

PROJECT #4

SIMPLE TROUSERS

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Basic tool kit
- A pair of well-fitting trousers
- Fabric for a toile (muslin)
- Fabric for your final cloned version
- A zip that's the same length as the one on your original trousers
- Lightweight interfacing
- Matching thread

FABRIC QUANTITY

These UK size 14 (US size 10) trousers used 1.75m (1⁷/₈yd) of fabric 145cm (56in) wide; for larger or smaller sizes (or a different fabric width), work out the fabric amount following the instructions in 'Fabric for Your Cloned Copy'.

CLONING METHODS USED

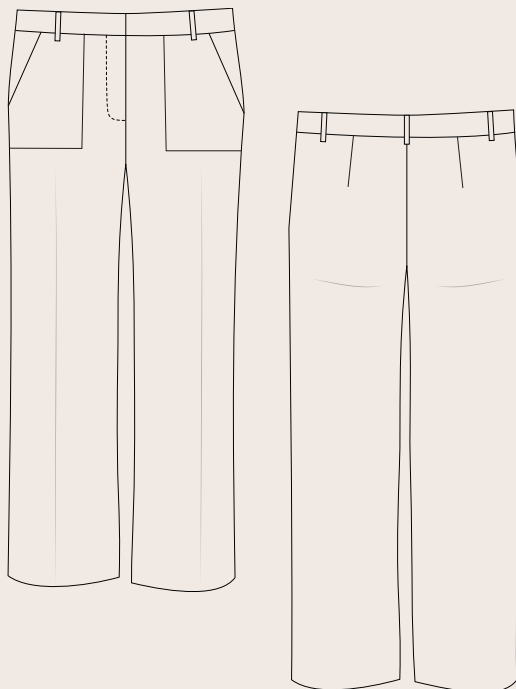
Direct Measuring; Tracing

PATTERN PIECE INVENTORY

- 1 x trouser front
- 1 x trouser back
- 1 x back waistband
- 1 x left front waistband
- 1 x right front waistband
- 1 x patch pocket
- 1 x pocket facing
- 1 x fly facing
- 1 x fly shield
- 1 x belt loop (this can be one strip long enough to be cut into five belt loops)

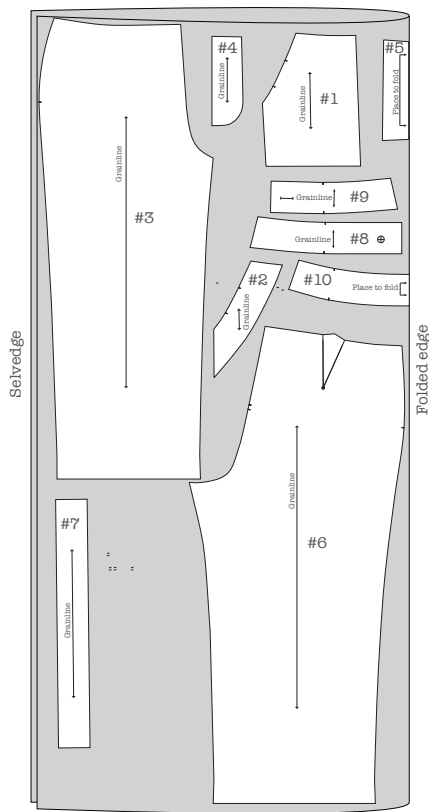
GARMENT ANALYSIS

- ✚ The fabric is a light- to mediumweight woven linen, perfect for late spring, summer or early autumn. The original fabric has a crisp quality to it, which holds the shape of the trousers. For the clone I have matched a similar weight of linen fabric.
- ✚ There is a front zip fly opening, and shaped front patch pockets, back dart, five belt loops set onto a curved waistband. There is also a back welt pocket, which I omitted from my first clone to focus on the fit. The edges of the pocket are turned under once and topstitched and the pocket mouth is faced.
- ✚ There is a back dart which measures 2cm (3/4in) across the width at the top, making the total dart depth 4cm (1 1/2in).
- ✚ The top of the trousers is finished with a contour (curved) waistband which is 4cm (1 1/2in) deep.
- ✚ The left and right front waistbands are different lengths. The inner waistband facing has been finished off with a binding.
- ✚ The hem is a deep 4cm (1 1/2in) double-folded hem.



FABRIC LAYOUT GUIDE

150cm (60in) wide fabric



SIMPLE CONSTRUCTION ORDER

1. Sew the pocket facings to the mouth of the patch pockets.
2. Topstitch the patch pockets to the side area of the trouser fronts.
3. Insert the zip fly.
4. Join the front legs to the back legs at the inseams.
5. Sew the crotch seam.
6. Sew the front to the back at the side seams (* fitting stage).
7. Make the belt loops and tack (baste) them to the waistband.
8. Apply interfacing to one of each of the three waistband pieces, then make up the waistband and the waistband facing.
9. Attach the waistband to the top of the trousers and finish with the waist facing.
10. Stitch the belt loops to the top of the waistband.
11. Sew the buttonhole and attach the button to the centre front of the waistband (* final fit stage for hem).

DESIGN IDEAS

RE-DESIGN #1:

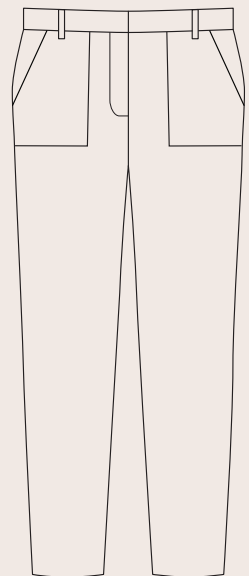
- ✦ Since these are cropped trousers, an easy re-design is to make them longer by adding length to the bottom of your hem.

RE-DESIGN #2:

- ✦ Try making them up in a different weight of fabric. A soft viscose/rayon blend, for example, will make the trousers a lot more fluid and drapey.

RE-DESIGN #3:

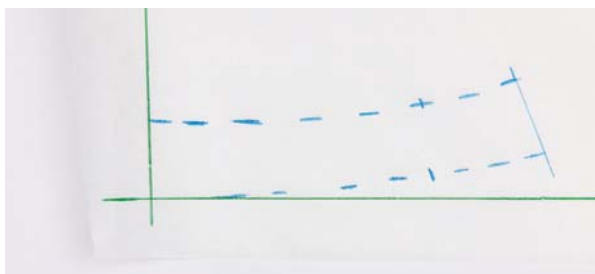
- ✦ Try making the legs more tapered by angling in the side and inside leg seams. You can measure another pair of trousers to work out how much adjustment to make. Just remember to make a toile (muslin), as the fit may be impacted with a slimmer leg.



- Line up the centre back seam of the waistband with the vertical line (grainline) and the waistline with the horizontal line for approx 3.5cm (1½in). Having looked closely at the grain in this area I could see that the waistband is straight here and that the curve starts after this. Anchor this area in place.
- Allowing the waistband to curve naturally, anchor the rest of the back waistband.
- Use a pencil to mark the upper outline and the outer upper position of the belt loops. Then trace the side seam position and the belt loop placement and dart.



- Release the garment and true the top of the waistband to ensure it's a smooth line (see 'Creating Your Pattern: True the Traced Outline'). Using a grading ruler draw a parallel line 4cm (1½in) below the top of the waistband, carefully following the curve.



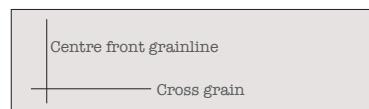
- Measure the belt loop position from your garment and compare it to your trace. Adjust if necessary.
- Unpin the waistband to free up the front waistbands for tracing.

LEFT AND RIGHT FRONT WAISTBANDS

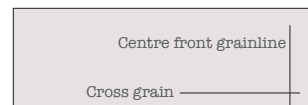
The left front waistband is the longer of the two fronts, as it extends across the fly shield.

- Cut a piece of paper that's longer and wider than the left front waistband. In my example, this was 36 x 12.5cm (14 x 5in). Cut another piece that's wider and longer than the right front waistband. In my example, this was 31 x 12.5cm (12¼ x 5in).
- Mark up the left front waistband paper with a short vertical balance line (grainline) towards the left-hand side of the paper and a short horizontal line approx. 10cm (4in) long towards the lower edge.
- Mark up the right front waistband paper with a short vertical balance line (grainline) towards the right-hand side of the paper and a short horizontal line approx. 10cm (4in) long towards the lower edge.
- Trace both the left and the right front in the same way as the back, this time aligning the centre front edges with the vertical grainline.

Prepped paper for left front waistband



Prepped paper for right front waistband



NOTE: The left and right front waistbands will mirror one another.

- Measure and mark the belt loop positions, as before.
- Mark the position of the button on the left front waistband and the zip position (centre front).
- Mark the buttonhole position on the right front waistband.