



Beach Comber Halter Romper



The “Beach Comber” Romper is not only a must-have for the beach, but it also makes a great summer essential! It’s a one-piece outfit, but can be made with 2 different fabrics to give it the appearance of a 2-piece. It ties behind the neck, and both the back and waist have comfy elastic. You have the option to make the capri-length legs into shorts with a couple of simple steps (info on page 35). A snap button tutorial can be found at the end of this tutorial. The fit is roomy. The leg length might be almost full length on shorter girls;)

TIP: for older girls who don’t want a ruffle you can add your own binding or a border.

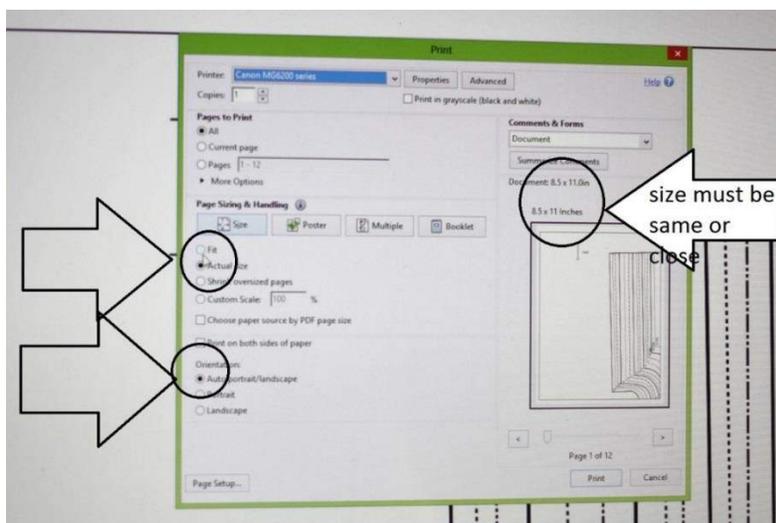
List of required materials:

- Regular woven cotton fabric or any lightweight material
- Sewing machine
- Overlock machine or serger (optional)
- Scissors
- Lip edge ruler or measuring tape
- Regular standard needle for woven material
- Thread
- Elastic- ½” and ¾”
- Iron
- 2 safety pins
- Fabric marker (optional)
- Double threaded hand sew needle with ends double knotted
- Snap button tape (optional)

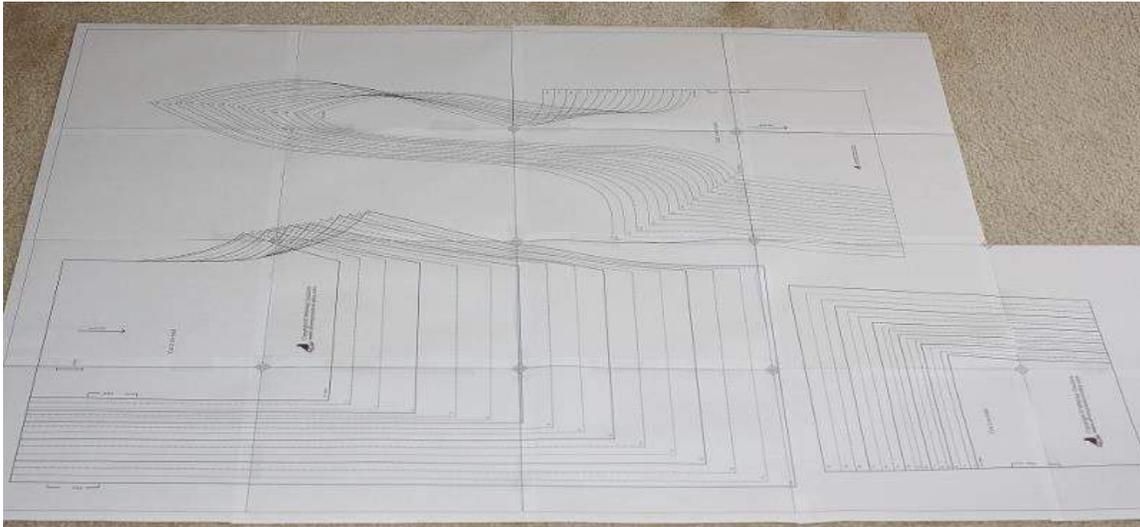
Seam allowance: 3/8” (or half a presser foot)

To print out your cutouts:

Find the templates at the very end of this tutorial. Print out your templates without scaling. Here is a screen shot of my print preview window:



This is the layout of the cutouts:



To trace your desired size templates:

Since the bodice has a ton of lines on the tie that are criss/crossing, please see this tutorial on how to trace a size without trouble:

<p>Using a marker, start tracing from the FOLD line on upwards.</p>	<p>Continue tracing until you reach the dense criss/cross point, then stop.</p>	<p>Now, start tracing the same size starting at the tip of the tie and go down towards the dense criss/cross point.</p>	<p>Now, stand back a bit and follow the connection of both lines through the dense criss/cross point with your eyes and then close the gap.</p>

Repeat tracing the other side and then cut out your template.

Cut out the fabric pieces according to this sizing chart:

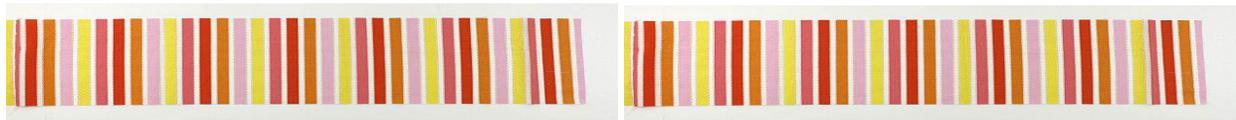
Sizing chart – based on 42 inch wide fabric WITH print direction (possible SHRINKAGE INCLUDED!!!)

Size	Appr. Capri inseam	Appr. Chest circumference	*Waist casing 1½"	Yardage for bodice outside (front & back) *You need the same amount for the bodice linings*	Yardage for pants (capri length)	Yardage for leg ruffles	Leg ruffles Cut 2 (W x L)	Back elastic ½" Cut 1	Waist elastic ¾" Cut 1
12-18m	6½"	23"	26"	¾ yd	¾ yd	¾ yd	27" x 5½"	8"	18"
2t	7"	24"	27½"	¾ yd	¾ yd	¾ yd	28" x 5½"	8 ¼"	19 ½"
3t	9"	25"	29"	¾ yd	½ yd	¾ yd	29" x 6"	8 ½"	20"
4t	10"	26"	30½"	¾ yd	½ yd	½ yd	30" x 6½"	8 ¾"	20 ½"
5t	11½"	27"	31"	¾ yd	1 yd	½ yd	31" x 7"	9"	21"
6	12½"	28"	32½"	¾ yd	1 yd	½ yd	32" x 7½"	9 ¼"	21 ½"
7	13½"	29½"	33"	¾ yd	1 ⅛ yd	½ yd	33" x 7½"	9 ½"	22"
8	14½"	30½"	33½"	¾ yd	1 ⅛ yd	½ yd	34" x 7½"	9 ¾"	22 ½"
9	15"	32"	34"	¾ yd	1 ¼ yd	¾ yd	35" x 8"	10"	23"
10	16"	33"	34 ¼"	¾ yd	1 ¼ yd	¾ yd	36" x 8"	10 ¼"	24"
11	17"	34"	34½"	¾ yd	1 ½ yd	¾ yd	37" x 8"	10 ½"	25 ½"
12	18"	35"	36"	1 yd	1 ½ yd	¾ yd	38" x 8"	10 ¾"	27"
13	19"	36"	37½"	1 yd	1 ½ yd	¾ yd	39" x 8½"	11"	28"
14	19½"	37"	39"	1 yd	1 ⅝ yd	¾ yd	40" x 8½"	11 ¼"	29"
15	20"	38"	42"	1 yd	1 ¾ yd	¾ yd	41½" x 8½"	11 ½"	30"
16	22"	40"	44"	1 yd	1 ¾ yd	¾ yd	42" x 8½"	11 ¾"	31"

I used the same print for the lining, but you can use a coordinating solid fabric so the print won't show through.

*the waist casing yardage is 1/16 yd.

These are your leg ruffles pieces after cutting them out:



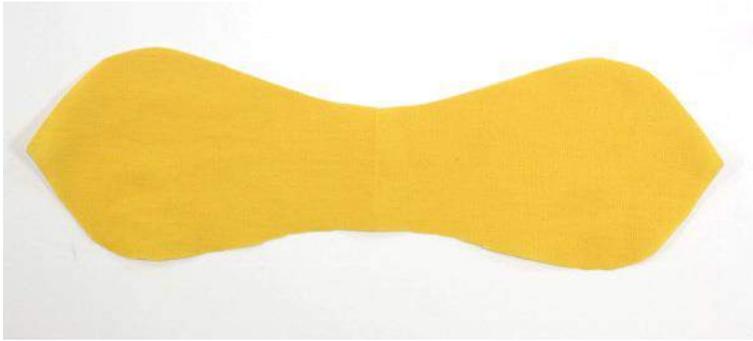
To cut out the bow:

Fold your fabric over sideways with print direction going down. Place the bow cutout onto the fabric fold as shown. Pin in place and cut around it.



4

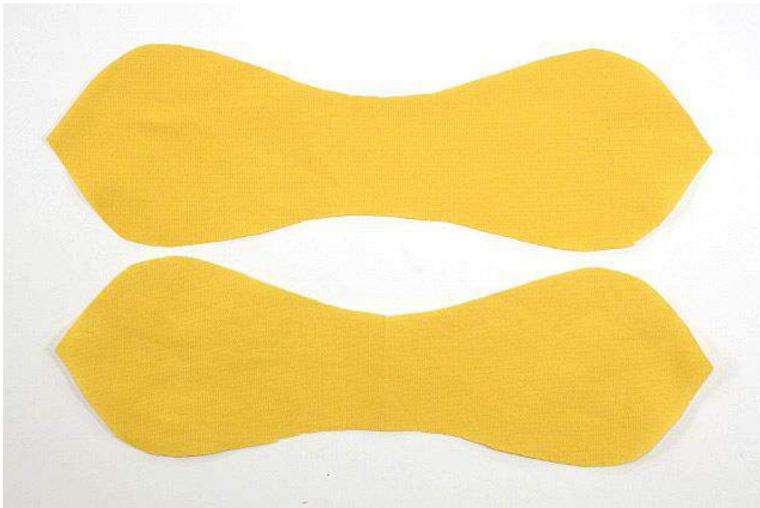
This is your cut out bow piece:



To cut the second bow piece (which should be identical), place the first cut bow piece onto the fabric as shown. Pin and cut around it:



Now you have 2 identical bow pieces which will be easy to sew together later:

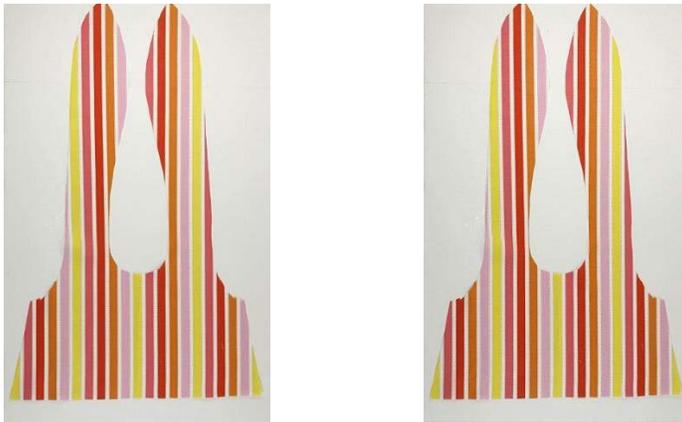


To cut out the romper pieces:

Fold your fabric over from side to side and place the bodice template onto the fabric. Fabric print must be going down (the same way as the bodice template direction). Align the template labeled "Fold" with the fabric fold.



Pin in place and cut around the template. Repeat this step so you will have 2 of the same bodice pieces (One for the main fabric and one for the lining. I used the same print for the lining, but you can use a coordinating solid fabric so the print/pattern won't show through.)

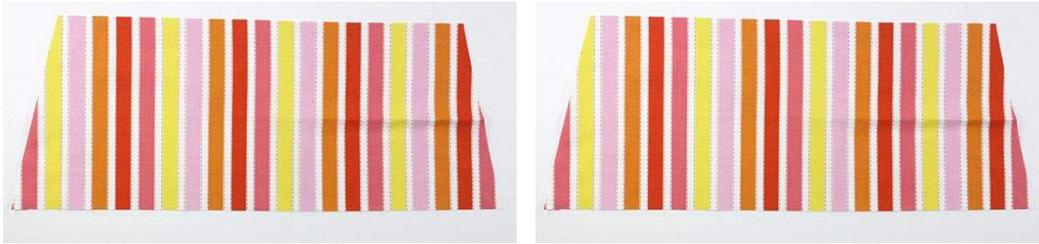


Repeat this step with the back bodice piece and pin it to the folded fabric as shown



6

Cut out 2 back bodice pieces (one main and one lining).



Repeat this step with the pants pieces and align the template with the fabric fold:



Cut out 2 leg pieces:

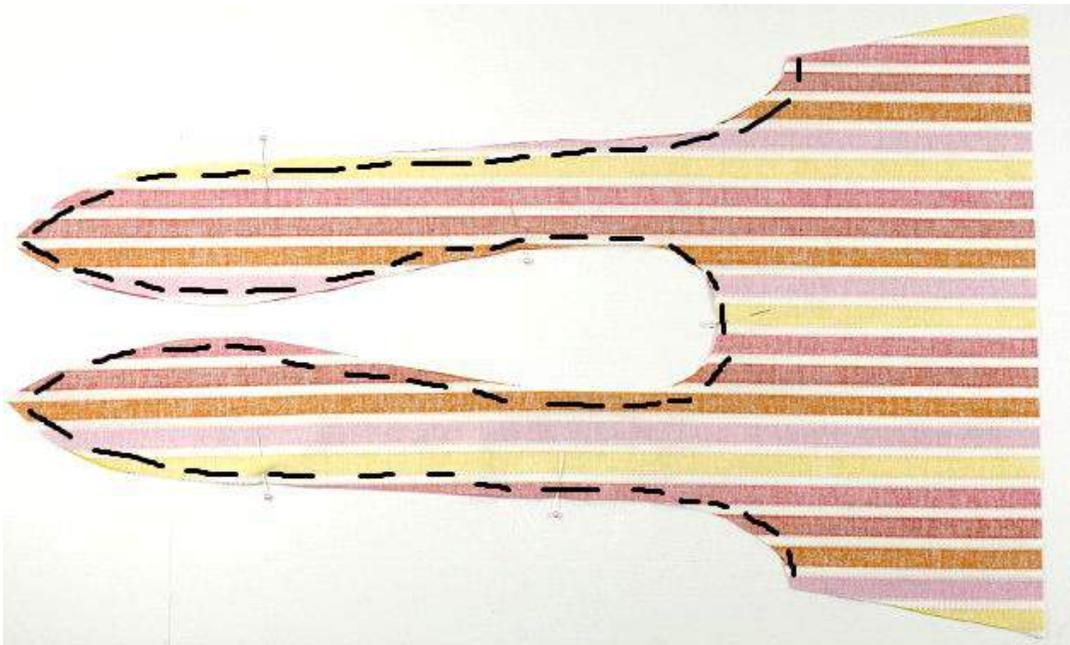


To construct the front bodice:

Secure the safety pins right into the center of the ties. Stay clear $\frac{3}{4}$ " from the edges:



Place both front bodice pieces with right sides together. Pin and sew along the dashed lines with backstitching at the beginning and end.



8

Trim off half of the seam allowance.



And trim off the tie points as shown:



To turn the bodice with right sides out, you want to “find” the safety pin inside the ties.



Grab the safety pins and feed them down towards the opening. Repeat this turning process with the other tie until your front bodice is turned with right sides out.



Lay it aside.

To construct the back bodice:

Place both back bodice pieces with right sides together and pin the upper (shorter) edge. Sew along the dashed lines with backstitching at the beginning and end.



Turn back bodice with right sides out and press both bodices flat.



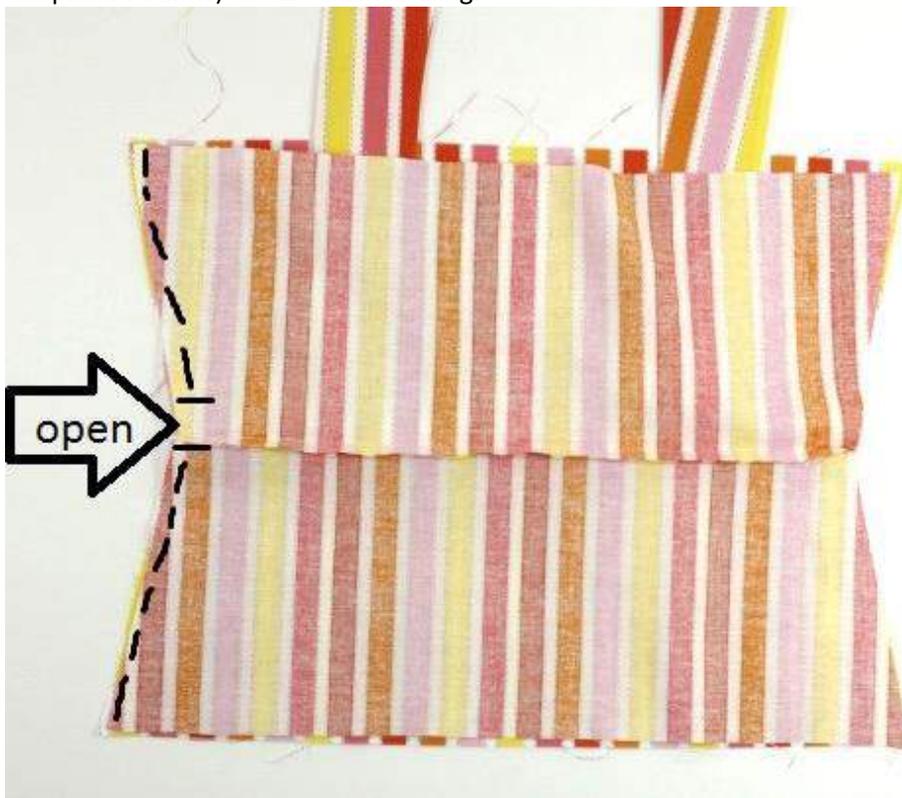
Tip: this would be a good time to add embroidery or appliques to your front bodice!

To sew both bodices together:

Flip the lining of both bodices up as shown:



Flip the back bodice to the side over the front bodice and pin the left side. Sew along the dashed lines leaving a 1" opening right underneath the back bodice's top edge (which is shown by the center seam in the picture below) for the elastic casing.



Sew the right sides and leave an opening, just as you did with the left side. Turn the bodice with right sides out. This is where one of your opening is now:



To make the elastic casing:

Turn your bodice with wrong sides (the lining) out and lay it with the back side in front of you and with your ruler and fabric pen, draw a straight line 1" from the top edge.



Sew along this line from side seam to side seam and backstitch the beginning and end. Sew another row right along the top edge with a seam allowance of $\frac{1}{8}$ ". This is now your finished casing. Go ahead and continue to topstitch along the top edge of the underarm, neckties, and neckline of the front bodice at $\frac{1}{8}$ ", too.



This step can also be done after you have sewn the pants to the bodice!

Secure a safety pin to one end of the elastic and insert it into the casing.



Once the other end of the elastic gets close to being pulled into the casing...



Pin through all layers of the back bodice and sew it in place along the dashed lines. Sew a couple of rows close to the edge of the casing:



15

Then, once the safety pin comes out, pin the beginning of the elastic as you did with the other end. Sew it in place.



This is your finished, sewn in elastic casing:



Finished bodice:



To make the pants:

On the legs, we are going to create a little box pleat to give the leg some definition. Place one leg piece in front of you with right side up.



Fold it in half from side to side.....



Either mark the side fold with a pin or just finger press it so a slight crease will form. With your fingers, gently press in the side fold on the leg bottom edge as shown:





And form a 1-1.5" pleat. Both sides next to the fold should be of equal size:



Pin both sides of the pleat in place:



...and sew it in place along the dashed lines with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.



Here is a view of the box pleat after sewing it in place:

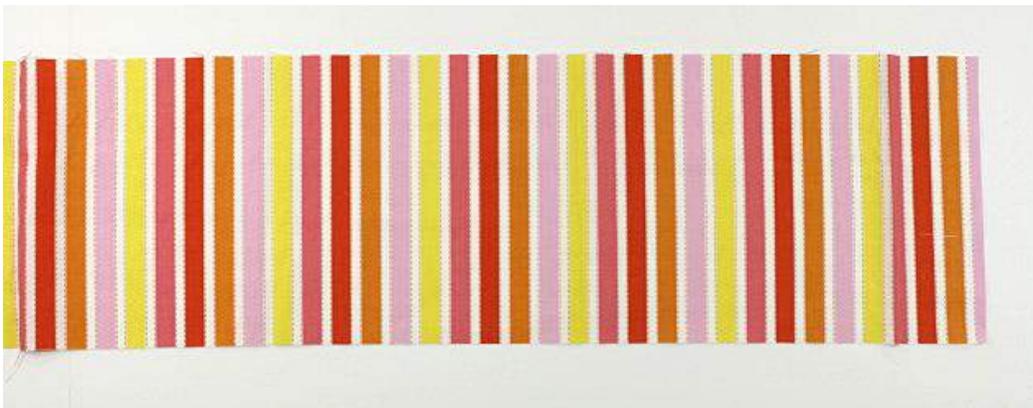


This is how it looks from the inside:

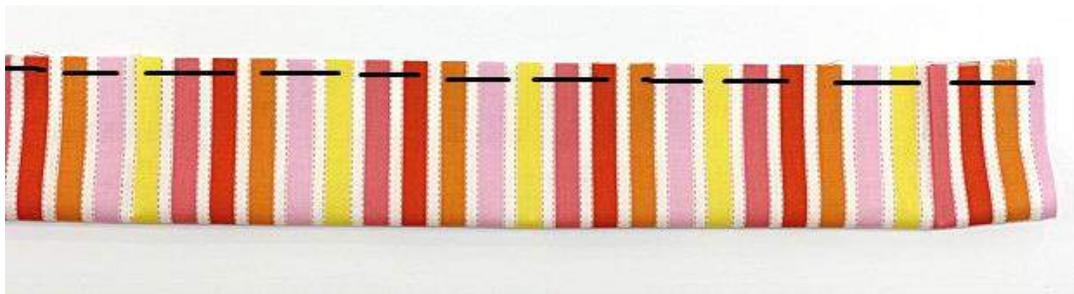


To add the ruffles:

Place one of your leg ruffle strips with the print direction going down (if applicable) in front of you.



Fold fabric in half with right sides out. To gather your fabric you can either set your machine to the longest stitch and the highest tension, or use your preferred method of gathering. Gather along the cut top edge along the dashed lines.



Repeat with the other leg ruffle.

Place the ruffle with the print direction upside down onto one of the unfolded shorts piece with right sides together. Adjust the gathers to fit the width of the leg. Align the gathered edge of the leg ruffle with the leg hem of the shorts. Pin in place and sew along the dashed lines.



Serge or zigzag stitch the seam.



Repeat with the other leg ruffle and other shorts piece.

Fold the seam allowance up underneath and press the seam flat. Topstitch along the dashed lines with a $\frac{1}{8}$ " seam allowance.



Repeat with the other leg.

To sew the legs together:

Place both shorts pieces with right sides together and pin the crotch/rise. Sew along the dashed lines with backstitching at the beginning and end.



Serge or zigzag stitch the raw edges.

Unfold your shorts, and this is how it looks now:



NOTE: If you adding snap button tape, please go now to the extra tutorial at the end of this one.

Continue here if you are NOT adding snap button tape.

Pin the inseam and sew along the dashed lines. Backstitch the beginning and end.



Turn your shorts with right sides out. This is what your shorts look like now:



To attach the bodice to the shorts:

You want to gather the shorts' backside. I placed a circle around the area to be gathered. Sizes 12m-2t will have the widest part to be gathered to accommodate for diaper volume. The bigger the sizes get, the less gathering is needed. Find the distance of the gathering stitch here:

12m- 2t= 6" to 8"	3t- 6= 4" to 6"	7- 10= 3" to 5"	8- 16= 2"
-------------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------



Place your bodice in front of you with the front facing you. With a measuring tape determine the middle and place a pin to mark it. Place the shorts underneath the bodice with the seam in the middle:



Fold the bodice down and place the top portion of the shorts inside the bodice. The shorts are now inside the bodice with right sides together and raw edges aligned. Take out the pin from the bodice and align the shorts seam and repin through all layers of bodice and shorts front side. Place another pin at the same area in the back, pinning bodice to shorts.



Pin around the entire circle and sew in place. Serge/zigzag stitch the seam allowance.



To make and add the waist casing:

This is your casing strip:



Flip it upside down and fold both long edges towards the center and press, like so:



TIP: For easier pinning, you want to insert a magazine or smaller cutting mat into the romper.

The casing is overly long so you can adjust it when you pin. Place casing around the waist seam as shown:



Fold down the right short edge $\frac{3}{8}$ " and starting at the center seam, pin the casing every 2-3" towards the right. Only pin through the front of the romper.



Once you come around the other side, trim off the excess of the casing, leaving $\frac{1}{2}$ " on.



Fold down the end $\frac{3}{8}$ " and pin to the romper. Sew the casing to the romper close to the folded edges of the casing, along the dashed lines. Best is to insert the bodice into your machine and start sewing the upper edge of the casing first, all the way around. Then come back to the beginning and sew the bottom edge of the casing. Backstitch the beginning and end every time.



This is now your sewn on casing. The center is left open so you can insert the elastic in a bit.



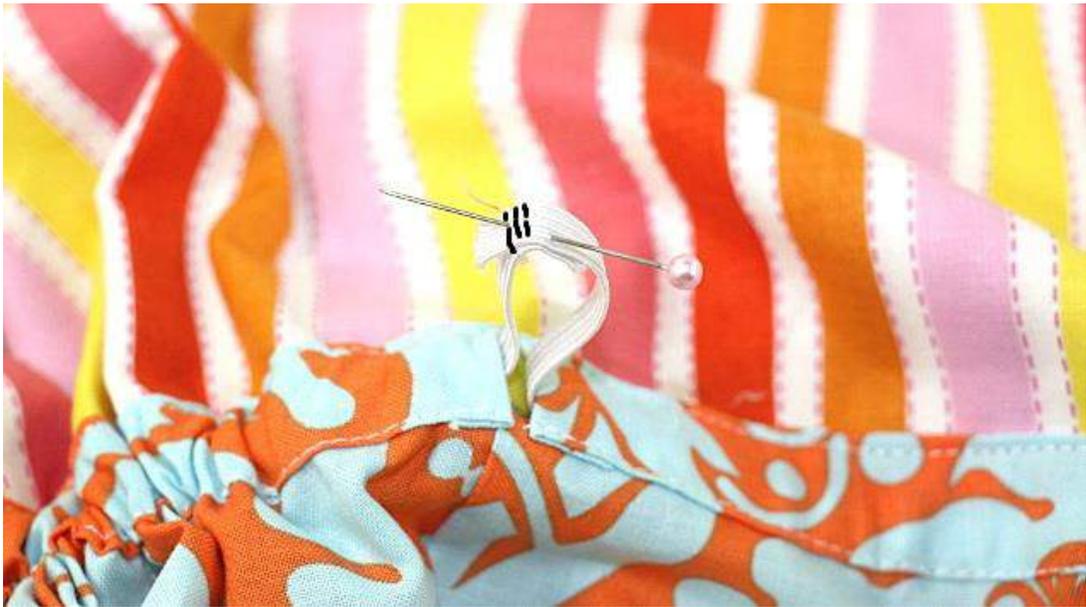
Here is a back view:



Secure a safety pin to one end of your elastic and insert into the casing:



Once both ends meet, pin and sew with your threaded hand needle at least 10 times back and forth.



To make the bow tie:

Place both bow tie pieces with right sides up, in front of you. Secure a safety pin into each corner at least 1" away from the edges.



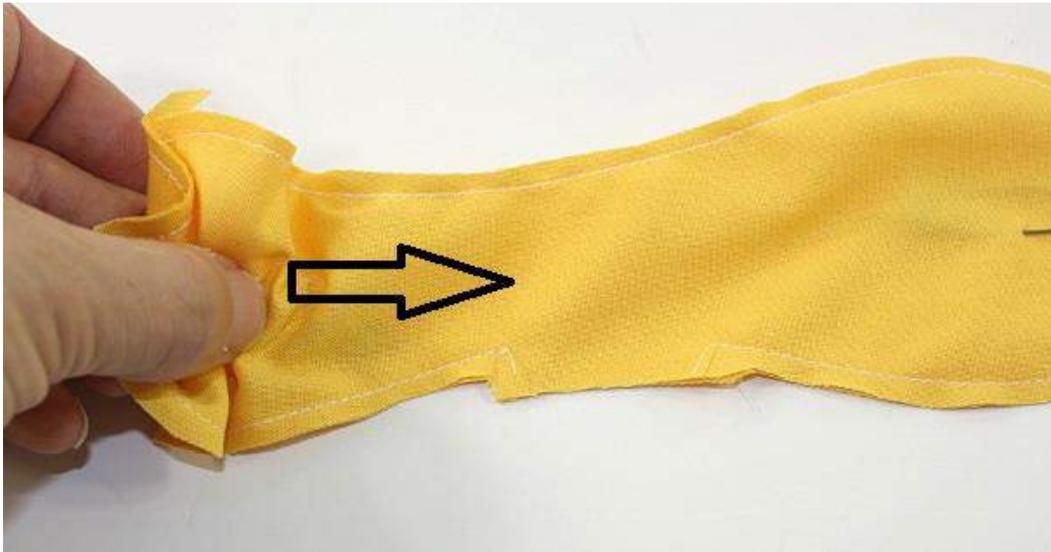
Put both pieces with right sides together (safety pins are inside) and pin all around it. Sew along the dashed lines, leaving a 1.5" opening in the center. Backstitch at the beginning and end:



Trim off half of the seam allowance except on the opening:



Grab one of the safety pins through the fabric and guide it towards the opening.



Pull the bow tie through the opening using the other safety pin, as well.



Once the bow tie is fully turned with right sides out, press it flat and top stitch along the outer edges. Backstitch the end.



Place the bow tie into the middle of the romper's front side. Pin and sew along the dashed lines, only through the front side of the romper:



Tie it into a knot and your romper is done!

The bow on the chest for a slightly different look:



Shorts romper:



Capri romper (on shorter girl):



Design examples:

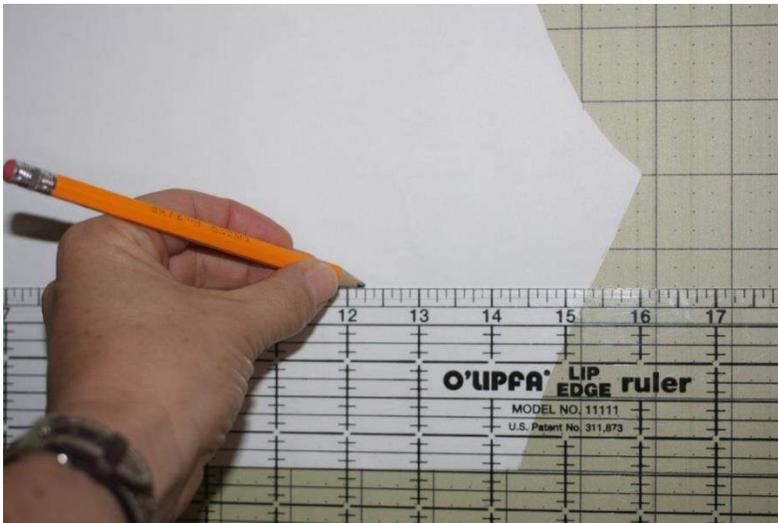


How to modify the legs to make shorts:

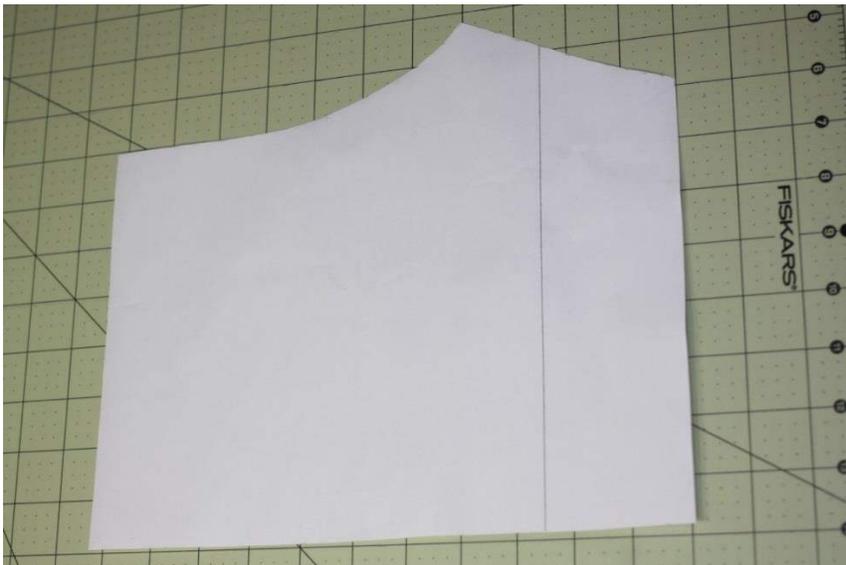
Place your leg template in front of you and draw a straight line across. Find the measurements for each size here:

12-18m=1.5"	2=2"	3=3"	4=3 ½"	5=4"	6=4 ½"	7=5"
8=5 ½"	9=5 ¾"	10=6"	11=6 ¼"	12=6 ½"	13=6 ¾"	14=7"
15=7 ½"	16=8 ½"					

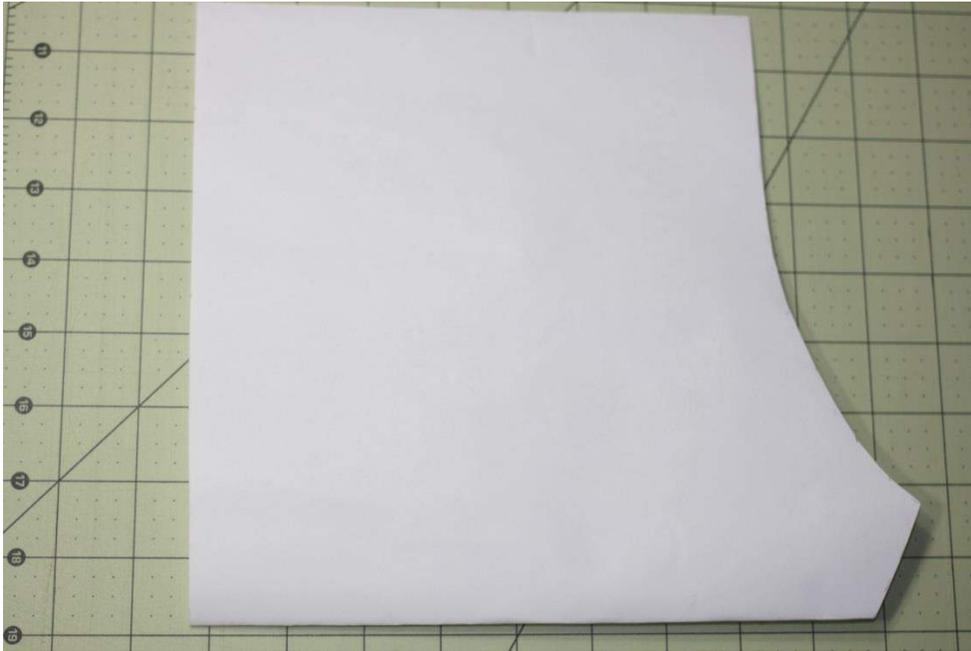
Select your size and draw the line according to the sizing chart above. My size 12-18m is 1.5" down from the crotch:



In this side view picture you can see the line I just drew:



Simply fold the template down along the drawn line:



Now your modified shorts template is ready to be used.

For instant download eBooks, please visit: <http://whimsycouturesewingpatterns.com>

Etsy shop: www.whimsycouture.etsy.com

Blog: <http://whimsycouturesewingpatterns.com/blog>

For questions, please email: whimsycouture@hotmail.com

Thank you so much for using this pattern!

Copyright © Whimsy Couture, 2014 (Do not copy or distribute without my consent.)



**Tutorial for adding snap buttons to the
legs of rompers/overalls & pants**



This tutorial is an addition and can be used for all pants, rompers, overalls etc. even store bought ones! For those you can rip the inner seams and pull all the loose threads and start from the beginning of this tutorial.

For handmade rompers/overalls, pants I suggest to go one size up in length to make up for the difference in the crotch area.

List of required materials:

- Sewing machine
- Serger/overlock machine (recommended but not required)
- Zipper foot
- Seam ripper (in case of a seam sewn wrong)
- Snap button tape
- Scissors
- pins
- Pants, overall, romper etc.

If you are adding snap buttons to your sewn garment, finish it up until you reach the inner legs which should be unsewn:



2

Serge/overcast/zigzag stitch the inner leg seams:



Take your snap button tape and lay it onto your legs of your garment to match up the position of the snap buttons. You want to have them equally positioned. Either mark the spot on your snap tape or leave it long in case you mismeasured.

Now separate the snap tape and lay one tape to the side.



3

Start by folding over the front side of your garment starting at the bottom leg hem. I have a ruffled romper so it doesn't matter 😊

Fold the inner seam over to about ¼ inch.....



.....and lay your snap button tape with the end folded under to about ¼ inch and pin it right on top of the folded leg seam. You may also press the folded edge.



4

Pin the snap tape along the folded seam and sew right along the edges of the snap tape with your zipper foot. Backstitch the beginning and end.

This is how the first sewn in snap tape should look like now:



Take your back side of your garment and fold the inner leg seam (your print should now face down) down to about ¼ inch.....



5

.....fold your snap tape end under to about ¼ inch and.....



Pin it right on top along of the folded seam:



6

This is how it should look now:



Sew along the snap tape's edge with your machine:



7

This should now be your sewn in snap tape:



Here is the finished look of both sides sewn in:



8

This should now be your finished and snapped together inseam. Ready to be worn and easy to open for diaper changes! 😊



For all questions or suggestions to make this pattern better please email me at

whimsycouture@hotmail.com

Thank you so much for using this pattern!

Copyright © Whimsy Couture/Denise Knapp, 2010 (do not copy or distribute without my consent)

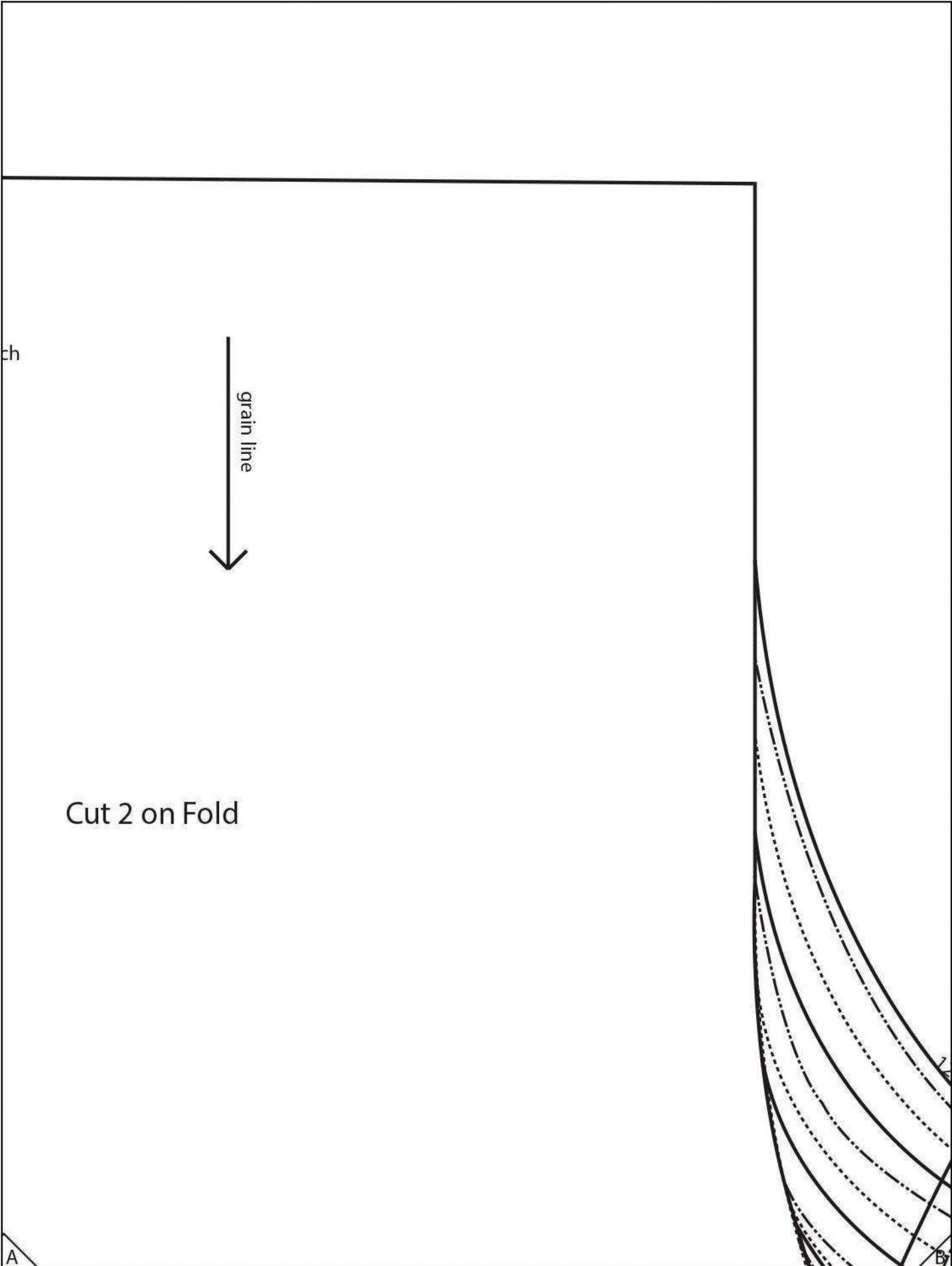
For more great patterns please visit www.whimsycouture.etsy.com/ and my blog

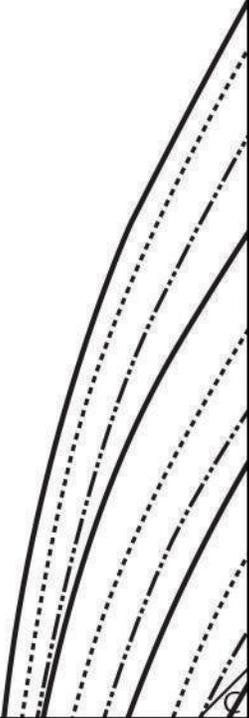
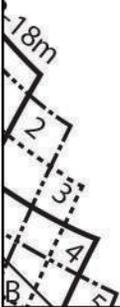
www.whimsycoutureboutique.blogspot.com/

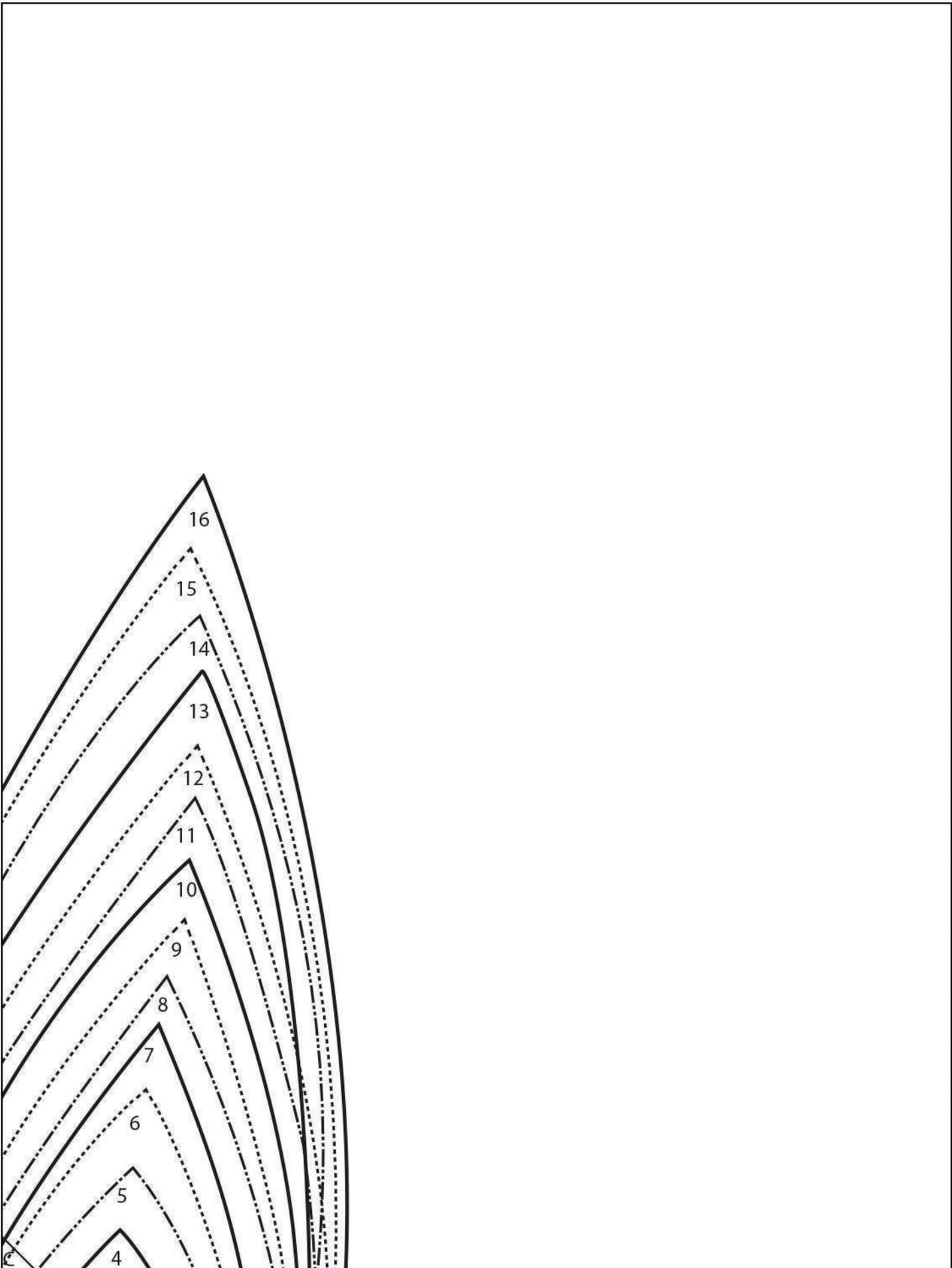
FOLD

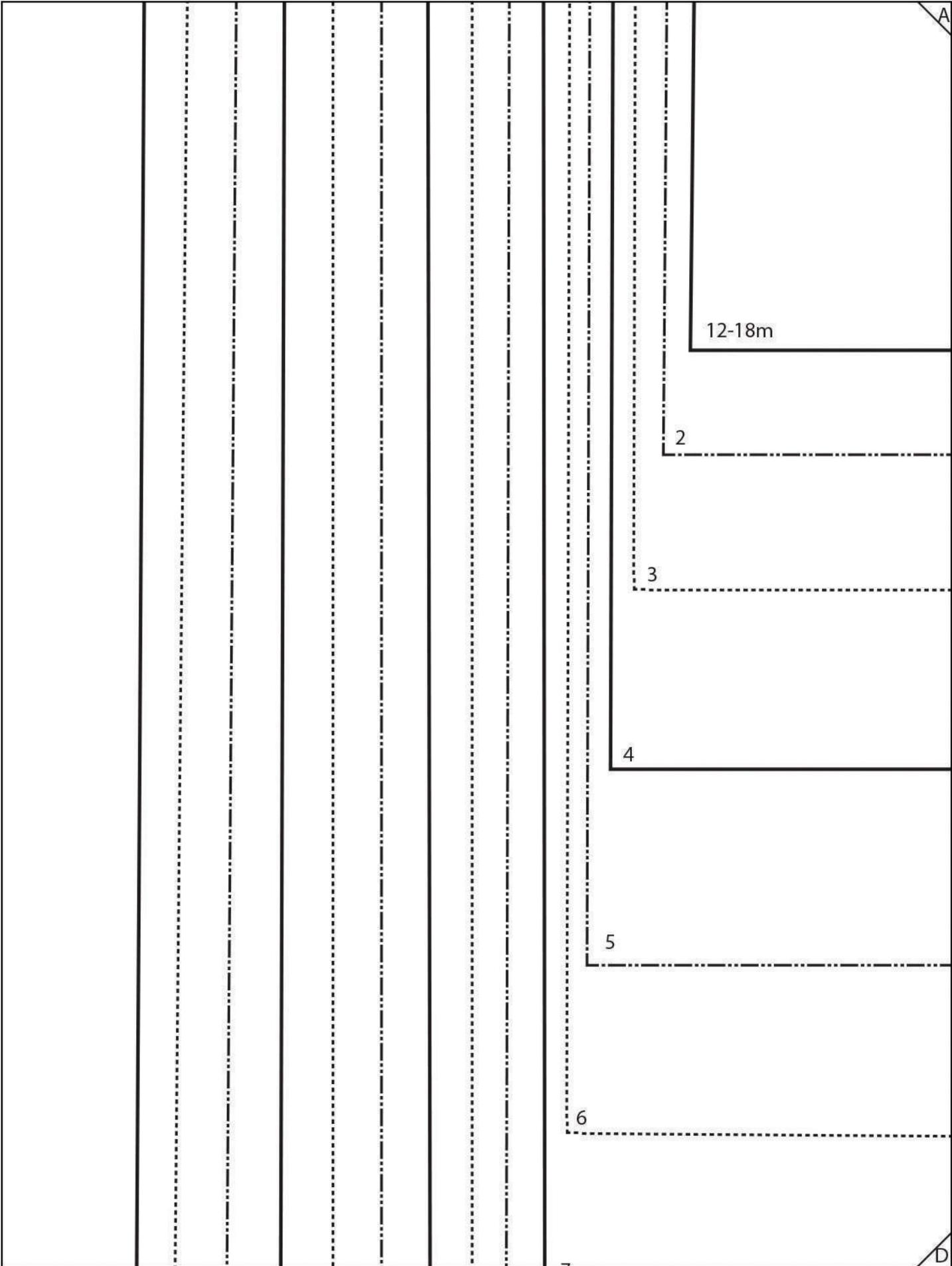
FOLD

1 in









A

12-18m

2

3

4

5

6

D

A

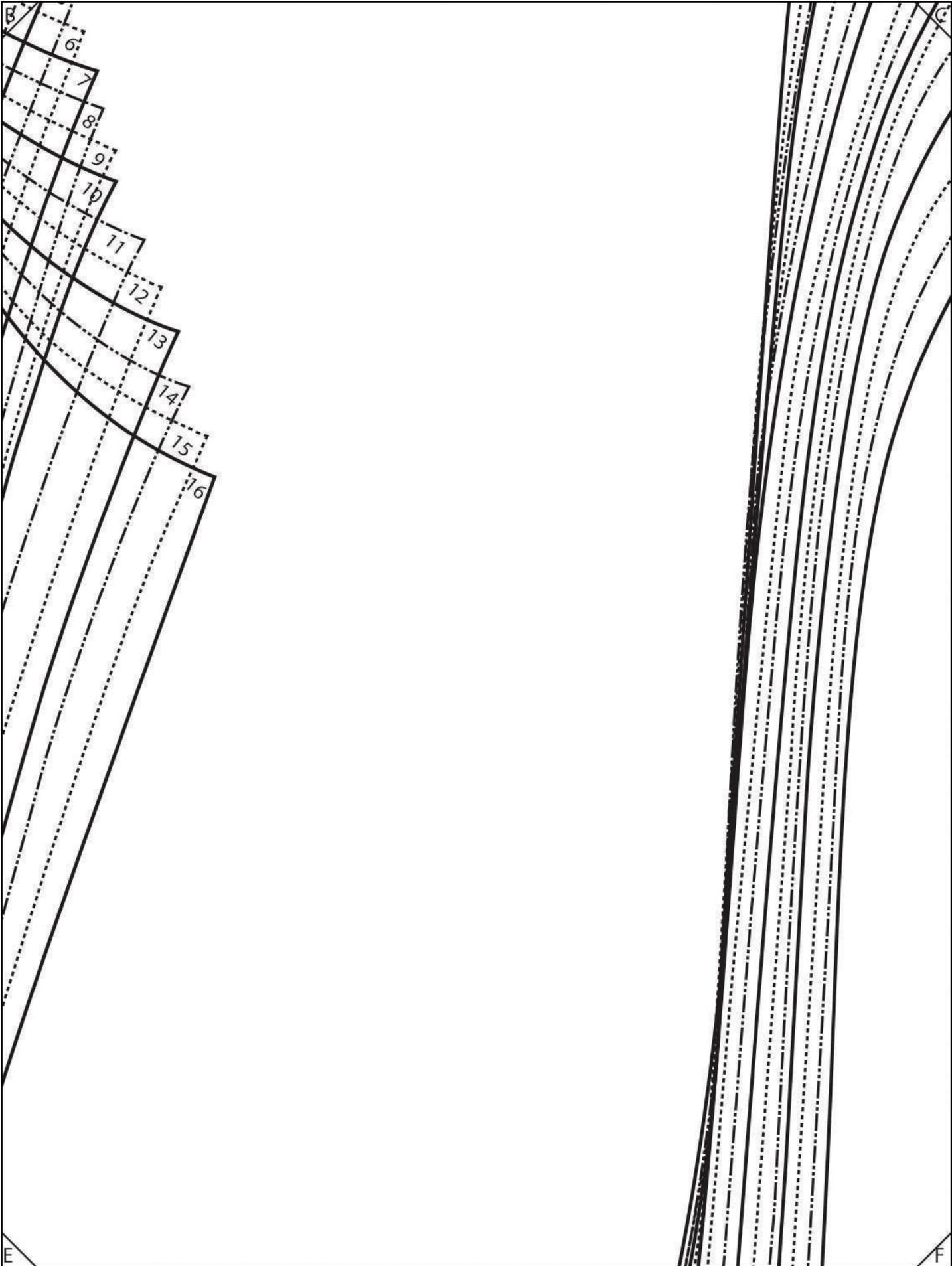
B

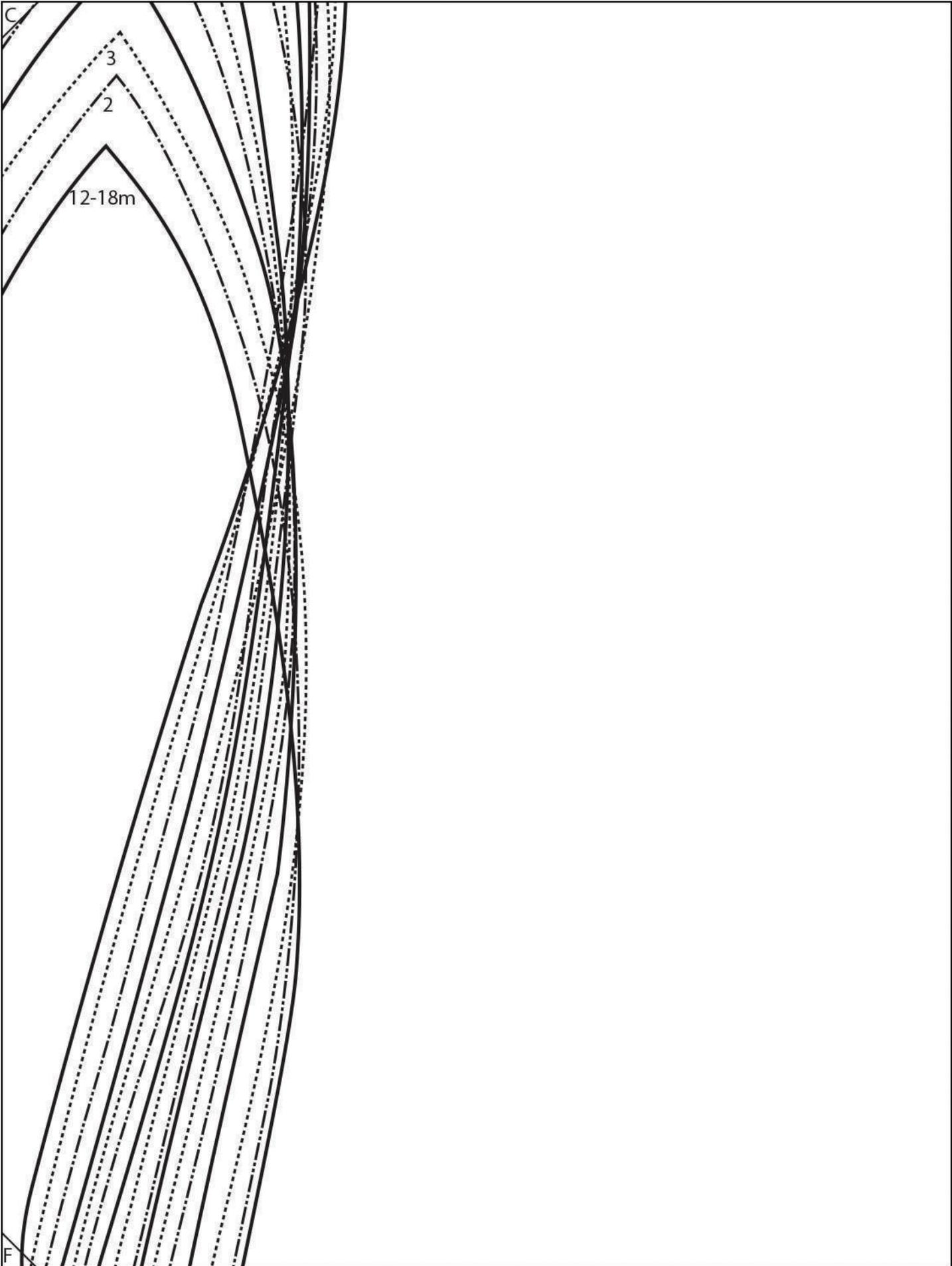


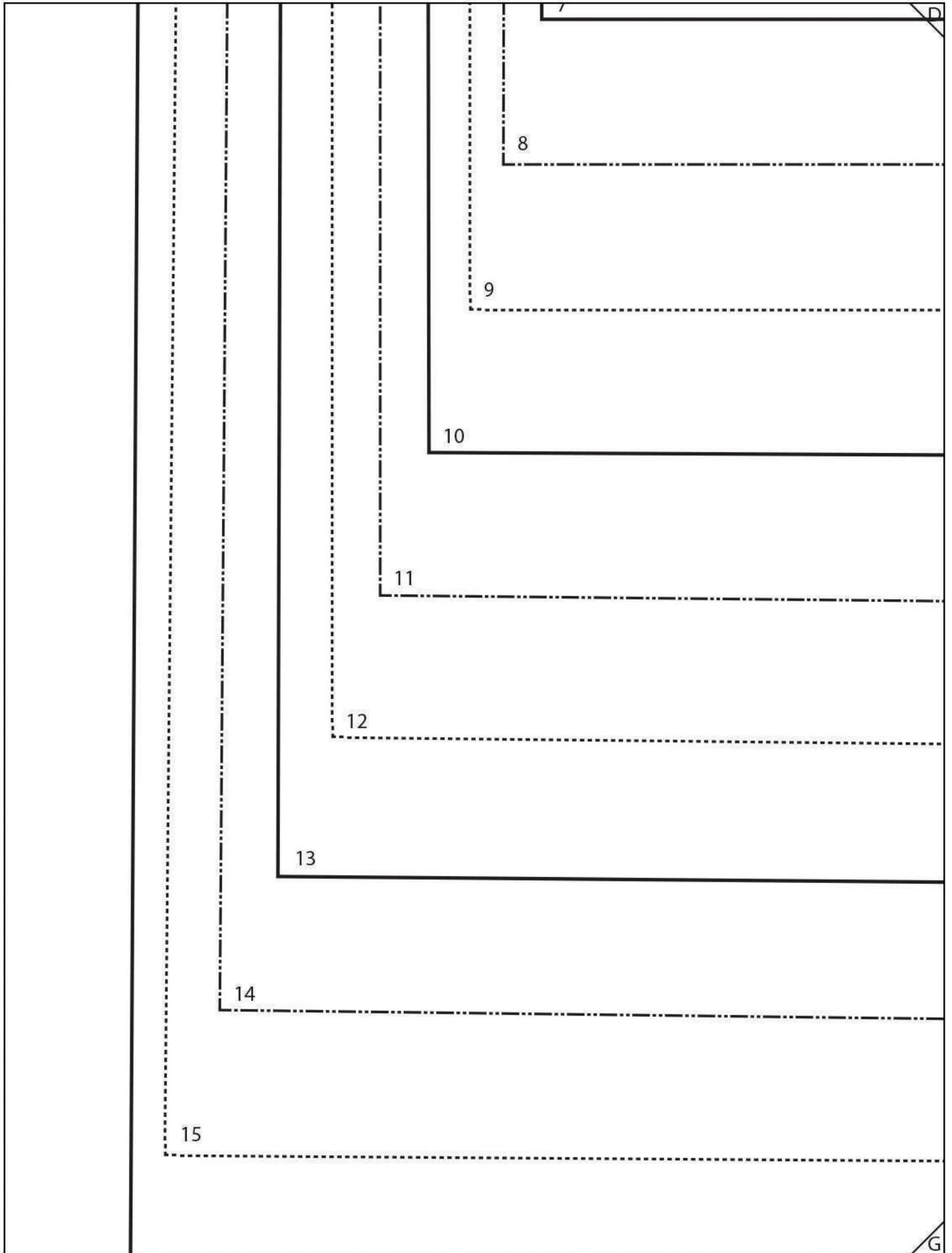
Copyright © Whimsy Couture
www.whimsycouture.etsy.com

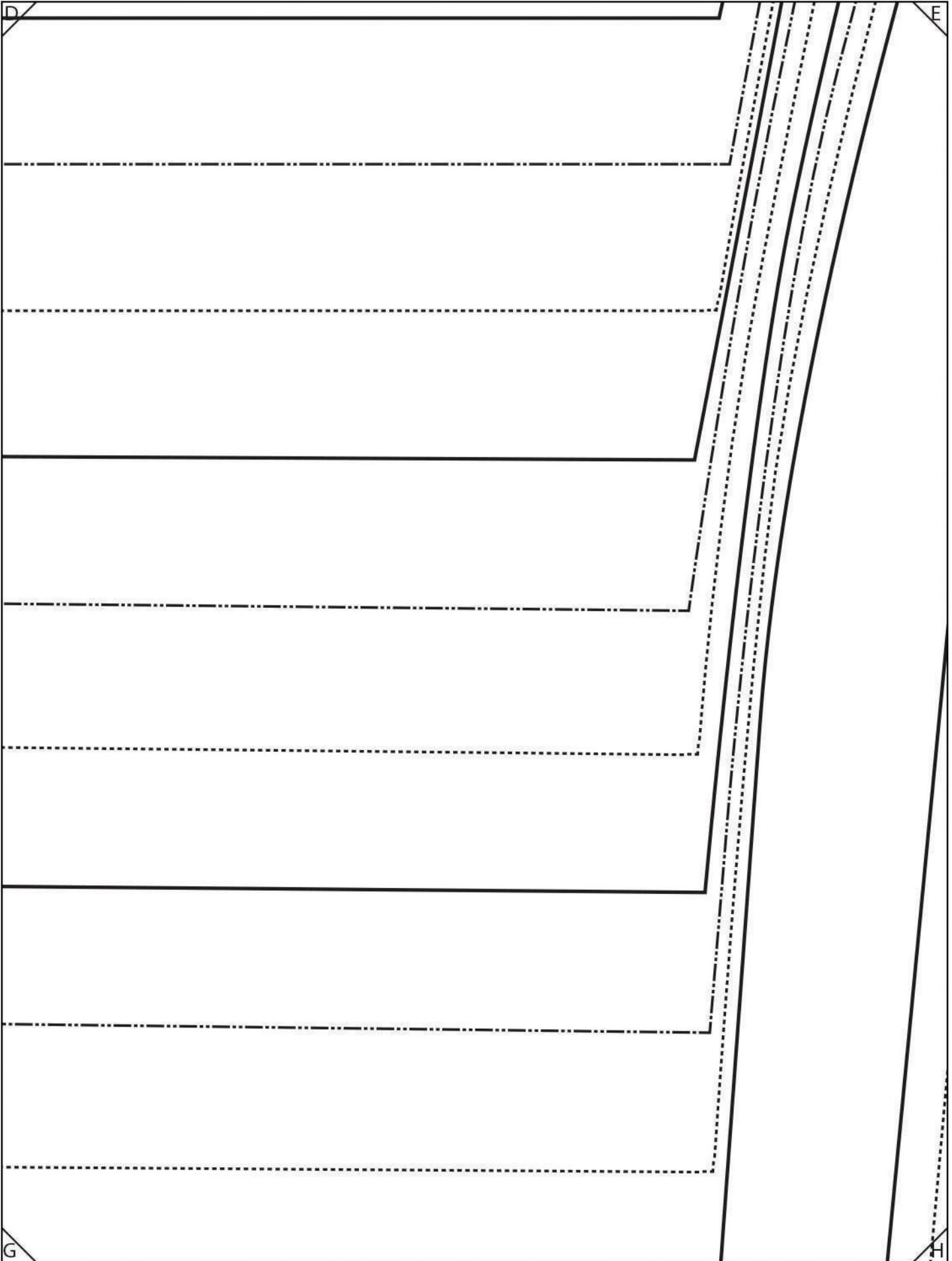
D

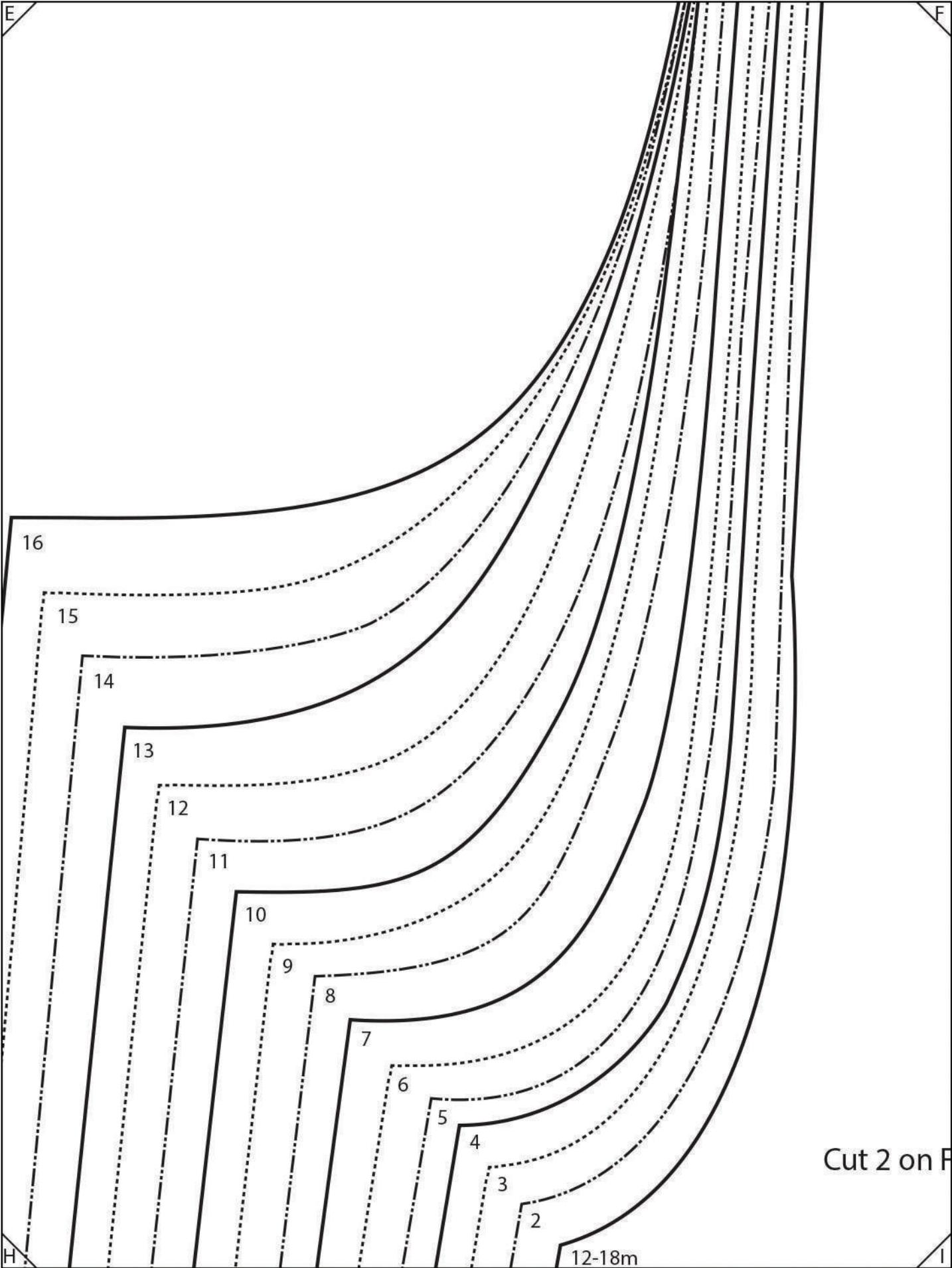
E





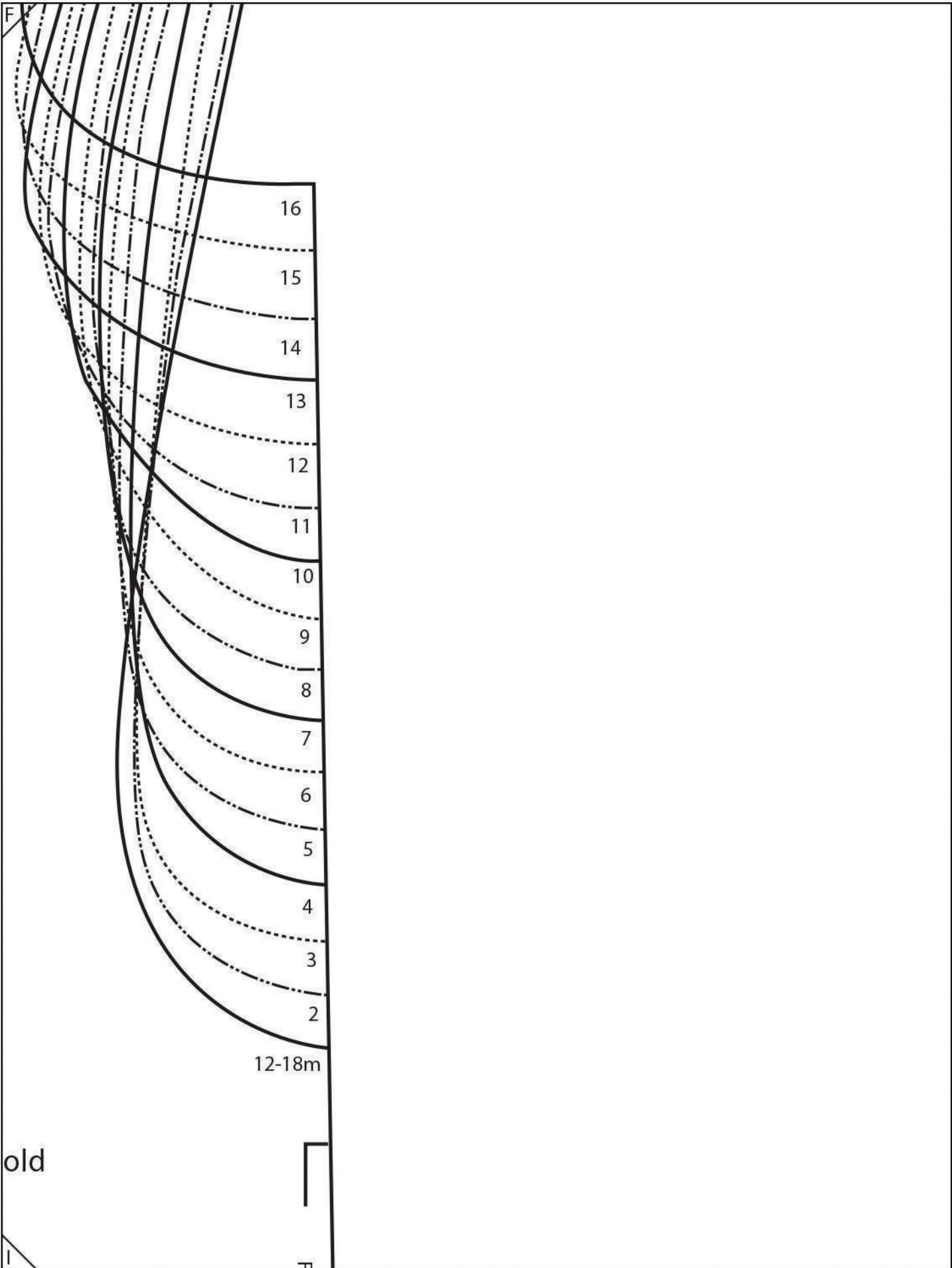


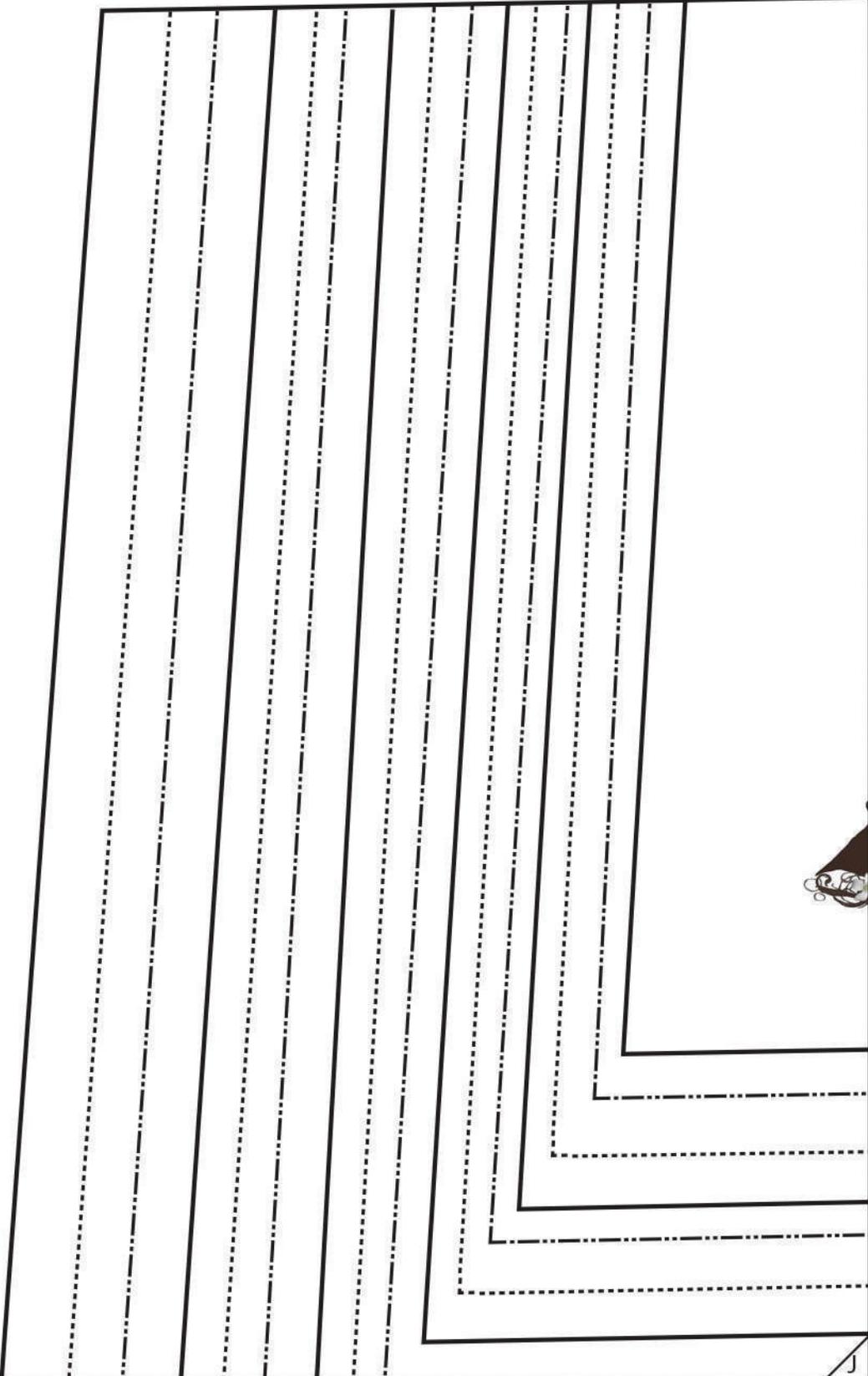


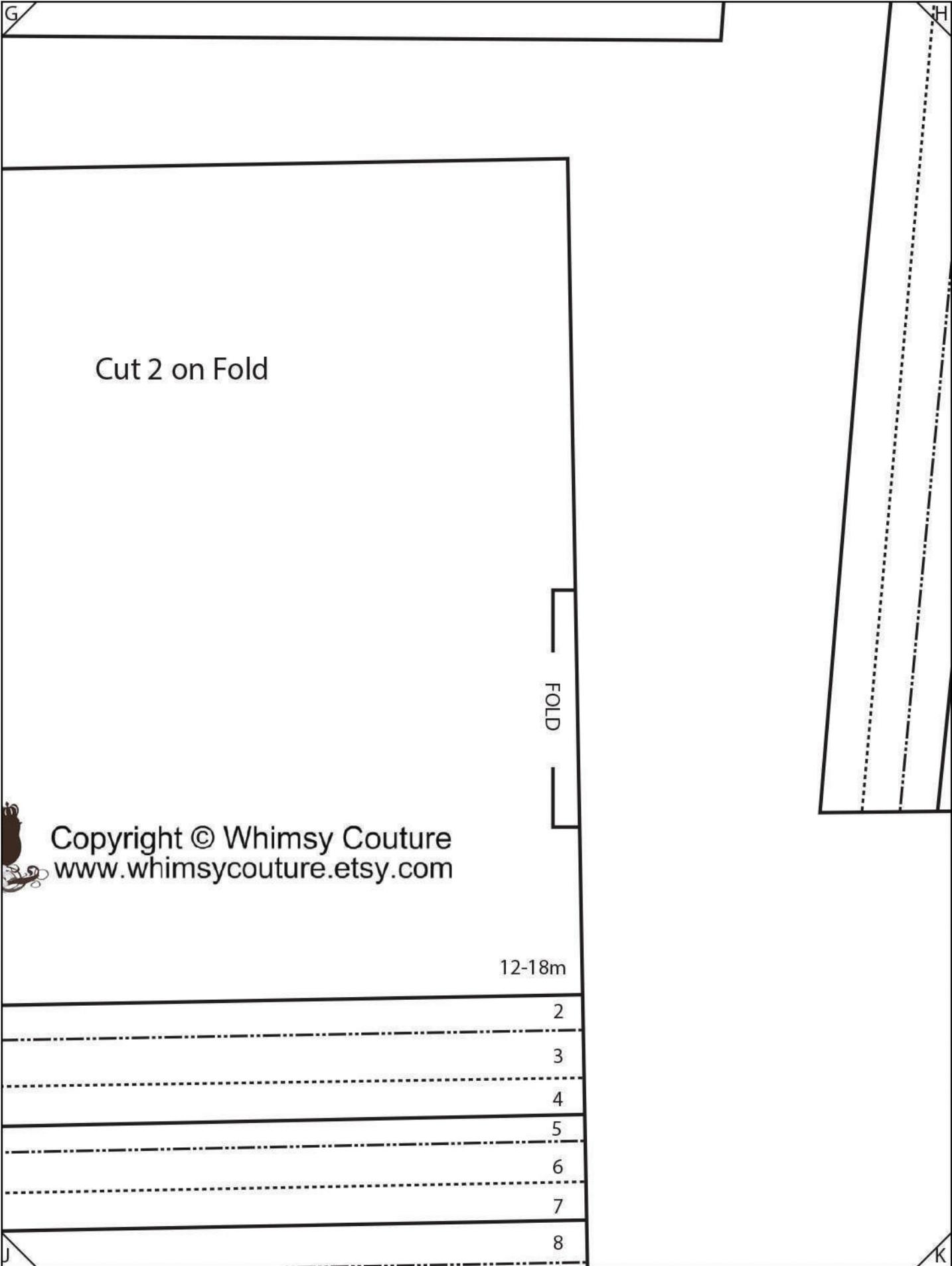


Cut 2 on F

12-18m







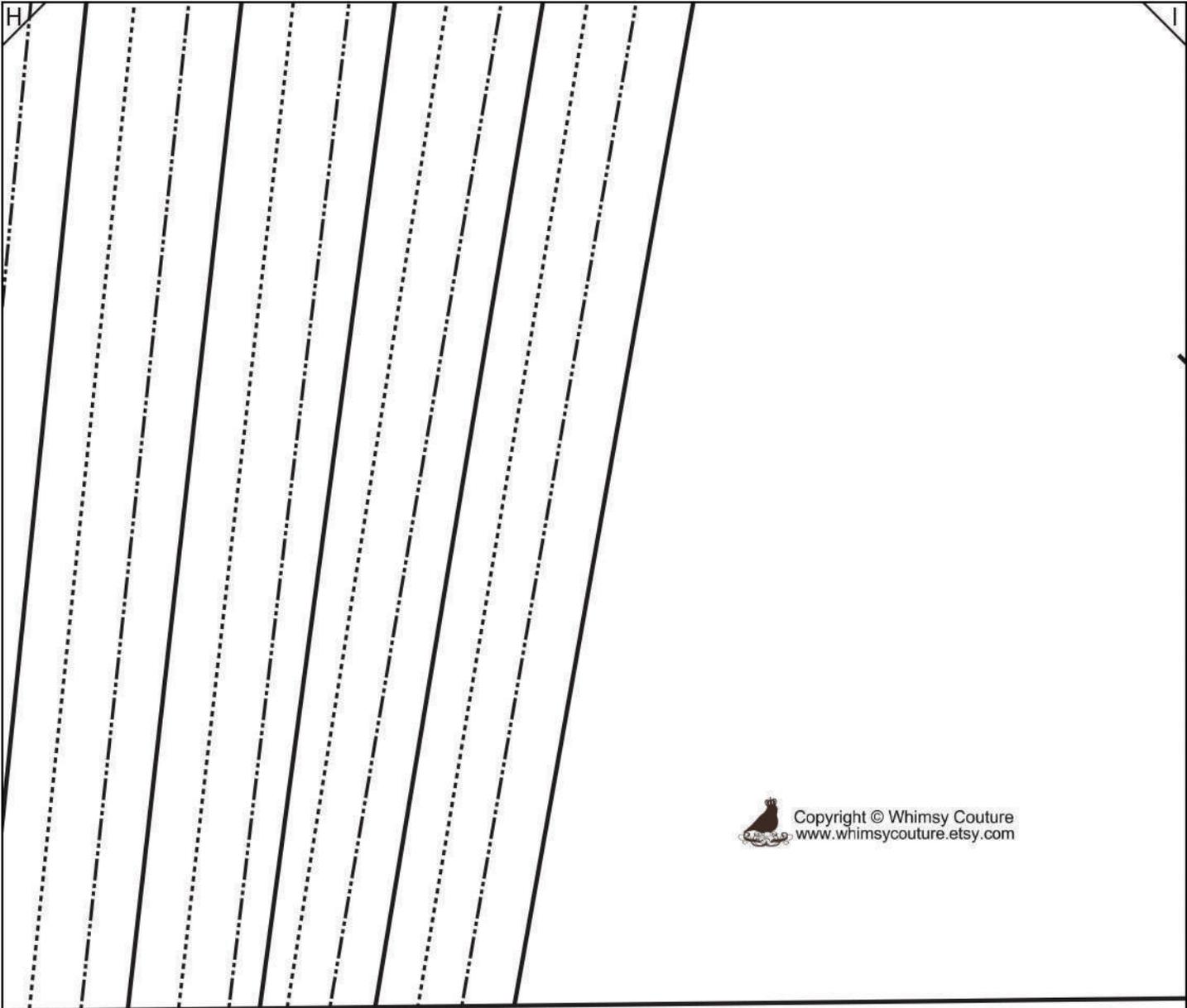
Cut 2 on Fold

FOLD

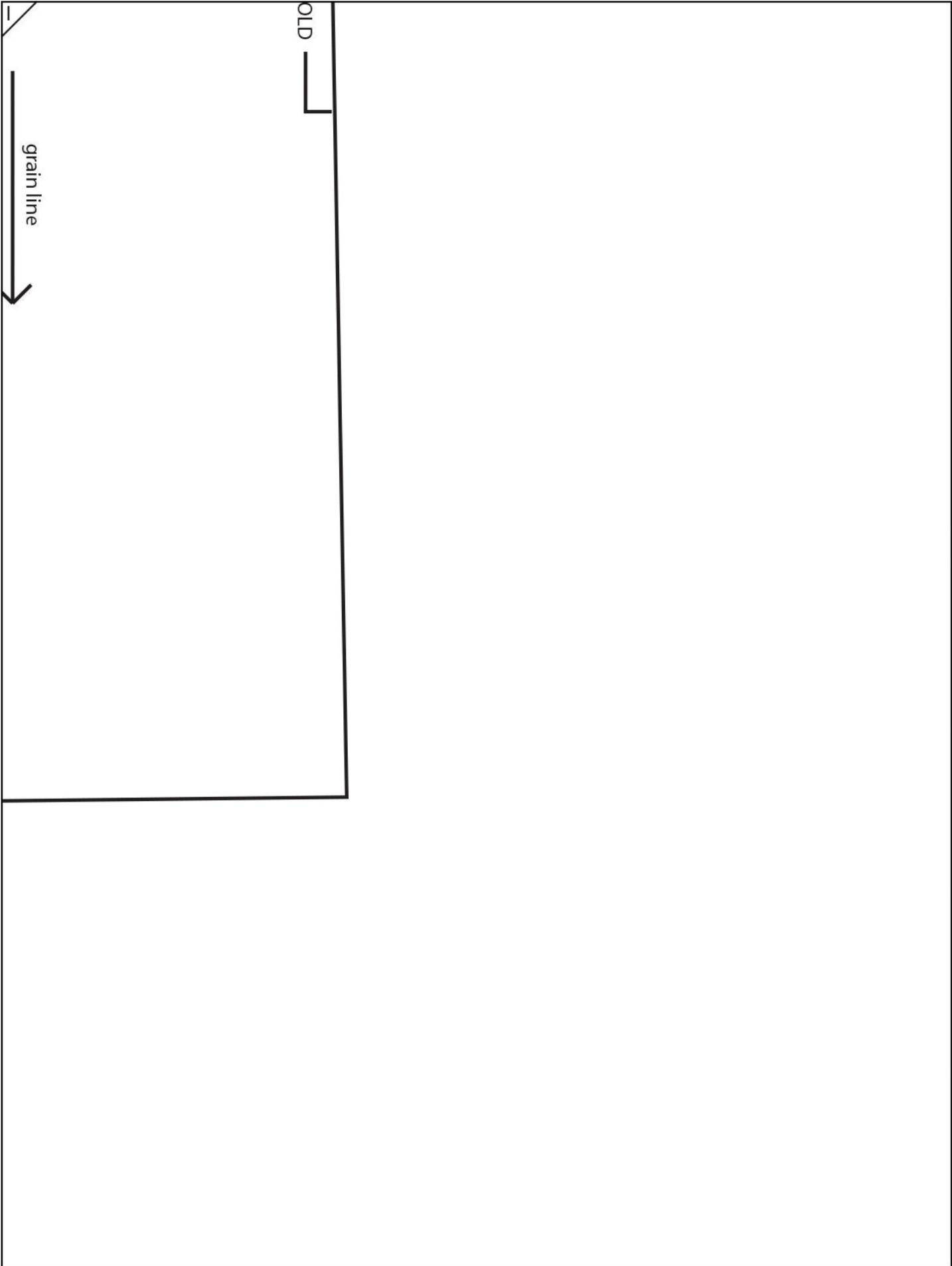
Copyright © Whimsy Couture
www.whimsycouture.etsy.com

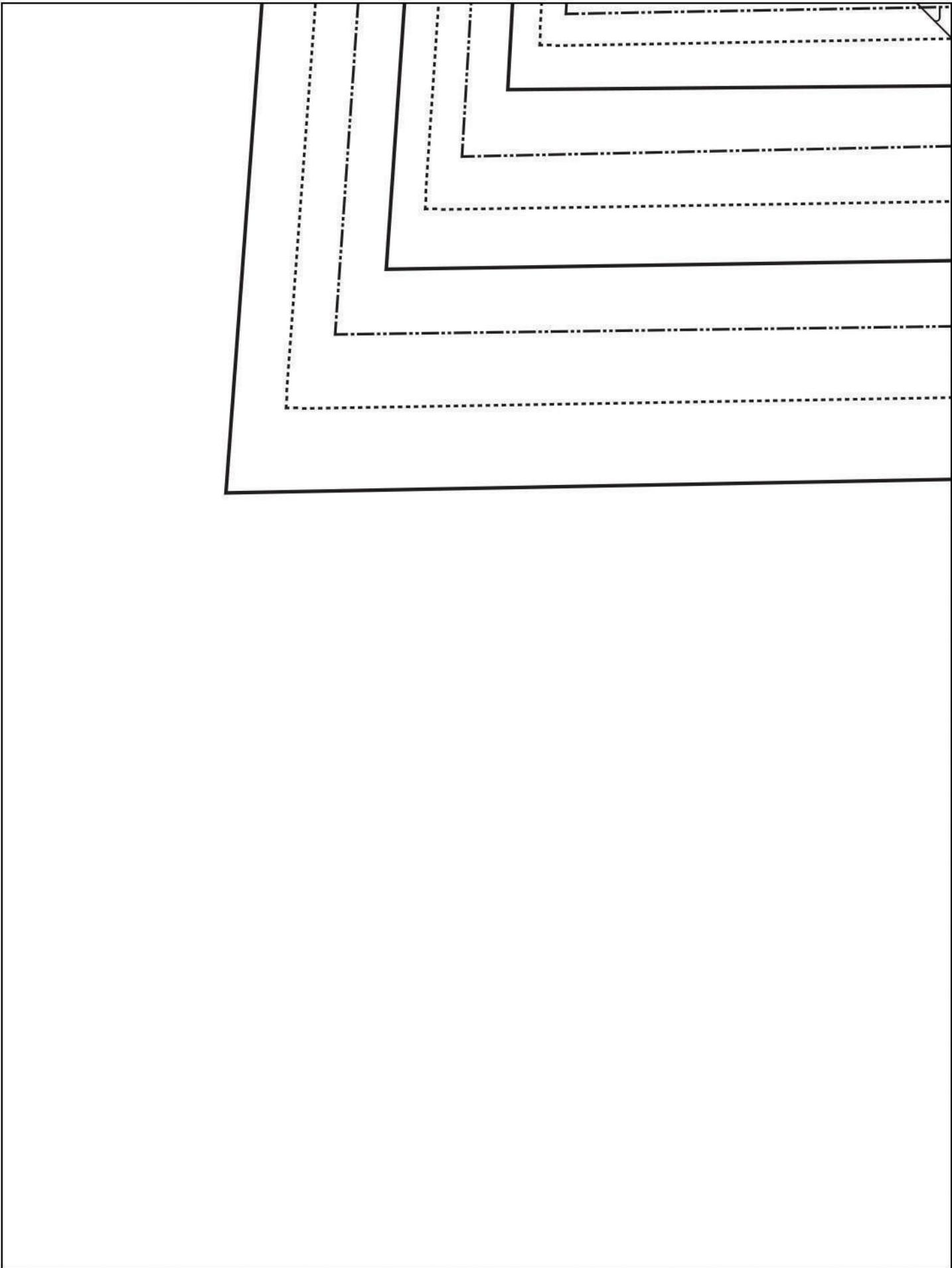
12-18m

- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8



Copyright © Whimsy Couture
www.whimsycouture.etsy.com





J	9	K
	10	
	11	
	12	
	13	
	14	
	15	
	16	

Bow Tie cutout

copyright@Whimsy Couture

1 inch

3m - 3t

4t - 10

11 - 16 **Fold**

