

THIS MONTH'S MERIT BADGE:
PANT TECHNIQUES



Lucille Trousers

A PATREON EXCLUSIVE PATTERN



Swoon! These '40s style trousers are so elegant, they'll have you feeling like a Hollywood icon. With a beautiful pleated front, a generously cut cuffed leg, and roomy pockets, these trousers are both functional and flattering. Choose between a high shaped waistband (our special side darts give you an extra-curvy look) or a simple straight waistband. For even more options, pair the Lucille Trousers with the Stanywck Skirt bib and suspenders for a dunagree look or with the Stanwyck Bodice expansion (Patreon, October 2020) for a fabulous jumpsuit. You can even omit the pleats for a flat front, if you prefer—just watch the video to see how! I also go over pant fitting alterations, length adjustments, and construction techniques, so make sure you give it a watch.

xoxo, *Gertie*



This month: If you're in a merit badge tier, your Pants badge is on its way! Congrats on building up your skills. In this month's video, you'll learn:

- Fit adjustments like crotch length, adding to the waist, and inseam length
- Removing a pleat
- Pant sewing techniques like slant pockets, pleats, cuffs, and a shaped waistband

SIZE CHART

The Lucille Trousers are sized in women's US 2–20. Please use the chart below to pick your size. Take the waist measurement at the smallest part of your waist and the hip measurement at the widest part of your hips. Note that it is usually best to choose your size by your hip measurement (and add or remove from the side seams at the waist if needed).

	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
Waist	24 in 61 cm	26 in 66 cm	28 in 71.1 cm	30 in 76.2 cm	32 in 81.3 cm	34 in 86.4 cm	36 in 91.4 cm	38 in 96.5 cm	40 in 101.6 cm	42 in 106.7 cm
Hips	36 in 91.4 cm	38 in 96.5 cm	40 in 101.6 cm	42 in 106.7 cm	44 in 111.8 cm	46 in 116.8 cm	48 in 121.9 cm	50 in 127 cm	52 in 132.1 cm	54 in 137.2 cm

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

The Lucille Trousers are designed to fit with 1 inch (in) of ease in the waist and 8 in of ease in the hips. Compare your body measurements to the size chart below.

	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
Waist	25 in 63.5 cm	27 in 68.6 cm	29 in 73.7 cm	31 in 78.7 cm	33 in 83.8 cm	35 in 88.9 cm	37 in 94 cm	39 in 99 cm	41 in 104.1 cm	43 in 109.2 cm
Hips	44 in 111.8 cm	46 in 116.8 cm	48 in 121.9 cm	50 in 127 cm	52 in 132.1 cm	54 in 137.2 cm	56 in 142.2 cm	58 in 147.3 cm	60 in 152.4 cm	62 in 157.5 cm

Inseam length: 32 in (81.3 cm)

STABILIZING A HIGH WAISTBAND

High waistbands can be prone to wrinkle and buckle over the course of a day's wear. There are a few ways to try to prevent this as much as possible, from easy to much more involved.



First, consider the type of fusible interfacing you're using. You'll want something sturdy, like a medium-weight woven or weft interfacing, or even a fusible horsehair canvas. Test the interfacing on a scrap of fabric. To get more structure, you can interface both the inner and outer waistbands (cut 2 interfacing instead of 1 and apply to both waistband pieces).

If you'd like to get more advanced, you can try adding short vertical lengths of spiral steel boning to your waistband at the center front, near the pleats, and near the side seam. Check out [my blog post](#) for details (it's an old post, but the information is still relevant!). I also write about boning a waistband in my book *Gertie's New Book for Better Sewing*, and you can learn foundational techniques for using spiral steel boning in my [free online course](#) on sewing the Lamour Dress.

MATERIALS & NOTIONS

- Fabric for pants
- Thread to match your fabric
- Fusible interfacing for waistband (weft, woven, or fusible horsehair canvas)
- Fusible stay tape to stabilize lapped zipper opening (or cut strips of your fusible interfacing yardage)
- 7-inch-long, nylon-coil closed-end zipper
- Hook-and-bar closure

RESOURCES

Here are some of the fabrics and supplies I used for the samples and in the video tutorial. There are lots of places to purchase fabric, so this is solely a guide you can use as a reference:

[4-Ply Silk In Ruby](#)

[Italian Wool Double Crepe in Cerulean](#)

[Italian Wool Double Crepe in Violet](#)

[4-Ply Silk In Holly](#)

[Italian Wool Extrafine Flannel in Taupe Gray](#)

[4.5 oz Fine Cotton Denim in Indigo Wash](#)

[Extremely Fine Fusible Knit Stay Tape - 1/4 inch](#)



[Fusible Horsehair Canvas](#)

FABRIC NOTES

We recommend light- to medium-weight wovens with plenty of drape: wool flannel, crepe, double crepe, and gabardine; Tencel twill; silk twill or 4-ply crepe; lightweight denim; linen and linen blends; and suitings.

PATTERN PIECES

1. Trouser Front

Cut 2 fabric.

2. Trouser Back

Cut 2 fabric.

3. Pocket Bag

Cut 2 lining.

4. Trouser Side Front

Cut 2 fabric.

5. Curved Waistband

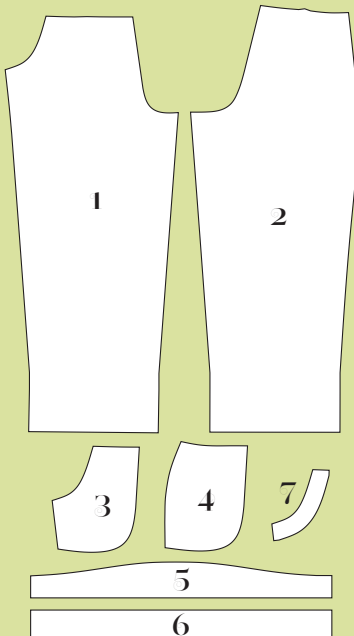
Cut 2 fabric, 1 interfacing. *Optional: cut 2 interfacing for more stiffness.

6. Straight Waistband

Cut 1 fabric, 1 interfacing.

7. Pocket Bag Interfacing

Cut 2 interfacing.



KEY TO LAYOUTS



Right side of pattern piece



Wrong side of pattern piece

Be sure to note whether the pieces are cut on a double or single layer of fabric. For a double layer, there will be a note indicating FOLD on the layout.

REQUIRED YARDAGE & CUTTING LAYOUTS

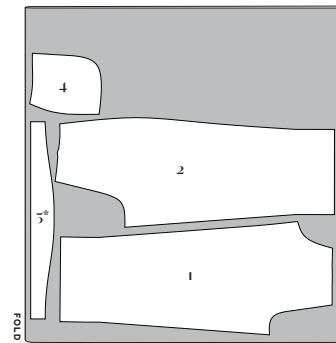
Note: All pattern pieces are shown in a “without nap” layout. You may need additional yardage for directional prints, stripes, plaids, and other prints that need to be matched across seamlines.

Trousers, Main Fabric

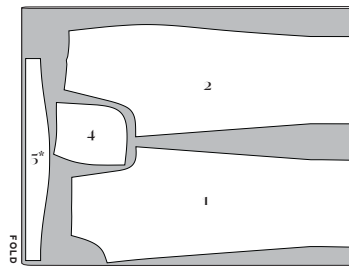
(1, 2, 4, 5)

	Sizes 2-10	Sizes 12-20
45 in	3½ yds 3.2 m	4¾ yds 4.3 m
60 in	3¼ yd 3 m	3½ yd 3.2 m

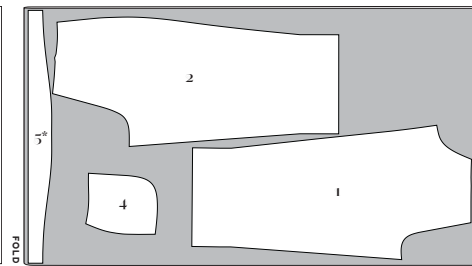
Pieces are shown on a crosswise layout. The full width of the fabric is opened out and a fold is made perpendicular to the selvages.



60 in, all sizes



45 in, sizes 2-10



45 in, sizes 12-20

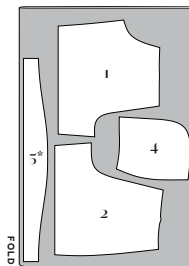
*If making straight waistband version, substitute piece 6 for piece 5 and only cut once (not on a double layer).

Shorts, Main Fabric

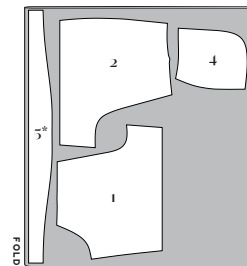
(1, 2, 4, 5)

	Sizes 2-10	Sizes 12-20
45 in	2 yds 1.8 m	2½ yds 2.3 m
60 in	1½ yds 1.4 m	1¾ yd 1.6 m

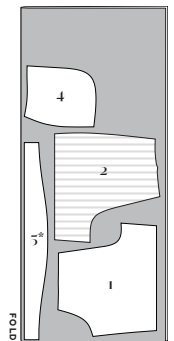
Pieces are shown on a crosswise layout. The full width of the fabric is opened out and a fold is made perpendicular to the selvages.



45 in, sizes 2-10



45 in, sizes 12-20



60 in, all sizes

*If making straight waistband version, substitute piece 6 for piece 5 and only cut once (not on a double layer).

Lining (3)

	All sizes
45 in	½ yds 0.4 m
60 in	



Interfacing (5, 7)

	All sizes
60 in	¾ yds 0.7 m



If you want a stiffer waistband, cut 2 of piece 5.

*If making straight waistband version, substitute piece 6 for piece 5 and only cut once (not on a double layer).

SEWING INSTRUCTIONS

BEFORE SEWING

Transferring marks: Use dressmaker's tracing paper and a tracing wheel to transfer all pattern markings to the wrong side (WS) of your fabric. Mark pattern notches by snipping into the seam allowance with the tip of your scissors.

Interfacing: Several pieces need to be stabilized with fusible interfacing before sewing. Follow the interfacing cutting instructions on the pattern pieces. Apply fusible interfacing to the WS of the fabric, using a press cloth and steam. Do not move your iron back and forth; lift it up and press down for several seconds at a time until the interfacing is fully adhered.

Seam Finishing: If finishing seams with a serger, serge the following seam allowances (without trimming the edges) before construction.

- Outseam, inseam, hem, and crotch of pants front (1) and pants back (2) (everything except waistline)
- Vertical and bottom edges of pieces 3 and 4

NOTES

- 5/8-inch (in) (1.5 cm) seam allowances are included on all pattern pieces, except where otherwise noted

SEWING THE TROUSERS

Trouser Front

1. Attach the Pocket Bag: the Pocket Bag (3) finishes the upper edges of the pockets. Make sure that you have interfaced the Pocket Bag with the Pocket Interfacing (7) piece. Pin the Pocket Bag right sides (RS) together with Trouser Front (1) pocket opening edge. Stitch. Clip inner curve.

2. Understitch Pocket Bag: with the Pocket Bag opened out and seam allowances underneath, stitch along the pocket opening 1/8 in (3 mm) from the seamline on pocket bag's RS, catching seam allowances in stitching. Turn pocket to trouser WS and press pocket edge, rolling seamline slightly to WS so it is hidden inside the pocket.

3. Attach Trouser Side Front: this piece forms the upper hip of the trousers and the other half of the Pocket Bag. Place Trouser Side Front (4) RS together with the Pocket Bag, matching notches. Pin the Trouser Side Front to the Pocket Bag only (not the trousers) around the curved inner and bottom edges. Stitch 5/8 in (1.5 cm) from pocket edges.

4. Baste pockets in place: baste upper edge of trouser side front/pocket unit in place at waist edge of trouser front and at side seams, using a long stitch and a 1/2-in-wide (1.3 cm) seam allowance.

5. To make pleats: at the upper edge of the Trouser Front RS, bring one pleat line to meet the other pleat line, following arrow direction. Baste pleats in place using a long stitch and a 1/2-in-wide (1.3 cm) seam allowance.

Trouser Back

1. Stabilize zipper opening on Trouser Back (2): apply 1 1/4-in-wide (3 cm) strips of fusible interfacing to center-back opening's WS above zipper circle.

2. Sew darts in Trouser Back: pin dart legs RS together along marked lines. Stitch from dart base to dart point. Do not backstitch at point of dart; instead, leave long tails and tie in a double knot. Press darts toward center back.

Trouser Legs

1. Assemble the trouser legs: pin Trouser Front to Trouser Back, RS together, matching notches on the outseam and inseam. Stitch the inseam. Stitch the outseam. Press seam allowances open. Repeat for the opposite leg.

2. Sew the crotch curve: pin trouser legs RS together along the crotch, making sure to match the pairs of back notches, front notches, and inseam seamlines to each other. Stitch the crotch seam from the front waist edge toward the back waist edge, stopping at the back zipper circle. Press the crotch seam allowances open, trimming to 3/8 in, if desired.

Inserting the Zipper

1. Sew underlap half of zipper: with trousers RS out, on right half of zipper opening (the underlap), press seam allowance to WS $\frac{1}{2}$ in (1.3 cm). Pin zipper under pressed seam allowance, placing zipper teeth just left of fabric fold. Open zipper halfway. Using a zipper foot, stitch from top to bottom next to zipper teeth, just on fold. As needle approaches zipper pull, stop stitching and close zipper; resume stitching to bottom of zipper opening. Backstitch.

2. Sew overlap half of zipper: on left half of zipper opening (the overlap), press seam allowance under $\frac{5}{8}$ in (1.5 cm). With zipper closed, position overlap over zipper teeth so fabric fold just covers stitching on underlap. Pin overlap to zipper tape. Open zipper and topstitch overlap $\frac{3}{8}$ in (1 cm) from fold, closing zipper when you reach the pull; finish stitching to base. Pivot the work and stitch across base of zipper opening.

Waistband

Select either the Curved Waistband or the Straight Waistband.

Curved Waistband only:

1. Sew fisheye darts: on Curved Waistband pieces (5) match dart legs, RS together, then stitch each end of the fisheye dart in two separate steps, working from the center of the dart to the dart point. Backstitch in the center but not at the points, leaving a few inches of thread at the points. Clip into the middle of the dart. Tie off the threads and trim. Press the darts toward center back.

2. Assemble waistband: pin interfaced waistband (outer waistband) to uninterfaced waistband (inner waistband), RS together. Stitch around the waistband from one short end, along the upper edge, and around the opposite short end, ending at the notch indicated for the underlap. Grade the seam allowances so that the outer waistband's is the widest and the inner waistband's is narrower. Notch the seam allowances around the curved part of the waistband. Clip to stitching at underlap notch. (Note that the underlap will go on the right half of the trouser back zipper opening.) Trim away corners and turn waistband RS out, forming neat points.

3. Understitch waistband: with inner waistband opened out and the seam allowances underneath, stitch $\frac{1}{8}$ in (3 mm) from the seamline, catching the seam allowances in the stitching. Press the understitched edges, rolling the seamline to the waistband WS.

Straight Waistband only:

1. Assemble waistband: fold waistband in half lengthwise with WS together and press flat. Turn RS together and pin along short ends. On left end of waistband, stitch along short end. On right end of waistband, stitch along short end and pivot to continue stitching lower open edge of waistband, ending at the notch indicated for the underlap. (Note that the overlap will go on the right half of the trouser back zipper opening.) Clip to stitching at underlap notch. Grade the stitched seam allowances so that the outer side's is the widest and the inner side's is narrower. Trim away corners and turn waistband RS out, forming neat points.

Sew Waistband to Pants

1. Attach waistband to the trousers: pin the outer waistband to the trousers, RS together, leaving the inner waistband free at the waistline and matching seams and notches. Stitch. Grade the waist seam allowances so the trouser's is the widest and waistband's is narrower. Press waistband toward the seam allowances.

2. Turn under the inner waistband seam allowance $\frac{5}{8}$ in (1.5 cm) and press. Pin in place so that it just covers the waistline seam. Slipstitch in place by hand.

Hem

1. Hem trousers: press under the 5-in hem allowance around the lower edge of the trouser leg. Stitch hem in place by hand, using a slipstitch or catchstitch.

Cuff

1. Create cuff: fold up 2 in of the hem to RS of trouser and press bottom fold in place. Tack cuff in place at the inseam and outseam.

Finishing

1. Sew waistband closure: position bar on waistband underlap and hook on overlap. Stitch in place by hand.

Your trousers are complete. Enjoy your fabulous new Lucille Trousers!

EXPAND YOUR OPTIONS

Make Shorts: Follow all the trouser instructions except the cuff steps. Hem shorts by turning hem allowance to WS 1 in; press the fold. Stitch hem in place by hand using a slipstitch or catchstitch.

Make Overalls: Sew the Stanwyck Skirt bib and suspenders following the pattern instructions. Sew buttons on the inside of the trouser waistband as marked with circles. Join the bib and suspenders to the trousers at the waistline.

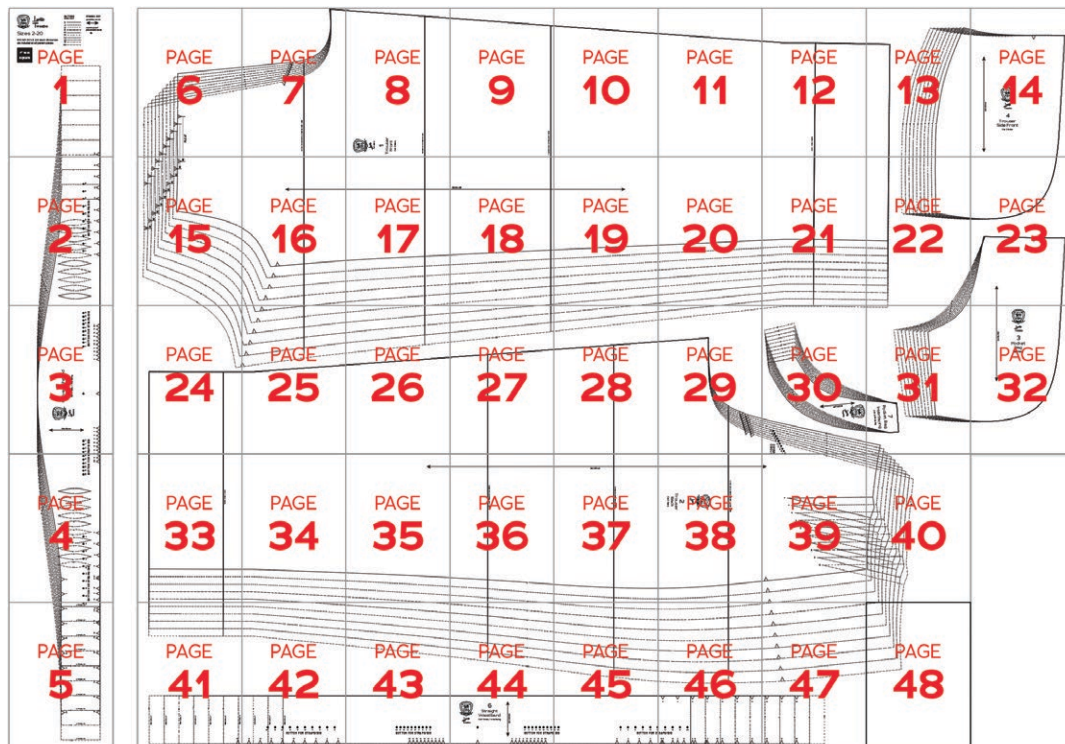
Make a Jumpsuit: Sew the Stanwyck Bodice following the pattern instructions. Sew the trousers, omitting the trouser waistband and zipper. Join the bodice to the trousers at the waistline, matching back darts and seamlines, leaving the bodice lining free. Grade the seam allowances so the bodice's is the widest and trouser's is narrower. Press seam allowances toward the bodice. Insert a 22-in-long zipper. Turn under bodice lining seam allowances around zipper and waistline and slipstitch in place.



PATTERN PIECE LOCATION GUIDE

Here is a list to help you locate the pattern pieces on the letter-size tiled pages and A0 pattern sheets. The tiled pieces and A0 sheets are included as separate pdf files as part of this digital pattern.

PC#	Piece Name	Tiled	A0	PC#	Piece Name	Tiled	A0
1	Trouser Front	6-13, 15-22, 24-31	1-2	5	Curved Waistband	1-5	3
2	Trouser Back	24-31, 33-40, 41-48	2-3	6	Straight Waistband	41-47	3
3	Pocket Bag	22-23, 31-32	2	7	Pocket Bag Interfacing	30-31	2
4	Trouser Side Front	13-14, 22-23	3				



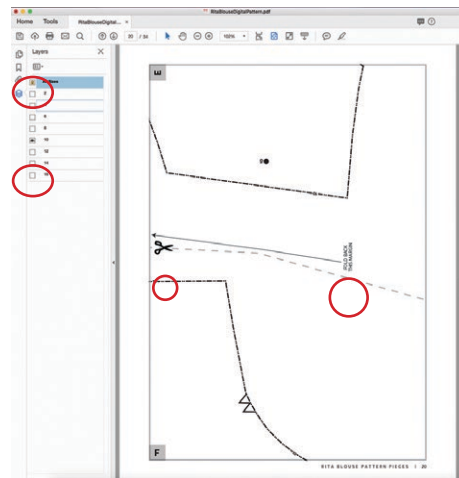
HOW TO USE THIS PATTERN

The pattern pieces are tiled so you can print them on Letter (8 1/2" x 11") or A4 size paper. You can also send the A0 pattern sheet PDF to a local or online printer (like www.pdfplotting.com) to print on large sheets (36" x 48" for U.S. or A0 for international).

This pattern includes size layers. To get the best results, open either the Tiled or A0 pattern pieces PDF in Acrobat Reader.

Open the Layers Palette (View>Show/Hide>Navigation Panes>Layers) and hide all of the layer(s) except for the ones you want to print by clicking on the eye icon.

The All Sizes layer has general pattern information and will always print.



WORKING WITH THE TILED PIECES

Go to File>Print and change the page range to the pages you need for the pieces you've chosen (see Pattern Pieces Printing Index). Make sure the Page Sizing settings to 100% or Actual Size. Test this after printing by measuring the 1" test box on the first page of the bodice pattern pieces.

Cut apart any pattern pieces that share a page by cutting on the gray long dashed lines. Then fold back the page margins on each page as directed.

Tape the pages together, butting up the folded page edges with the gray margin lines, matching up the letters in gray boxes.

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