

---

**UNIT: SEWING****TOPIC: Pattern Symbols****TIMELINE: Day 3**

---

**OBJECTIVES:**

---

1. Students will identify the symbols used on patterns.
  2. Students will observe a demonstration on altering a pattern.
- 

**MOTIVATOR/INTRODUCTION:**

---

Write the following symbols on the board: \$ # ¢ = + & !  
Have students quickly tell what each symbol means. Explain that these are familiar symbols because they have seen and used them for years. These are symbols they use in reading and writing. Today we will learn the symbols that are used in sewing.

---

**INFORMATION:**

---

1. Review the information found on the GLOSSARY OF PATTERN SYMBOLS with the students. It would be helpful to make a teaching board for reference by the students.
  2. Review 4-H Clothing Yourself!--Section 11--Alterations.
- 

**INDIVIDUALIZED ACTIVITIES:**

---

1. Pattern Markings
  2. Identify the Symbol
- 

**GROUP ACTIVITIES:**

---

**CHALLENGE PROJECTS:**

---

**SUMMARY:**

---

It is necessary to know the symbols used on patterns before beginning a sewing project.

---

**RESOURCES:**

---

## GLOSSARY OF PATTERN SYMBOLS

**DIRECTIONS:** A pattern has a language system all its own. Important symbols and words are printed on each piece. Read below about some of these terms while you identify them on your own paper-PATTERN SYMBOLS. You will not find those marked with an asterisk \* on your own sheet. You will need to get 100% of these pattern symbols correct on the Pattern Quiz.

1. ALTERATION MARKS--Make note of any changes in the pattern measurements from your own measurements. Any changes must be made in the paper pattern before laying it onto the fabric.
2. STRAIGHT OF GRAIN LINE--Pin this arrow onto the fabric so that it is parallel to the selvage or the lengthwise grain of the fabric. This will insure that the finished garment will hang correctly and be grain perfect.
3. PLACE ON FOLD LINE--This line with two bent arrows is laid next to the edge of the pattern. The Place on Fold Line should be laid directly on the edge of the fold. **DO NOT CUT ON THIS LINE WHEN CUTTING OUT YOUR FABRIC!**
4. \*CUT ONE, CUT TWO--Each pattern piece will have instructions for how many pieces of the fabric you should cut from a particular pattern piece.
5. \*OUTSIDE MARGIN--This is the extra tissue that is cut off as the pattern is cut out. Sometimes this extra tissue is needed to make pattern alterations.
6. CUTTING LINE--This is a solid dark line. Try to stay right on this line when cutting out. Make your cutting strokes as smooth and straight as possible.
7. STITCHING LINE--This is a broken line next to the solid cutting line. It is also known as the seam line--where two pieces of fabric are joined together.
8. SEAM ALLOWANCE--The regulation seam allowance is 5/8 inch. This is designated as the space between the cutting line and the stitching line.
9. DIRECTIONAL ARROW--This is signified by an arrow or a small pair of scissors. The fabric should be cut out and sewn in this direction. If you follow this direction, it will help maintain the grain line in your garment.
10. NOTCHES--These V-shaped markings are numbered. There is a corresponding notch that is to be matched during the construction process. Cut notches outward. Notches are numbered to tell you which seams are to be matched together and also in which order to sew the seams together.

SEWING~~~~~INFORMATION continued

11. DOTS, SQUARES, TRIANGLES--These are used by different pattern companies to mark construction details. They indicate the beginning or end of an opening, placement of pockets, etc. **THESE MARKINGS SHOULD BE TRANSFERRED ONTO THE FABRIC BEFORE REMOVING THE PATTERN TISSUE.**
12. DOT AT TOP OF SLEEVE--This dot shows where the sleeve cap should be matched to the shoulder seam.
13. BUTTONHOLE MARKS--A buttonhole mark is a solid line with a small perpendicular line at the end. It is a good idea to buy your buttons the same time you buy your pattern and fabric. **THIS MARKING SHOULD BE TRANSFERRED ONTO THE FABRIC BEFORE REMOVING THE PATTERN TISSUE.**
14. POCKET OUTLINE--This curved line shows where a pocket is to be placed on the garment. **THIS MARKING SHOULD BE TRANSFERRED ONTO THE FABRIC BEFORE REMOVING THE PATTERN TISSUE.**