



Child's Play Dress

(A-line Jumper)



The Child's Play Dress is an A-line jumper, but with a cute twist! The rounded overlay in the front gives it a little something special. The ruffles make it adorable, and the shoulder ties allow for a great fit. You can substitute the handmade fabric ties for ribbon, if you prefer! This dress is a great wardrobe essential for any season.

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
- Iron
- 1 safety pin
- Fabric marker (optional)
- Ribbon (optional)

BEFORE YOU BEGIN: to select the right size please check the approximate finished dress measurements from page 3!

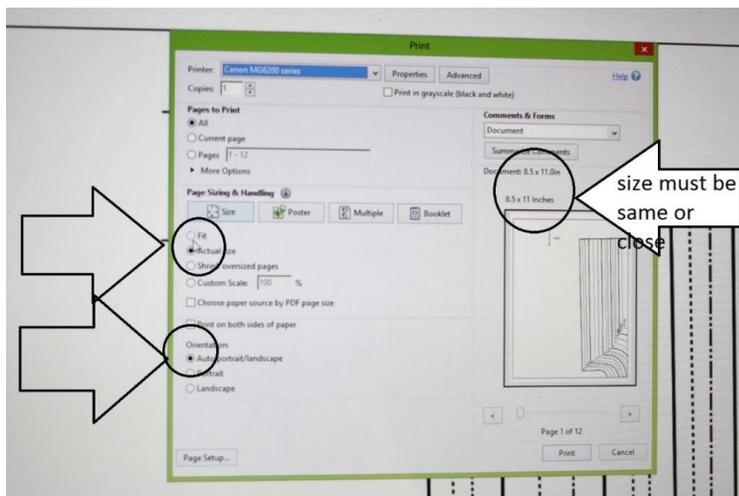
Seam allowance: $\frac{3}{8}$ " (or half a presser foot)

To print out your cutouts:

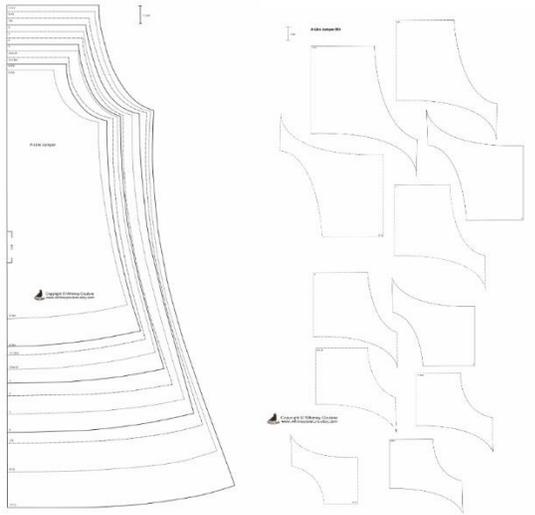
To ONLY cut the front overlay templates PER SIZE please see the following chart. Print pages:

3-6m=4,8	6-9m=8,12	12-18m=7,8,11,12	24/24t=3,7,8	3t=7,11	4t=4,7
5t=6,10,11	6=5,6,10	7/8=5,9	9/10=1,2,6	11/12=1,5,6	

Print out your templates without scaling. Here is a screen shot of my print preview window:



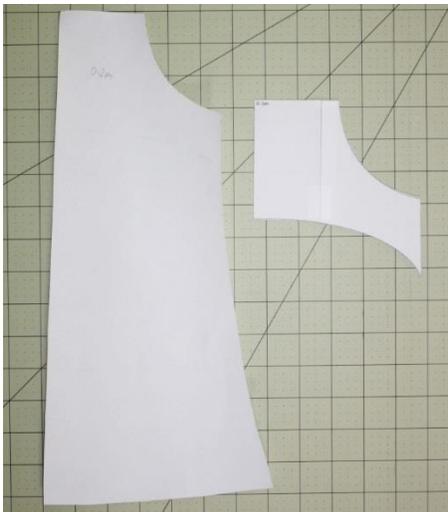
This is the layout of the cutouts:



Make sure the 1" print scale on the template measures exactly 1". If it is even $\frac{1}{8}$ " off, your dress might not fit correctly!

To trace your desired size templates:

Trace the size you need and then cut out your templates.



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

(When selecting fabrics for the dress and the front overlay, make sure the dress fabric won't show through the front overlay.)

Cut out the fabric pieces for ruffles and ties according to this sizing chart.

NOTE: W = is measured across the fabric width from selvage to selvage, L = top to bottom

Size	Approximate length from chest to hem	Approximate chest circumference	Cut 1 ruffle strip for the overlay (W x L)	Cut the bottom hem ruffle strips as indicated below (W x L)	Cut 4 tie strips (W x L)
3- 6m	13 ½"	18"	22" x 3"	2 strips 32" x 3"	9" x 3"
6- 9m	16"	10 ½"	24" x 3"	2 strips 34" x 3"	9" x 3"
12- 18m	17 ½"	21"	26" x 3"	2 strips 36" x 3"	10" x 3"
24m/2t	18 ¾"	22"	28" x 3"	2 strips 38" x 3"	11" x 3"
3t	19 ½"	23"	29" x 3 ½"	2 strips 40" x 3 ½"	12" x 3 ½"
4t	21"	25"	30" x 3 ½"	2 strips 42" x 3 ½"	14" x 3 ½"
5t	22"	26"	31" x 3 ½"	4 strips 22" x 3 ½" *	16" x 3 ½"
6	23 ½"	27"	32" x 3 ½"	4 strips 24" x 3 ½" *	18" x 3 ½"
7/8	25"	28"	36" x 3 ½"	4 strips 26" x 3 ½" *	20" x 3 ½"
9/10	27"	30"	38" x 3 ½"	4 strips 28" x 3 ½" *	21" x 3 ½"
11/12	30"	31"	40" x 3 ½"	4 strips 30" x 3 ½" *	21" x 3 ½"

*NOTE: You will sew 2 strips together to make 1 long strip for each side of the dress.

Yardage chart:

Size	Main Dress	Front overlay & back facing	Back facing from a different fabric	Ruffle for overlay	Ruffle for bottom hem	Ties
3-6m	⅜ yd	¼ yd	¼ yd	⅛ yd	¼ yd	⅛ yd
6-9m	½ yd	¼ yd	¼ yd	⅛ yd	¼ yd	⅛ yd
12-18m	½ yd	¼ yd	¼ yd	⅛ yd	¼ yd	⅛ yd
24m/2t	⅝ yd	¼ yd	¼ yd	⅛ yd	¼ yd	⅛ yd
3t	⅝ yd	¼ yd	¼ yd	⅛ yd	¼ yd	¼ yd
4t	⅝ yd	¼ yd	¼ yd	⅛ yd	½ yd	¼ yd
5t	⅝ yd	¼ yd	¼ yd	⅛ yd	½ yd	¼ yd
6	1 ½ yd	¼ yd	¼ yd	⅛ yd	½ yd	¼ yd
7/8	1 ½ yd	⅓ yd	⅓ yd	⅛ yd	½ yd	¼ yd
9/10	1 ⅝ yd	⅓ yd	⅓ yd	⅛ yd	½ yd	¼ yd
11/12	1 ¾ yd	⅓ yd	⅓ yd	⅛ yd	½ yd	¼ yd

To cut out the dress pieces:

Fold your dress fabric over sideways so that the print direction will be correctly aligned with your pattern piece (if applicable). Place the dress template onto the fabric and align the FOLD line of the template with the fabric fold. Pin in place and cut around the template.



Repeat this process so that you have two identical dress pieces:



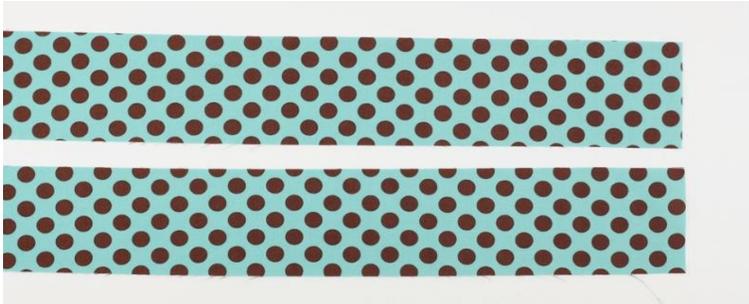
Use the same steps provided above to cut out the front overlay and the back facing. Both of those pieces are of the same size. Here is my front overlay in zebra print and the facing in white:



This is the front overlay ruffle:



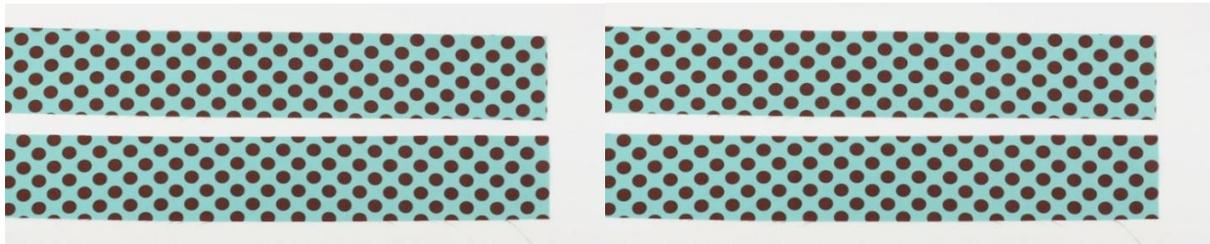
These are the bottom hem ruffle strips:



For sizes 5t and up, you will have 4 of these strips cut out. Take 2 of these strips and sew them together, and then take the other 2 strips and sew them together. To do this, you place 2 strips with right sides together and sew along the dashed line. See this picture from a different project:



These are the four tie strips:



To make the ruffles:

Take one of the ruffle strips and fold the fabric in half lengthwise with right sides out and press.



Then, sew a gathering stitch along the upper raw edges with a seam allowance of $\frac{1}{8}$ ". Most machines allow you to gather fabric by setting the tension to the strongest setting (highest number) and the stitch length to the longest stitch. When you are done, reset your machine to regular stitch. You may prefer to ruffle your fabric using a different method.



Go ahead and do the bottom hem ruffle now, too.



This is what the gathered ruffle should look like:



Lay all ruffles aside.

To make the fabric ties:

*If you are using ribbon for your ties, you want to omit the following steps and continue on to page 9.

Fold the tie strip in half lengthwise with right sides together and trim off the corner diagonally. Cut through both layers.



Unfold the fabric and secure a safety pin to the fabric 1" away from all of the edges.



Fold the strip in half lengthwise (again) and pin the raw edges together. Leave the short end without the point open. Sew along the dashed line with backstitching at the beginning and end.



Repeat all steps with the remaining 3 tie strips.

8

Trim off the tip on all pieces so you'll have a pretty point when you turn it right side out.



Trim off half of the seam allowance of the diagonal edge:



To turn the tie with right sides out, grab the safety pin and guide it towards the opening.



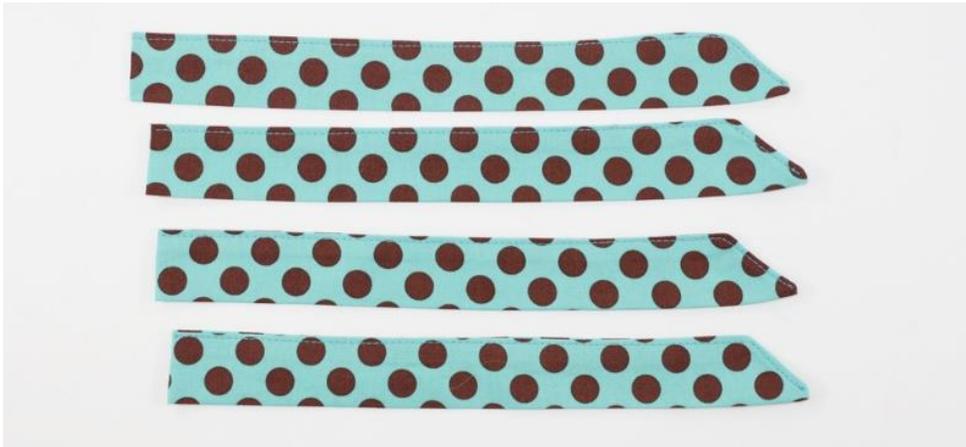
Once fully turned, remove the safety pin. Using some sort of blunt-tip object, such as a pair of closed tweezers, carefully push the corner point out.



Press flat and topstitch along the dashed line with a seam allowance of $\frac{1}{8}$ ". Backstitch the beginning and end. Repeat with the other 3 ties.



These are now your 4 finished ties:



To sew the bottom ruffle on:

Take one of the dress pieces and place it in front of you, as shown. Place one of the bottom hem ruffles underneath the dress with the gathered edge facing towards dress. Distribute the gathers evenly to match the dress width.



Flip the ruffle up and over the dress and pin both raw edges in place. Sew along the dashed lines.



Serge or use a zigzag stitch to finish the seam allowance. Flip the ruffle down with the seam allowance going up and press. Then, topstitch right above where both fabrics meet with a seam allowance of $\frac{1}{8}$ ".



Repeat with other dress piece and ruffle.

To make and attach the back facing:

Serge or zigzag stitch the curved bottom edge of your facing.



Place two of the ties onto one of the dress pieces (dress is right side up). Align the ties with the top edge of the dress leaving $\frac{3}{8}$ " on either side of the ties (just as shown below). The ties should be placed so that the topstitched seams face outwards. Pin the ties in place and sew them on with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.



Lay the back facing with right side down (if applicable) and pin along the armhole curves and top edge. Sew in place and be sure not to sew over the ties when you sew up the armhole curve near the corner! Backstitch the beginning and end.



Here is a close-up of the corner/top edge:



Before you do the next step, turn your dress and facing with right sides out to make sure the ties didn't get sewn in on the sides. If everything looks good, trim off the corners and half of the seam allowance as shown:



Turn your back dress piece with right sides out and press the seam flat. Topstitch along the dashed lines with a $\frac{1}{8}$ " seam allowance.



This is how the inside looks:



To assemble the front overlay:

Place the front overlay ruffle underneath the front overlay piece as shown. Distribute the gathers evenly to make it match the overlay.



Flip the ruffle up and pin it to the overlay. Sew it on the same way as described with the bottom hem ruffle (pages 9- 10).



NOTE: It is ok to let the ruffle slightly exceed the overlay piece on the sides.

Serge/zigzag stitch the raw edge.



Flip the ruffle down, press the seam allowance up, and topstitch right above where both fabrics meet on the right side with a $\frac{1}{8}$ " seam allowance as you did with the bottom hem ruffle.



Trim off the sides to make a straight down cut.



Place your remaining dress piece with the right side down in front of you. Pin the remaining two ties to the top edge as you did with the back dress piece. Sew the ties on with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.



(Please, don't be confused since I have used a different color ruffle for my backside 😊)

Place the front overlay with right side down onto the ties/dress and pin, and then sew, along the dashed line. Backstitch the beginning and end.



Again, it's important not to sew the sides of the ties to the dress! Clip the corners and trim away half of the seam allowance.

Flip the overlay to the front of the dress and press the seams flat. Topstitch along the outer edges with a $\frac{1}{8}$ " seam allowance.



With right sides together, pin both dress pieces together along the sides. Arrange the overlay ruffle sides so they won't get pulled (it is ok to let the sides peek out a bit)! Sew along the dashed line with backstitching at the beginning and end. Serge/zigzag stitch the raw edges.



Last step is to tuck under the threads from the armholes and bottom hems and top stitch those so they don't come unraveled and look nice and tidy.



Your "Child's Play" dress is done!



Design examples:



For instant download eBooks, please visit: www.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.)

11/12

9/10

7/8

6

5

4

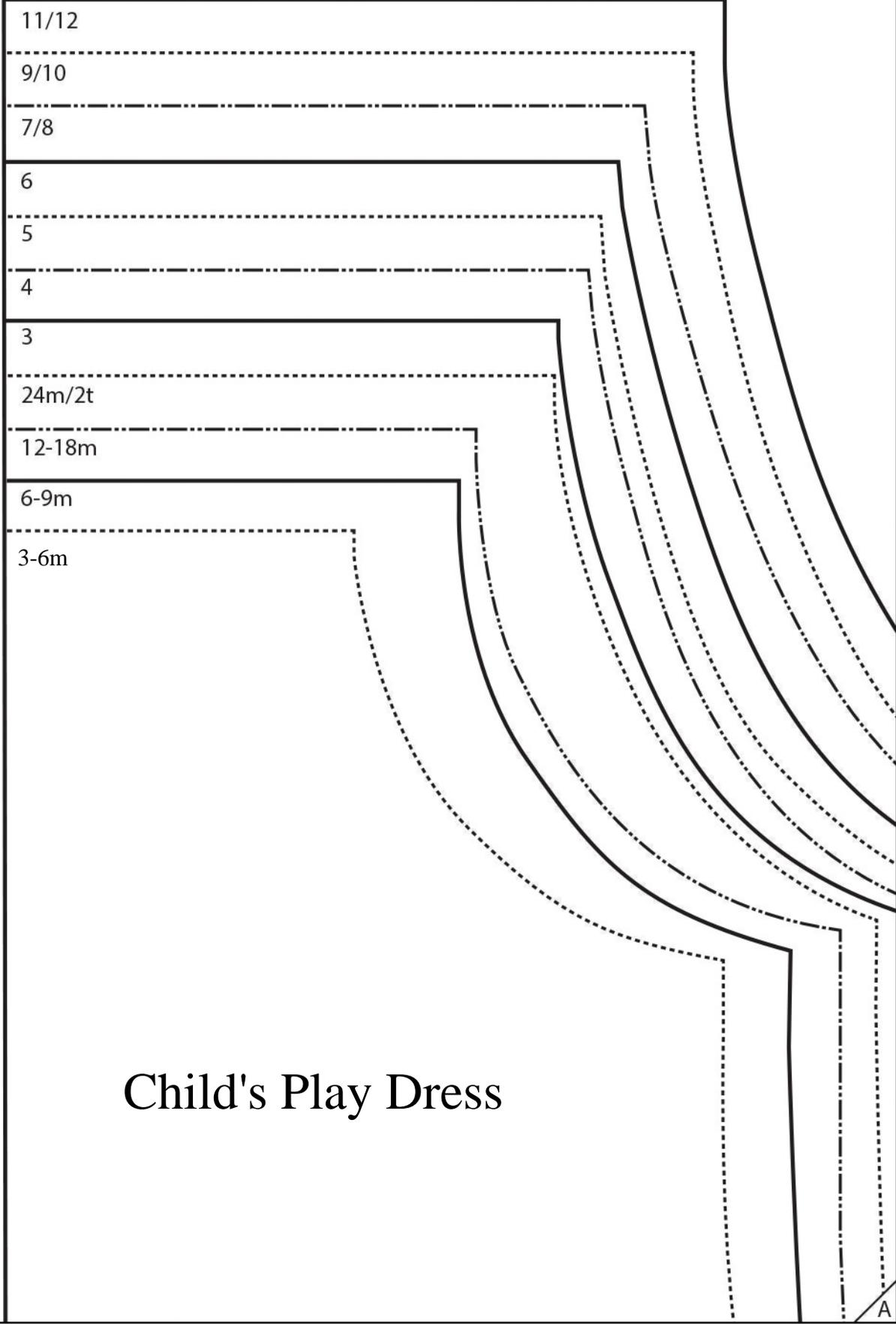
3

24m/2t

12-18m

6-9m

3-6m



Child's Play Dress

A



Fold



Copyright © Whimsy Couture
www.whimsycouture.etsy.com

3-6m

B

6-9m

B

12-18m

24m/2t

3

4

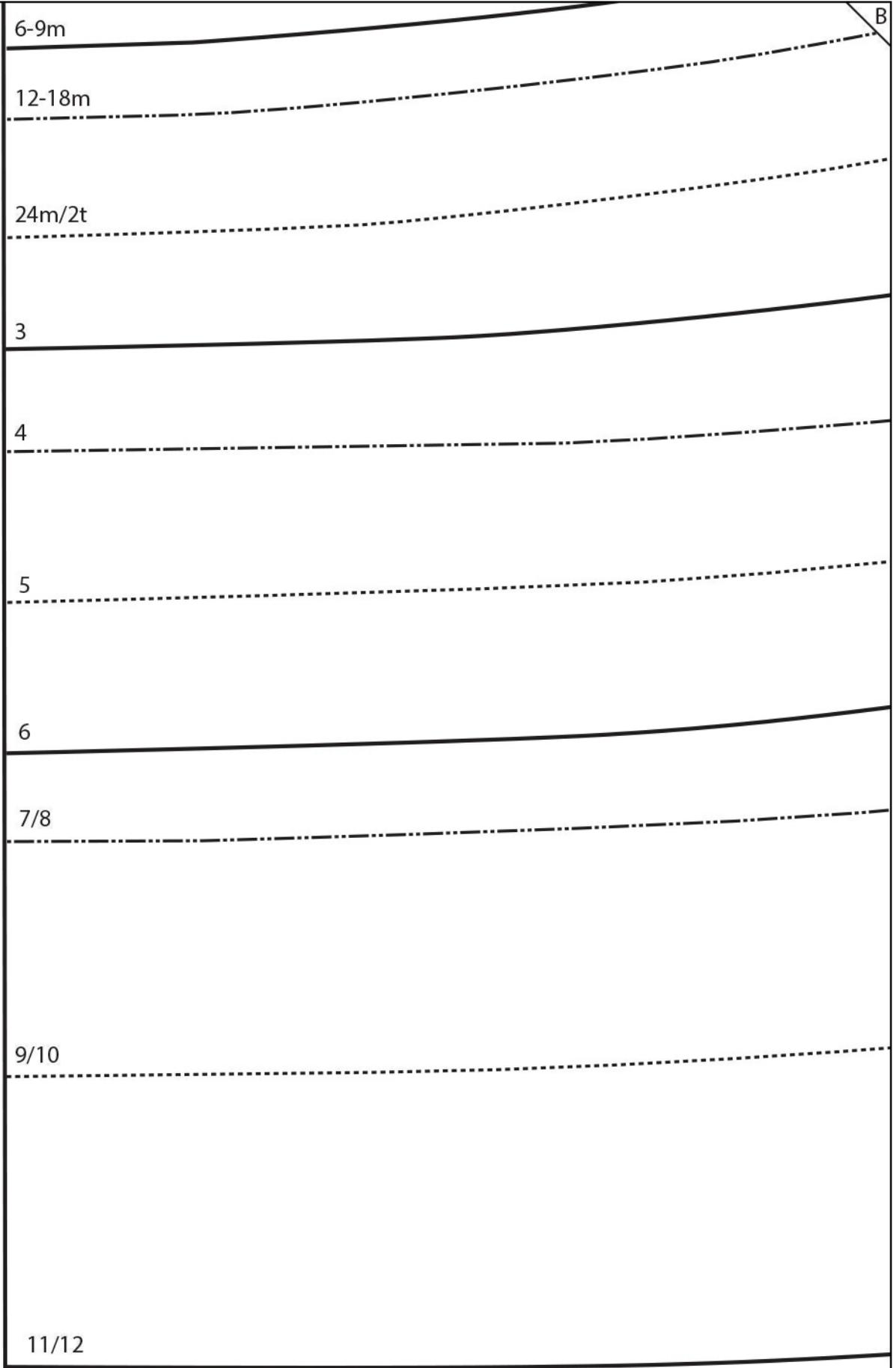
5

6

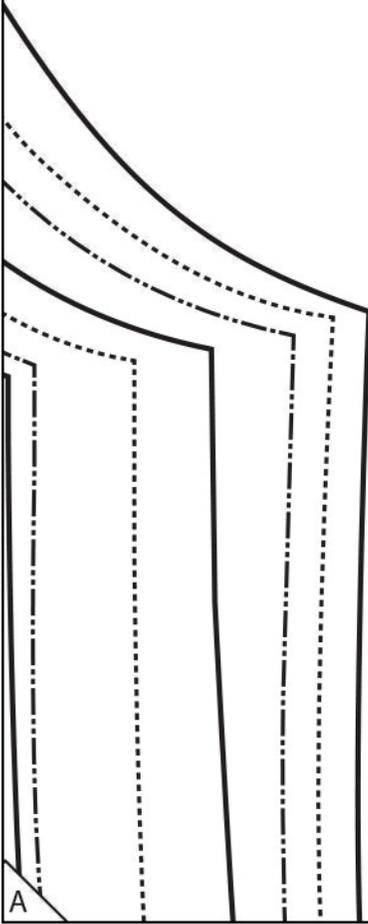
7/8

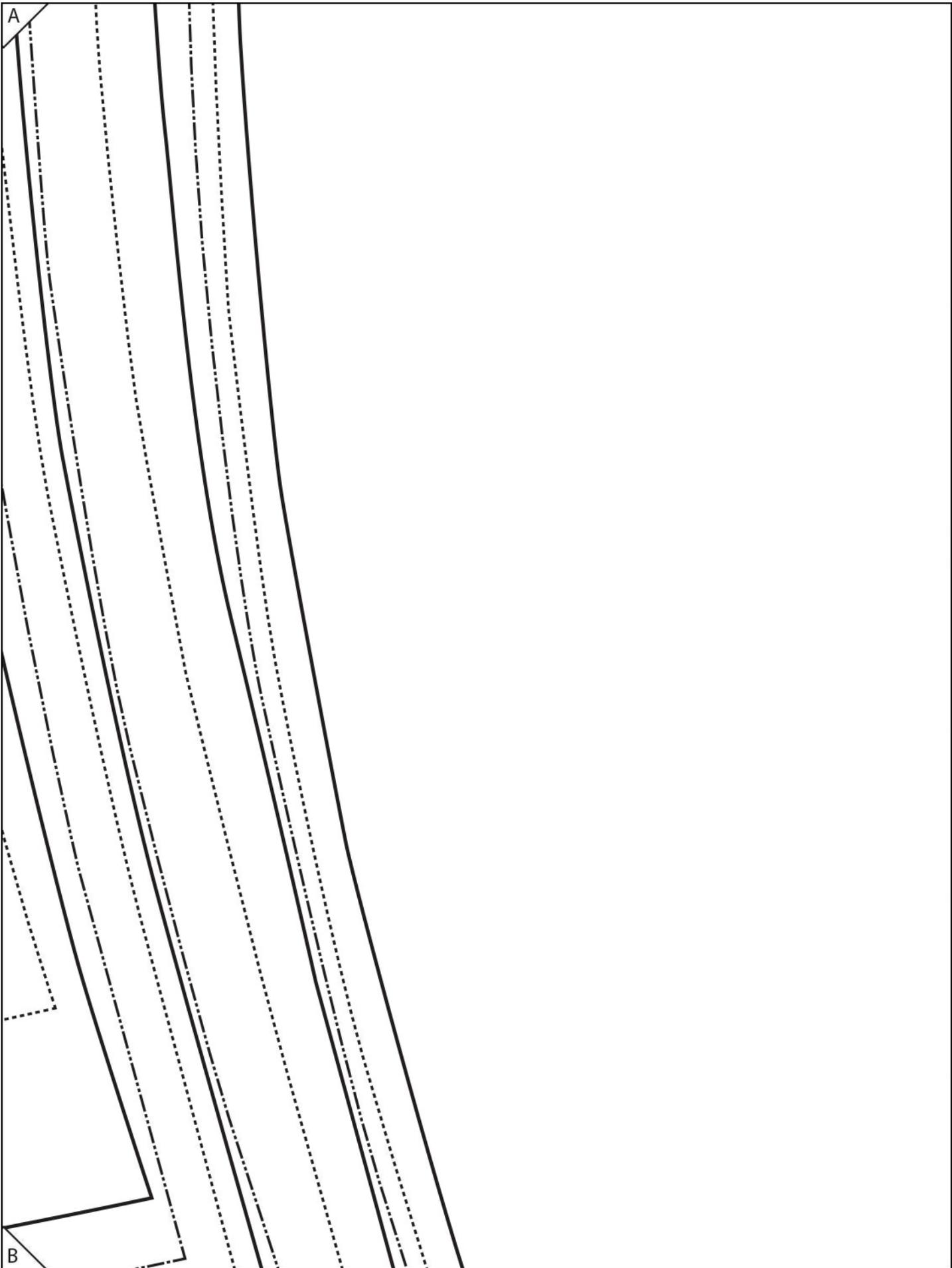
9/10

11/12

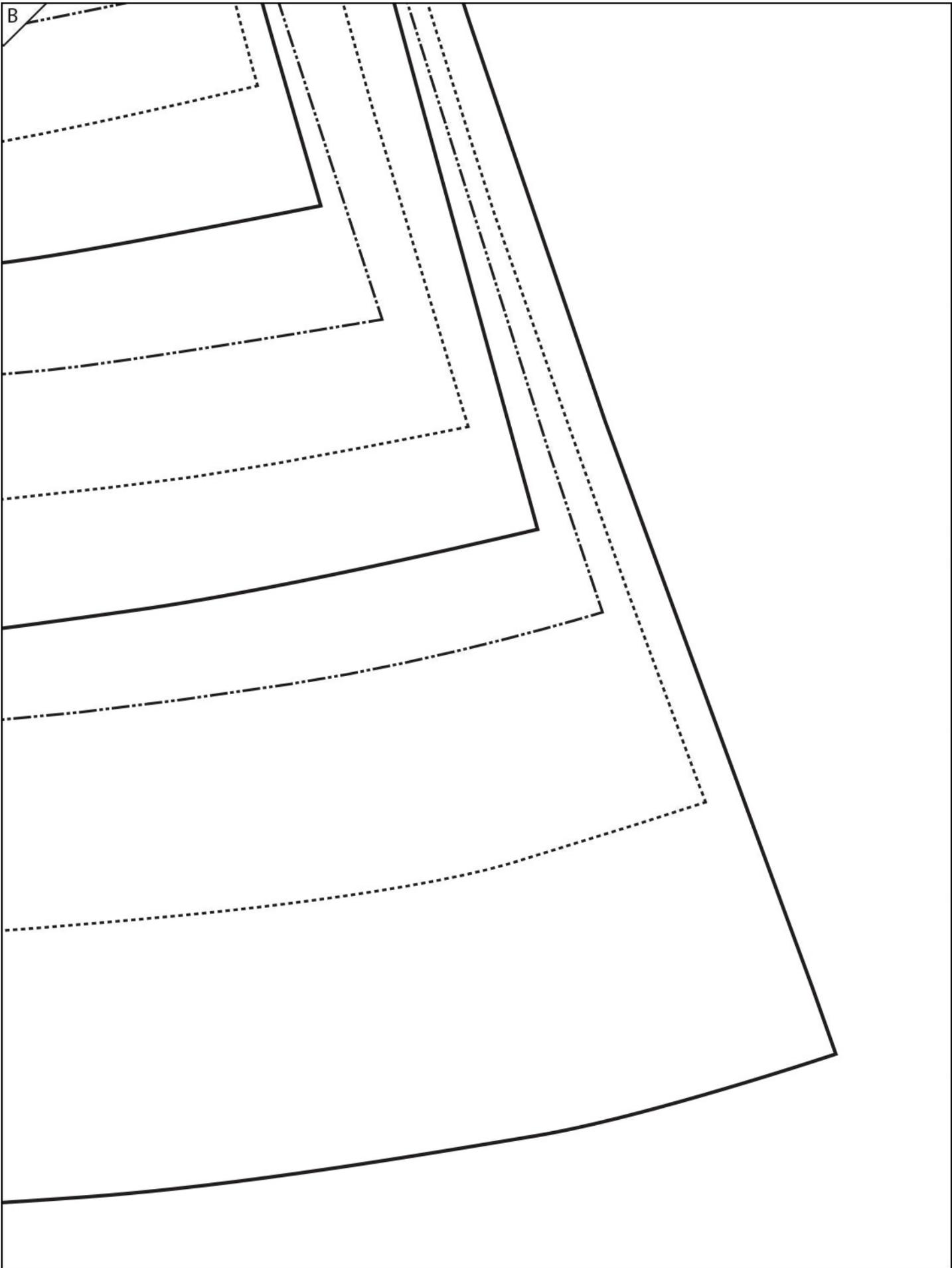


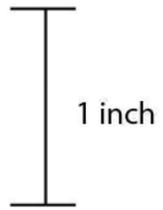
1 inch





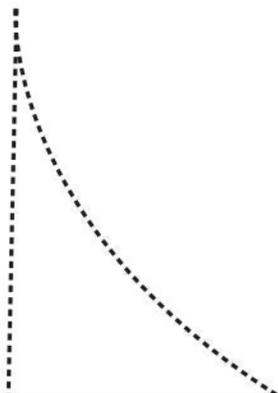
B



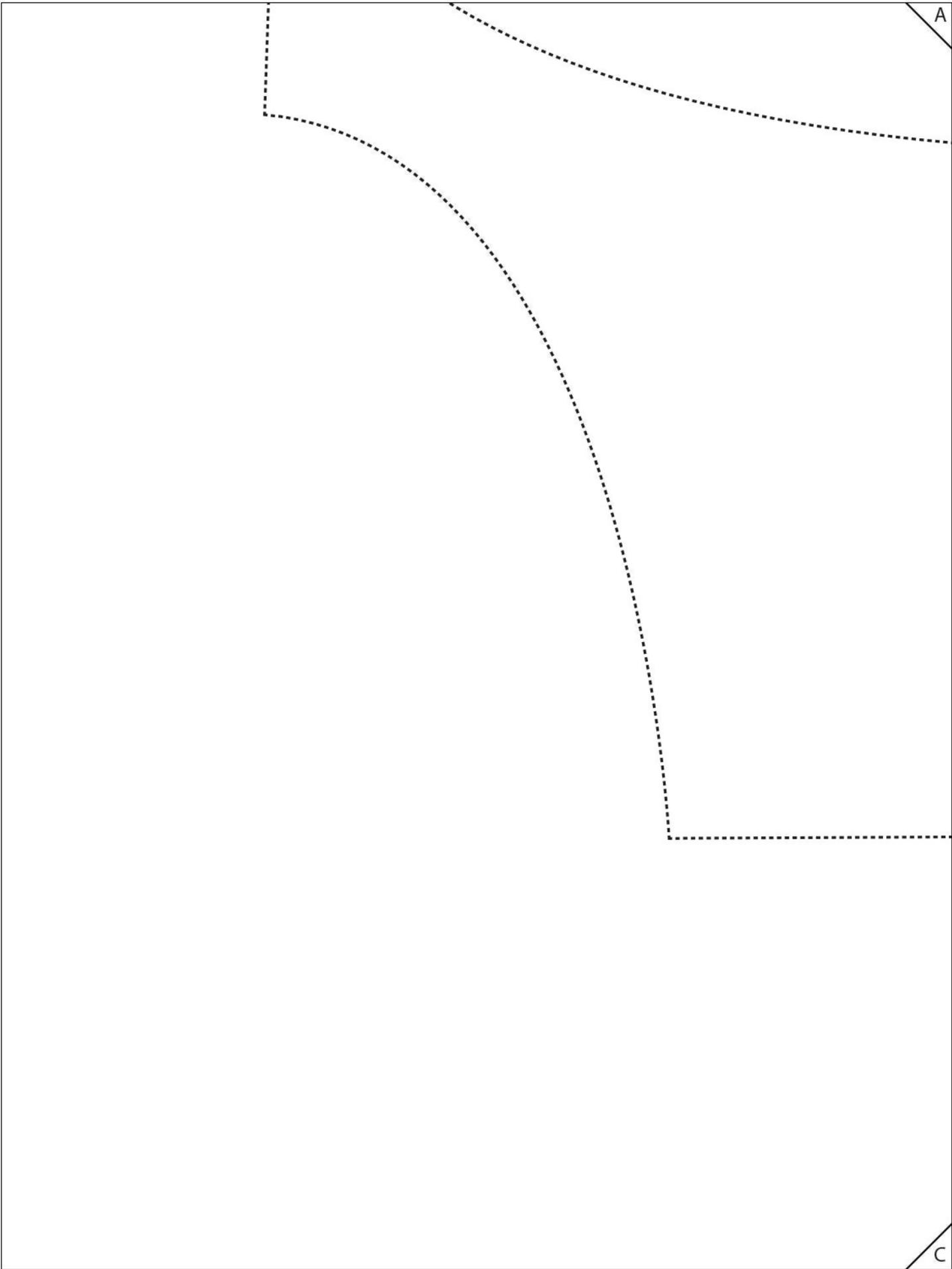


Child's Play Dress Overlay & Facing

11/12



A



C

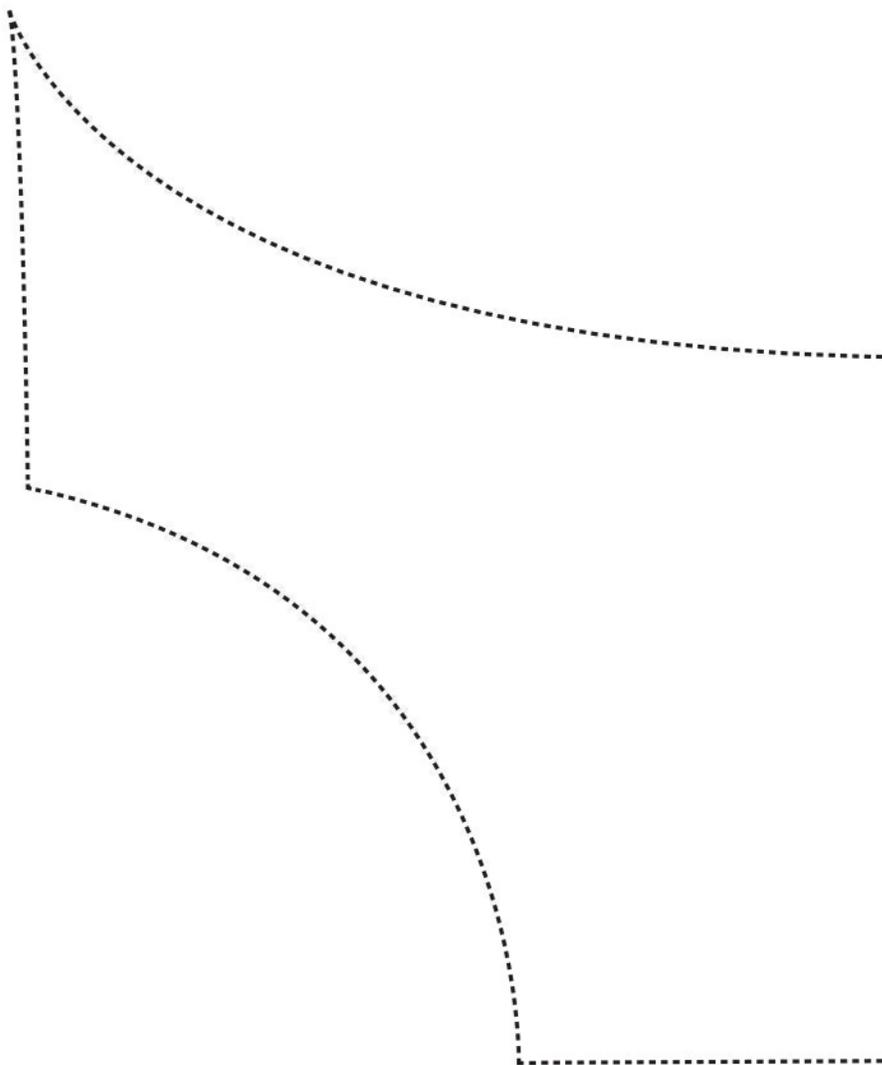
4

24m/2t

E



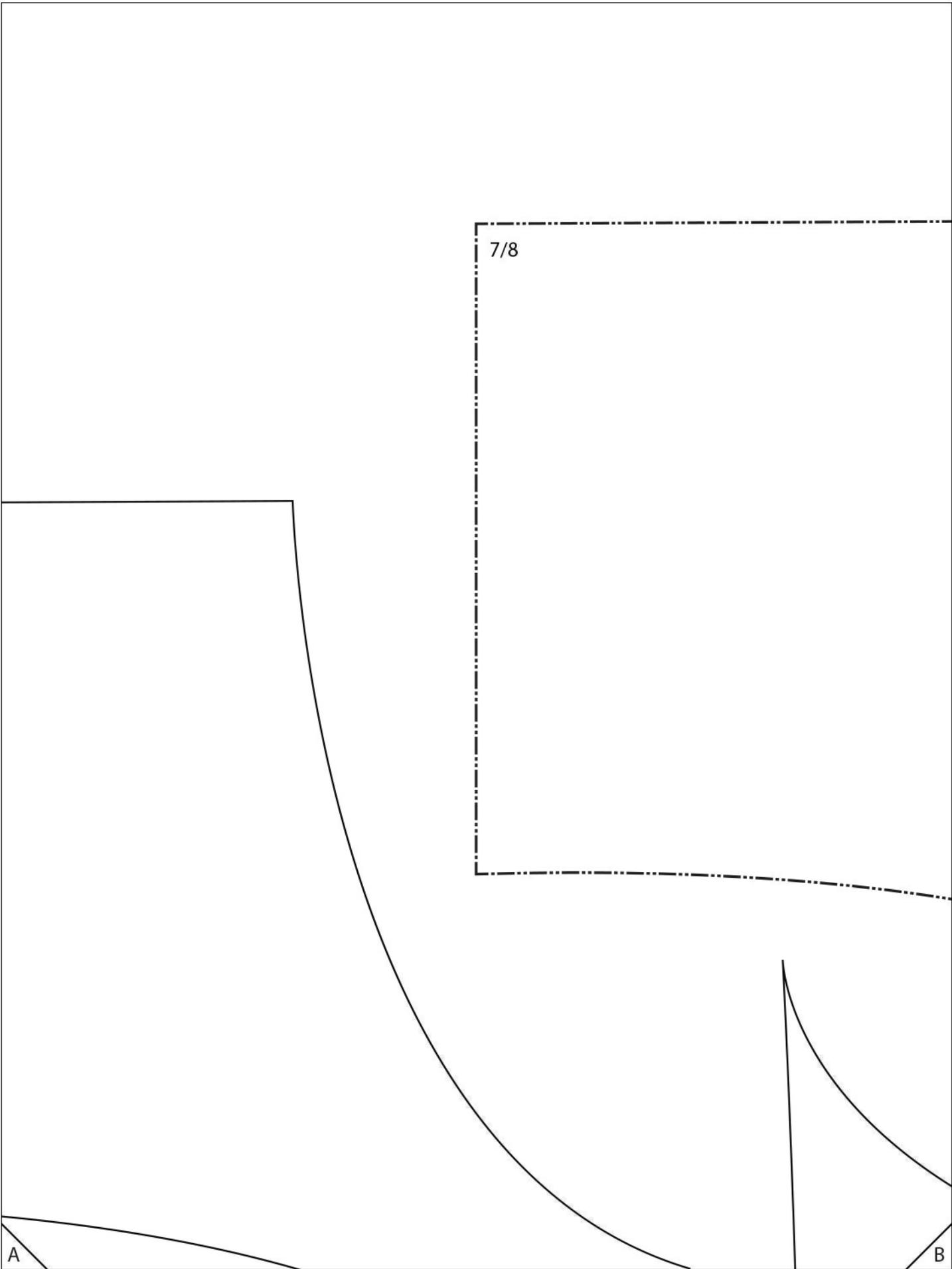
Copyright © Whimsy Couture
www.whimsycouture.etsy.com

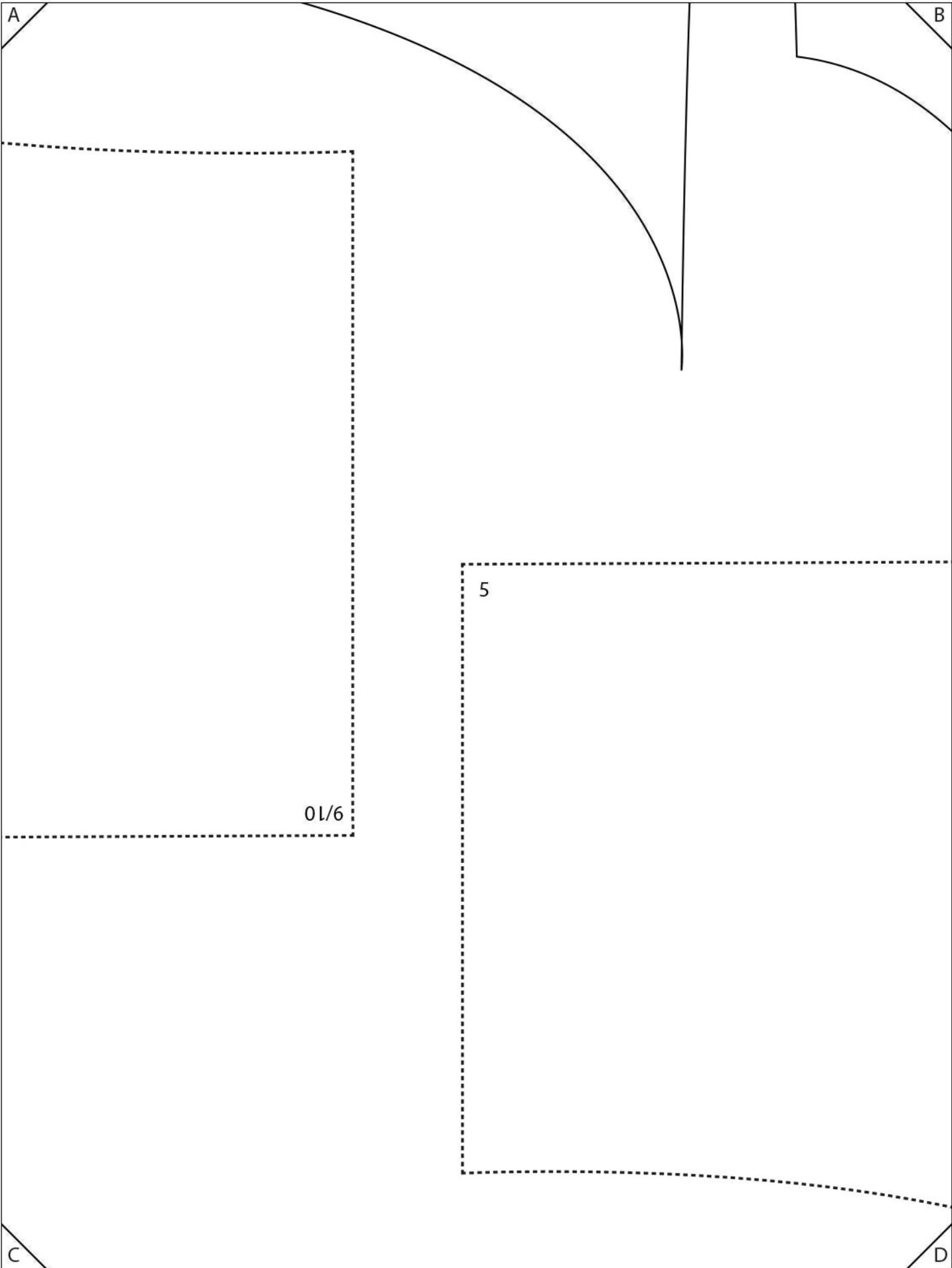


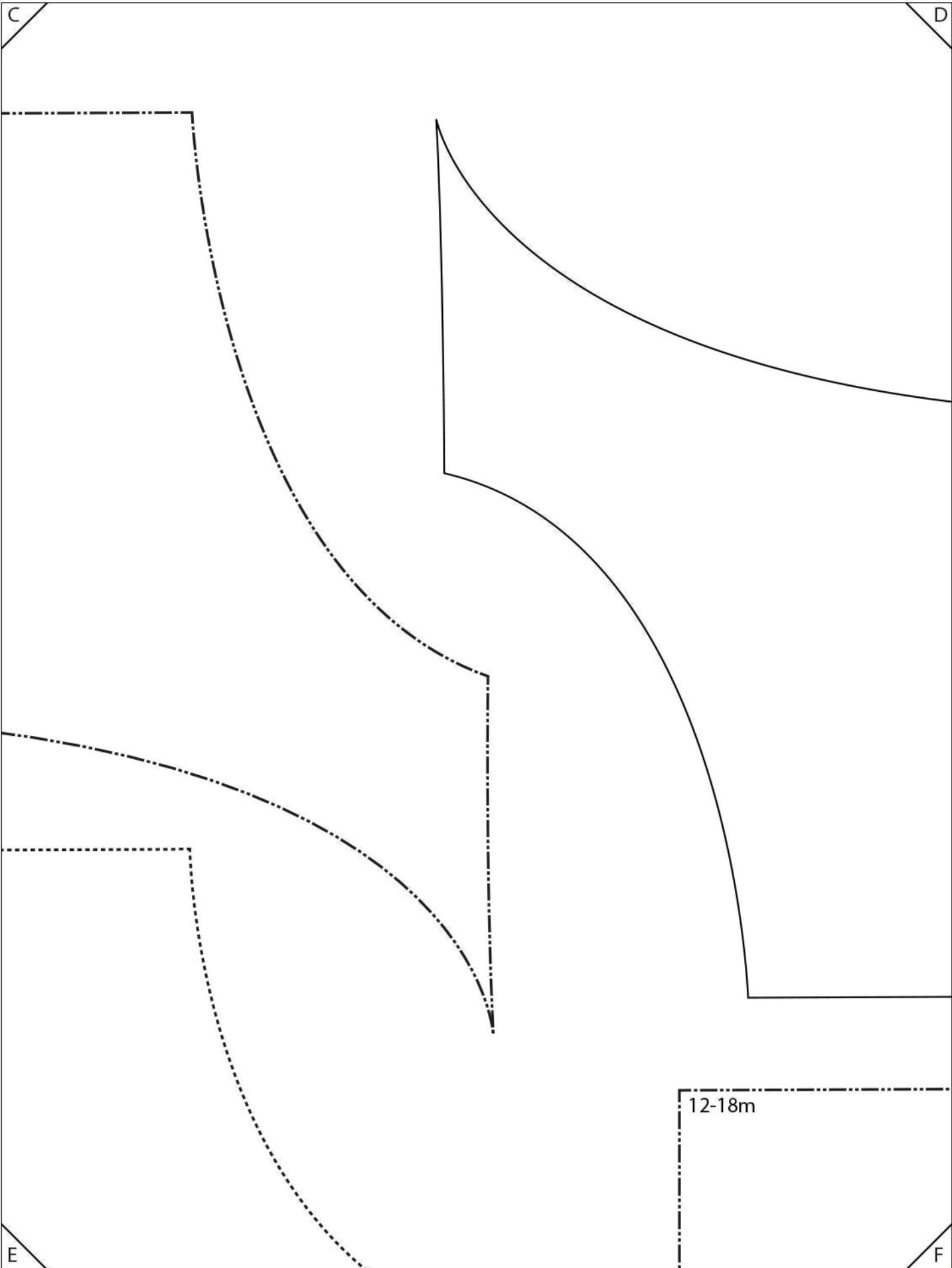
7/8

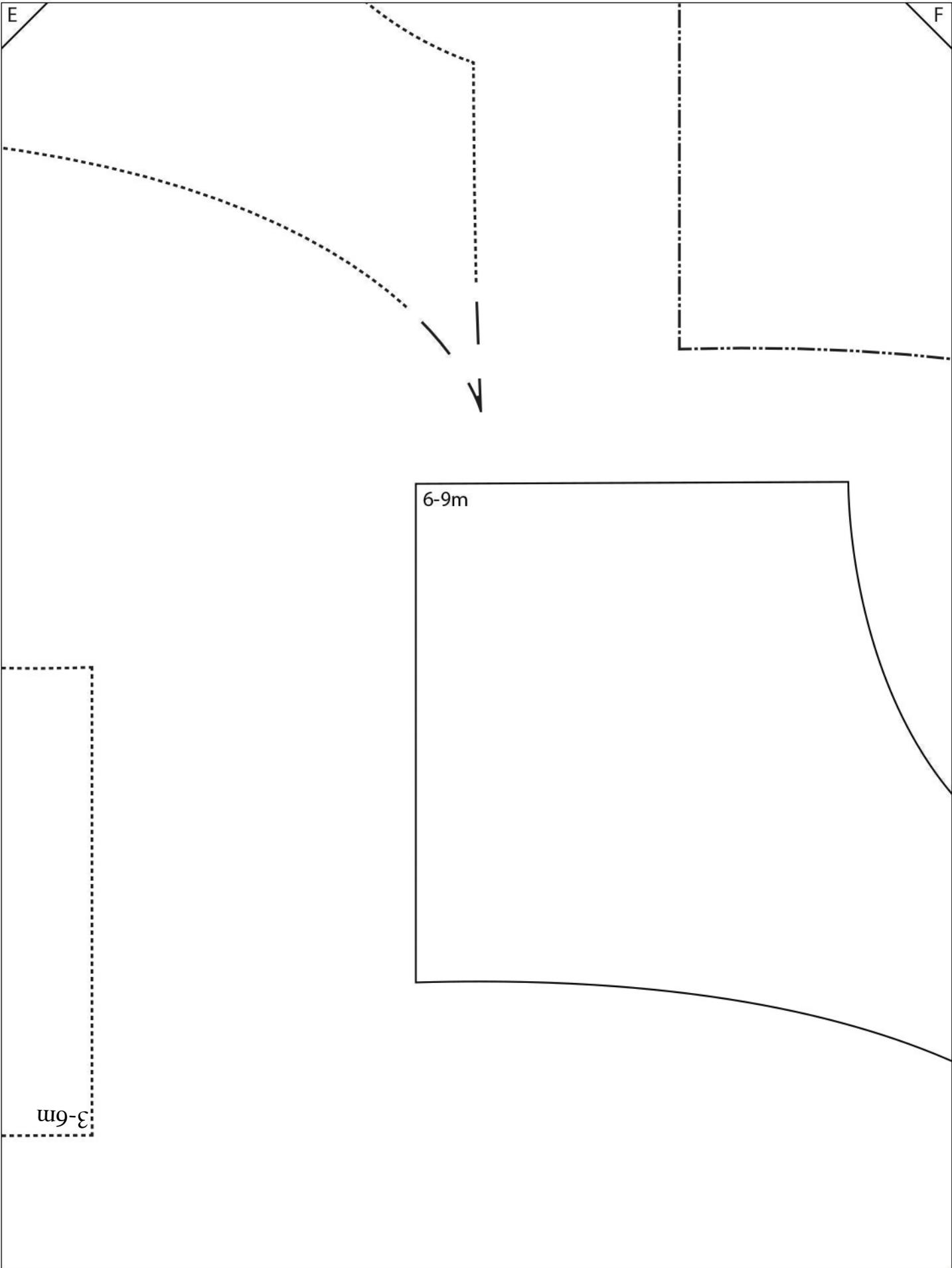
A

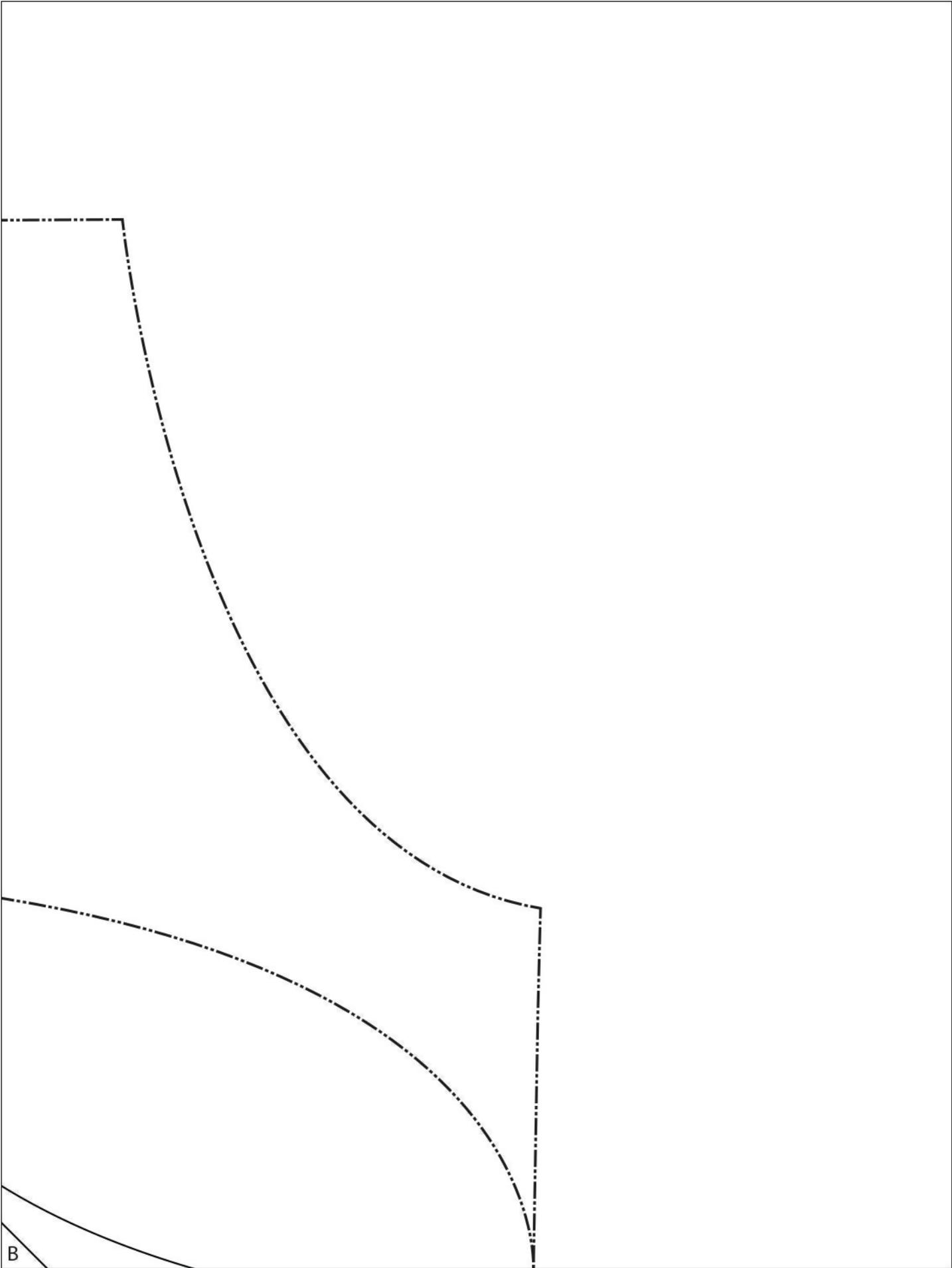
B

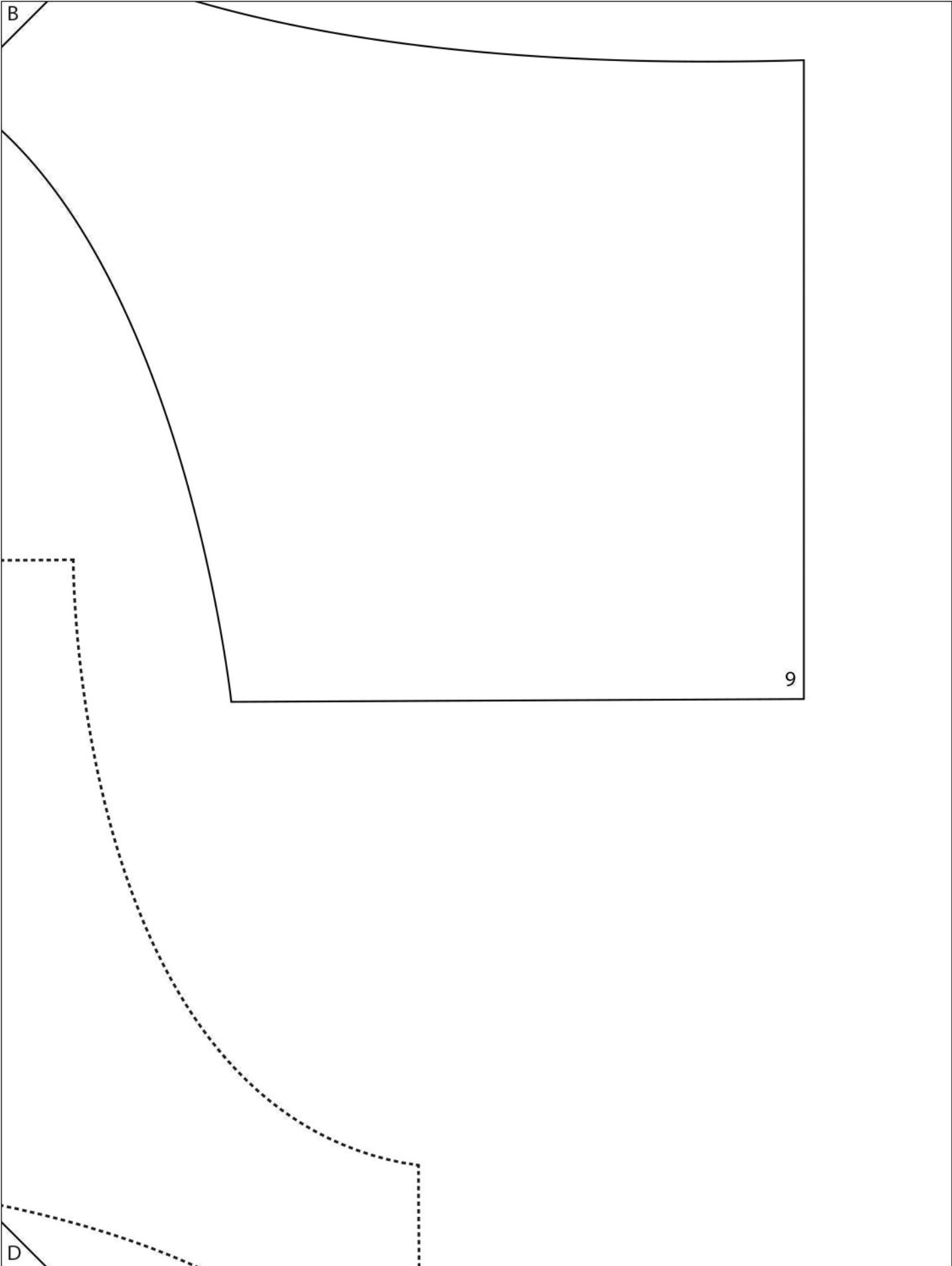


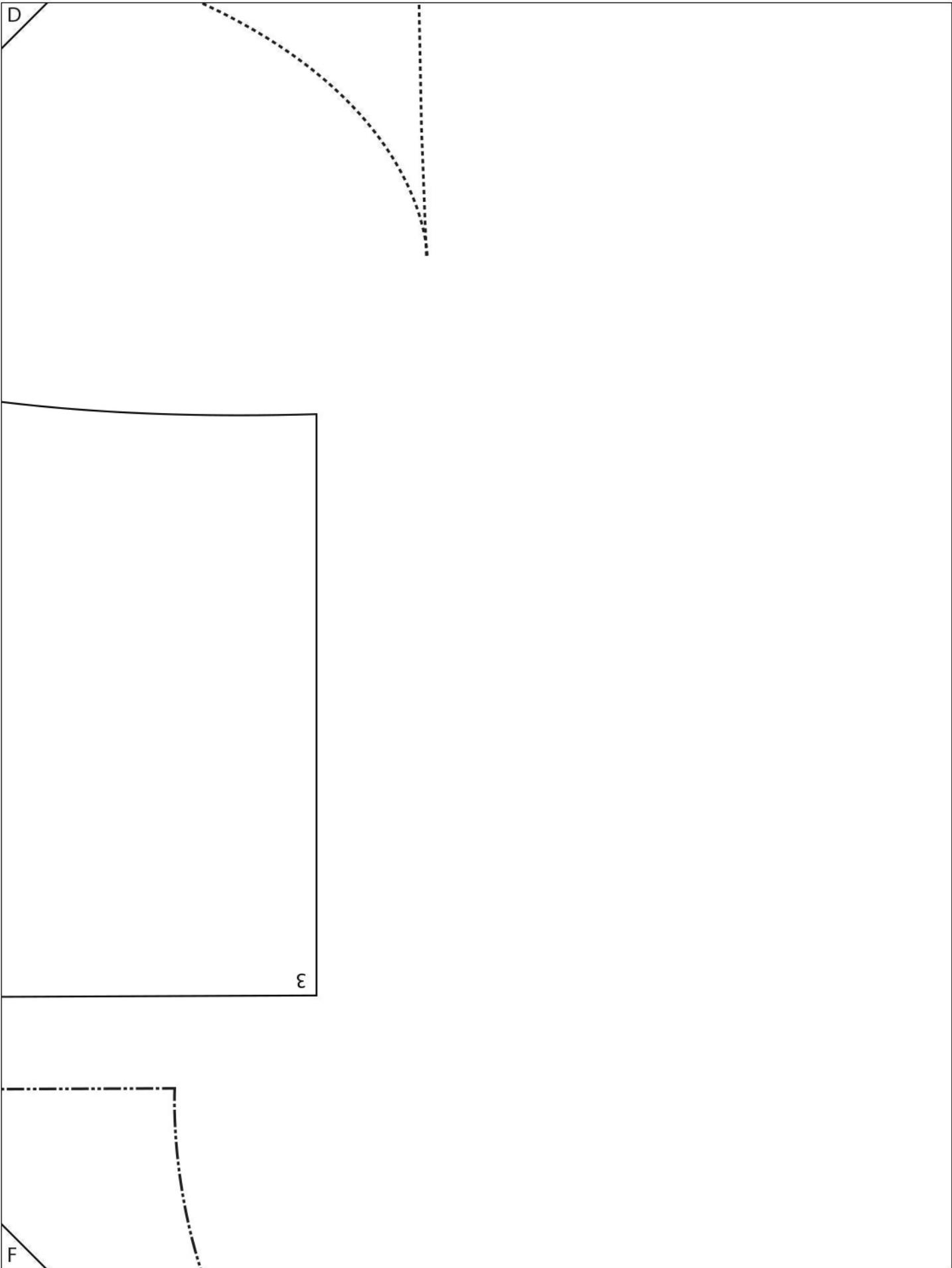












F

