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A Kimono Sleeve with Underarm Gusset

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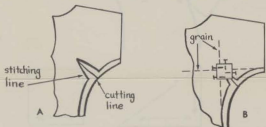
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a kimono sleeve with underarm gusset

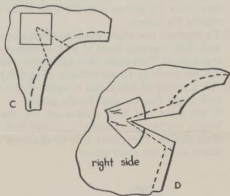
An underarm gusset is used to provide ease and prevent strain at the underarm seam in a kimono sleeve.

I. Method for a One-Piece Gusset (Figure 1)

1. Mark seam and cutting line on sleeve, and stitching line on gusset. Use small stitches, 15 per inch. (1-A.)



2. Pin a 2-inch square of fabric, right sides together, over the end of gusset mark as reinforcement. Match grains. (Fig. 1-B.)
3. Stitch along the seamline through the patch. Blunt stitching at point of gusset. (One stitch across the point.) (Fig. 1-C.)



4. Slash on the cutting line between the stitching to within a thread of the point. (Fig. 1-D.)
5. Turn the facing inside and press with seam edge. Trim away the surplus material on the stay. (Fig. 1-E.)
6. Sew the underarm and side seam to the stitching line for the gusset.

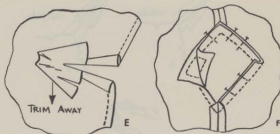
By Anna D. Walker, Extension Clothing Specialist

with underarm gusset

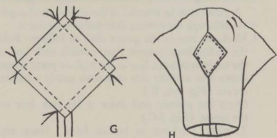
a kimono sleeve

HOW TO MAKE

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7. Pin the gusset to the slashed edges just inside of the stayseam and stitching. Match markings. Do not round the corners. Baste and stitch. (Fig. 1-F.)
8. Press the seam away from the gusset. Stitch each side of gusset separately. Start at edge of gusset with bodice side up and stitch from one end of gusset to the other following seamlines marked on gusset and bodice. (Fig. 1-G.)
9. Restitch from outside if desired for extra strength. Overcast seam if a finish is necessary. (Fig. 1-H.)



II. Method for Two-Piece Gusset (Figure 2)

1. Mark stitching and slash lines on bodice, back and front. Mark stitching lines on gusset. (Fig. 2-A.)

- Reinforce slash by:
 - Staystitching on stitching line. Instead of stitching to a point, take one small stitch across the point; or—
 - Stitch tape or piece of fabric on the stitching line (to the right side of the garment). Cut on the slashline to the point. Turn the tape or fabric to the inside and press. (Fig. 2-B-B₁.)
- With right sides together, match the stitching line of the gusset to the stitching line of the bodice front. Pin and baste. Stitch from edge to point; make stitches small. Back track at point for greater strength. Leave needle in garment and turn to stitch a second side of the gusset. (Fig. 2-C.)
- Top-stitch if desired. (Fig. 2-D.)
- Insert the gusset in the bodice back as in the bodice front.
- Join the underarm seams, matching the notches and gusset edges.

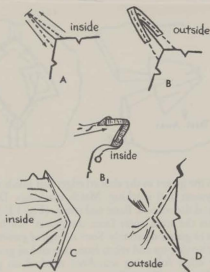


Figure 2.

III. Inserting a Gusset Without a Pattern (Figure 3)

A gusset may be inserted at the underarm of a garment although the pattern does not provide for it.

- Mark the line of the gusset slash as follows: Fold the bodice front pattern from outside neck line to the underarm seam line at the highest point where sleeve area and the side area most nearly coincide, crease. (Fig. 3-A, B.) Open the pattern and draw a $3\frac{1}{2}$ -inch line on the crease. (Fig. 3-C.) Transfer marking to bodice fabric, front and back. (This is the slash line.) Staystitch each side of slash line, tapering from $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch at underarm edge to nothing at point.

2. Make gusset pattern:

Two-piece gusset: Cut two gusset pieces for each sleeve (short sides on straight of grain and about $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches long.) (Fig. 3-D.) Insert as for two-piece gusset.

One-piece gusset: Cut pieces of fabric on straight of grain and about $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches square. (Fig. 3-E.) Insert as for one-piece gusset.

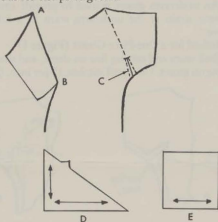


Figure 3.

IV. Gusset for Torn Underarm (Figure 4)

A gusset may be inserted in a garment with an unmounted sleeve, which has torn at the underarm. (Fig. 4-A.)

- For a front tear no longer than $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, slash the back of the bodice an equal amount. For a front tear more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, slash the back of the bodice exactly $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches.
- To reinforce raw edges, machine-stitch around tear and slash, tapering from $\frac{1}{2}$ inch at seam to nothing at point. Turn under the edges, so as to just conceal the stitching. Crease or baste. (Fig. 4-B.)
- Cut a square of fabric (on straight of grain) one inch larger than the slash for the gusset.

If the front and back slashes are not the same length, cut the gusset accordingly, one inch larger than slashes. The gusset will be diamond shape. Insert as for one-piece gusset.

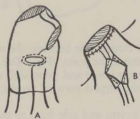


Figure 4.