

Course – PGDFD, Dept. of Fashion Designing

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Paper Code - PGDFD 209

Paper name - Drafting and garment construction

Topic - Fitting problems and solutions of Top dresses

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Fitting problems and solutions of Top Dresses

Before starting to stitch a dress, it is very important to know the basic knowledge of dress foundation. Fashion always change, but the principles of garment making remain the same. A good fitting depends on some accuracy which is followed during pattern cutting and stitching.

Fitting problems and solutions of Top Dresses

To work properly, the patternmaker must have the proper tools and supplies. A well fitted dress made up of five distinct important points.

- How to measure
- Follow the drafting instructions
- Right knowledge of body figure anatomy
- To know facts about fabrics
- Right use of dart, pleats, facings, piping, gusset, tucks, frills, slit, placket, trimmings and fastenings

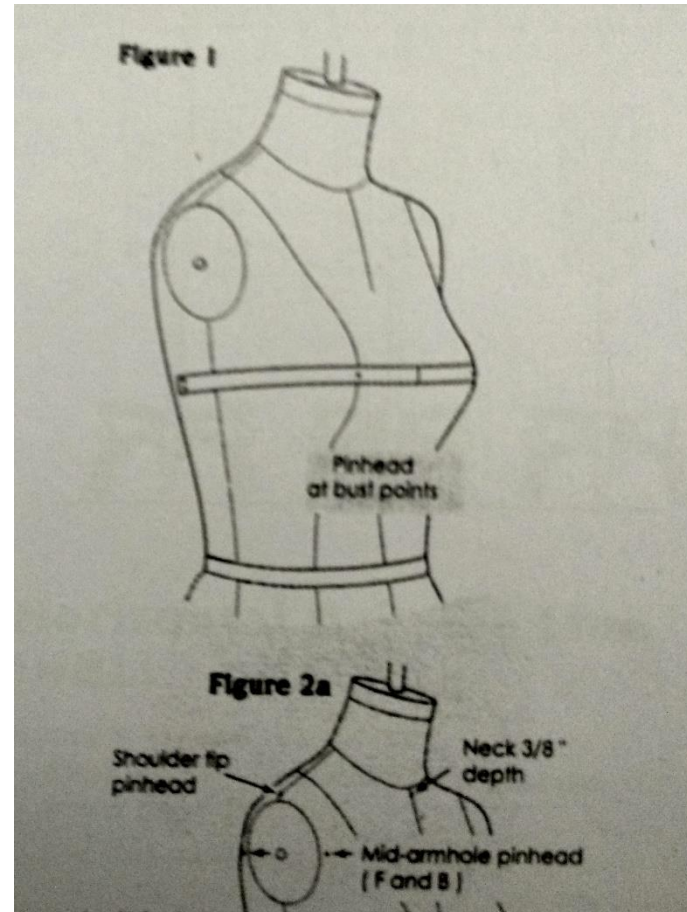
Fitting the bodice

First of all sew the bodice with tacking and place on the body form. If the fitting problems are due to incorrect measurements, redraft the patterns rather than adjusting the same. A well - fitted bodice aligns with the centre of the body form after holding pins have been removed. The garment should not have stress lines[lack of ease] or gaping around the armhole. The neckline would have at least 1/8 inches ease around the front and back necklines.

Perfect Alignment means

The bodice fits well when the centre front and back align with the centre of the body form after the holding pins are removed.

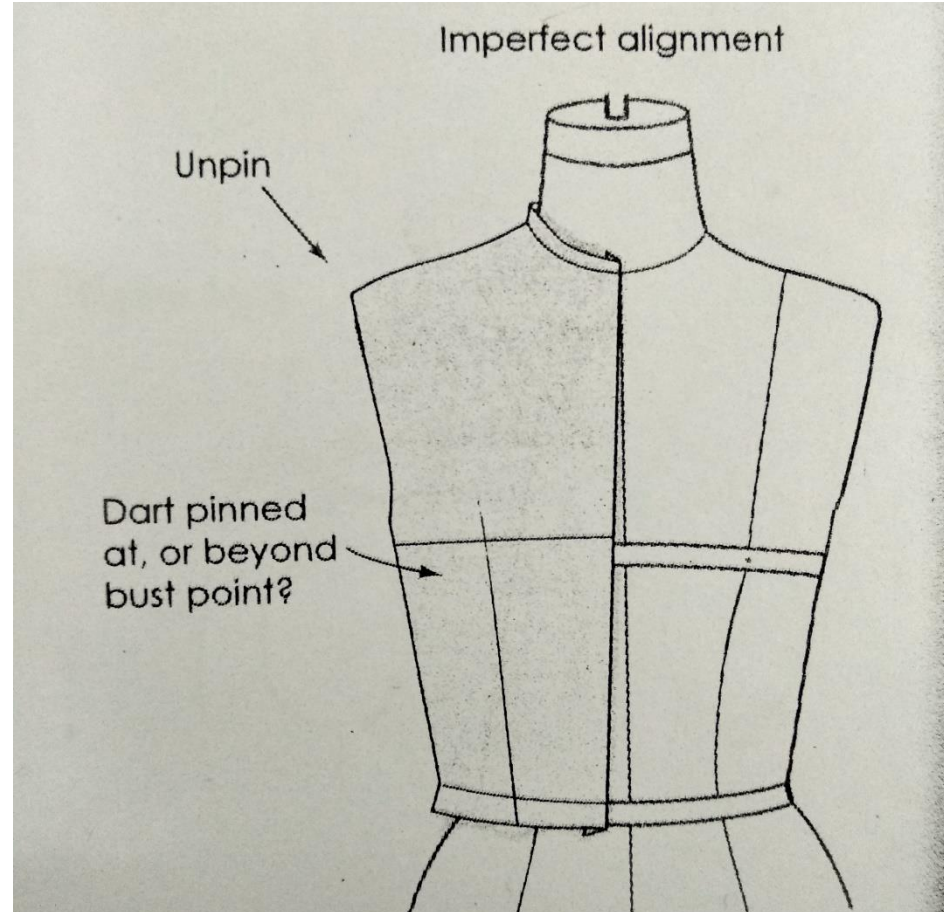
Fitting the Bodice



Imperfect Alignment

- Front or back bodice overlaps center line of the body form.
- Possible solutions—
- Raise shoulder tip, lower dart point, check waistline measurements and adjust side waist, if required.
- Sometimes shoulder droop. This is a very common type of problem.
- Solutions: Shoulder line and neckline width should be shortened. Especially in case of broad and deep neckline design. Measurement of front and back across of bodice should be kept with accuracy.

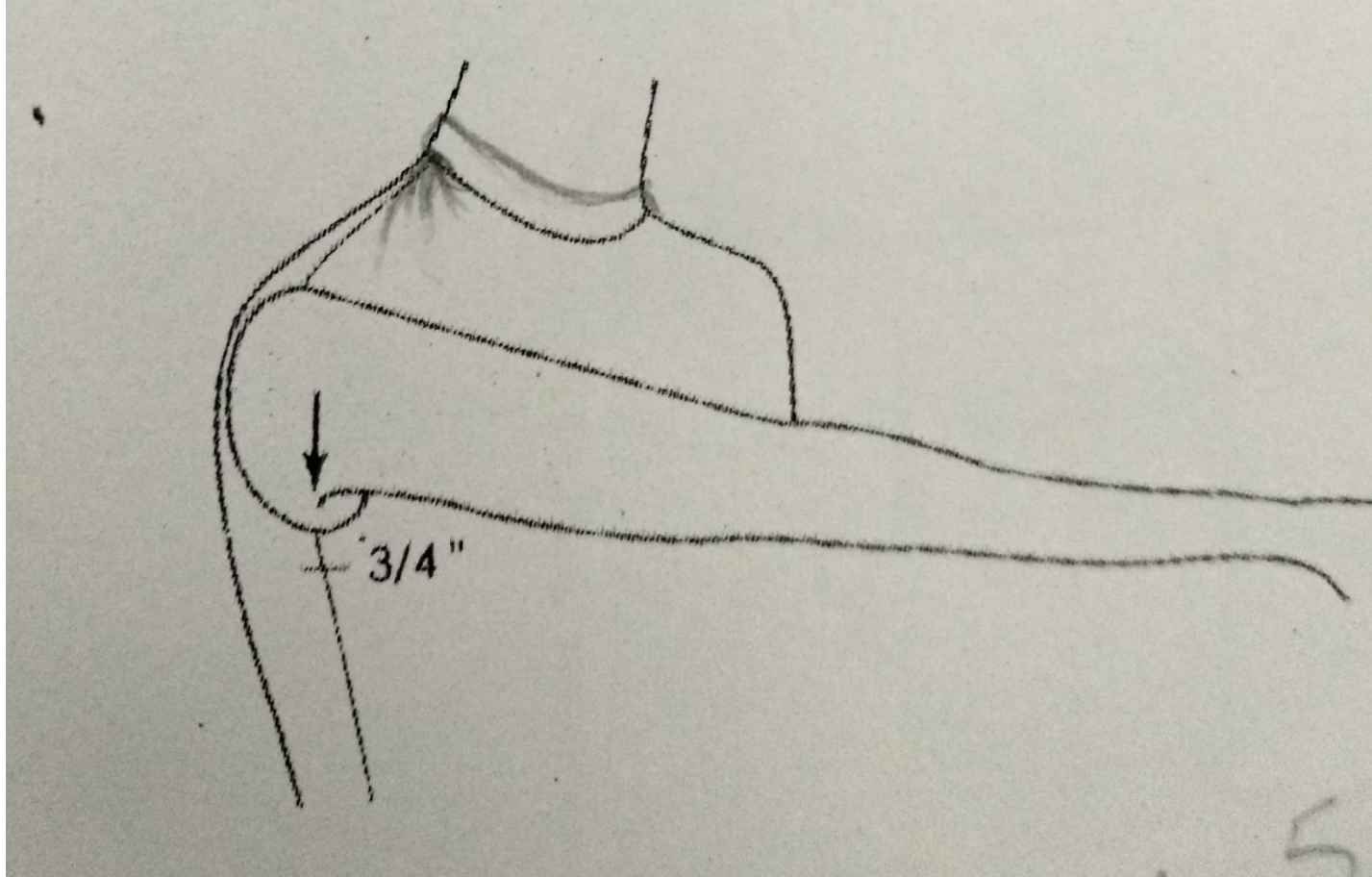
Imperfect Alignment



Stretched Shoulder

- Usually this problem is created in the case of high neck or jewel neck designs.
- Suggestions: Check the measurement of the shoulder and armhole again. Also shoulder line should be taken a little more than the actual size. Neckline might be too tight. Cut it slightly and keep loose.

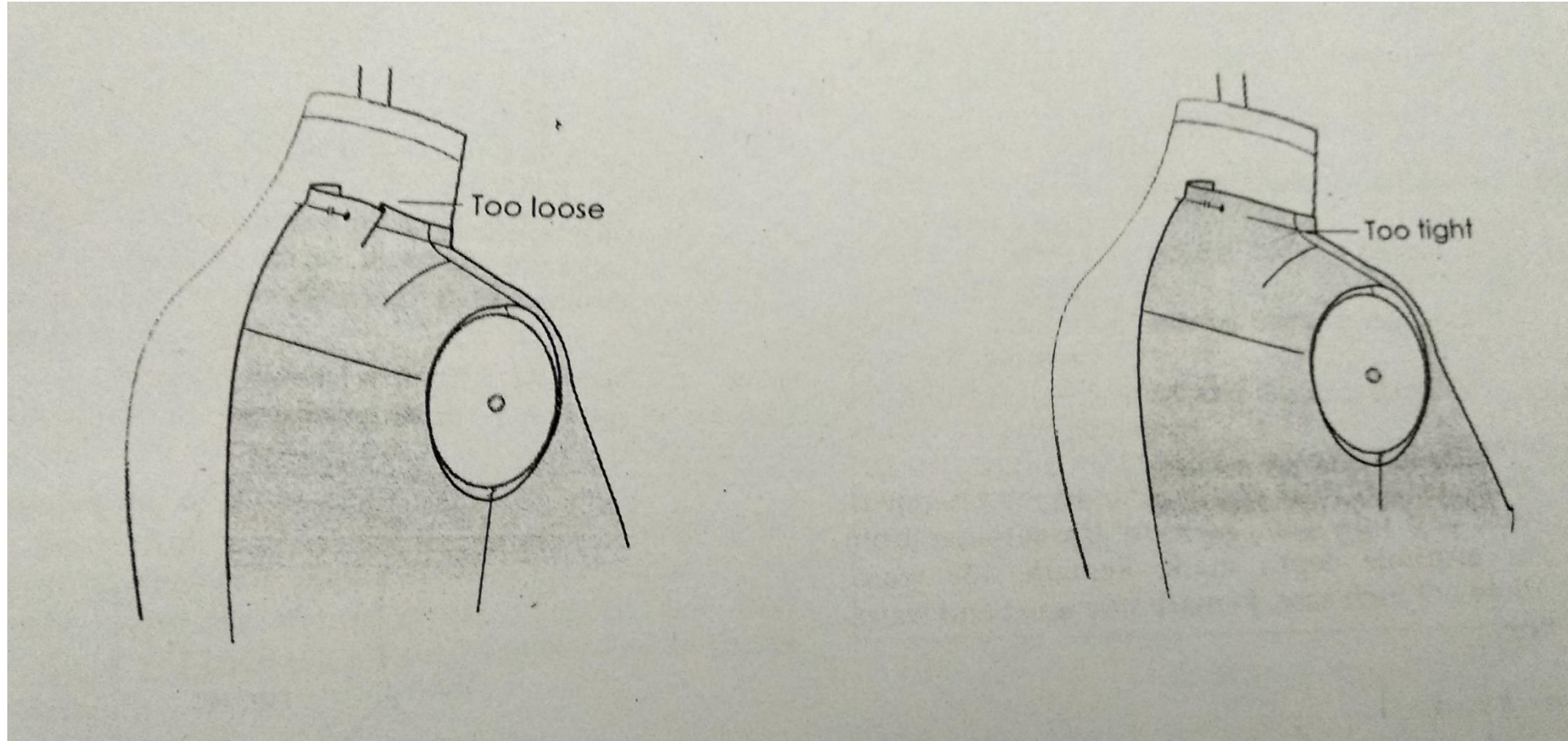
Stretched Shoulder



Fitting the neckline

- If the front or back neckline is too loose , open the shoulder and smoothen the fabric to fit. Mark the fabric and adjust the length of the shoulder.
- If stress appears at the shoulder / neck, open the shoulder. Fit the fabric to the neckline. Mark the neckline and adjust the shoulder length if necessary.

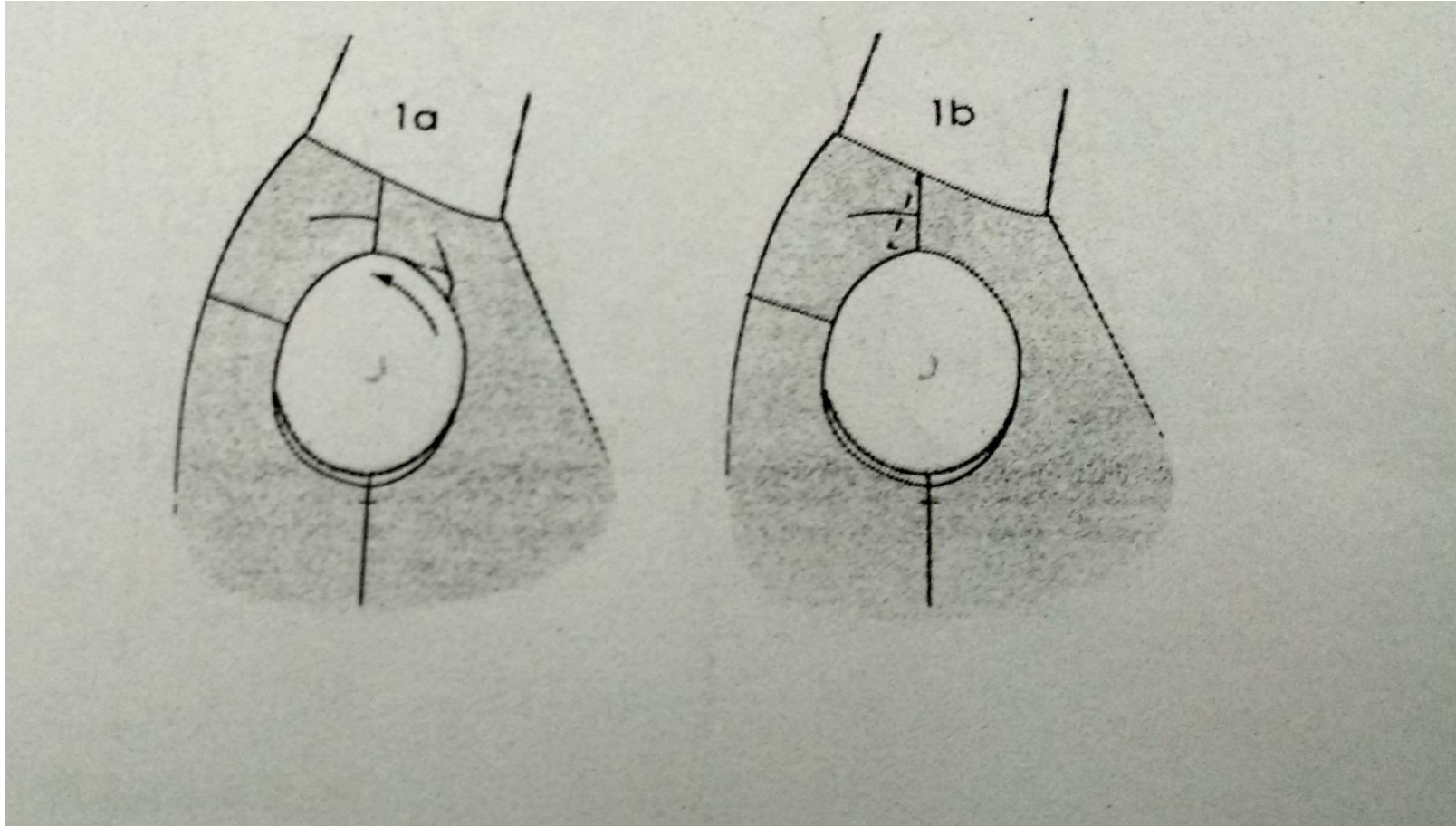
Fitting the neckline



Fitting the Armhole

- A well balanced sleeve depends on the accurate shape of the armhole and the correct placement of the shoulder and side seems of the body form.
- A well shaped armhole fits smoothly over the shoulder and falls away evenly from the lower part of the armhole and the side seem is aligned with that of the body form.
- If the problem of the armhole is identified, follow the suggested adjustments and make corrections to the pattern.
- In front portion release shoulder seam and smooth excess over the shoulder.

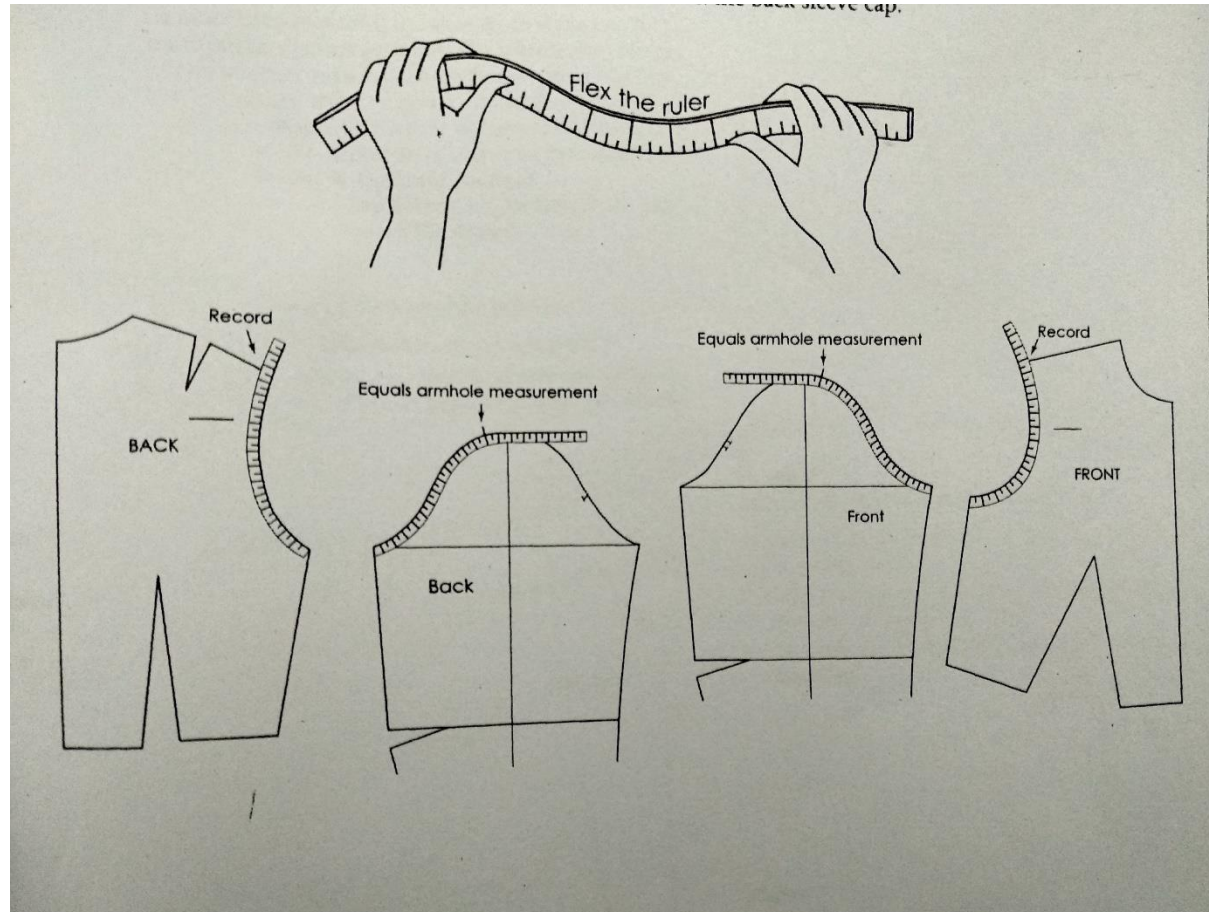
Fitting the Armhole



Adjusting Sleeve to Armhole of Bodice

- This is the most important area of garment where pattern cutter needs to be attentive. Generally, either the armhole or biceps of the sleeve differs from each other.
- The basic sleeve should measure approximately 2” more across the biceps of the pattern than the circumference of the arm. The basic sleeve cap should measure an average of 1.25” to 1.5” more than front and back bodice armhole.
- Incorrect placement of the shoulder or side seams of the body form will affect the alignment of the sleeve.

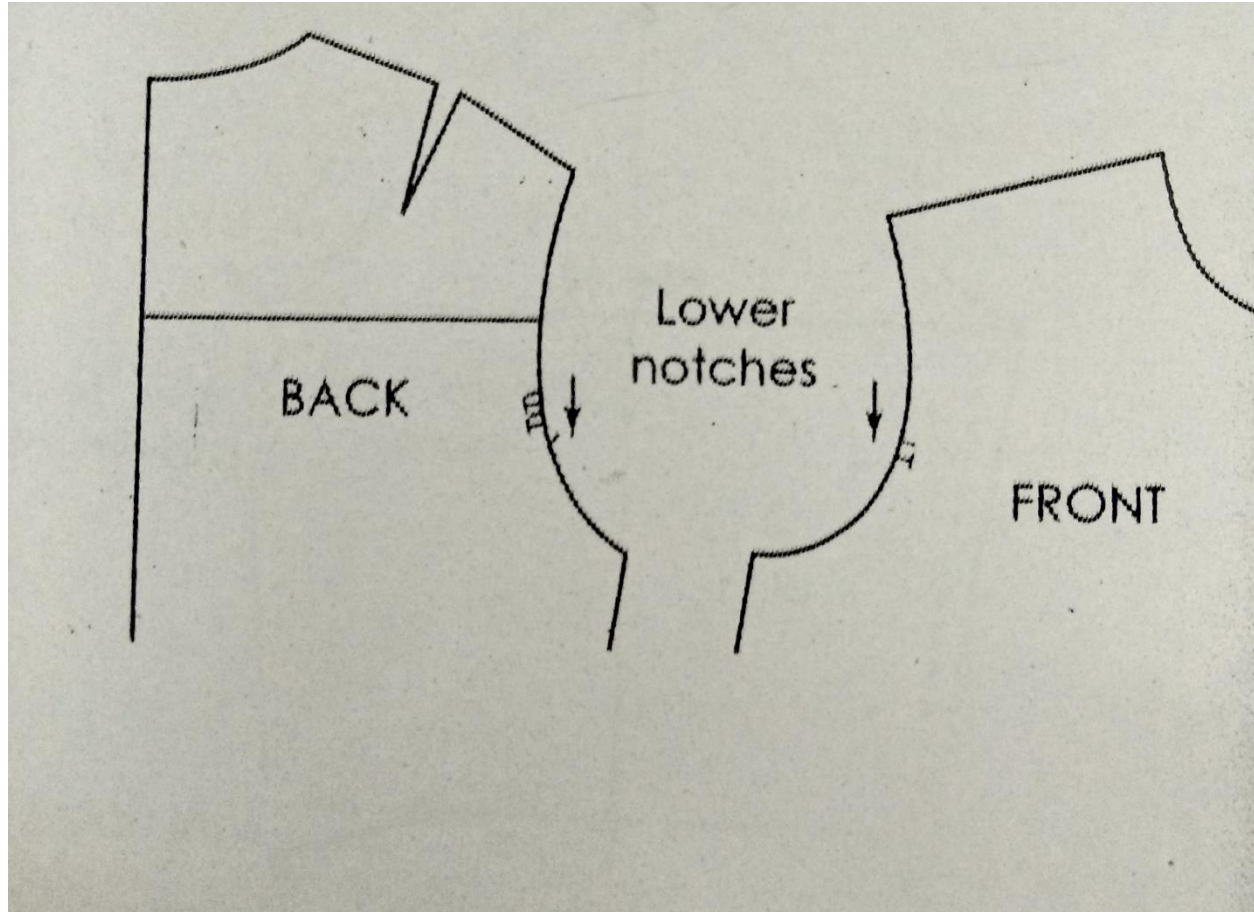
Adjusting Sleeve to Armhole of Bodice



Adjusting the armhole to accommodate cap ease

- Even though the cap is the correct amount or a little more than required, ease around the cap may show puckers[small gathers]. To control the excess of fabric, cut notches in the lower part of armhole.
- Always measure the curve of the armhole and sleeve cap using a very flexible plastic ruler or thick thread. Use both hands to hold the soft ruler on the curve of armhole and sleeve cap.
- Manipulate the measurement around the sleeve cap and mark it. Repeat the process for back and front.

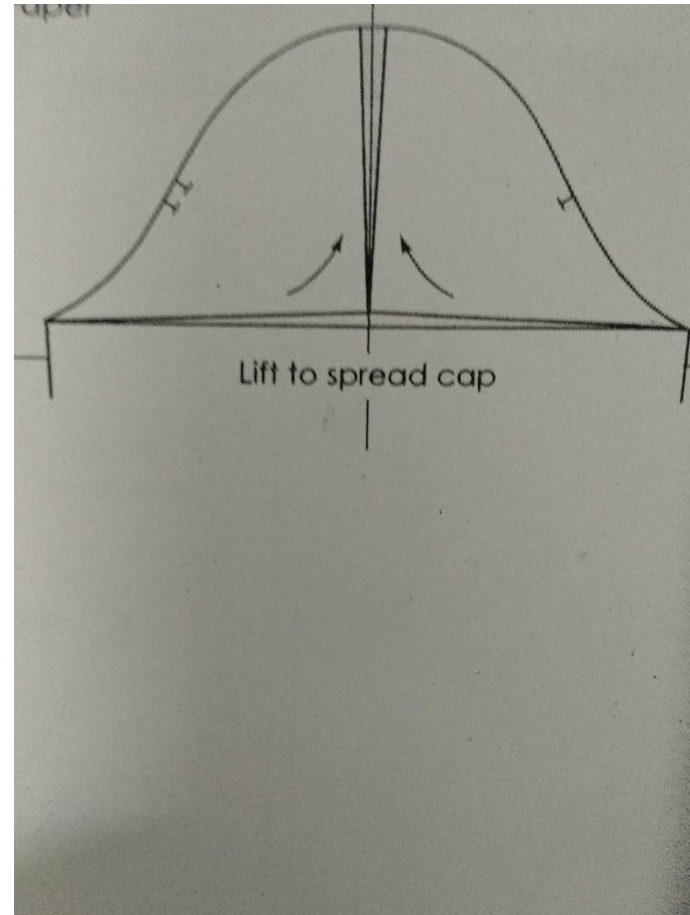
Adjusting the armhole to accommodate cap ease



Increase or decrease cap height

- Puckering around the cap that appears like a puff sleeve, decrease the cap height.
- It is advisable to correct these problems before attaching all parts of the pattern of the garment in order to minimize fitting problems later. Any design can be achieved exactly to follow these rules.

Increase or decrease of cap height



THANK YOU