

Sew School Online

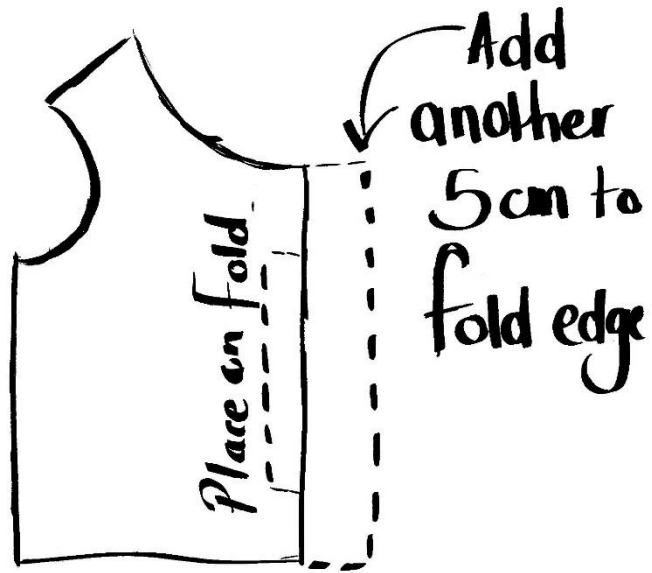
with the Haby Goddess



How to: Add an Inverted Pleat

So you've mastered a basic pattern to make a tank top or a basic dress for a little girl, why not add this simple variation to make it a little more stylish.

These simple, easy to follow steps will show you how to use your existing pattern to create an inverted pleat.



Let's say your front tank top pattern piece looks like this graphic to the left.

To create the pleat, you will need to add an additional 5cm in width to the fold edge.

This new edge will sit against the fold of fabric.

The measurement should be exactly the same both top and bottom of pattern piece.

Once your pattern piece is cut, measure and pin 5cm from the fabric fold edge (top & bottom).

Add some pins to mark the spot.



Open the front fabric piece and place a centre marker (or pin).

The measurement between the two outer pins should be 10 cm.
Place your centre marker at 5cm.

Make and press a fold from top to bottom on your front fabric piece at both outer pins (the left pin and then the right pin).

Sew an edge stitch as per the middle image from top to bottom along both folds.
It should look like image 3 when you have done both sides

What is an edge stitch?

It's a row of straight stitching that is sewn very close to the edge. Normally 1/8" or less





Bring the two edge stitched folds into the middle so they meet your centre pin.

When you turn over your fabric it should look like the image to the right.

If you are wanting to leave the pleat open from the top edge, pin to secure and complete the garment as per your pattern.

You really just ignore the pleat now as nothing else needs to be done.



This look is very sweet on little girls dresses & tops but I found the pleat across the bust to be a little unflattering on me as it opened and gaped so I prefer to close it down to where the bra line sits under the bust.

To do this, measure how far down you want to close the pleat. Pin.

Very carefully, sew a row of stitching down both sides of the pleat, over the top of the stitching you have already sewn.

