

Dress Shop Two Point Poncho

The Two point Poncho is a casual unfitted garment intended for knit fabrics or loosely woven fabrics that have drape and bias ease. (If you require a more fitted or shaped shoulder line, use the Cape pattern.)

The Poncho is perfect for quickly sewing up as a gift or as a first project for a young sewer. My daughter chose these loosely woven tweeds and fringed the edges for a quick finish. The black poncho has the easiest slit neckline and the brown poncho uses the boat neck. All necklines create some draping on the shoulder with less draping in stretchy fabrics as they stretch over the shoulder joint better.



Fig. 1. Black tweed poncho with slit neck and mock button shoulder seam.



Fig. 2. Brown poncho with bound boat neck and fringed edges

Measurements

The poncho drafts from a size chart but only uses a few of the measurements. This is a perfect time to use the standard sizes for sisters, nieces or grandkids. Load the pattern from the File / Load Pattern menu. Choose the neck and sleeve length options from Mia.

Measurement pointers if you need to adjust:

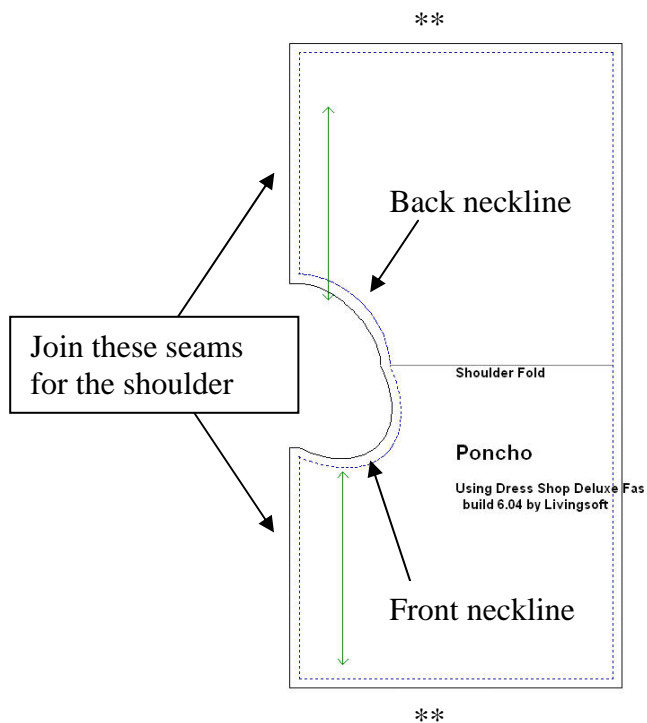
- The Slit Neck uses the Around Head measurement.
- If other necklines are too narrow or wide, temporarily adjust the Shoulder measurement (but do not save the chart changes).
- Sleeve length uses the Overarm Length and Elbow Depth measurements.

Pattern. Note: You only need to use the Front pattern piece. Ignore the Back piece.

The poncho drafts as a one-piece pattern. The seam falls on one shoulder and the other shoulder is a fold. With the Scoop and Ballerina necklines, the front is the lower portion of the pattern. On other necklines, the front and back are interchangeable. On the slit neck the left edge is straight but has two notches to mark the neck opening.

You can save paper if you like by only printing the neckline portions of the pattern and using the Dress Shop grid to get the length and width of the full piece.

If you would like an asymmetrical poncho with one shoulder seam longer than the other (or your fabric is just too narrow!), you can manually add the same amount of length to the two edges marked alongside with **



Cutting

For an adult full sleeve length poncho, you will probably need fabric wider than 75 cm/ 30". Knit fabrics may be cut across the grain but again the 150 cm/ 60" width maybe too short as the pattern is like two squares. Check your pattern dimensions and piece the fabric before cutting if necessary.

For knit fabrics cut binding across the grain, and for wovens cut binding on the bias. For the brown poncho I was able to cut 3 cm/ 1 ¼ " wide binding from the neck waste and I pieced the strips together.



Construction

Sew the shoulder seam before finishing the neck edge.

Due to the smooth curve, all rounded necks (knit or woven) may be finished with a simple hem or binding. The Vee necks are best finished with binding.



The slit neck is the simplest of all and can be done in two ways.

1. Sew the shoulder seam from neck notch to wrist edge. Press seam open. Press seam allowance down between notches (for the neckline) and stitch the hem.

OR

2. Sew the entire shoulder /neck edge with a wide hem e.g.: 2.5 cm / 1". Mark neck notches with pins. Fold the poncho in half and overlap the sewn hem from neck notches to wrist edge forming a shoulder seam. Sew a short seam across the hem width through both layers to provide a secure join. Evenly space buttons along the shoulder seam. Make the spacing between the last button and wrist edge half the distance of the other spacing for good visual balance. Sew on the buttons through both layers joining the shoulder seam together.



This is a great style to wear off the one shoulder and can be dramatic if the one side is cut longer than the other. Tip: Wear the shorter side on your right if you are right-handed.

The wrist / hem edges can be finished in any way you like: a plain hem, fancy overlocking, or add purchased fringing. On the two sample ponchos, I stitched a straight line 2 cm/ $\frac{3}{4}$ " away from the edge following the weave and then I pulled the extra threads out to make a self fringe.

I hope you enjoy sewing these as much as I enjoyed working on this for you.

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