

LINING A SUIT OR COAT

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A properly constructed lining adds a decorative touch—and gives the impression of distinctive tailoring—which makes your suit or coat something more than “home-made.”

There is more than one method of putting a lining in a coat or jacket. The following method is one that is easily used.

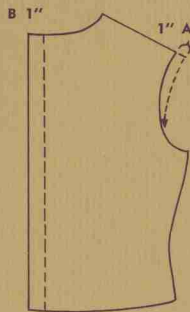


Figure 1

Step I. Cut Out Lining

A. The guide sheet tells whether to use the original garment pattern or a separate pattern for the lining. Usually a separate pattern is included for the lining if the garment is constructed from many pieces.

B. If alterations were made in cutting the jacket, be sure to transfer these changes to the lining pattern.

C. Cutting lining pieces:

Sleeves—Cut the same length as the original sleeves.

Fronts—Cut by the lining pattern except at armhole. For extra ease, cut armhole 1" wider at the shoulder, tapering this extra allowance to nothing at the armhole notch. See A on Fig. 1.

Back—Allow 1" extra at the shoulder of the armseye, tapering to the armhole notch as was done in the front.

To allow for ease at center back, slip center back of pattern 1" away from the fabric fold before cutting. This will make a tuck 1" deep from neckline to hemline. See B on Fig. 1.

Cut the remaining lining sections exactly as indicated on the pattern guide sheet.

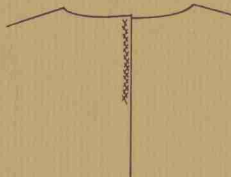


Figure 2

Step II. Assemble The Lining

A. Stay-stitch lining pieces for ease of handling.

B. Baste in the 1" fold or pleat at center back. Turn outside edge toward the left side of the garment. Catch-stitch the top of this fold at center back 2" down from raw neck edge. Small even stitches look more professional. Fig. 2.



Figure 3



Figure 4

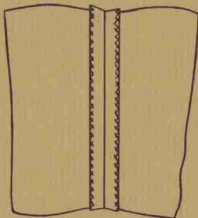


Figure 5

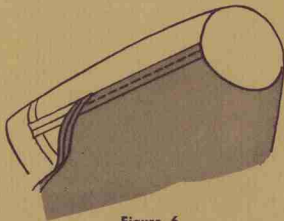


Figure 6

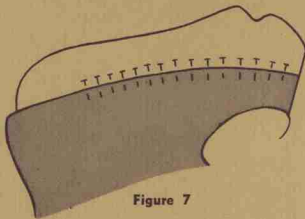


Figure 7

C. Catch-stitch (as in Fig. 3) the large shoulder darts down 2" from the raw edge—through all three thicknesses. Large darts at the waistline are usually catch-stitched crosswise at the natural waistline, leaving the top and bottom free. Fig. 4.

D. Machine-stitch sleeve darts, underarm bodice darts and shoulder darts that are 1/4" deep. Press.

E. Lengthwise seams of coat body and sleeves are machine-stitched together and pressed open. Do not machine-stitch shoulder seams together or sew sleeve lining to body lining.

F. Most lining fabrics ravel due to wear and friction of lining against body of wool jacket. For this reason lining seams should be finished by hand over-casting or a zig-zag stitch. Do this after seams are stitched and pressed open. Do not zig-zag by machine along front edge, neckline, or armhole because this tends to shorten these edges. Loosely over-casting these edges by hand will prevent raveling. Fig. 5.

Step III. Hand Stitch Lining Into The Coat

A. Turn garment wrong side out and place flat on the table, wrong side up.

B. Match underarm seams of the lining to corresponding garment seams. Fasten the seam allowances together with a small running stitch, leaving 2 to 3 inches free at the armhole and bottom edge. Fig. 6.

C. Turn under lining edge 5/8" and fasten to right front edge. Lay and pin lining over jacket front facing and slipstitch with 5/8" seam allowance. Leave lining free 2" above hem edge. Fig. 7.

Attach left front lining same as above.

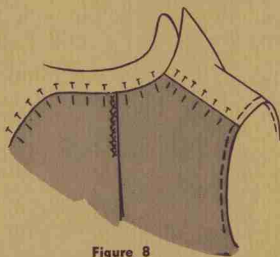


Figure 8

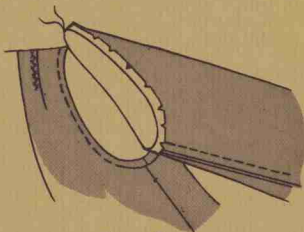


Figure 9

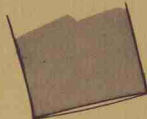


Figure 10a



Figure 10b



Figure 11

- D. Pin raw shoulder edge of lining front to raw edge of back of jacket shoulder seam. Fig. 8. Fasten lining to body with a small running stitch.

Turn back shoulder and neckline seam under $\frac{5}{8}$ "—baste to jacket. Finish this seam with a slipstitch (use a buttonhole twist or heavy duty thread).

- E. Smooth lining across shoulder towards armseye. The edge of the lining may extend beyond the body armseye seam, because of the extra allowance on the lining. Use a small running stitch to fasten lining to seam around armseye. Trim away excess lining which extends beyond the seam.

- F. Turn sleeve and jacket lining wrong side out to attach lining in sleeves. The lining seam allowances are joined to the lengthwise seams of the wool the same as the seams of the jacket and lining. (Fig. 9) If the sleeve has two lengthwise seams, attach one or both to garment body.

To finish lower edge of sleeve lining, follow these steps:

- 1.) Turn sleeve and lining right side out. Fig. 10a.
- 2.) Turn lower edge of sleeve lining up to edge of the sleeve hem. Press. Trim excess lining to $\frac{1}{2}$ " hem. Fig. 10b.
- 3.) Slip lining up to 1" from sleeve edge. Pin and baste.
- 4.) Slipstitch lining to body hem and press lining downward. This leaves a "take-up tuck." Fig. 10b.

In this method of putting in a lining, you can put in sleeve lining before or after lining is put in the body of the jacket or coat.

For ease in fitting sleeves into armseye an ease thread is basted around the sleeve cap as seen in the drawing. This ease thread is drawn up to fit the sleeve cap of the lining. Baste $\frac{5}{8}$ " seam allowance under on the sleeve cap and clip seam allowance in curved areas. Fig. 11.

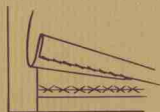


Figure 12

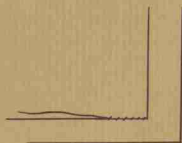


Figure 13

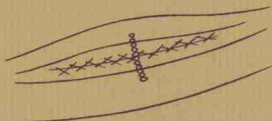


Figure 14

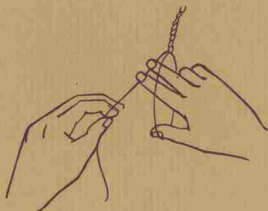


Figure 15

G. The style of the jacket or coat determines the method used for putting in the hem of the finished garment.

Usually, in a fitted jacket, you should follow this procedure:

- 1.) Hem the wool as shown in Fig. 12.
- 2.) Turn lower edge of jacket lining up to the edge of the finished jacket hem. Press. Trim excess lining to $\frac{1}{8}$ " hem. Slip lining up to 1" from finished jacket edge. Pin and baste.
- 3.) Begin slipstitching hem on front edge where you stopped stitching earlier 2" above hemline (step III C, Fig. 7).
- 4.) Smooth take-up tuck downward to form a small neat tuck which comes to bottom edge of lining.
- 5.) Take 3 or 4 slipstitches, catching both the take-up tuck and the lining edge then fasten thread securely. Fig. 13.

Some boxy jackets and most coats require the lining to be hemmed separately. (Sometimes referred to as a "floating" lining.) Hem the lining approximately the same depth—but $\frac{3}{4}$ " to 1" shorter than the finished garment. Figs. 12, 14.

H. Where the lining is hemmed separately, swing tacks, or French tacks, are attached at the inside seams of the lining hem and garment hem. Fig. 14. These are used to keep the lining in place. They are usually made with a hand-crocheted chain. Fig. 15.



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