

## Nightgown



I designed this nightgown for my mother, age 88. She wanted something pretty - not trendy, not sexy, and not a t-shirt – in other words, something in a style similar to what she has always worn. I didn't want facings and I didn't want to bind the armhole edges. Dress Shop and Fashion Designer had exactly what I wanted - a lined yoke with soft gathers above the bust.

I chose knee length for my mother, but you can choose whatever length you like.

### How I created the nightgown

#### Design choices

- Shirtdress
- Knee length
- Sleeveless
- Underarm yoke
- Scoop neck
- No closure

#### Options

- Shoulder extension = -1" (to raise the strap higher on the shoulder)
- Hem width = 1"

#### Ease

- Armhole ease = 1"

#### Dart tool

- Low yoke (both front and back)
- 3" yoke gather (top and bottom).

#### Neckline Designer

- Front neck depth = 6"
- Back neck depth = 5"

## At the Computer

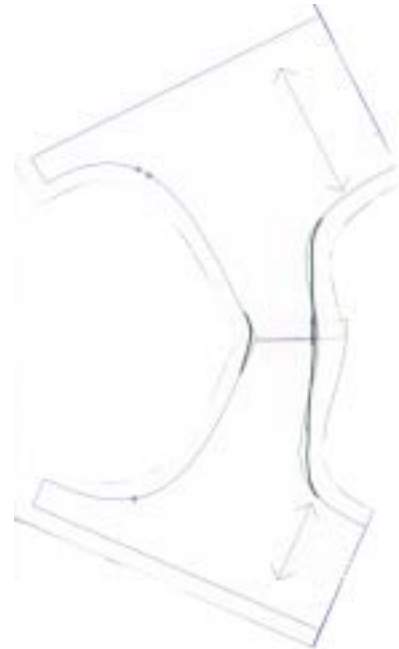
Check all the settings to make sure they stuck. Make any adjustments needed. Note that scaling for different sizes could give you slightly different numbers.

## Pattern prep

Redraw the neckline curve to make it more attractive. To do this, I like to match the front and back at the shoulder seams, then redraw the curve so that it flows smoothly from the front to the back. You can see what I did in the diagram. Yours may be different.

True seam allowances.

*Optional: With Mother's measurements the back seam angled out. Because I had plenty of ease, I chose to straighten this seam with my pencil. Look at your own pattern and decide if you want to straighten one or both seams or leave them as they are.*



## Cutting out the nightgown

Cut all pieces on the fold.

Cut two of each yoke piece.

## Assembly

There are several ways to construct the yoke lining. Here is one way:

- 1) Sew the lining to the front at the neckline, right sides together. Do the same with the back.
- 2) Sew the armhole seam, stopping about 2" from the shoulder seam. Do this for the front and the back.
- 3) Turn both pieces right side out and press.
- 4) Open both pieces at the shoulders and attach the front to the back at the shoulder seam. Sew the garment and the lining in one continuous seam. Make v-shaped cuts at the neckline edge to reduce bulk. Trim the seam. Press.

5) Sew the garment and lining side seams in one continuous seam.

6) Slip stitch the upper armhole opening closed.

If desired, top stitch 1/4" away from the neckline and armhole edges.

Stitch the side seams of the skirt.

Gather the skirt and attach it to the yoke, matching seams and centers.

Press under seam allowance of the yoke lining. Stitch in the ditch to attach it to the yoke, covering the gathering of the skirt.

I also added a piece of lace at the seam line for embellishment.

Hem skirt.

Enjoy!