

1969

## EC69-454 Lining a Jacket or Coat

Jane Spence

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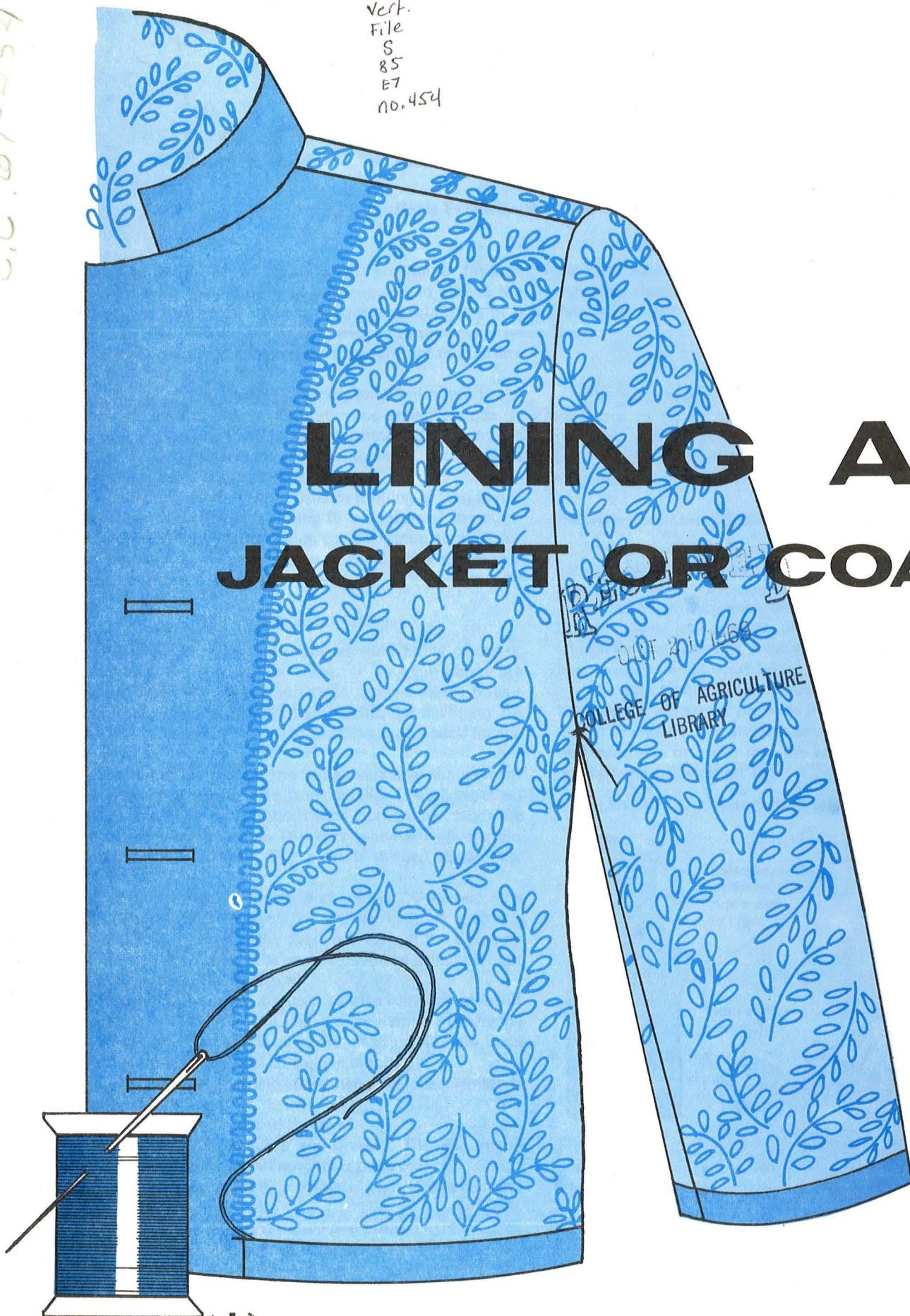
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# LINING A JACKET OR COAT



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE, UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS,  
AND U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COOPERATING. E. F. FROLIK, DEAN; J. L. ADAMS, DIRECTOR



# LINING A JACKET OR COAT

By Jane Speece  
Home Extension Specialist (Clothing)

The purpose of a lining is to provide a finished appearance for the inside of a garment and to add to the comfort of the wearer. The necessary characteristics of a lining are that it be pliable, smooth enough to slide easily on and off the body and light enough in weight not to interfere with the hang of the garment.

Imagination and creativity are the only limitations in the choice of a lining fabric. Custom-made ensembles can be created by choosing a suit lining also suitable for a matching blouse. The couturier look can be achieved with a dress made of the same fabric as a coat lining.

Almost any fabric can be used as a lining as long as it is compatible in weight and feeling to the fabric of the outer garment. The only caution when using an unusual fabric for an ensemble is to line the sleeves of the coat or suit with a smooth fabric of corresponding color.

## Basic Points About Linings

Ordinarily a pattern includes separate lining pieces or instructions for cutting the lining. If no instructions are included, the back, sleeve and front pattern pieces (minus lapels, collars and facing areas) are used to cut the lining. An extra one inch needs to be allowed at the center back for the ease pleat.

The lining is made in the same manner as the garment with small differences: The front shoulder dart is stitched only to the small dot or about four inches down from the edge of the shoulder seam. This dart becomes a pleat and is not trimmed or slashed. The pleat is pressed toward the armhole.

The back pleat is basted and pressed. Generally, the pleat opens to the left side of the garment. If a vent is included in the pattern, the pleat will turn in the direction that the vent is pressed. The edge of the pleat usually falls at the center back of the garment.

Three main methods are used to insert a lining in a suit or coat: (1) hand insertion, (2) a combination of machine and hand insertion and (3) machine insertion. Certain basic procedures are followed in all three methods.

Lining pieces are cut and stay-stitched before assembly is begun.

All darts are stitched and pressed.

Sleeve seams are stitched and pressed. The ease thread over the sleeve cap between notches is put in.

The center back seam, if there is one, is stitched and pressed.

The center back pleat is basted and pressed.

Seams of the lining are not finished.

Occasionally, a lining will seem too tight for the garment. This tautness may be due to a heavy fabric being used for the garment or to slight stitching inaccuracies. The side seams of the lining may be decreased to add width or

the back ease pleat may be tapered slightly to rectify this tightness. Remember to make corresponding alterations in the lining if alterations have been made in the suit jacket or coat.

## Lining by Hand

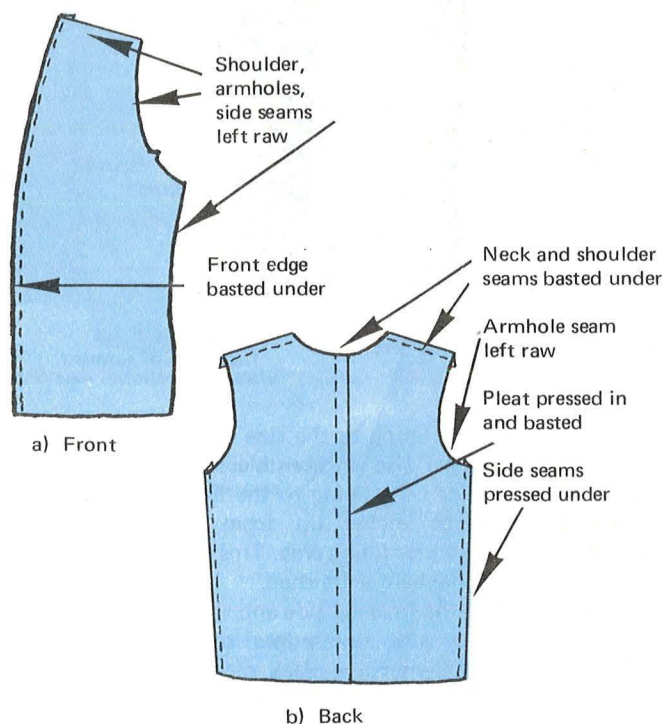
The hand method of lining a suit or coat is sometimes necessary to fit an intricately designed garment, to fit a radically altered garment or to handle a heavy lining. Couturiers use this method as does the woman who enjoys hand work.

## Preparation of Lining Sections

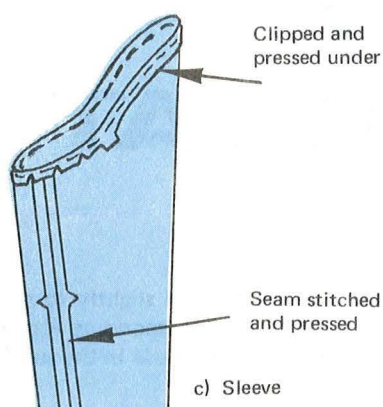
The edge of the front section which attaches to the garment facing is turned under at the seam allowance and pressed or basted. Accuracy may be increased by stitching along the seam allowance before turning back the fabric. Curved areas are clipped or notched inside the seam allowance for ease. The shoulder, armhole, side seams and hem are left raw (Illustration 1a).

The side seams, shoulder seams and neck edges of the back section are turned under at the seam allowance line and basted or pressed. The armhole seam and hem are left raw. If necessary, clip or notch into the seam allowance for ease at curved areas (Illustration 1b).

ILLUSTRATION 1 (PREPARING HAND INSERTED LINING)







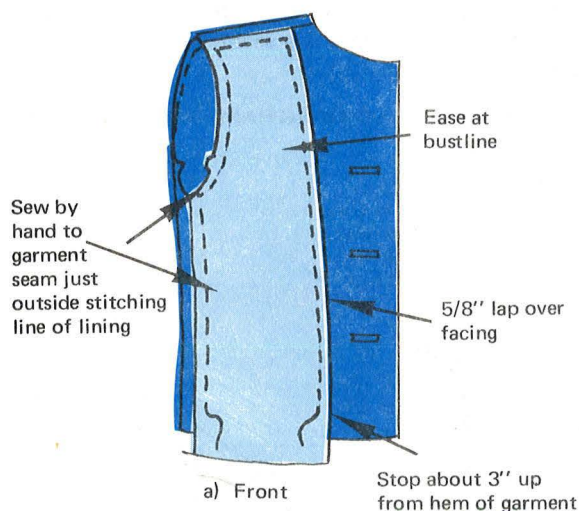
The curved edge of the sleeve is turned back at the 5/8" seam allowance and basted or pressed under. Curved edges are clipped or notched for ease (Illustration 1c).

### Insertion of the Lining

Turn the garment wrong side out and put it on a padded hanger or a dress form. Check to be sure that the front facing of the garment has been catch-stitched to the interfacing and that the garment hem is finished before proceeding.

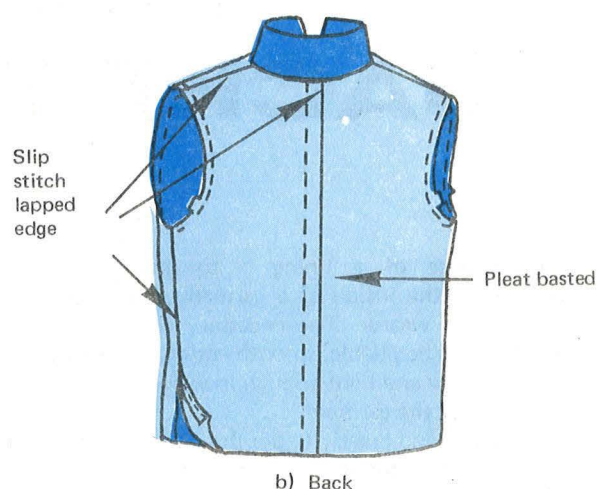
**Lining Front.** Place the lining front over the garment, wrong sides together (Illustration 2a). Beginning at the bustline, pin the lining front in place over the seam allowance of the front facing. Slight ease may be required at the bustline area. Pin the lining to the side and shoulder seams. Baste in place if necessary and try on the garment to test for fit.

ILLUSTRATION 2 (INSERTING LINING SECTIONS BY HAND)



Hand stitch the lining to the side seams, shoulder seams and armhole seams. Use an invisible slip-stitch or a small whip stitch to fasten the lining to the front garment facing. Leave about three inches up from the garment hem unstitched at the lower lining area. This area will be finished at the same time the hem is finished.

**Lining Back.** Lap the finished side and shoulder seams of the back lining over the raw edges of the lining front (Illustration 2b). Center the back pleat and pin the neck position into place over the back facing. Baste if necessary and try on the garment to test for fit.

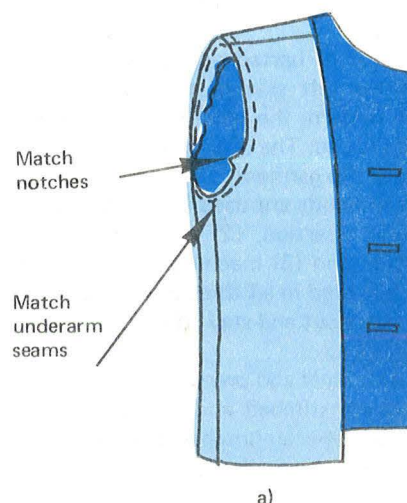


Permanently fasten the back lining into place using an invisible slip-stitch or a small hemming stitch at the side seams, shoulder seams and the back facing area. Leave about three inches unstitched at the lower edge of the lining. Hand stitch the raw armhole edge of the lining to the armhole edge of the garment in the same manner as the front lining section. Trim the armhole seam to 3/8 inch and notch or clip the lower curved portion between the notches.

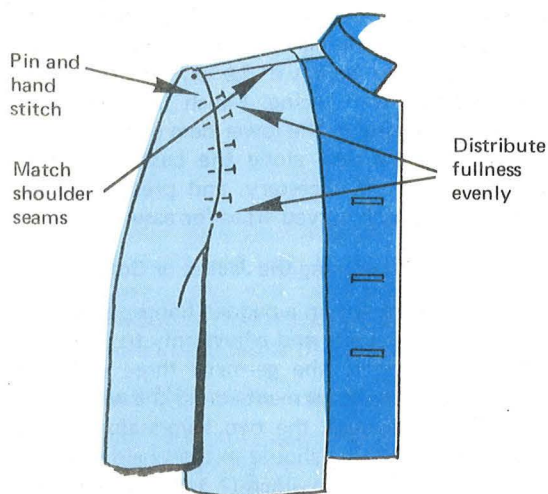
**Lining Sleeve.** Turn garment sleeve inside the garment (Illustration 3a). Slip in the sleeve lining so the wrong sides of the garment and lining are together. Match notches and underarm seams of the lining and the garment sleeve. Lap the lining sleeve edge 3/8 inch over the raw edge of the garment armhole between the notches of the underarm area.

Permanently fasten the lower portion of the sleeve lining between the notches with a whip stitch or a small hemming stitch. A slip stitch sometimes is not strong enough to hold this area.

ILLUSTRATION 3 (SLEEVE INSTALLATION BY HAND)



Pull the sleeve outside the garment (Illustration 3b). Match the shoulder seams of the garment sleeve with the center sleeve cap marking of the lining sleeve. Distribute evenly the gathered fullness of the lining sleeve between the notches and the sleeve cap.



Lap the upper portion of the lining sleeve  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch over the raw edge of the upper armhole. Pin or baste it into place. Finish the upper sleeve area with the same hand stitch used in the lower portion. If shoulder pads have been installed, catch the lining only to the armhole lining at the transition area, so tautness will not show on the right side of the garment.

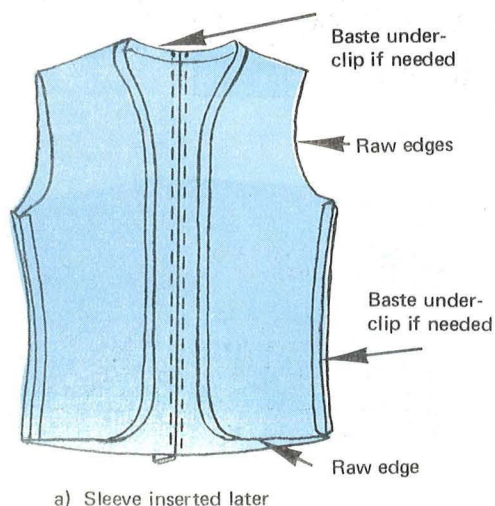
#### Combination Machine and Hand Insertion

The combination method is more generally used by manufacturers and home sewers than is the completely hand inserted lining. In this method the body of the lining is assembled by machine and then inserted by hand. The sleeves can be joined with the main lining sections or can be put in separately by hand.

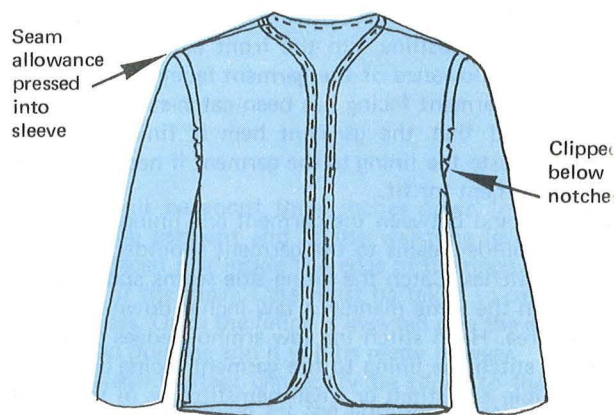
#### Preparation of the Lining

The back and front sections of the lining are assembled and seams are pressed (Illustration 4a). The back pleat is basted and pressed. The lining edge which will join the garment facing is pressed or basted under at the seam allowance. If necessary, clip or notch the seam allowance for ease over curved areas.

ILLUSTRATION 4 (PREPARING SECTIONS FOR COMBINATION METHOD)



a) Sleeve inserted later



b) Sleeve stitched to body of garment

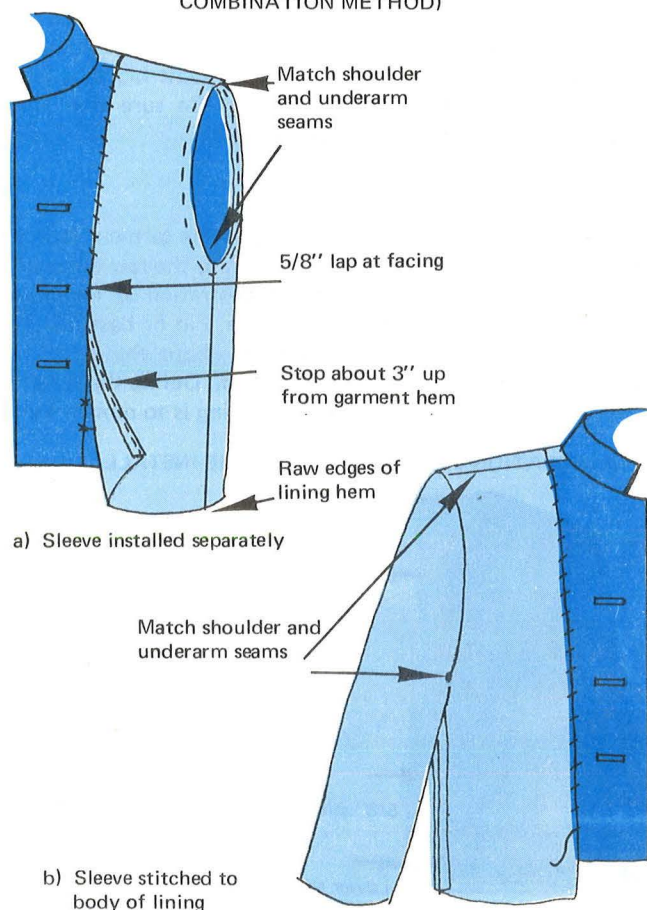
If the sleeve is to be inserted by hand, preparation is the same as that used in the hand method (Illustration 1c).

If the sleeve is to be stitched to the body of the lining, usual procedures for joining a sleeve to a garment are followed. Sleeve seams are then trimmed to  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch and clipped or notched for ease at the lower underarm area. Press the seam out into the sleeve (Illustration 4b).

#### Insertion of the Lining

Turn the garment wrong side out and put it on a padded hanger or dress form. Place the lining over the garment, wrong sides together (Illustration 5).

ILLUSTRATION 5 (INSERTION OF THE LINING BY COMBINATION METHOD)



a) Sleeve installed separately

b) Sleeve stitched to body of lining



Match the shoulder and underarm seams. Position the back lining pleat at the center back of the garment. Beginning at the bustline, pin the front edge of the lining over the seam allowance of the garment facing. Check to be sure that the garment facing has been catch-stitched to the interfacing and that the garment hem is finished before proceeding. Baste the lining to the garment if necessary, and try on the garment for fit.

Slip the hand between the garment and lining and catch the lining shoulder seams to the garment shoulder seams by long hand stitches. Catch the lining side seams and garment side seams in the same manner a few inches down from the underarm area. Hand stitch the raw armhole edges together. Then hand stitch the lining to the garment facing by means of an invisible slip stitch or small hemstitch as in the hand insertion method (Illustration 3). Trim the seam to 3/8 inch. Leave about three inches unstitched at the lower edge of the lining joining the front facing.

If the sleeve has been stitched to the body of the lining, it is slipped over the garment sleeve at the same time the body lining is slipped over the garment. Further treatment, in this case, is the same as the procedure previously described.

#### Insertion by Machine

The insertion of a lining by machine is common in many mass-produced garments. Often, machine installation is more practical for children's garments or sportswear than the touch of fine hand work found in other garments.

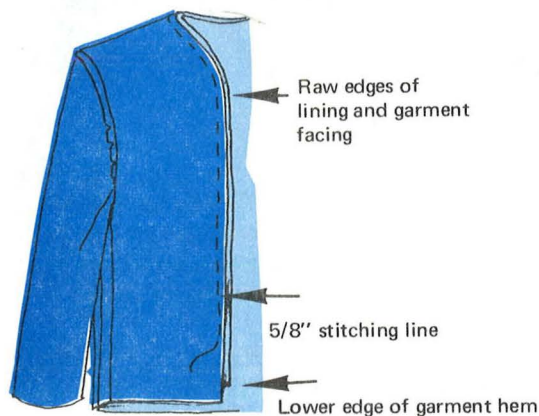
#### Preparing the Lining.

Assemble the front, back and sleeves by machine stitching. Press thoroughly all seams. The lining edges joining the garment facing are left raw. The garment facing is left loose, not fastened to the interfacing. Be sure that the garment hem is finished before proceeding.

#### Inserting the Lining

Place the right sides of the lining and the garment facing together. Pin the raw edges of the lining to the raw edges of the front and back garment facings (Illustration 6). Position at the center back, notches and bustline. Pin or baste along the 5/8 inch seam allowance, stopping about three inches above the lower edge of the garment hem. Define the length of the lining. Baste in the hem. If the lining is to remain free

ILLUSTRATION 6 (COMPLETE MACHINE INSTALLATION)



from the garment, the hem can be hand or machine stitched at this time. If the lining is to be caught to the garment by hand stitches, the hem will be put in after the lining is stitched to the front facing. Finish the pinning or basting line along the facing to the lower hem edge.

Stitch by machine along the basted seam allowance. Grade the seams if necessary, and press them toward the lining. Clip or notch curved areas for ease.

#### Hemming the Jacket or Coat

Place the garment on a padded hanger or dress form. Let the lining fall naturally and adjust only to line up the seams.

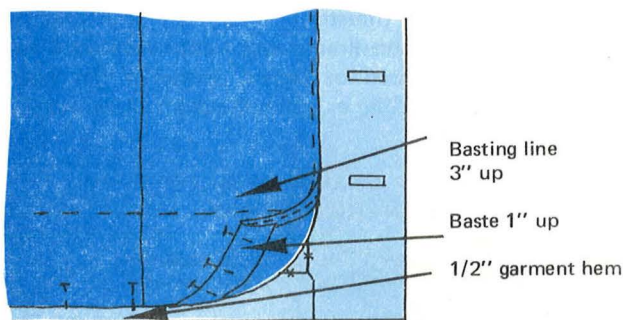
Pin the lining to the garment three inches above the lower hem line of the garment across the width of the jacket or coat. Baste through the two layers along this line. The raw edge of the lining should extend below the lower edge of the garment about one inch (1 1/2 inches for coats). Trim the raw edge of the lining to even it if necessary.

#### Lining Hem Hand Stitched to Garment Hem

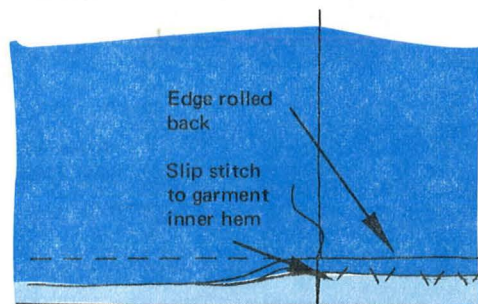
Turn up the lower edge of the lining until one-half inch of the garment hem is exposed. Pin the folded edge of the lining hem in place. The hem can be tapered as it nears the front facing to prevent a small bulge where the lining hem joins the facing area. Measure one inch up from the garment lower hem edge and baste the lining to the garment along this line (Illustration 7a). Roll back the folded edge of the lining and slip stitch or catch stitch the lining layer to the inside layer of the garment hem (Illustration 7b). Finish hand stitching the lining front to the facing.

Press the fold of material down to cover the hand stitched hem edge. This fold then forms an ease pleat along the lower edge of the lining.

ILLUSTRATION 7 (HEM FASTENED TO GARMENT HEM)



a) Measuring hem

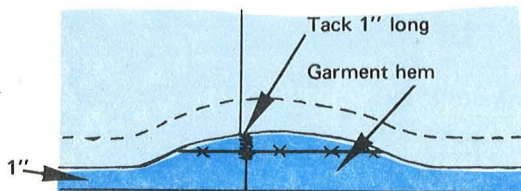


b) Finishing lining hem

### Loose Hems

Coat hems usually have free-hanging linings. The lining hem usually ends about one inch above the lower edge of the coat. The lining hem can be finished by hand or machine. French tacks or chain tacks are used to anchor the lining to the garment at the seams (Illustration 8).

ILLUSTRATION 8 (LOOSE HEM)



### Final Touches

After the lining is installed a bar tack or a catch stitch is used to hold the back lining pleat (Illustration 9). Points

ILLUSTRATION 9 (FINISHING TOUCHES)



fastened will be about three inches down from the collar seam of the garment and at the waistline level. The tacks may be placed just inside the edge of the pleat or cross over the edge of the pleat. Care must be taken to catch only the lining layers. Once the lining is inserted give the garment one more good pressing and it will be ready to wear.

An elegant effect can easily be added to the front and neck edges of a lining by the addition of self-cording or a decorative braid. This designer touch works best with a solid-colored matching lining in a suit or coat of simple lines (Illustration 10).

ILLUSTRATION 10

