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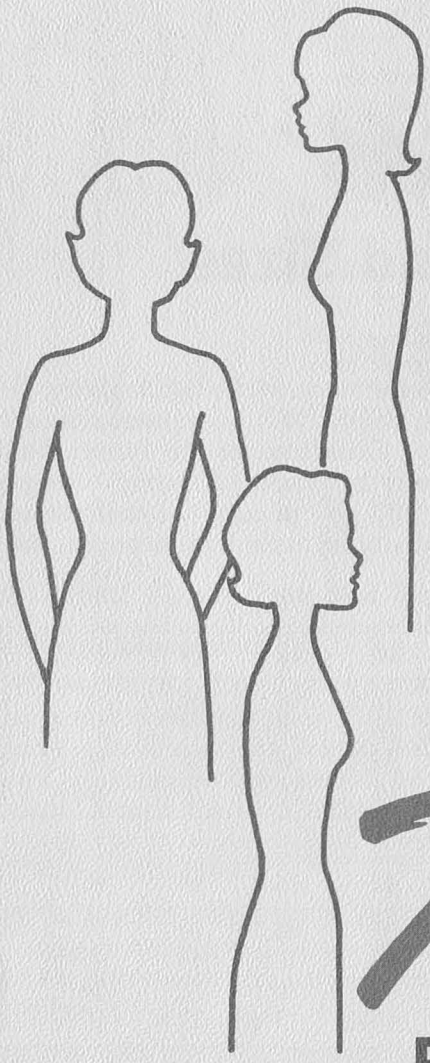


Pattern

Figure Types and Sizes

Athelene Scheid

University of Minnesota
Agricultural Extension Service

Pattern

Figure Types and Sizes

Pattern Measurement Chart

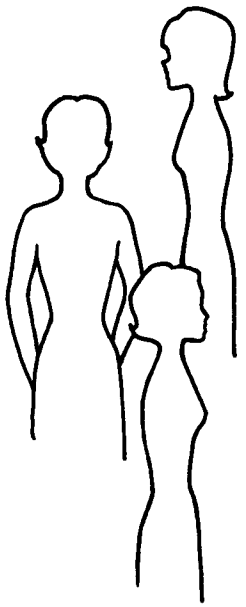
The four major pattern companies—Butterick, McCalls, Simplicity, Vogue—size their patterns using the revised (Nov. 1967) body measurements approved by the Measurement Standard Committee of the Pattern Fashion Industry. Other brands of patterns may be purchased through newspapers and magazines, or at store counters, and may or may not conform to the following measurement charts. The charts list body measurements, not the measurements of finished garment.

Misses' Sizes	6	8	10	12	14	16	18
Bust	30½	31½	32½	34	36	38	40
Waist	22	23	24	25½	27	29	31
Hip	32½	33½	34½	36	38	40	42
Back waist length	15½	15¾	16	16¼	16½	16¾	17

Women's Sizes	38	40	42	44	46	48	50
Bust	42	44	46	48	50	52	54
Waist	34	36	38	40½	43	45½	48
Hip	44	46	48	50	52	54	56
Back waist length	17¼	17⅜	17½	17⅝	17¾	17⅞	18

Half Sizes	10½	12½	14½	16½	18½	20½	22½	24½
Bust	33	35	37	39	41	43	45	47
Waist	26	28	30	32	34	36½	39	41½
Hip	35	37	39	41	43	45½	48	50½
Back waist length	15	15¼	15½	15¾	15⅞	16	16⅛	16¼

Junior Petite Sizes	3	5	7	9	11	13
Bust	30½	31	32	33	34	35
Waist	22	22½	23½	24½	25½	26½
Hip	31½	32	33	34	35	36
Back waist length	14	14¼	14½	14¾	15	15¼



Junior Sizes	5	7	9	11	13	15
Bust	30	31	32	33½	35	37
Waist	21½	22½	23½	24½	26	28
Hip	32	33	34	35½	37	39
Back waist length	15	15¼	15½	15¾	16	16¼

Young Junior/Teen Sizes	5/6	7/8	9/10	11/12	13/14
Bust	28	29	30½	32	33½
Waist	22	23	24	25	26
Hip	31	32	33½	35	36½
Back waist length	13½	14	14½	15	15⅜

Girls' Sizes	7	8	10	12	14
Breast	26	27	28½	30	32
Waist	23	23½	24½	25½	26½
Hip	27	28	30	32	34
Back waist length	11½	12	12¾	13½	14¼

Select Correct Figure Type and Size

1. Take body measurements

Have someone take these measurements for you. Wear a smooth-fitting slip and the foundation garment you will wear with the finished garment. Place a fine chain necklace around the neck and tie a cord around the waist before taking measurements. The chain and cord aid in determining back waist measurement.

Mark the hip line with a pin at each side to insure accurate measuring. The pin marking helps guide the tape measure in a straight line around the body.

Take snug, but not tight measurements. Use a tape measure that is in good condition.

Bust—measure straight around the figure over the fullest part.

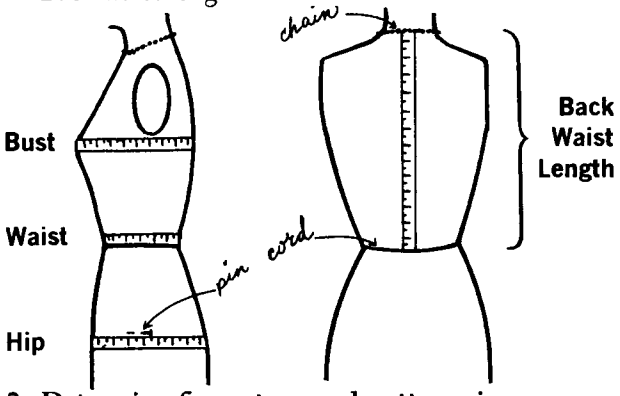
Waist—measure at the natural waistline (where the cord is).

Hip—measure 7 inches below the waistline for Half Sizes, Junior Petite, and Young Junior/Teen; 9 inches below the waistline for Misses, Women, and Junior.

Back Waist Length—measure from the bone at the base of the neck to the waistline.

Record your exact measurements to the fraction of an inch.

Bust _____ inches
Waist _____ inches
Hips _____ inches
Back waist length _____ inches



2. Determine figure type and pattern size

Compare your measurements with the chart to select the figure type and size of pattern that is best for you.

Make your selection from the combination of chart measurements—bust, waist, hip, and back waist length—which most closely corresponds to your body measurements. When you select the correct figure type and pattern size, alteration and fitting problems are kept to a minimum.

Figure Type_____ Pattern Size_____

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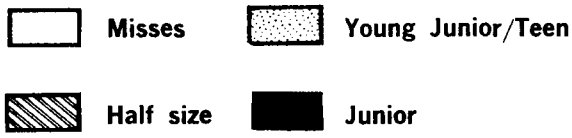
Description of Figure Types

The four figure types pictured (Young Junior/Teen, Junior, Misses, and Half Size) are for comparable size patterns. It is easy to see the difference in body contour, proportion, and height. As you study the measurement chart, you become more aware of the differences in body measurement which determine figure types. Body measurements, not age, govern figure types.



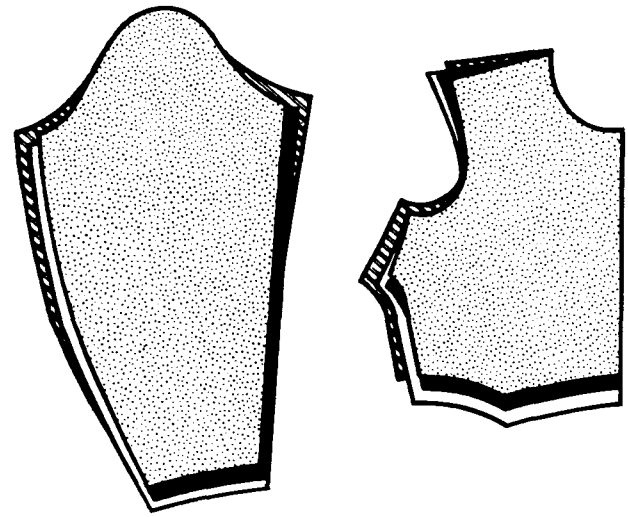


Figure Type	Pattern and Figure Description
Approximate height without shoes	
Misses 5′5″ to 5′6″	*Misses patterns* are for the fully developed and well-proportioned figure. Designs vary from youthful to mature styles.
Women 5′5″ to 5′6″	*Women's patterns* are for the larger-mature figure. Styles are suited to the older woman and the fuller figure.
Half Size 5′2″ to 5′6″	*Half size patterns* are made for the shorter and fuller waisted figure with narrow shoulders and a rather low bustline. Skirt and sleeve lengths are shorter. Designs for this figure-type are planned to be slenderizing.
Junior 5′4″ to 5′5″	*Junior patterns* are for the well-proportioned shorter waisted figure with a high bustline. Most designs are youthful in style.
Junior Petite 5′ to 5′1″	*Junior Petite patterns* are for a short but shapely figure with a small waist in proportion to the bust and hips.
Young Junior/Teen 5′1″ to 5′3″	*Young Junior/Teen patterns* are for the developing young figure with a small, high bustline, a short waist, and slim hips. The patterns are shorter throughout than the junior sizes. The designs are young, with the beginnings of the grownup look.
Girl 5′	*Girl's patterns* are for the undeveloped figure with a flat chest and slim hips. There are no darts at the bustline because little shaping is needed. The waist and skirt lengths are shorter than the other types. The designs are demure and childlike.

How Patterns From Various Companies Differ

Pattern companies follow a standard set of measurements. Yet their patterns differ in such things as:

Shoulder width and slant, shape of armholes and neckline, slant of the underarm.

Ease allowed for body movement and comfort.

Because of these variations in pattern shape and ease allowance, some brand or brands will fit you better than others. While bust, waist, hip, and back waist length measurements are a guide, you may need to try different brands of patterns to find the best possible fit.

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