DESIGNING SLEEVES

Study the sleeve drawing and know the terms given below:

CAPLINE - extend horizontally from underarm to underarm. It separates the upper and lower parts of the sleeve. It also is the crosswise grainline.

SLEEVE CAP - is the part of the sleeve above the capline.

SLEEVE CAP SEAMLINE - is the curved line across the top of the sleeve. The two notches in the back and one notch in the front insure proper location of the ease in the cap seamline.

LENGTHWISE GRAINLINE - is at right angles to the capline, as you can see, it does not go completely through the center of the sleeve. (There may be exceptions to this rule.)

ELBOW DARTS - are fitting darts which create a bulge that gives room for the arm to bend. The elbow comes at the end of the middle dart.

THE SECRET OF A SLEEVE IS TO WORK IN THIRDS!

Notes: double notches indicate back of sleeve, single notches indicate front of sleeve.

Dots are placed half-way between notches and the top center of the sleeve.

ALL EASE IN THE SLEEVE IS BETWEEN THE TWO DOTS.
PUFF SLEEVE

The puff sleeve is made by slashing and spreading the sleeve pattern at the top or the bottom to add enough length to the seamlines so they can be gathered. The puff sleeve is a short sleeve.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Change the long fitted sleeve to a short sleeve by measuring down from the capline along both underarm seamlines and establishing line CD, the bottom line of the short sleeve. It should be parallel to the capline AB (Fig.1). Cut off sleeve. Make facing for bottom edge of the new sleeve.

2. Slash through the cap seamline as shown in Fig. 2, to-but-not-through the opposite edge. (Note the placement of the slash lines in Fig. 2).

2-A. Slashes should occur half-way between shoulder mark dot, and half-way between dot and notch (Fig.2).

2-B. Slashes should never be on the center top of sleeve, because this will alter the sleeve and make fitting to bodice difficult.

3. Perfect the cap seamline, adding length as shown (add paper). This extra length will make the sleeve puff more.
SET-IN SLEEVE WITH BOTTOM FULLNESS

Old capline

New capline

Fig. 3

To put the puff at the bottom, the fullness is added at the bottom. (Fig.3) Follow direction for puffed sleeve at top. ONLY change directions to the bottom of the sleeve.

TO MAKE THE SLEEVE BAND:

1. Make armband long enough to go around the upper arm. (Arm girth plus 2 inches). Use the straight of grain in the lengthwise direction. Make it 3 inches wide plus seam allowance - this makes the band 1 inch when finished because it is folded. Seam allowance will be 1/2".

2. A variation is to omit the band, narrow hem the bottom edge, and run an elastic casing 1 1/2" from the bottom edge to form a ruffle look.
PUFFED-SLEEVE VARIATIONS

PUFFED-TOP AND BOTTOM (Figure 1)

1. Starting at single notch, draw ten vertical lines. Number each section, 1-11. Draw a vertical line through the capline. (Figure 2)

2. Cut along the ten lines. Spread apart, keeping the vertical line even. Tape to a piece of paper. Redraw the outside lines of the sleeve. (Figure 3)

PINAFORE SLEEVE

To make a pinafore sleeve (Figure 4) simply prepare the sleeve for a sleeve with a flare at the bottom. Before cutting apart, cut off the sleeve 2-3" below the capline. Redraw the bottom edge of the sleeve. (Fig. 5)