

Pattern Layout

Objective: Students will demonstrate how to lay a pattern out correctly.

Supplies: Pattern guide
Shrunken pattern pieces with grain lines and fold lines on them
Construction paper
Glue sticks

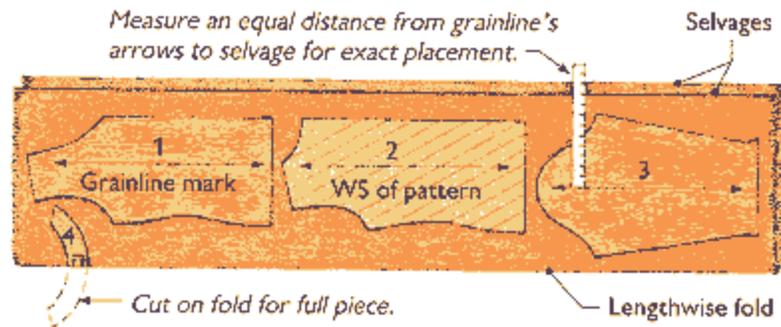
1. Show students a pattern guide. Have students look at the layout guide on the first one or two pages and discuss:

Choose a cutting layout

Pattern instructions provide layout diagrams for various fabric widths. Find the best layout in the instructions for your pattern, size, and fabric width.

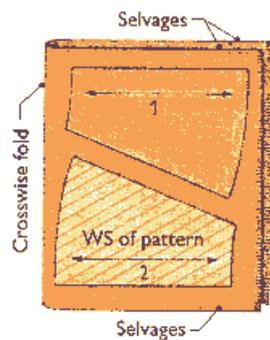
With-nap layout, lengthwise fold

A with-nap layout has all pattern pieces placed in the same direction, so any designs or nap on the fabric will be consistently positioned on the garment.



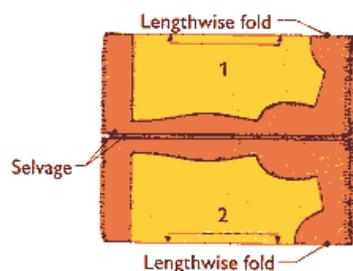
Without-nap layout, crosswise fold

In a without-nap layout, the pattern pieces can be placed in opposing directions.



Lengthwise double fold

This layout is used when cutting two pieces that fit side by side on the fabric, but need to be placed on the fold for cutting.



2. Each student needs a piece of construction paper. Fold in half lengthwise. The fold will be the fold edge, the open ends the selvages.
3. Have students label the fold, selvage, lengthwise grain, crosswise grain, and bias.
4. Students need to cut out the shrunken pattern pieces and attach them to paper with a glue stick. Pay special attention to the grain lines and fold lines; place on paper accordingly.
5. Go over tips:
 1. Pre-wash your fabric according to the care instructions found on the bolt end. Press the fabric.
 2. Refer to the pattern instruction sheet(s) or the back of the pattern envelope to see which pattern pieces are needed for the version, or view, of the pattern you are making
 3. Find these pieces and separate them from the rest
 4. Fold the fabric, right sides together, along a single lengthwise or crosswise thread as indicated in the layout diagram. This will allow any necessary pattern markings to be made on the wrong side of the fabric.
 5. Place the fabric on a flat surface. Make sure the fabric edges line up evenly.
 6. Take note of any special symbols used on the layout diagram. These will be explained in the pattern instructions. For example, shading on a pattern piece indicates that the piece should be laid out with the printed side down.
 7. Lay out and pin larger pieces first, then position the smaller ones.
 8. Place all pieces as close together as possible without overlapping printed cutting lines.
 9. Find the grain-line arrow on any pattern piece not placed along a fold. Position the pattern piece so that this arrow runs exactly parallel to the selvage, or finished edge, of the fabric.
 10. Pin the pattern pieces to the fabric along the fold first.
 11. Place pins perpendicular to the pattern edge, about 6 inches apart.
 12. Pin remaining pattern pieces, keeping pins inside the cutting line and perpendicular to the cutting edge.
 13. Press necessary pattern pieces with a warm, dry iron. Pattern pieces will be creased and pressing them will give you a more accurate cutting line.
 14. Circle the appropriate layout diagram with a pen or a highlighter pen. This will help you distinguish your layout diagram from all others.
 15. Fabrics that have a nap, such as velvet or a one-way design, use distinct layout diagrams. If you are using one of these fabrics, make sure that the layout diagram you are using is the appropriate one.
 16. Measure the distance from each arrow point on the grain-line arrow to the selvage. If the grain-line arrow is truly parallel to the selvage, these measurements will be the same
 17. If your pattern calls for interfacing or lining, save time by pinning and cutting these items at the same time as your fabric.
 18. Pin the grain-line arrow to the fabric before pinning the remainder of the pattern piece. This will assist you in keeping the grain-line arrow correctly aligned.