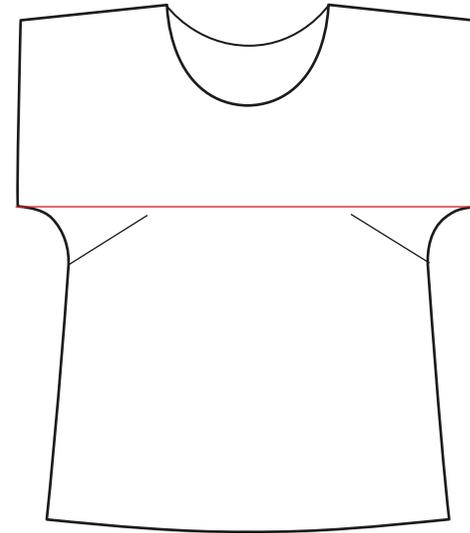


ModularME

Our pattern
Your personality

A modularised pattern system that guides you through sewing techniques while building skills and confidence to create your own personalised wardrobe.



ModularME Highline Yoke Module

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#modularme

An initiative of
MINISTRY OF
*Hand
Made*

Highline Yoke Module

Thank you for your support of ModularME! It means a lot to us to have you download the pattern. We hope you love extending the ModularME base pattern with this Highline Yoke Module.

If you have other modules you would like us to create for you please let us know!

Email us: create@ministryofhandmade.com.au

What is a yoke? The yoke is a separate pattern piece for the shoulder area that attaches to the front and/or back of the garment.

Adding a yoke adds versatility and personality to your garment. Once you have mastered this technique you can apply it to other areas of a garment to change the look, add a complimentary fabric panel, the options simply open up before you!

In this module, rather than give you a pattern, you will be shown the easy steps to create your own yoke pattern using the ModularME #1 Top pattern as a base. This simple skill will expand your understanding of garment construction and build your confidence to try other ways of altering patterns.

Before you start

Please read **pages 1 to 7** of the ModularME #1 Top instructions up to the fabric layout (don't cut your fabric yet). Then follow the instructions in this document to **create new front and back pattern pieces** before continuing to make your ModularME top.

Key learnings in this module

- ✂ How to split your pattern - while maintaining the correct seam allowance so the overall garment shape remains the same.
- ✂ How to use Pattern Trace to keep modifications for use on other garments.

What do you need?

When splitting a pattern to create a yoke slightly more fabric is required for the front and back pattern pieces. An extra 5cm longer than the ModularME #1 Top pattern requirements will be enough. Adding a yoke also gives you the opportunity to use a contrasting fabric if you would like to make it a design feature.

In addition to your sewing kit (pins, scissors, sewing machine, iron etc) you will need the following:

- ✂ **Fabric.** Your selection of contrasting or matching fabric for the yoke.
- ✂ **Sewing thread.** Generally the assembly of the garment is sewn in a coordinating colour. However you may wish to change to a contrasting colour for the topstitching.
- ✂ **ModularME #1 Top pattern** and instructions.
- ✂ **Paper** (or Pattern Trace), pen and ruler to create your own Highline Yoke pattern.
- ✂ Your **ModularME top** muslin/toile (test garment).

Terminology

Pattern Trace - a material for tracing over existing patterns to create a new or modified pattern. It can also be used as a lightweight interfacing. Pattern Trace is available from Ministry of Handmade in 90cm x 500cm panels.

[> Pattern Trace in our shop](#)

Video support

We have created a short video explaining how to join the yoke to the bodice.

 [Joining the yoke and the bodice](#)

Creating your Highline Yoke pattern

1 Determine yoke depth

The table to the right shows the relevant yoke depth according to the pattern size you are using for the ModularME #1 Top Pattern.

The measurements refer to the distance from the neck line to the yoke stitch line for both the front and the back pattern pieces.

If you are using a ModularME #1 Top Pattern that has been graded across several sizes, then use the measurements that are relevant to your bust size.

In these instructions we will use **Size 14** as an example. This means that the Front measurement will be **155mm** and the Back measurement will be **223mm**.

Note your front and back measurements.

2 Mark the yoke stitch line

This line divides the top into a yoke and a bodice. Using the pattern front in your size, measure down from the centre neck along the centre front seam. Put a pencil mark at the relevant point for your size.

Using a ruler, draw a straight line from this point to the bottom sleeve edge for your size.

Mark this stitch line as A. Using Size 14 as an example the distance down from the neck line is **155mm**.

3 Mark the cut line for the bottom of your yoke

Draw another line parallel to line A, 15mm lower (now you've added the seam allowance for your yoke). Mark this line as B. This new line is the **cut line for the bottom of your yoke**.

Yoke Depth

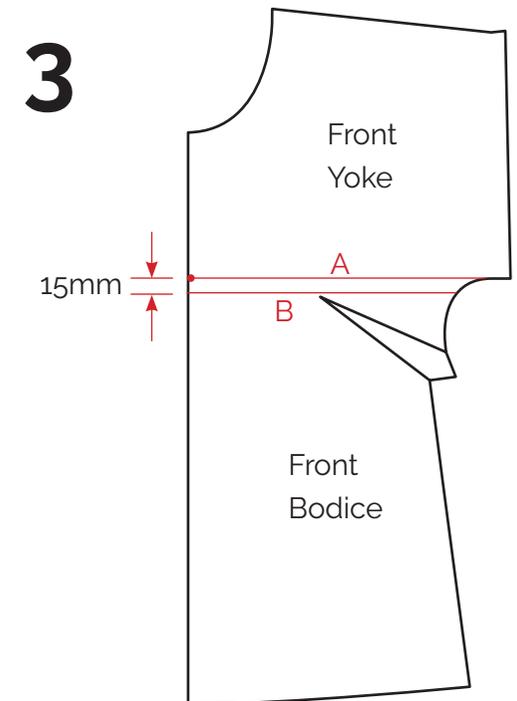
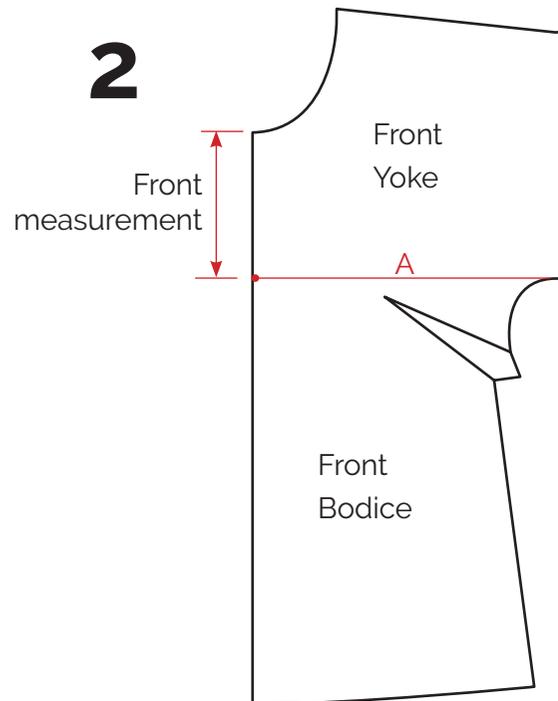
Size	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
Front (mm)	138	142	147	151	155	159	163	168	173	178	184
Back (mm)	199	205	211	217	223	229	235	242	249	256	264

My measurements

Front (mm)

Back (mm)

You will be using these measurements to create new Front and Back pattern pieces.



4 Mark the cut line for the top of your bodice
 Draw another line parallel to line A, 15mm higher. Mark this line as C. This new line is the **cut line for the top of your bodice.**

5 Mark the cut lines on the back
 Repeat Steps 2 - 4 for the Back making sure you use the back measurement. In our example the back measurement is **223mm.**

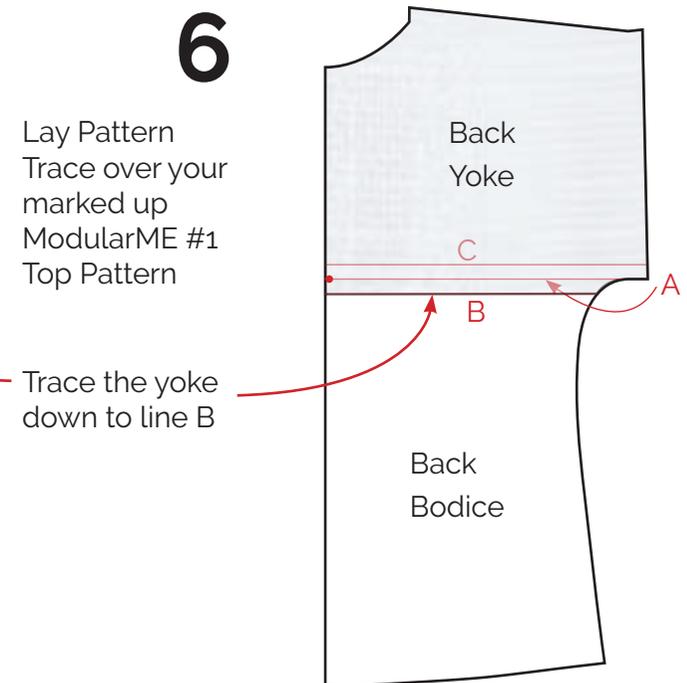
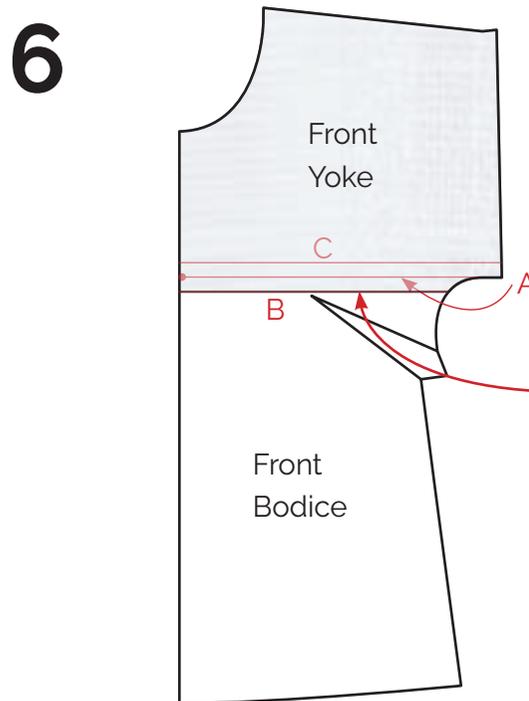
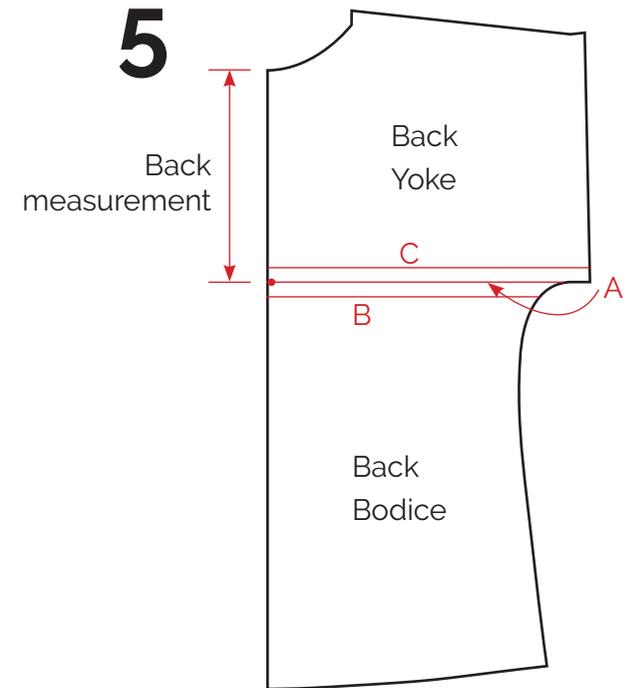
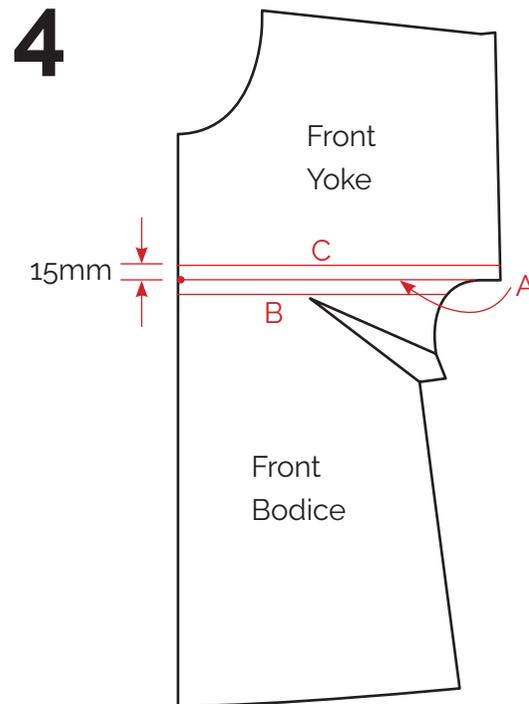
6 Trace your yoke pattern pieces
 Looking at the shaded area in the diagrams, trace the outline of the pattern pieces. Laying Pattern Trace over your marked pattern, trace off the pattern for the front of the yoke. Use line **B as the bottom edge** of the yoke. There is no need to mark any other lines.
 Repeat for the back.



A good habit

Marking your pattern pieces When marking your new pattern pieces make sure you label them with the following information:

- ✂ Pattern Name: eg. ModularME #1 Highline Yoke
- ✂ Pattern piece: eg. front yoke, back yoke, etc
- ✂ Number of pieces to cut
- ✂ How to cut: eg. on the fold
- ✂ Other pattern markings such as darts, symbols, notches, etc.



Lay Pattern Trace over your marked up ModularME #1 Top Pattern

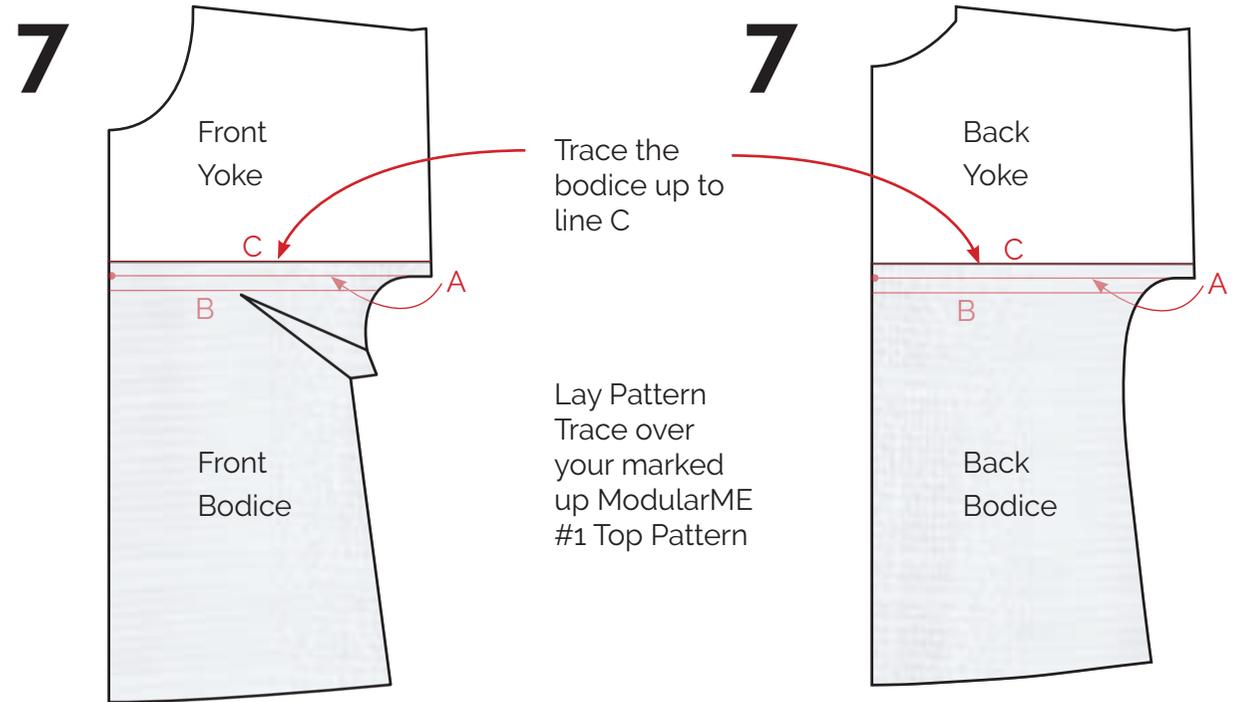
Trace the yoke down to line B

7 Trace your bodice pattern pieces

Looking at the shaded area in the diagrams, trace the outline of the pattern pieces. Laying Pattern Trace over your marked pattern, trace off the pattern for the front of the bodice. Use line **C** as the top edge of the bodice.

Repeat for the back.

You will now have traced four new pattern pieces: Front yoke, back yoke, front bodice and back bodice.

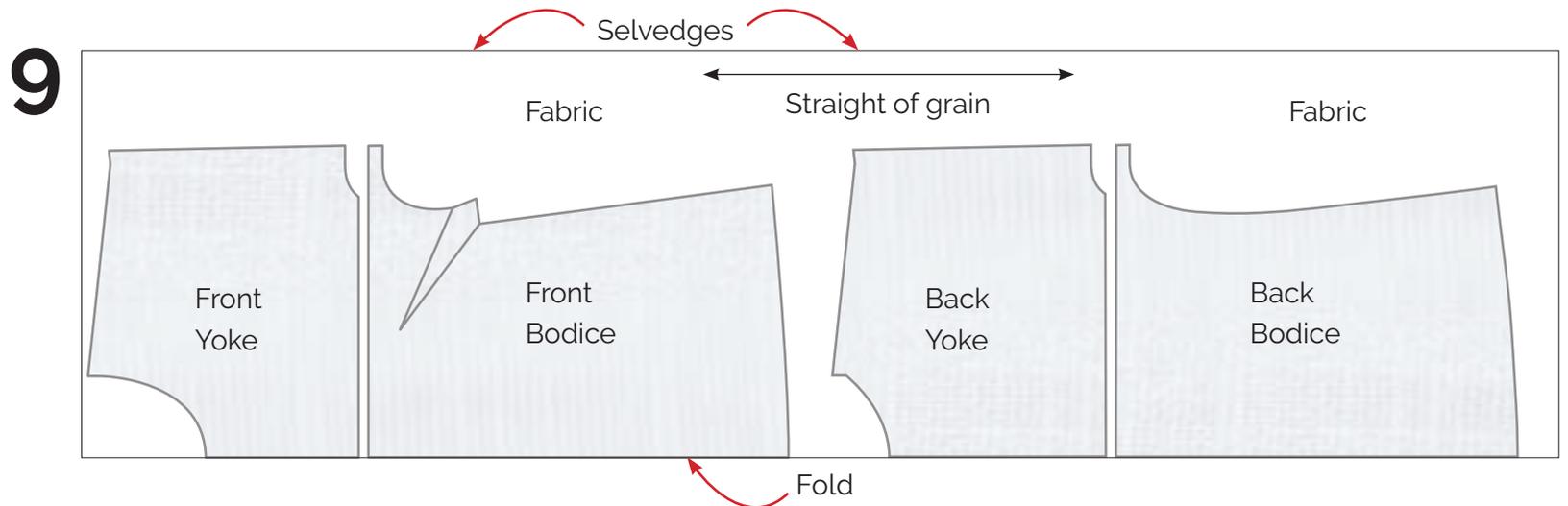


8 Cut your new patterns

After tracing the yoke and bodice pattern pieces onto the Pattern Trace, cut them out. Remember to mark them so you can identify them (see the **good habit** box on the previous page).

9 Position and cut your fabric

Cut out your fabric with all four pieces of the pattern positioned on the fold.

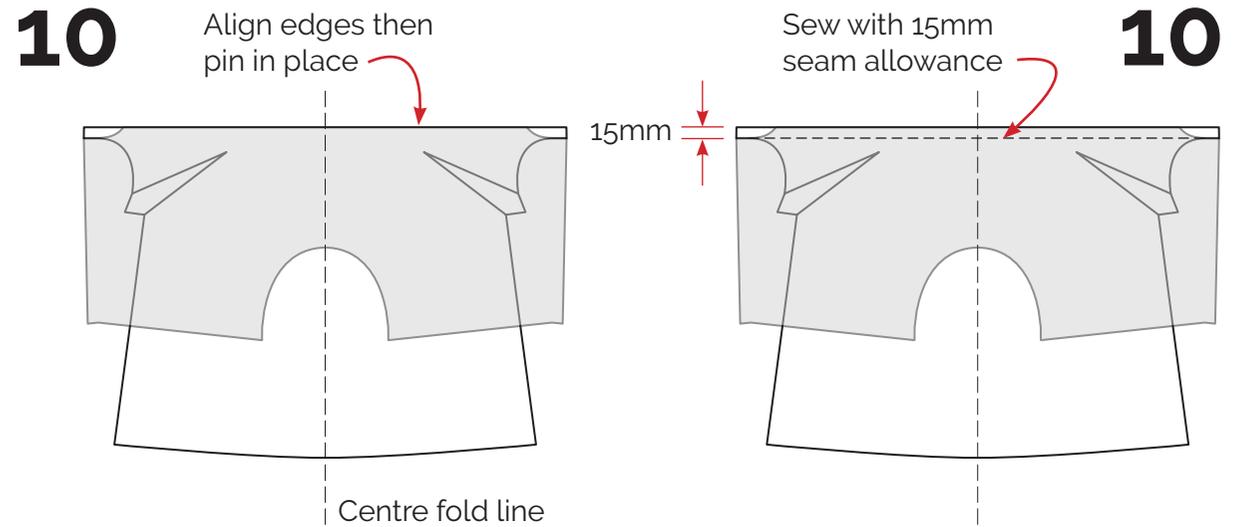


Tip

Use plenty of pins to make it easier.

10 Join the front pieces

With right sides of the fabric together, place the front yoke and the front bodice together, lining up the edges as shown. Pin in place and then stitch together using a 15mm seam allowance. Remember to back stitch at the beginning and at the end.

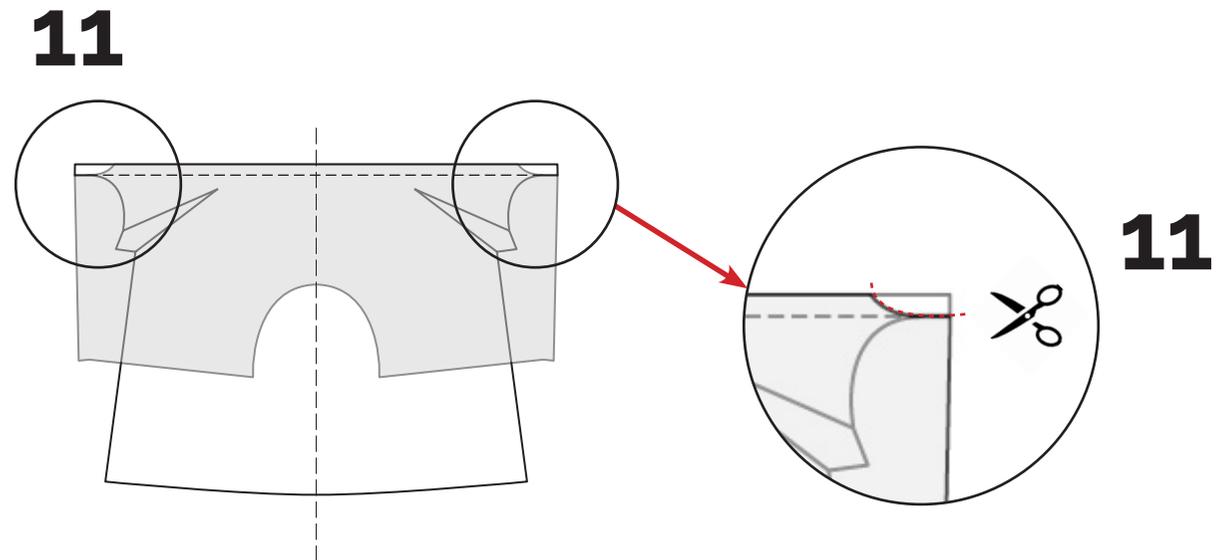


11 Trim excess fabric

Using scissors trim off excess fabric from the bodice from both sides as shown. If you are unsure of how much to trim, then trim only a little, then you can come back later to trim more if needed.

Refer to the video:

 [Joining the yoke and the bodice](#)



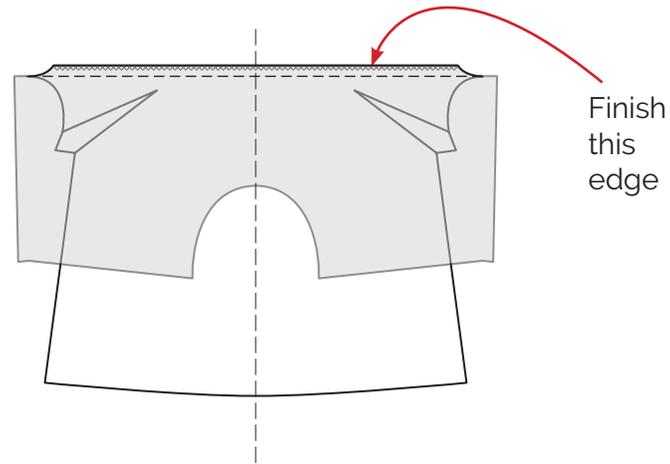
12

Finish edges

Overlock (surge) or zigzag stitch the raw edges together.

Press the seam allowance towards the bottom of the garment.

Your front piece is now complete!



13

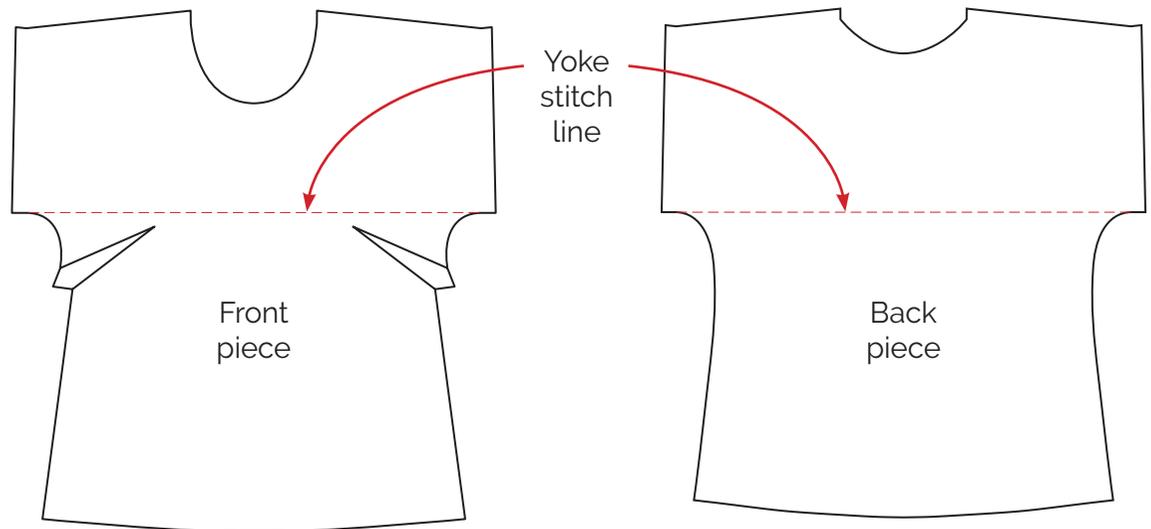
Join the back pieces

Repeat **steps 10, 11 and 12** with the back yoke and the back bodice pieces.

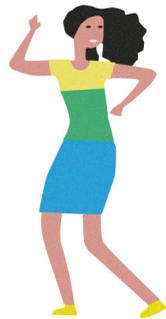
14

Your new yoked front and back pieces

After pressing the seam allowances towards the bottom of the garment, lay the pieces out flat. They will look like the diagram to the right with a neat stitch line joining the yoke and the bodice together at the position of line A in step 2.



15



Happy dance time!

You can now follow the ModularME #1 Top Pattern instructions from the fabric layout on page 7 to complete your new yoked garment!