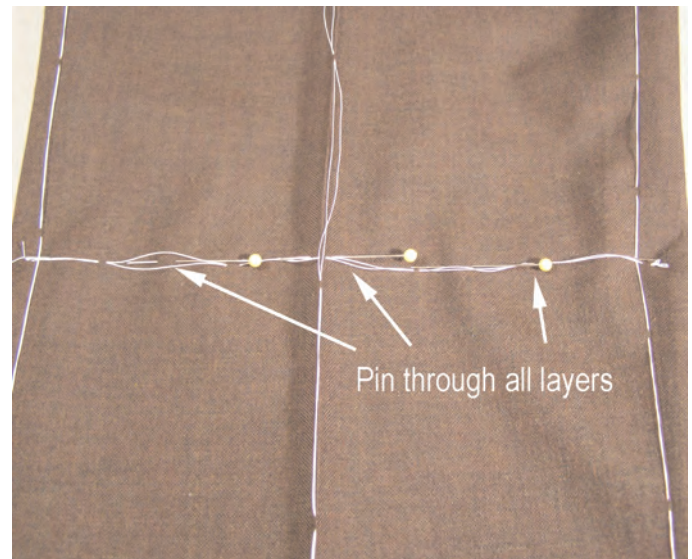
To get the crosswise grainlines, start with the trouser front. When drafting, it is customary to put the hem on the crosswise grain. Measure up from the hem on both inseam and outseam, by the same amount. I generally use 15”(38cm).

Thread baste the crossgrain, from these marks.



We need another crosswise grain line, higher up on the trouser. To determine the placement of that line, lay the ruler so that a crosswise grainline, intersects the grainline at 90 degrees. It should also intersect the crotch, as shown. Here is the second crosswise grainline, marked with thread basting.

To transfer the crosswise grainlines from front to back, pin through all layers along the thread basting lines.



Turn the trouser over, and baste the back crosswise grain line, using the pins as a guide.