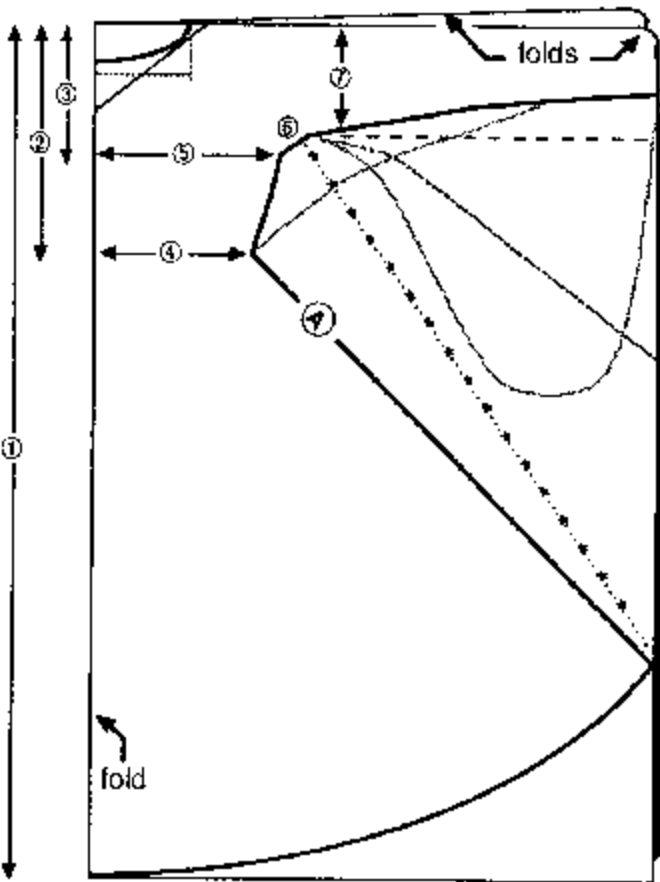


PATTERN



All Purpose T-tunic

This diagram gives a simple and reasonably authentic pattern for a variety of clothing.

By adjusting the angles of the side seams and sleeves and adding gores of various sizes to the sides or back, you can approximate anything from a Roman tunic to a Burgundian houppelande. If this will be your first piece of "garb", consider a washable fabric in cotton or a cotton and polyester blend, or a wool and polyester blend. Although an all- polyester fabric is easy to care for, it may look too "modern". The color can range from earth tones to vivid, bright colors, but be careful to avoid the "shrieking", fluorescent, modern hues. Use 60" wide (150cm) fabric, or sew two widths of 45" or 36" together. (If you have to piece it, it is no more work to use a different color for each piece!) Fold the fabric in quarters, with one set of folds at the top and one fold running the long way down the middle of what will become the front (see diagram). Take the listed measurements on the flip side of this sheet.

The dotted lines suggest neck and sleeve lines. Pick whichever seems closest to the period you

are trying for. Cut out the tunic. When cutting out the neck opening, it is best to underestimate your head size and cut too small at first. Enlarge the opening little by little until it is the size you want. Remember that a little cutting can make a big difference.

With the right sides (the outside of the fabric) together, sew up the side seams. Put commercial bias tape around the neck opening so the fabric does not unravel when you put it on and take it off. Hem the bottom. Put on any trim that you want. Wear it over a turtleneck, pants and boots, or over a lighter-weight version of the same tunic with narrower sleeves.

For most periods, the more cloth you use, the more upper-class the effect. Also, very long floor-length skirts are easier to wear when very full. Add gores at seam "A" and perhaps also at center back. The closer you come to a full circle, the better. At that point, you can walk in a skirt four to five inches longer than your neck-to-floor measurement without picking up your skirt.

For men, the length can be anywhere from hip to ankle, depending on the period. The dotted line with start could be a side seam for men, and also for very early women's dress.

Measurements for _____

1. Female neck to floor / Male neck to lower mid-calf: _____ + 2" hem = _____
 2. Neck to waist: _____
 3. Neck to widest part of chest: _____
 4. Waist: _____ $\div 4 =$ _____ + 1½" = _____
 5. Chest: _____ $\div 4 =$ _____ + 1½" = _____
 6. Armpit gusset = 2"
 7. Width of upper arm of your most comfortable shirt sleeve: _____ + ½" = _____
 8. Wrist to wrist when arms are out straight from shoulders: _____ $\div 2 =$ _____ + 1" hem = _____
 9. Smallest circle thru which hand will easily slide: _____ + ½" = _____
 10. Smallest circle thru which head will easily slide: _____
-

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9. Smallest circle thru which hand will easily slide: _____ + ½" = _____
10. Smallest circle thru which head will easily slide: _____

If you would like further information about making a T-tunic or other historic costumes or if you would like a place to wear your new T-tunic, please contact the Arts and Science Mistress Tirza bithe Reaboughes through the Shire of Blak Rose website at www.blakrose.eastkingdom.org. The Shire of Blak Rose is a local branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (sca.org), a non-profit educational organization dedicated to researching and recreating the customs and the arts of the Middle Ages.