

1972

EC72-428 Lining Skirts and Dresses

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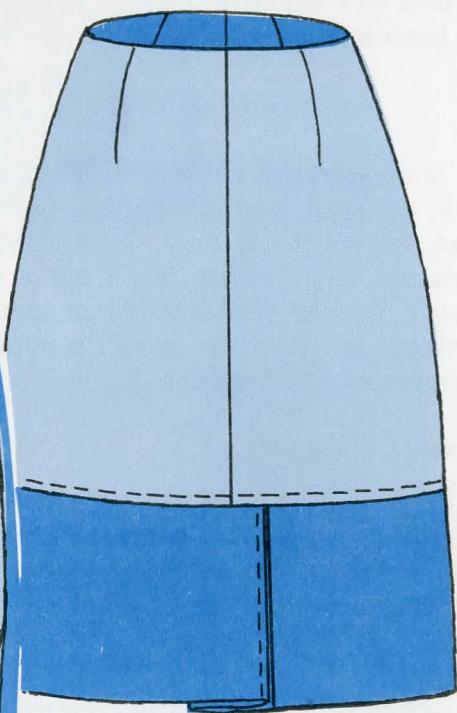
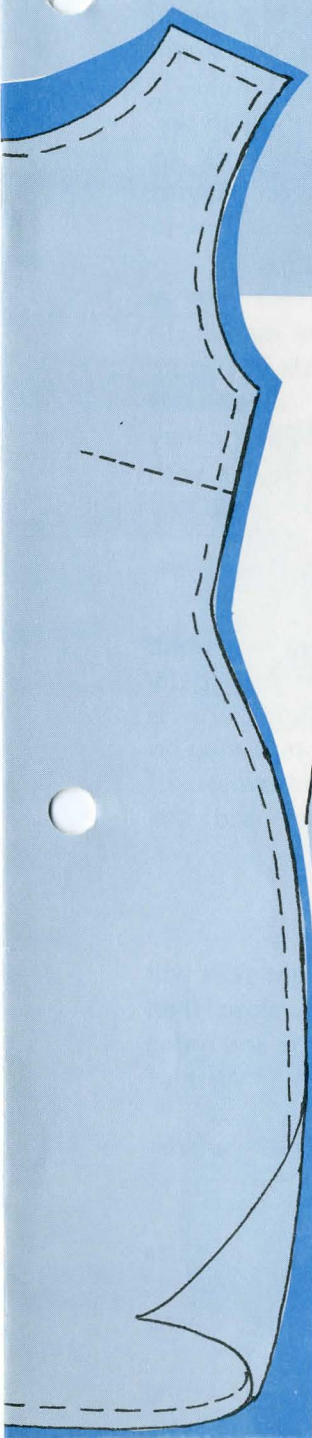
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LINING

Skirts and Dresses



LINING

SKIRTS and DRESSES

Anna Marie Kreifels (Area Extension Agent)
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The purpose of a lining is to provide a finish for the inside of a garment, to add to the comfort of the wearer or to improve the garment's appearance.

The garment fabric determines the need for a lining. Knits and soft, loosely woven, stretchy fabrics often need the support of a firmly woven lining to improve durability and appearance and to help the garment keep its shape.

Lining the back of a straight skirt keeps the skirt from becoming baggy and stretched. Lining the skirt front serves to cushion folds and prevent horizontal wrinkles which result from sitting.

Skirts or dresses made of lightweight fabric or lace need a lining to add extra body and shape. Soft fabrics which drape easily may need a lining to prevent their graceful lines from becoming flattened.

There are persons whose skin is sensitive to certain fibers. A complete lining which covers inside seam construction might solve this problem. This type of lining prevents seam ravelings and lint from collecting on undergarments and improves the general appearance of the dress or skirt.

Some linings are definitely a custom finish—an added bit of luxury—and not an essential finish. If you do your own sewing you can often afford these custom details on a limited clothing budget.

There are several ways to construct lined skirts and dresses, depending on the pattern and fabric being used. For simple designs the garment and lining are cut from the same pattern pieces, keeping the grain lines of both fabrics identical. Some construction seams can be avoided in the lining by cutting center back or center front seams on the fold. Do this only if the seams are straight with the grain, not curved or slanted. A skirt featuring draped lines will sometimes require a lining cut from a basic pattern to control the draping.

Choice of Lining Fabrics

The lining fabric should help retain, never dominate, the character of the outer fabric. Wear and care qualities should be similar and there should be some relationship in costs of the two

fabrics. Usually, the colors of the two fabrics either blend or match. Occasionally, the color of a partial lining is matched with the color of slip which will be worn with the dress or skirt.

The lining fabrics should not show through the outer fabric except in the case of sheers or laces. In these cases the color of the lining may be planned to give a desired color effect to the garment or to accent the design of the outer fabric.

New fabrics, especially designed for use as linings, are constantly appearing on the market. In some cases, they may not be as desirable in texture or wearing quality as fabrics not specifically intended as lining materials. Almost any fabric may be used as a lining as long as it is compatible with the outer fabric.

LINING SKIRTS

Skirts may be either fully lined in front and back, partially lined in front and back or partially lined in the back only. A complete lining is necessary if the outer fabric has a tendency to stretch. Choose that method or combination of methods suitable for your comfort and the appearance of the garment.

Separate Lining

Strain on the outer fabric of a straight skirt will be relieved if the lining is fitted slightly closer than the outer skirt. To do this when the skirt and lining are constructed separately, stitch the side seam of the lining 1/16 to 1/8" wider.

Determine the length and placement of the skirt lining before cutting. Transfer pattern markings to the skirt fabric and to the lining fabric.

Follow the regular procedure for stitching darts and seams of the outer skirt. Insert the zipper.

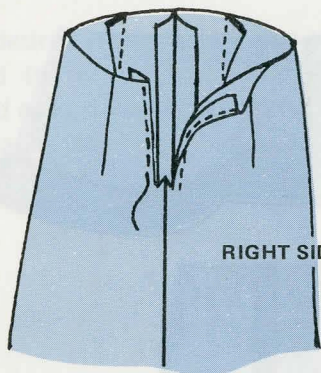
Stitch the darts and seams of the lining, leaving the placket area open.

Place the wrong side of the lining to the wrong side of the skirt, matching seams and darts. Baste these together at the waistline. Turn under the lining seam allowance at the placket area and hand stitch it firmly to the zipper tape. Now attach the waistband.

Fasten the lining side seams to the skirt side seams with a loose hand tack stitch if desired. This will anchor the lining in position. Complete other construction details.

Garment and Lining Treated as a Single Fabric

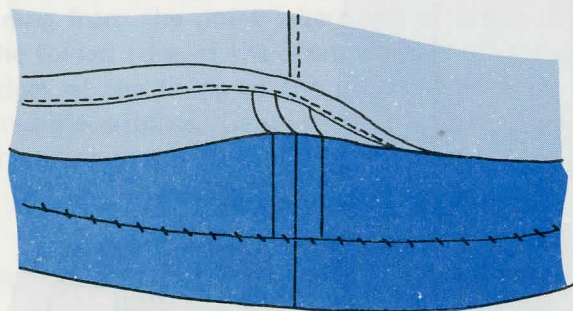
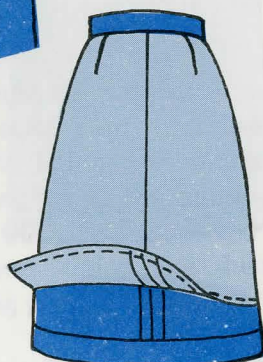
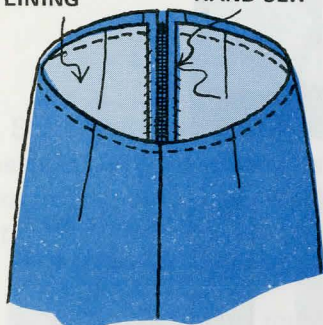
Determine the length of the lining before cutting. The lining is not extended into the hem unless the design indicates a soft, unpressed hem. Transfer pattern markings to the right side of the lining.



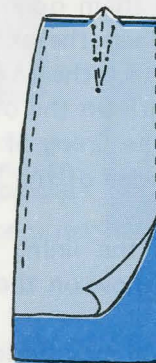
RIGHT SIDE OF LINING

RIGHT SIDE OF LINING

HAND SEW



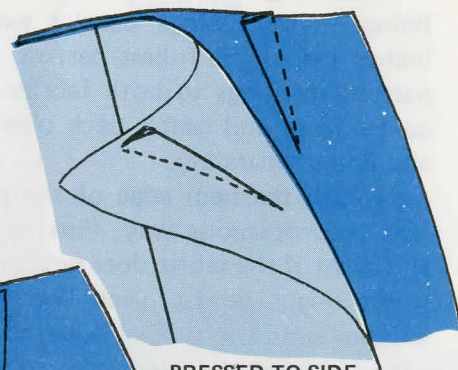
Separate linings are hemmed separately from the skirt. This allows each fabric to drape naturally and to react individually to wear and care. The lining hem may be stitched either by machine or by hand. The finished lining should be about one inch shorter than the skirt—or it may extend only to the upper edge of the skirt hem.



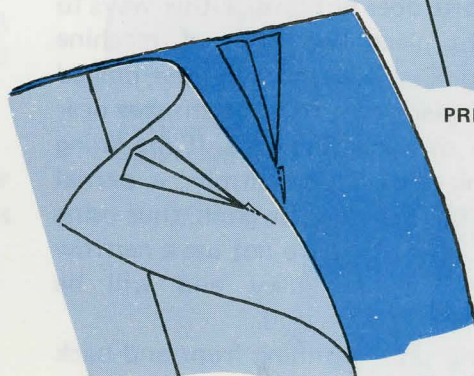
Place the wrong side of the lining pieces to the wrong side of the skirt pieces. Machine or hand baste $\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the raw edges except for hem edges. Slightly increase the width of the seam allowance of the lining as it is pinned and basted to the edges of the outer fabric.

Stitch the darts and seams as a single layer of fabric. Darts will be stitched accurately if the two layers of fabric are basted together on the dart fold lines before darts are basted and stitched.

Bulky appearance must be avoided. Darts may need to be stitched separately in the lining and garment if the outer fabric is heavy or bulky.



PRESSED TO SIDE



SLASHED

If there is some doubt as to whether to stitch darts separately or to treat both layers of fabric as one, try making sample darts using both methods. Press the samples. Then use the method which gives the better appearance and quality.

When darts are stitched separately in the two fabrics, press those in the lining in the opposite direction to those in the outer garment. Slashing the darts and pressing them open also helps avoid apparent bulkiness. When the skirt is assembled, insert the zipper and attach the waistband.

Mark the hem length on the outer fabric. Fold the hem up and trim the lining, if necessary, at the fold. Catch-stitch the edge of the lining to the hem fold of the outer fabric.

Hem the skirt to the lining fabric only. No hemming stitches will show on the right side of the garment.

If desired, the lining may be left free from the outer fabric in the placket area as in the method for making separate linings. Clip the lining seam allowance to the stitching line at the lower end of the placket. The zipper is inserted in the outer skirt and the lining seam allowances are turned under and hand stitched to the zipper tape. This results in a less bulky placket.

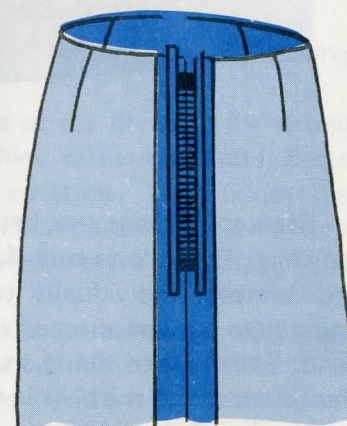
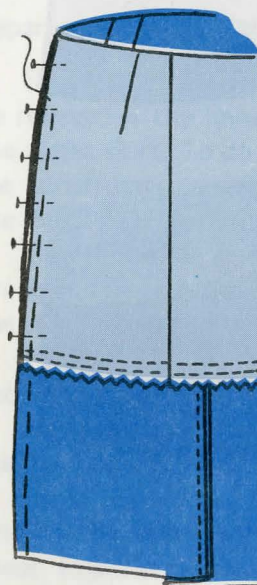
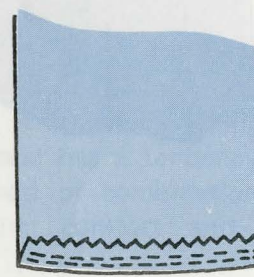
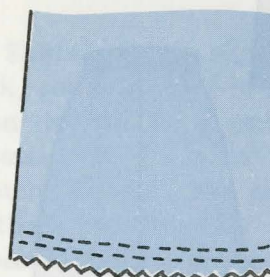
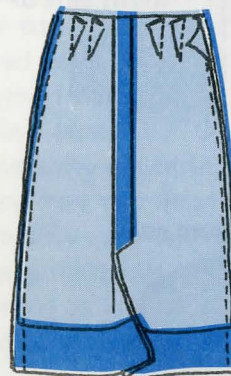
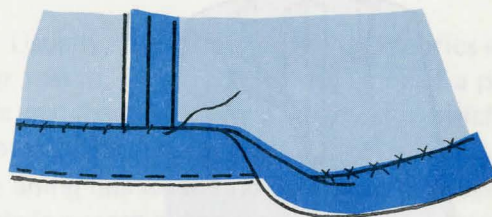
The lining may be cut out around pleats to cut down on bulk. Clip into lining the width of the pleat and cut out the unneeded lining fabric. Hand stitch to the wrong side of the pleat.

Partial Linings

Determine the length and placement of the lining. Partial linings usually extend about nine inches below the fullest part of the hip. Transfer pattern markings to both fabrics. Stitch the darts, center front and center back seams of the garment and lining separately.

Finish the hem edge of the partial lining in a flat, inconspicuous way. Pinking the edge will be sufficient if the fabric does not ravel. Other ways to finish might be to place two rows of machine stitches near the pinked edge, to turn the pinked edge up once and place two rows of stitches near the folded edge or to zigzag the edge. If the lining fabric is preshrunk and woven firmly, a partial lining may be cut on the crosswise grain, thus using the selvege as the lower edge. Do not use a narrow double-turned hem; it is bulky and will be noticeable when the skirt is pressed.

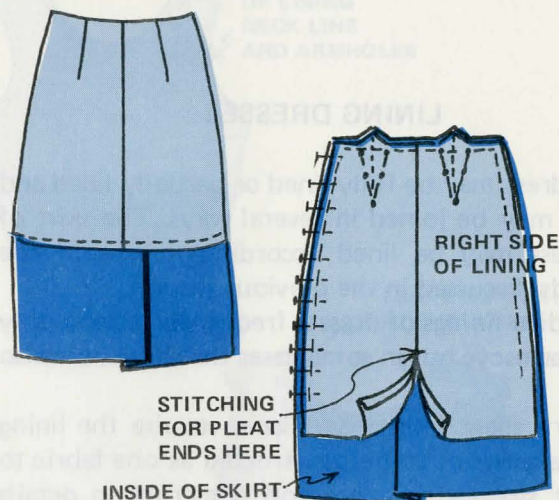
Place the wrong sides of lining front and back to the wrong sides of skirt front and back. Baste



along the edges. Stitch the side seams and insert the zipper.

If desired, the placket area of the lining may be allowed to remain loose and the placket may be finished as in the separate lining.

Attach the waistband and complete other construction processes.



LINING SKIRT PLEATS

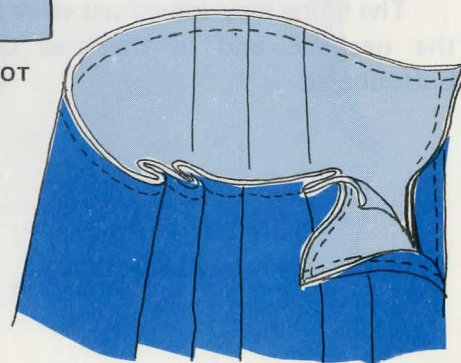
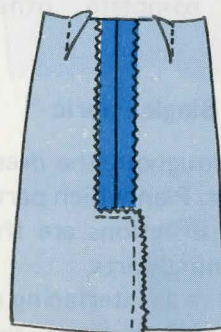
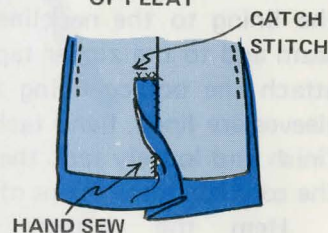
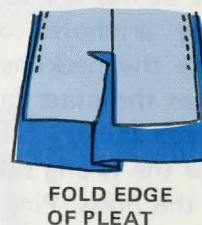
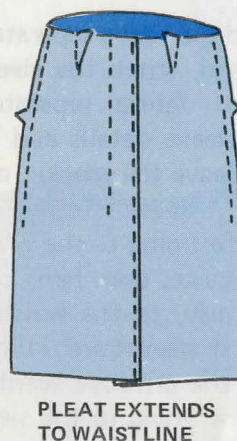
Strain on the upper end of a kick pleat is relieved if a partial lining extends about two inches below that point. The partial lining is not fastened to the pleat.

A complete lining must be handled in such a way as to permit the skirt pleat to release its fullness. The pleat in the lining is eliminated by adding a $5/8$ " seam allowance at the center back. The seam is stitched to the point where the pleat begins. If the skirt and lining are hemmed separately, finish the lining pleat as follows:

If the pleat extends to the waistline, slash the lining from the point where the stitching ends to the folded edge of the pleat. Hand stitch the center edges of the lining to the pleat in the skirt, using invisible stitches. Catch-stitch the slashed edge of the lining to one thickness of the pleat.

If the pleat does not extend to the waistline, the lining need not be slashed. Simply lay the pleat extension over the lining and finish as described above.

If the pattern design has dart-tucks or unstitched pleats, both fabrics should be treated as one. This gives a softer effect.



LINING DRESSES

A dress may be fully lined or partially lined and linings may be joined in several ways. The skirt of the dress may be lined according to one of the methods discussed in the previous section.

Bodice linings of dresses frequently extend only to the armscye but in some cases the sleeves are also lined.

Very sheer fabrics and laces require the lining and the garment to be constructed as one fabric to prevent seam allowances and construction details from showing on the right side.

Separate Lining for Dresses With Sleeves

Stitch the outer fabric and the lining separately. If set-in sleeves are to be lined, stitch the sleeves into the armholes of each fabric separately. Complete the neckline and sleeve details and the placket in the outer fabric. Leave the placket area open in the lining.

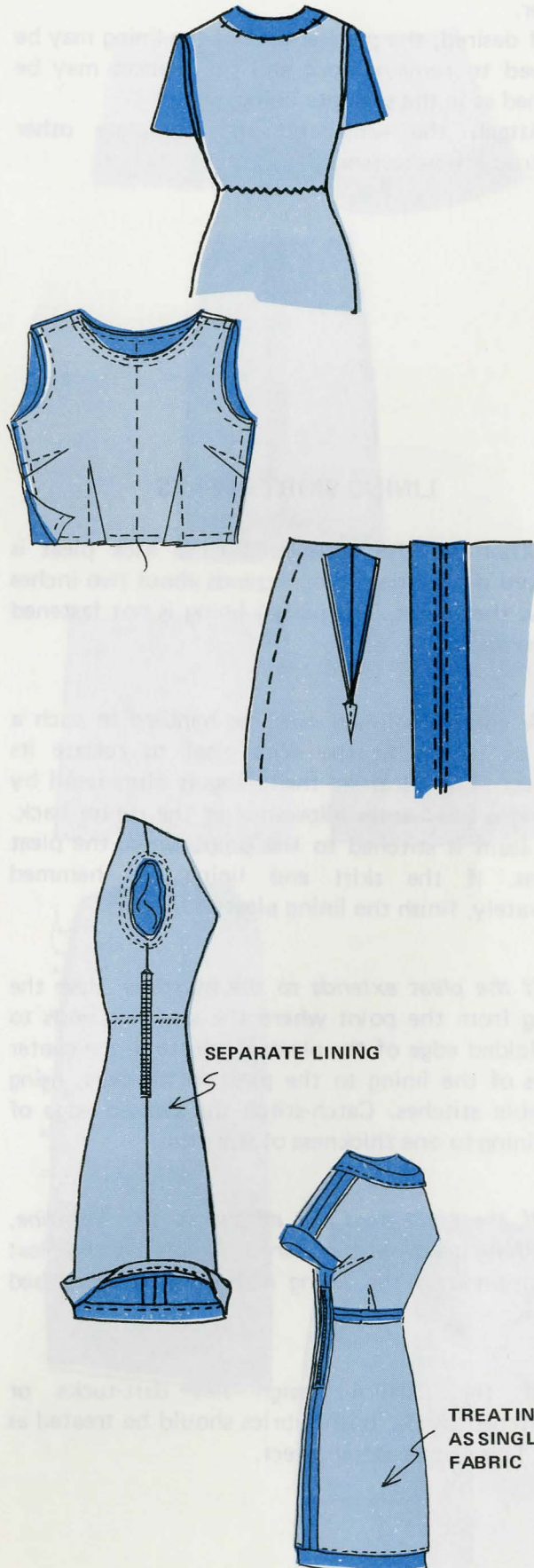
Place the wrong side of the lining to the wrong side of the dress. Pin, hand baste, then hand tack the lining to the neckline finish, to the waistline seam and to the zipper tape. If sleeves are unlined, attach the bodice lining to the armscye seam. If sleeves are lined, hand tack the lining to the sleeve finish and loosely tack the lining armscye seams to the corresponding seams of the dress.

Hem the garment and complete other construction details.

Garment and Lining Treated as a Single Fabric

This method can be used throughout the dress if fabric is light or medium weight. Plan which parts of the dress are to be lined. Instructions are the same as used in the method for lining skirts.

The lining may sometimes serve as interfacing at the neckline and in the area of buttons and buttonholes.



Linings for Sleeveless Dresses With No Center Front or Back Seam

This method may be used successfully for narrow shoulder seams as well as those that are wider.

Cut the garment and lining from the same pattern pieces. Omit the facings. Trim 1/16 to 1/8" from the neckline and armholes of the lining. This will help keep the lining turned inside the garment over the period of time that it is worn and eliminate the necessity of sharp stitching.

Assemble garment and lining separately, leaving the shoulder seams open. Complete the placket in the garment, if there is one, but leave the placket area open in the lining. Press lining and garment.

Turn the garment wrong side out, the lining right side out. Slip the lining inside the garment. Be sure that the right sides of the two fabrics are together.

Match notches, seams, armholes and necklines. Pin, then stitch around the armholes and neckline. Begin and end the stitching 5/8" from the shoulder raw edge so that seam allowance is left to stitch the shoulder.

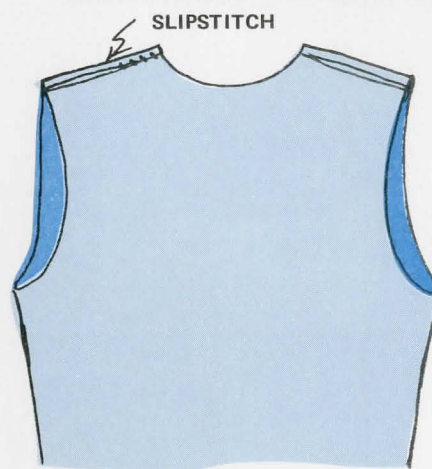
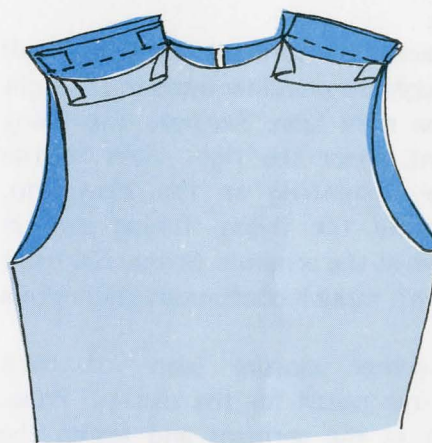
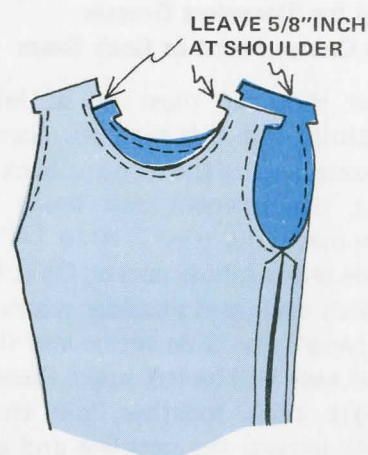
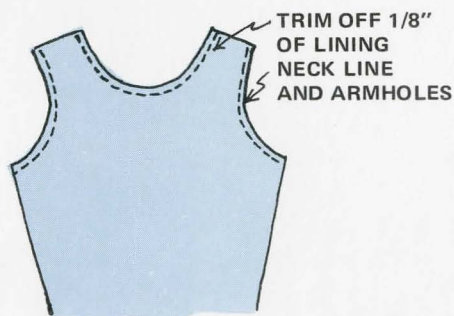
Trim or clip the armhole and neckline seams, leaving the full 5/8" seam allowance at the shoulder seam unclipped. The wider edge is needed to make a smooth line when the shoulder seam is stitched. Press the seams on the wrong side, then turn the garment right side out and press well on the right side. None of the lining should show on the right side.

Turn the garment with the lining uppermost. Fold back the shoulder seams of the lining so that they will not be caught in the garment shoulder. Fold back the extra fabric at the sides of the shoulder seam. Pin, baste and stitch the garment shoulder seam.

Fold seam allowance of one of the lining shoulder seams under, lay it over the other and slipstitch the two together by hand. Take care to enclose the seam allowance left previously. Press.

The armhole and neck edges may be sharpstitched at this time but, with the original trimming of lining size, this will not be necessary.

Fasten the lining zipper opening to the garment zipper tape by hand. Complete the hems separately.



Linings for Sleeveless Dresses With a Center Front or Back Seam

The shoulder must be at least 2" wide to successfully use this method. Garments need two side seams besides the front or back seam.

Cut the garment and lining from the same pattern pieces but trim 1/16 to 1/8" from the lining neckline and armhole curves. Omit facing.

Stitch darts and shoulder seams of the dress and lining separately. Side seams and the center closure seam of each will be left open. Press.

Right sides together, pin the lining to the garment around the neckline and armholes. Stitch. Trim and clip the seams as needed in the curved areas. Press seams.

Reaching between the garment and lining, pull the garment through the shoulder areas to the right side. Press on the right side. Separate the lining from the garment. Place the right sides of the garment together, beginning at the hem. Pin. Continue on around the lining, taking care in matching the seams at the armhole. Stitch. Garment and lining seams will make a continuous seam. Press seams open.

Stitch the center closure seam of each separately up to the notch for the closure. Press. Insert the zipper in the garment and fasten the lining to the zipper tape by hand. Complete the hem and other construction details.

