

COAT PATTERN SEWING INSTRUCTIONS

Draw out the pattern in full following the diagram. Each square measures 5 x 5 cm. When the pattern is done, check the measurements of the shoulder seams, where the back seam is supposed to be slightly longer. The inner edge of the collar needs to be as long as the neck edge from centre back to the “corner” marked in **red** on the diagram. The side seams should be the same length, discounting the darts. Check the measurements of the armhole and the sleeve cap. The sleeve cap should be 1-3 cm larger than the armhole.

CUTTING

Include seam allowances of 1.5 cm; hem allowance below, 7 cm; sleeve hems, 5 cm. Sew a toile before cutting into your handwoven cloth. Should you need to adjust something on the pattern, now is the time to do so. Cut the cloth as a single layer and pay attention to the grain of the cloth. The pockets are made from the lining material.

MARKING

Mark the centre front and shoulder points on the sleeves, and also the points where collar and lapel meet.

CUTTING THE LINING

Add a ca 4 cm pleat for movement in the centre back. The front and back pieces are cut from the pattern pieces without the front facings and the back upper facing. Check that the lining length is sufficient for the sleeves and body. The lining should fit comfortably, not tightly.

SEWING

Start by pressing or neatening the facings for the front pieces and the collar back.

Sew the bust darts. Sew the centre back seam and fold the slit to the right. Press, then sew a diagonal seam to hold the slit in place.

Sew the shoulder seams, easing in the back shoulder to the front. Stitch around the neck edge to hold in place and counteract any stretching.

Stitch the pockets together securely before stitching the side seams. Then stitch in the pockets.

Stitch the front facings to the front edges and lapels up to the marking on the lapel. Grade* the seam allowances and press so the facing predominates.

Stitch the top and back collar pieces together. Grade so that the top collar piece is pre-dominant.

Stitch the back collar to the neck edge from the centre back to the “corner” marked in red on the diagram. Clip the neck seam allowance to prevent it pulling. Clip once into the seam at the “corners”, turn and stitch the short seams from the corner to the marking on the lapel. For better control, sew this seam for the top collar and facing by hand.

Stitch the neck facing to the collar and the short seams to the lapel. Collar and lapels are now done. Press the collar and lapels, then secure the two layers along the seam in the neck.

Stitch the sleeves together. Sew a holding seam over the shoulder caps. Ease in to make the shoulder cap nicely rounded when you stitch in the sleeve. Cut a strip from some fine and firm cloth, ca 4 cm wide and 20 cm long, for stitching in with the shoulder cap. Place it centrally on the seam. Fold the strip in half up towards the shoulder: it gives stability to the sleeve and shoulder.

Press and decide on the appropriate length for the coat and sleeves, then sew the hems.

Sew up the lining. Sew the pleat in the centre back 2 cm down from the neck/facing. Press. Ensure that there is extra length in the lining above the slit. Trim the extra cloth down the left side of the slit. Pin and check before cutting.

The lining can be machine or hand stitched. When machine stitching, first attach the sleeves and then sew the lining to the facings and upper back/neck facing. The sleeves are then stitched by hand to the wrist edges, making sure that the lining has some surplus length. Stitch the lining to the outer cloth by hand under the sleeves from the inside. At the lower edge, hem the lining separately so it hangs free.

I made it easier for myself by asking a tailor to handsew the three beautiful buttonholes. For a finishing touch, I used three buttons I bought in Japan embellished with kogin embroidery, a traditional Japanese technique.

* ▪ Grade means that the two seam allowances are trimmed to different lengths: for example, the seam allowance pressed against the outer cloth could be 1.2 cm while the seam allowance pressed against the reverse could be 0.8 cm.

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Överkrage	top collar	Belägg	facing
Underkrage	collar back	Mitt fram	centre front
Mb	towards the back	Framstycke	front
Mvk	towards the folded edge	Bakstycke	back
Fickpåse	pocket	Sprund	slit
Ärm	sleeve	Infodring bak	upper/neck facing
Fram	front	Fickskylt	pocket opening
Bak	back	Slagvikning	lapel foldline

