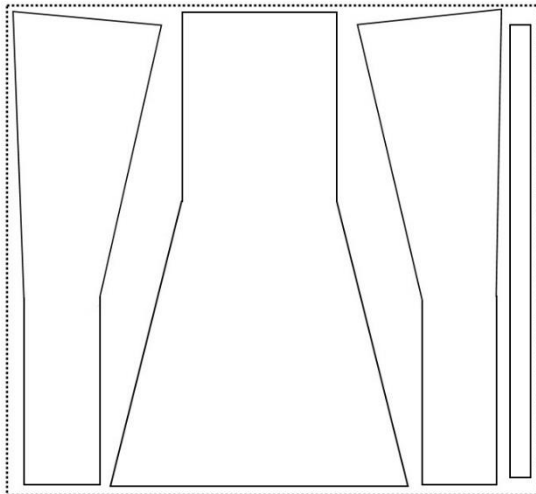
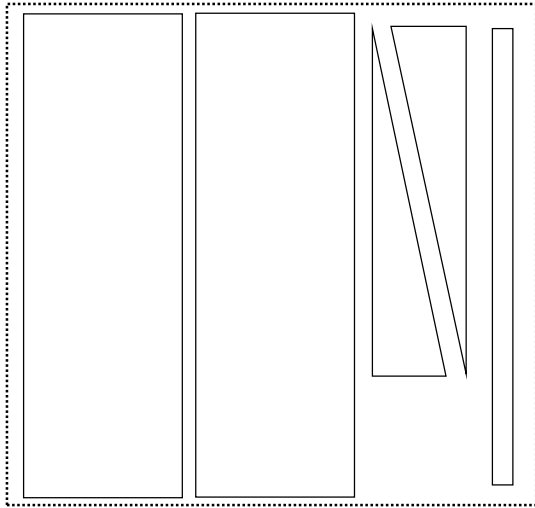


HAITHABU SMOKKR TUTORIAL

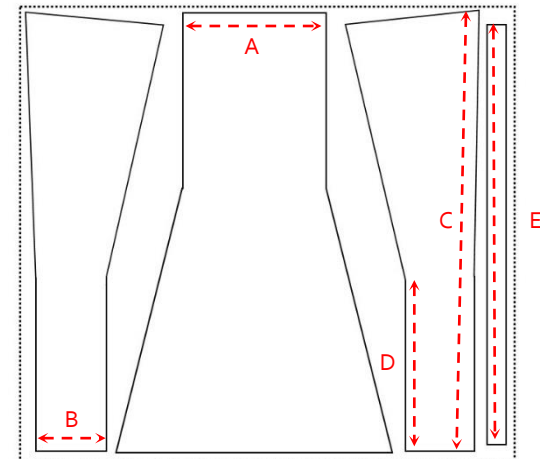
by Kristine Risberg

Measurements used for this smokkr are individual and can be adjusted. These patterns are drawn on a 1:20 scale.



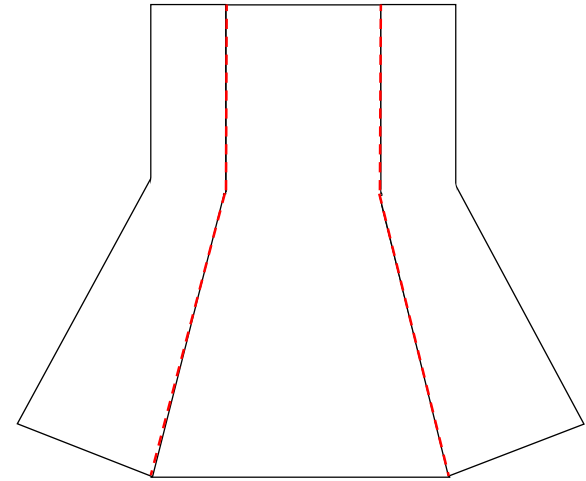
Step-by-step tutorial

An apron dress can be sewn using different set ups of pattern pieces. The most commonly used is the one including two straight panels with gores in the sides (*upper left pattern*). The Haithabu model is often re-created using three flared panels and no gores, with one panel split in half (*lower left pattern*). The following smokkr is sewn using the three panel-model.

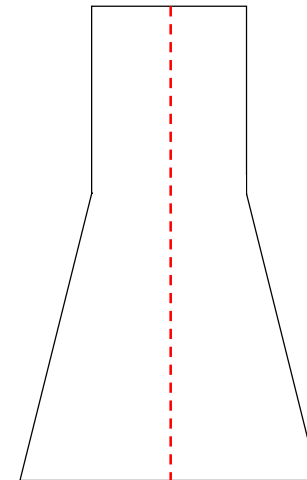


1. Start by drafting a pattern with your preferred measurements. Since an apron dress usually 'rests' on the bosom and then falls straight; a good idea is to work on your upper body circumference, measured around the bust. The full panel should measure half of your bust circumference in width (measurement **A**) and the split panel a quarter of the same (measurement **B**). If your bum is larger than your bust then it should be the base for your measurement **A**.

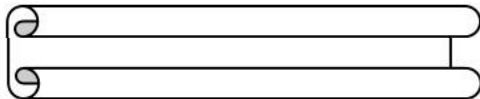
2. The length of the panels is determined by the preferred length of the finished dress, including a few centimeters of seam allowance for the bottom hem (measurement C). An apron dress can be knee-, calf- or floor length, it's up to you.
3. The flare should start at your waistline. Measure from your armpit down to your waist (measurement D).
4. The finished suspenders should be between 4 mm and 10 mm wide and as long as needed. Measure 4 x the wanted width and use the full length of the fabric if possible (block E). Bear in mind that the suspenders are folded double so when finished, they'll each be twice as wide as measured.
5. Cut your three panels including a 1,5 cm seam allowance around the upper part and the sides and a 2,5 seam allowance at the bottom. Make sure you have enough fabric left for your suspenders. (*Another option is to sew the suspenders in a non-bleached linen fabric.*)
6. Pin the panels together wrong side towards wrong side creating a tube and try it on to make sure it fits well on the body. If you need to make any adjustments in size, now is the time to do so.
7. Sew the front panel together with both half panels using a running stitch. Leave the upper and lower edges unhemmed.



8. With the middle of the back panels pinned together, try on the garment a second time. If you need to, adjust the width of the garment by cutting down the center.
9. When you're satisfied with the circumference of the dress, sew the back panels using a running stitch.



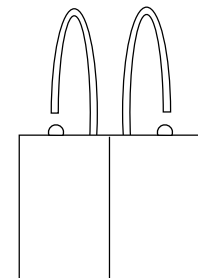
10. To keep the seam allowance flat you should press the seams. This can be done with a traditional iron but a modern smoothing iron works as well as long as you remember to put pressure on the seams. Wet the seams and iron them before placing the fabric under weights to let it air dry.
11. When the fabric has dried it's time for the flat felled seams. By hand they're done using overcast stitching. If the cloth is fine, lightweight or tends to fray it should be doubled over. If it's thick and doesn't fray it can just be overlapped.
12. Fold the upper hems and pin them on the inside of your garment but don't sew them just yet! Wet the hem and iron it before placing the fabric under weights to let it air dry.
13. Split piece E on the length into two identical long pieces. Each piece is then folded double and stitched along the long side.



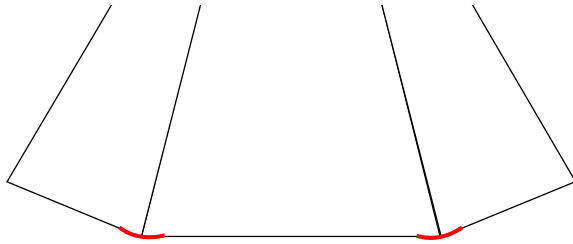
14. With the dress fitted at the correct position under your arms, measure from the upper edge of the back and over your shoulders to the front – this is how long you'll need the suspenders to be.
15. Cut your suspender pieces into two; one short piece that'll make up the front loop (*the length of the front loop is usually determined by where you want your buckles placed; a short loop will be covered by the lower part of your buckle, a longer loop will show beneath your buckle*) and one longer piece that

is folded double and used as back loop.

16. Pin the front loops to the inside of your upper hem, above your bosom. Tuck the raw edges underneath the felled hem and sew the loops in place.
17. Make one last measure of the back loops by connecting them to your front loops using the buckles you'll later be wearing. When you're satisfied with the length and placement, pin the suspenders to the back of the dress (*preferably a bit centered on your back as to avoid them from falling off your shoulders*) and fold the raw edges underneath the felled hem. Sew the loops in place.



18. When the front and back loops are sewn in place it's time to sew the upper hem with overcast stitches. Again, if the cloth is fine, lightweight or tends to fray it should be doubled over. If it's thick and doesn't fray it can just be overlapped.
19. Lastly, trim the lower hem at an even length. Make sure you round off the panel joints, otherwise the skirt will have an uneven fall. Fold the edge (doubled over or overlapped), press the hem and once it's dried; cast the edge with an overcast stitch.



20. The length and placement of the darts on the back of the smokkr can be adjusted to your personal preference. The four darts in this tutorial run 25 cm long, starting from 8 cm below the upper edge of the smokkr, and are placed with 6 cm intervals.

Pin around 4-5 mm of the fabric in vertical folds where you wish to place your darts. Sew running stitches along the dart with either a silk or wool thread matching the fabric color.



21. Either braid or use a lucet to make wool cords in a color of your choosing. Stitch them in place on top of the darts using a discreet silk thread.