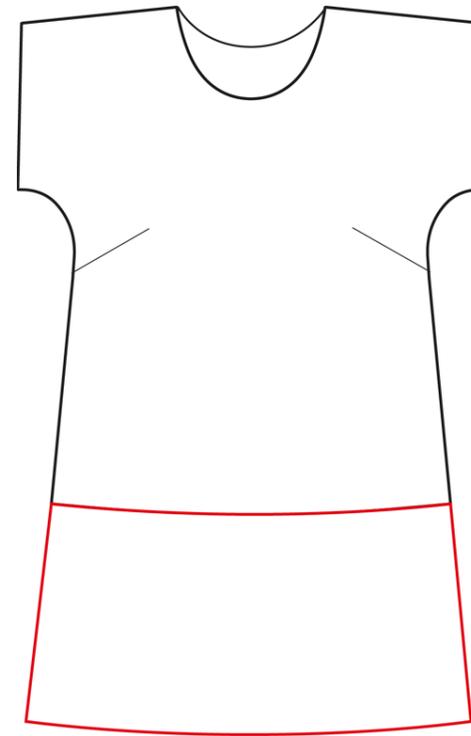


ModularME

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.

Turn your top into a dress!



ModularME Dress Module

Ministry of Handmade

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web: ministryofhandmade.com.au

 [ministryofhandmade](https://www.facebook.com/ministryofhandmade)

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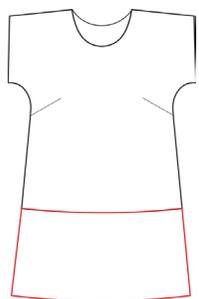
#modularme

An initiative of
MINISTRY OF
*Hand
Made*

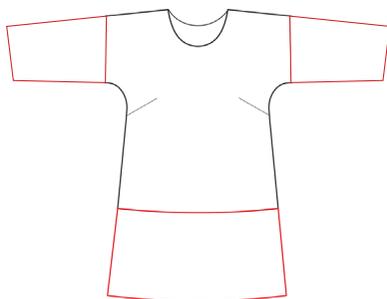
Modularised Pattern System

Creating a custom dress pattern from your ModularME #1 base pattern opens up so many possibilities!!

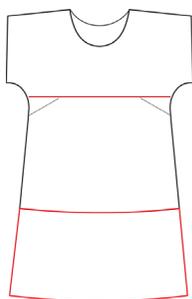
Look at these great combinations!



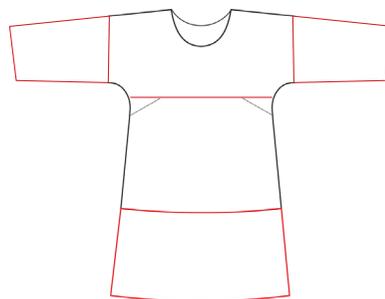
Amy



Bette



Cath



Dana

And the great news...it is so easy to do!!!! This simple module is basically about creating a pattern piece that acts as an extension for the base pattern. When the two pieces are simply joined together...voila.....you have a dress pattern!

You can combine your dress pattern with our other modules, to create a wardrobe of options to suit your lifestyle and personality.



The **unique modular nature** of our sewing patterns enables you to return to a "tried and true" base pattern to create new looks. This saves repeated trials and errors when working with lots of different patterns from different suppliers and pattern designers.

Our back to basic approach enables you to replicate a **base garment that fits you well** adding different styles, colours, fabrics, trims, etc to suit you!

Thank you

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 #1 Top Pattern with this Dress Module.

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

Email us:

create@ministryofhandmade.com.au

Dress Module

This module is basically about pattern making rather than sewing techniques.

Before you start

Before you start working with this Dress Module, we strongly recommend the following steps:

- ✂ Make a sample garment (toile) of the basic top #1 pattern and make any adjustments as necessary. This will ensure that you have the fit right around your shoulders, neck, bust and hips. You can do this by following the steps in the ModularME #1 Top Pattern.
- ✂ Create a new custom pattern of your top that includes any modifications. This should be the pattern you work with when adding the dress module or any other modules.

Key learnings in this module

- ✂ How to combine modules
- ✂ How to shorten or lengthen hem lines

What do you need?

- ✂ Your ModularME #1 Top Pattern. If you have adjusted this pattern to suit you, make sure that you're using the altered pattern when working with the Dress Module.
- ✂ ModularME Dress Module.
- ✂ Pattern Trace* (or similar) to trace your new dress pattern.
- ✂ A pen or pencil and a long ruler (or another straight edge if you don't have a long ruler).

Video support

We have created a short video explaining how to create your dress pattern.



[ModularME Dress Pattern](#)

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](#)

Printing out your pattern

About your PDF files

Digital patterns are delivered to you as PDF computer files (portable document files) via your email account. You can print them at home on either A4 or US letter paper, or you can take the files to a copy shop and have them print it for you.

Files for the Dress Module

These are the available files:

- ✂ Dress Module - sizes 6 to 16 (A4 and A1)
- ✂ Dress Module - sizes 18 to 26 (A4 and A1)
- ✂ The instructions (this file)



Learning, stretching
and **persevering** develop
us into interesting, capable
and resilient people. People
that I want to mix with.

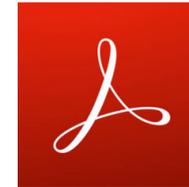
Maurice Hillier

Printing instructions

1 To print the pattern you will need a PDF viewer installed on your computer/device. To keep your printing experience trouble-free we recommend using Adobe Acrobat Reader DC (free). It is excellent.

You can download it from:

<https://get.adobe.com/reader/>



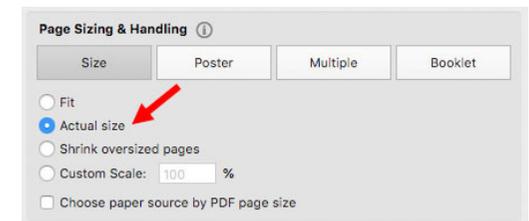
2 Set the print scale to **100%** and print Page 1 of the pattern. **This is the most important step.** You can set the print scale by either choosing:

- ✂ Actual size, or
- ✂ 100% scale, or
- ✂ Full size

Your printer may use different words to explain scaling.

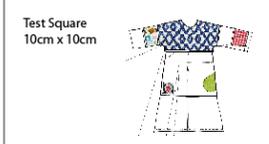
3 Print out the Test Page (page 1) first to check the scale. Measure the test square. If it is exactly 10cm x 10cm then you are good to go.

4 Print out all the pages in the pattern file.



Page 1 of 13

Dress Module Test page



Test Square
10cm x 10cm

Print this page at 100% size (no scaling)
then check measure the square. If the
printed square is exactly 10cm x 10cm
then you are good to go!

Size Key

Size 14	-----
Size 16	-----
Size 18	-----
Size 20	-----
Size 22	-----
Size 24	-----
Size 26	-----

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Finished dress measurements

All measurements are in centimetres (cm)

Size	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
Circumference at bust	86	90	94	98	102	106	112	118	124	132	138
Circumference at hem*	116	120	125	130	134	138	142	150	155	160	168
Finished back length**	96	98	99.5	101.5	103.5	105.5	107	109	110	111	112.5

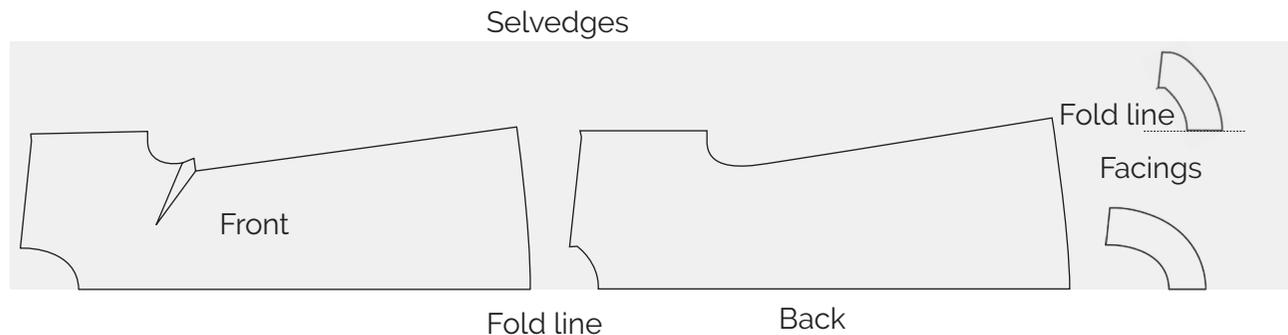
* These measurements are approximate and refer to garments that have not been graded out.

** Finished back length refers to the distance from the inside neck edge to the hemline at the back. You need someone to help you measure this. Another option is to measure another garment you already have to check its length as a cross reference.

Fabric layout

Fold fabric in half lengthwise so the two selvages are together. Ensure the right sides of the fabric are on the inside.

Place the pattern pieces as shown. This layout is the same for all sizes.



Video

The video also explains these measurements.

 [ModularME Dress Pattern](#)

Fabric requirements

Size	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
112 cm wide	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
135cm wide	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6

A good habit

Create new patterns

We highly recommend making a complete new version of your dress pattern rather than working with the top pattern joined to the dress module pattern.

Creating your Dress pattern

1 Print your ModularME Dress Module

There are two options:

- ✂ A4 print-at-home version. (You will need to sticky tape the pages together as per the instructions).
- ✂ A0 version which you can get printed at a copy shop.

2 Record important size details

As you will be joining pattern pieces together from 2 modules, you will need to know these important size details from your ModularME #1 Top.

A. The size of the base pattern you used (e.g. 16):

Top size

B. If you graded the hips to another size (e.g. 18), record that size here:

Hip Size

Note: All the following steps apply to both the front and back pattern pieces.

3 Trim the Dress Module pattern pieces

Trim across the top edge **only** of your Dress Module pattern pieces (both front and back pieces) using the cut extension lines marked on the pattern pieces.

Examples:

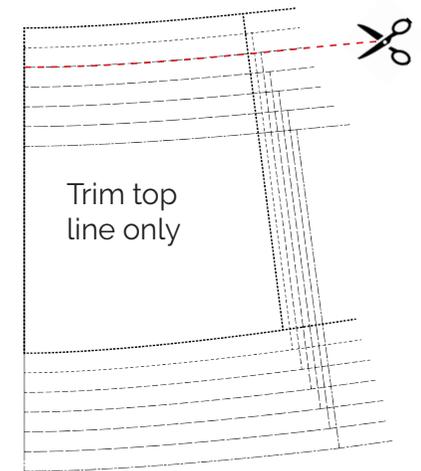
If you used a Size 14 pattern graded out to a Size 16 at the hemline, trim the top edge of the pattern on the Size 16 line.

If you made a Size 16 pattern graded out to a Size 20 at the hemline, trim the top edge of the pattern on the Size 20 line.

If you used a Size 12 pattern and did not grade then cut the top edge of the pattern on the Size 12 line.

As you can see from these examples you use the Dress Module pattern size that matches the size of the bottom of your top.

3



Tip

Iron seams

Remember to iron each seam once sewn to ensure a crisp finish.

4 Join Dress Module to ModularME #1 Top Pattern

Align the bottom edge of your ModularME #1 Top Pattern with the top edge of the trimmed dress module pattern. Tape these two edges together with everything lining up perfectly. Make sure the fold line on the pattern pieces line up to make one straight line.

Do this for both the front and the back pattern pieces.

5 Check length

Using the Finished Dress Measurements in the table on page 5, locate your back length.

Now measure this length on your body to see where the finished hem of the dress comes to on your legs.

To lengthen or shorten the hem

This change is made at the hem. If you would like to change the dress length, make a note of the cm difference either up or down from the finished dress length you just measured. Now mark this measurement (up or down) from the hem line on the pattern. Alternatively you can use a hem line from another size.

Video

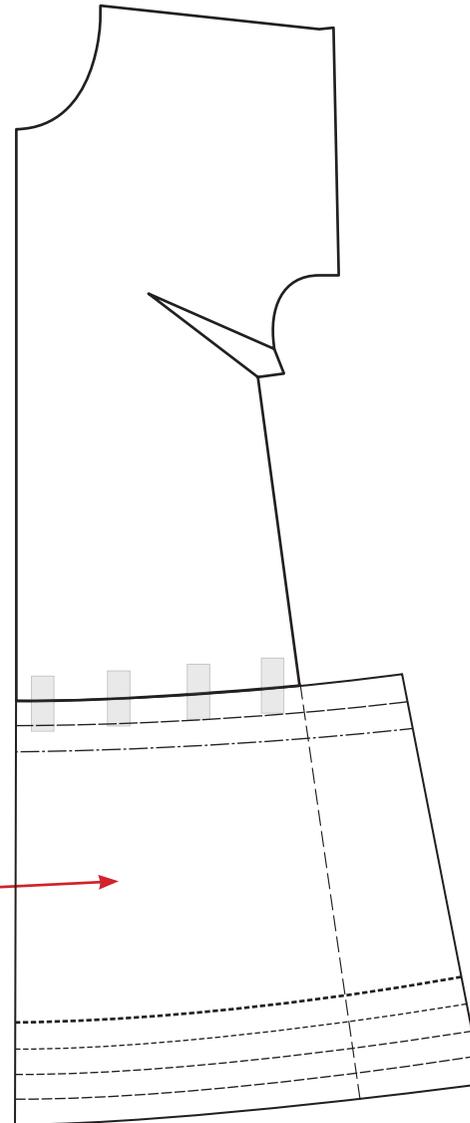
The video explains changing the length.

 [ModularME Dress Pattern](#)

4

Join the Dress Module pattern pieces to the ModularME #1 Top Pattern pieces

Dress Module pattern piece matching your hip size 



Keeping track of your pattern pieces

It is easy to keep track off your pattern pieces using the following steps:

- 1.** Make a master copy of your custom top pattern once you have made your toile and made any necessary adjustments.
- 2.** Make master copies of each of the module pattern pieces too incorporating any changes you may make. ie. Yoke module. Make a master copy of the yoke pattern and bodice pattern and keep them together ready for when you want to make another top.
- 3.** Record all pattern markings, the sizes and date as well.

6 Trace your front dress pattern piece

Pin Pattern Trace (or tissue paper or something similar) over your taped pattern pieces.

Trace around the outside edges of the combined front pattern pieces to create your new dress pattern in either of the following ways:

6A Your top pattern hasn't been graded to different size at the hemline (standard pattern size without alteration).

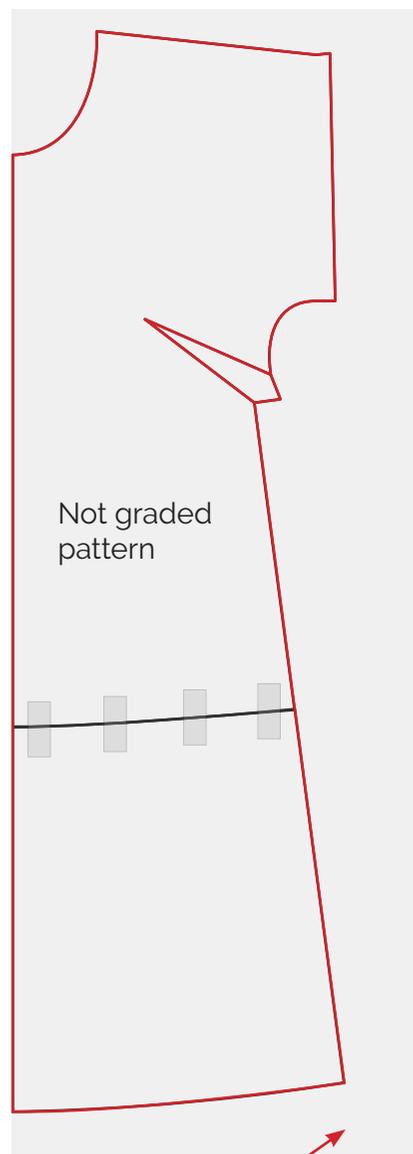
Trace along the combined outline of the top pattern and the added dress module to create the complete front dress pattern piece. Also trace the placement of the dart.

6B Your top pattern has been graded to a different hip size.

Extend a grading line from the bottom of the dart (point A) in a straight line to the top point of the Dress Module pattern piece that corresponds to your hip size (point B). This line should already be on your modified Top Pattern piece. Keep this grading line straight, extending it until it intersects with the cut extension line of your Dress Module pattern piece (point C).

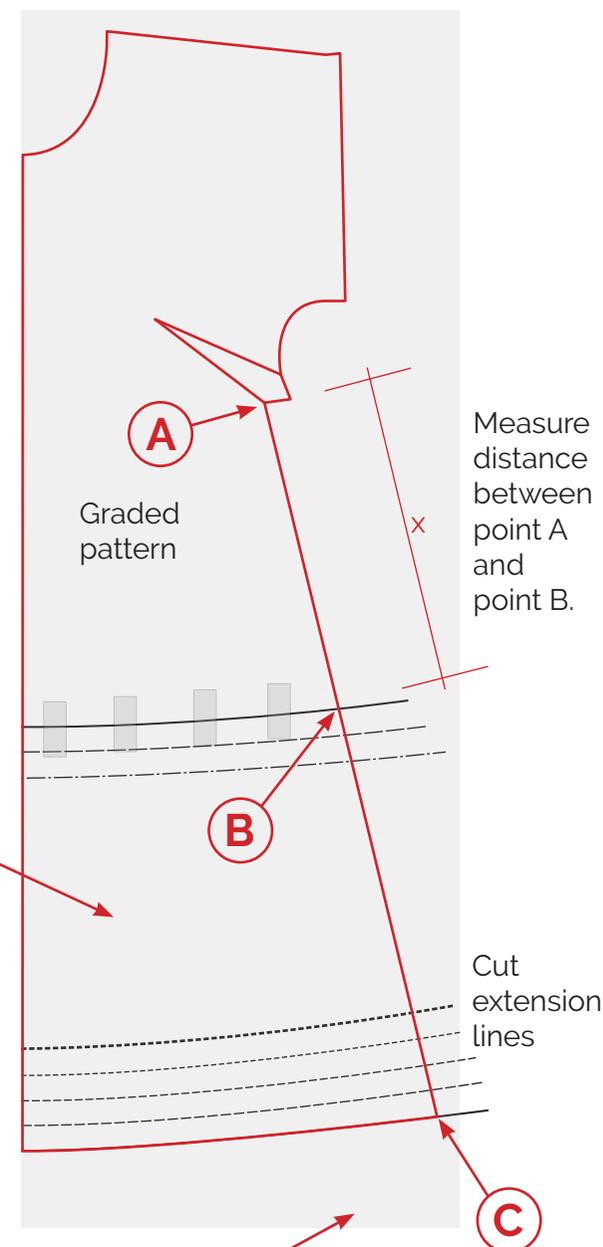
Trace around the outline of your graded dress pattern, including the placement of the dart.

6A Not graded pattern



Pattern Trace

6B Graded pattern



Pattern Trace

7 Trace your back dress pattern piece

Using the same concept you used to create the front pattern piece you can now make the back pattern piece.

7A Your top pattern hasn't been graded to different size at the hemline (standard pattern size without alteration).

Trace along the combined outline of the top pattern and the added dress module to create the complete the back dress pattern piece.

7B Your top pattern has been graded to a different hip size.

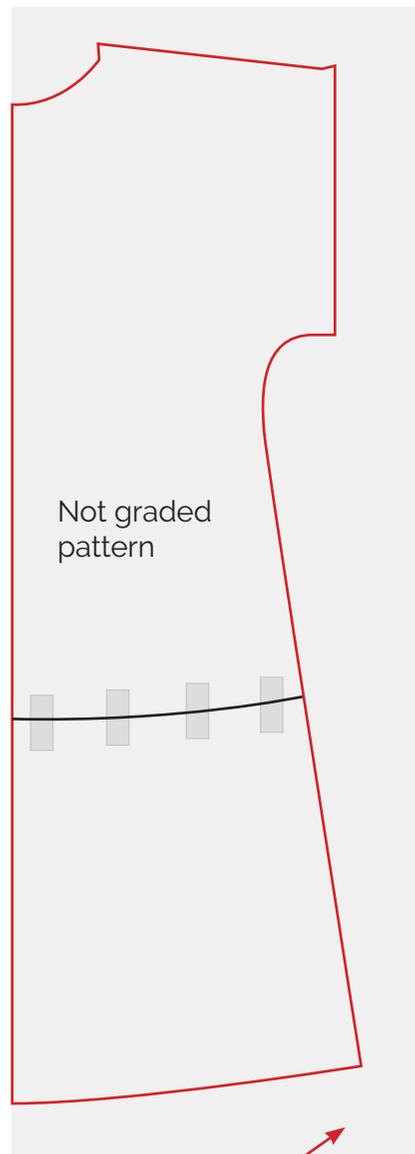
Go to the front pattern you have just completed. Measure the distance between **point A** and **point B** on the front pattern piece. Let's call this distance "x".

Now measure up from **point B** on the back pattern piece that same distance "x" to mark **point A**.

Extend a grading line from **point A** in a straight line through **point B** (this line should already be on your modified Top Pattern piece) until it intersects with the cut extension line of your Dress Module pattern piece at **point C**.

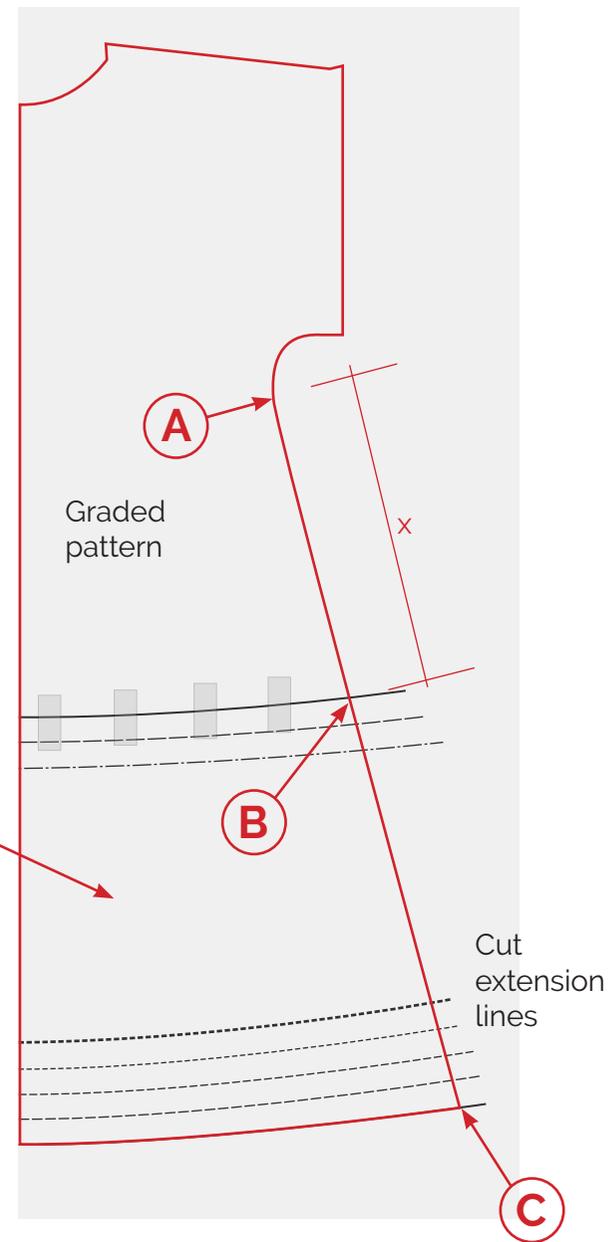
Trace around the outline of your graded dress pattern.

7A Not graded pattern



Pattern Trace

7B Graded pattern



8 Mark your new dress pattern

Mark your new pattern pieces with the following relevant information:

- ✂ Pattern Name
(ModularME #1 Dress Pattern)
- ✂ Centre front, place on fold
- ✂ Centre back, place on fold
- ✂ Size
- ✂ Date

9 Make your dress!

Make your dress including other modules as desired. Revisit the ModularME #1 Top Pattern for instructions.

Remember that the hem allowance on the Dress Pattern is 3cm.

10



Happy dance time!

You've made your own dress pattern - and you know it will fit you perfectly!