Teacher Background Information



PRECISION FIT

Sizing for patterns is not the same as ready to wear. Accurate measurements are needed. It is best to have a friend take one's measurements for maximum accuracy. It is important that the person being measured not bend or stretch to watch. Standing straight and looking ahead is vital for accuracy.

If a person's measurements are not the same as the chart suggests, and more than likely they won't be, he/she should choose the pattern size depending on his/her bone structure and the pattern design. Use the smaller size if you have small bones, or use the larger size for a loose fit.

Choose shirts, tops, dresses, and jackets by the chest or bust size and adjust the pants or skirts in the same pattern. It is easier to adjust bottoms than tops.

If the hips are 2 inches larger than the chart, choose pants and skirts by the hip measurement rather than the waist. It is easier to increase the size of the waistband than expand the hips accurately.

Reference Materials:

"Know Before You Sew," McCall's How to Use the "McCall's Male Figure Types" Chart 9-6 OR Education Department, The McCall's Pattern Co., 230 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10163

"Simply the Best Guide to Sewing for Beginners." (Simplicity 0206) Simplicity Pattern Co. Inc., 200 Madison Ave., N.Y. 10016