

## PAGE 24-26: OFF SHOULDER BLOUSE

### OFF SHOULDER EXPLANATION

Measurements areas needed.

Neck depth

Sleeve length from shoulder down /circumference- round bust

under bust

Point to point or bust apart like some call it.

Waist

hip



What ever u get as your hip divide that into 2 for front block bodice and back block bodice.

Length

On the length you can take the length full from shoulder to the desired length as if you want to cut it with shoulder, then later you deduct the area u want to cut out on the chest.

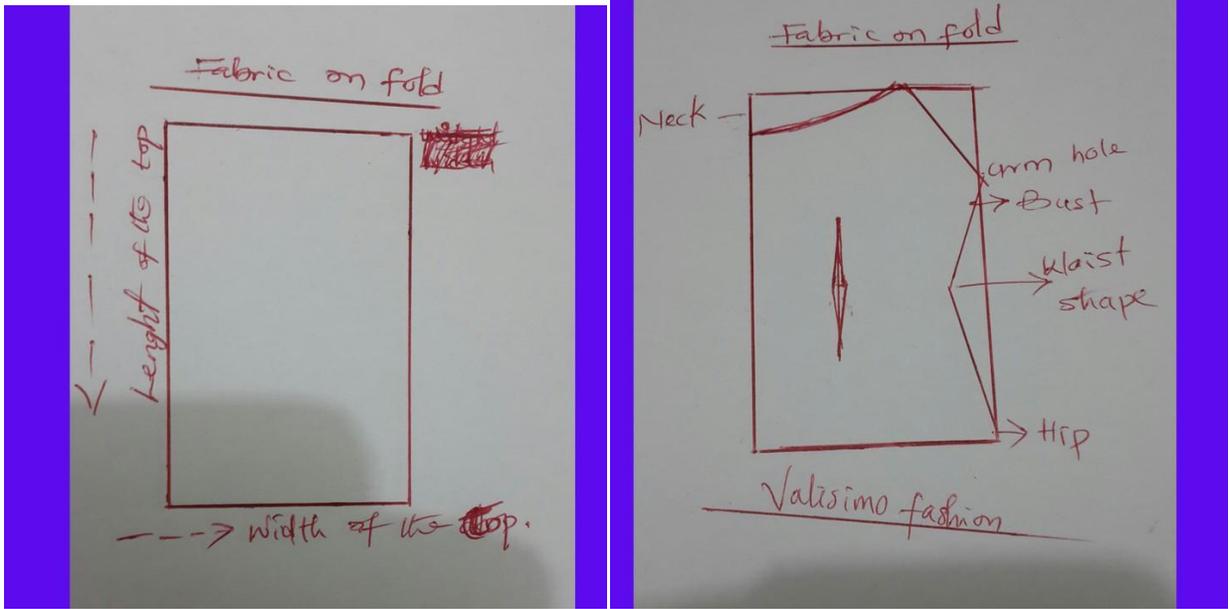
The second way is to deduct the area you want to cut out before cutting it. This means on like the other that u started from the shoulder down this one you will start from the neck down.

On the front and back block add Seam allowance and place your material on fold in readiness to cut the neck and armpit area.

Neck part

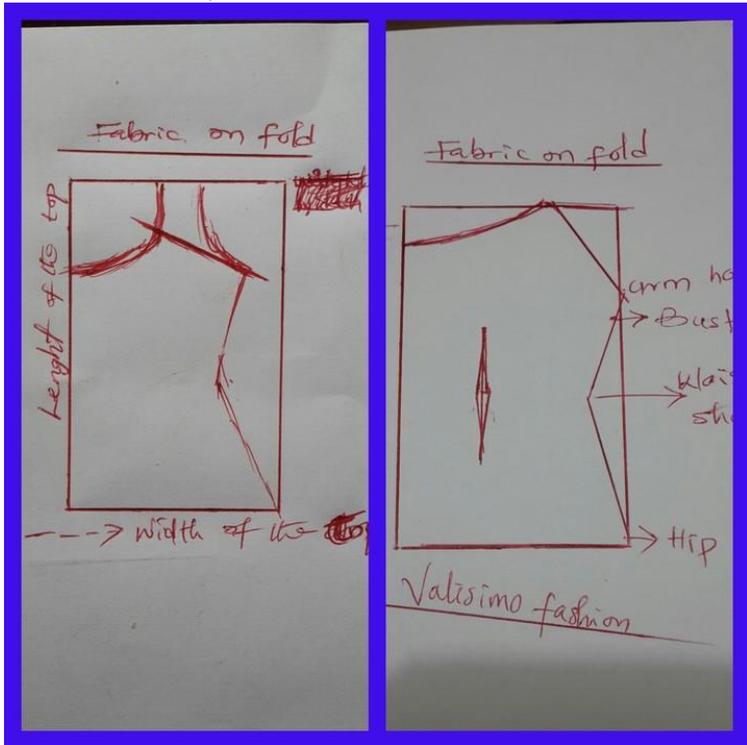
On the neck part you determine how low and how wide you want the neck to be before cutting it. Don't forget seam allowance

Then you use your measurement to shape out the bust waist and hip.

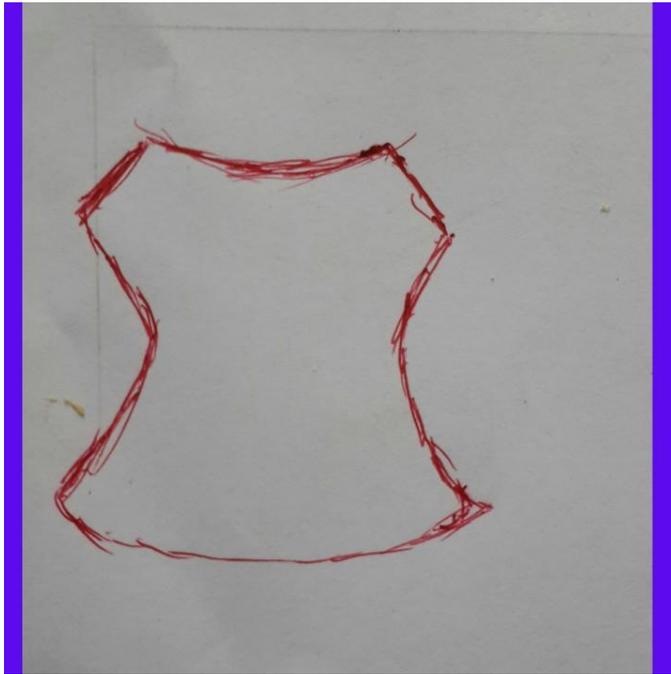


Here is a diagram of how you can cut it the off shoulder with shoulder first like a regular blouse then later you cut out the sleeve through the neck and armpit area to format the off shoulder.

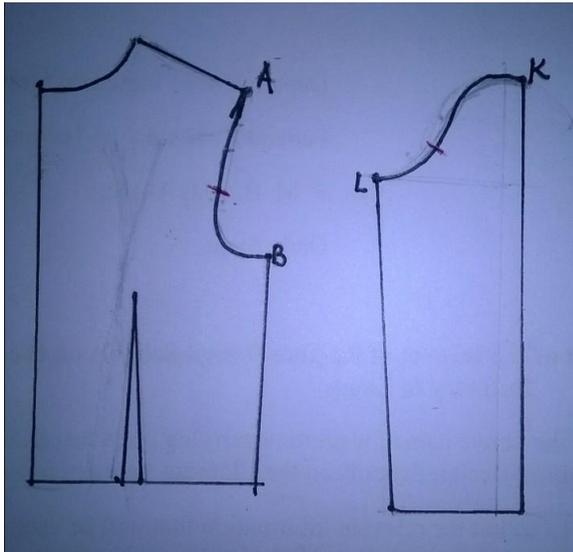
The second diagram shows how you can deduct the unwanted shoulder area by going straight to cut out the neck and armpit area off.



After joining we would have something like this. You can then add your sleeve

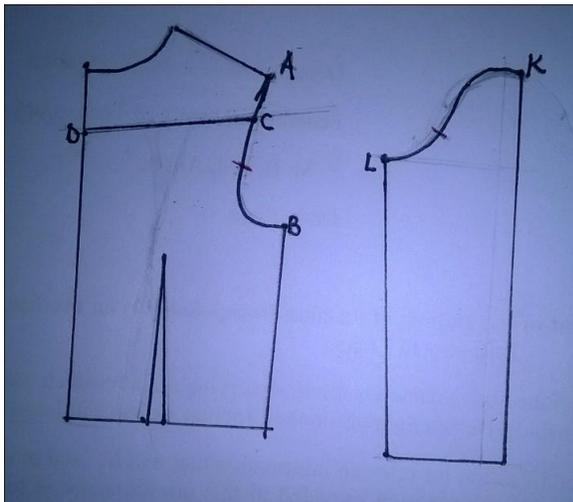


People have different means of arriving at the same thing. Below is my version hope it helps. first get your bodice block and your sleeve block. like below



In drafting your blocks ensure that the armhole is equal to the sleeve cap measurement. That is A to B = k to L.

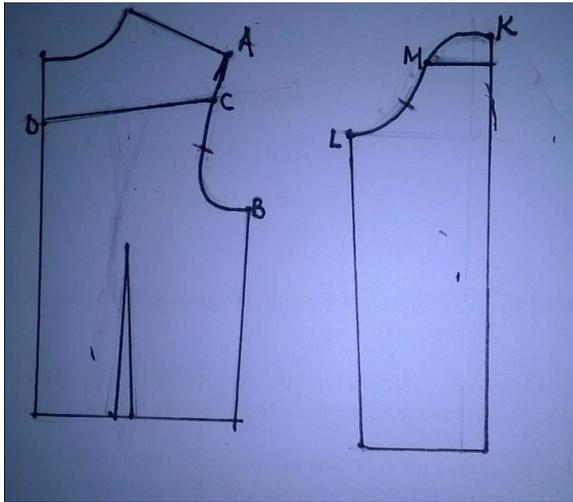
The red dashes represent notches to align the armhole to sleeve cap when sewing.



#### STEP 1

Point D is at a level where you want the deepest part of your neckline (about 5" from the base of front neck) .

Point A to C= about 3" or 4" depending on how off the shoulder you want it. Measuring along the curve of the armhole.



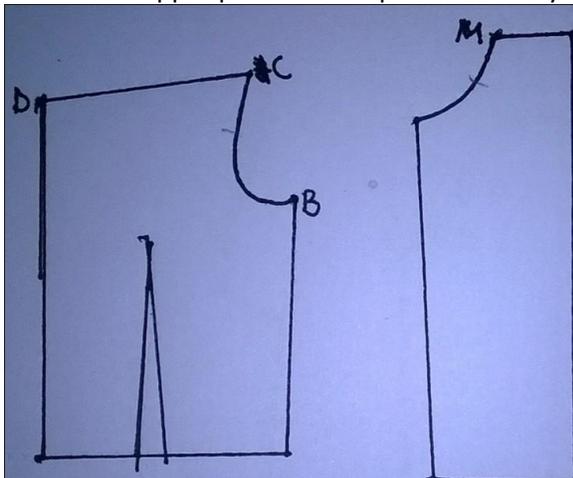
STEP 2

Points K to M = the measurement of A to C. This about 3 to 4 inches measuring along the curve of the sleeve cap.

Square a line from Point M to meet the centre line of the sleeve. See picture above.

STEP 3

Discard the upper parts of both patterns then you will have something like the image below



In the following instructions note that I have wrongfully labelled the point opposite Point M as Point K. It isn't point K as we have discarded the part that has point K. It is a mistake I made that I didn't see on time.

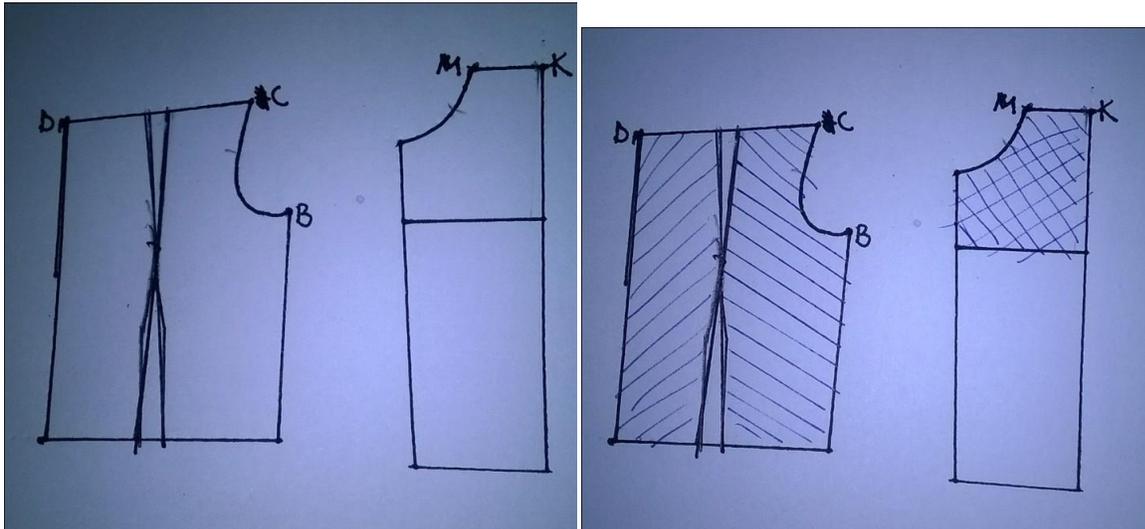
STEP 4 (picture below)

Shorten your sleeve to required length.

STEP 5

Treat your front bodice the way you do when you want to cut Bustier ( bosom cut or whatever it is called) by inserting a dart from neckline to the Bust Apex. This dart will give shape to the front bodice and tighten the front neckline.

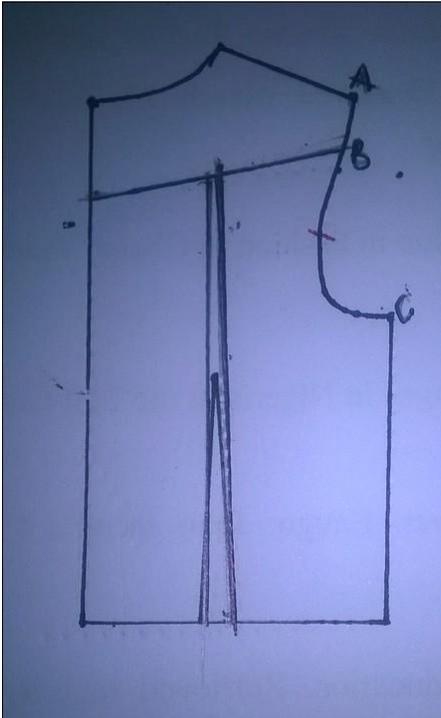
Cut away the darts so that you will have two pattern pieces for the front indicated by the shaded area.



When you cut you will have something like below. align the notches when sewing.



For the back you follow steps 1 to 3. Point D at the back being the lowest part of the back neckline. To tighten the back neckline take out a dart of about  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch. This dart will merge with the usual waist dart rather than end at the bust apex. This is because the back is relatively flat and we do not want to create a cup. Another way of explaining this is that we increase the length of our waist dart to reach where the neckline is, and instead of tapering it to zero, we taper it to about  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch.



We then cut out the dart so we can have 2 pattern pieces for the back as well. See pictures below

