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Edge ways

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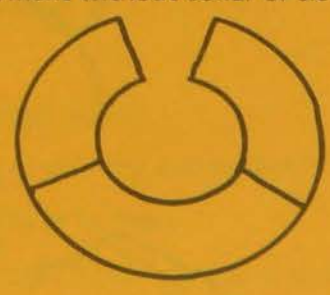
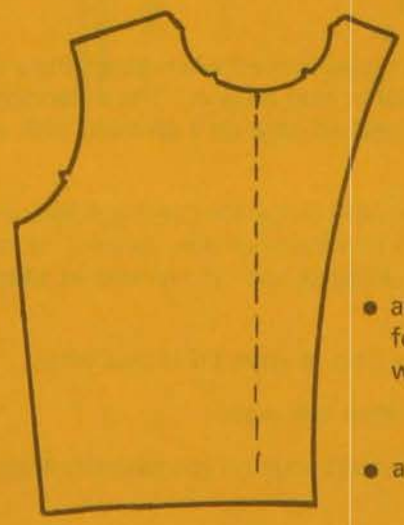
FACINGS AND COLLARS

Most of the construction of facings and collars doesn't show on the outside, but it does determine whether you'll have a good-looking finished edge or collar.

FACINGS

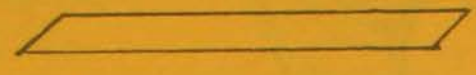
A facing is fabric sewn to the edge of a garment to give a finished appearance. There are three kinds of facings:

- a fitted facing is a separate piece, cut in the same shape as the garment edge. A garment without collar or sleeves would have this kind.



- an extended facing is cut in one piece with the garment and folded back to form the facing. A shirt or dress that buttons would have this kind.

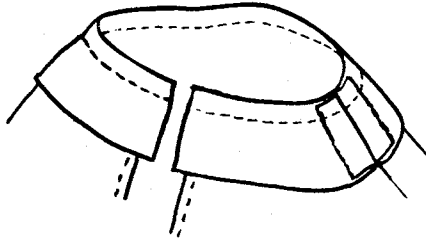
- a bias facing is a bias strip of fabric sewn to the garment edge.



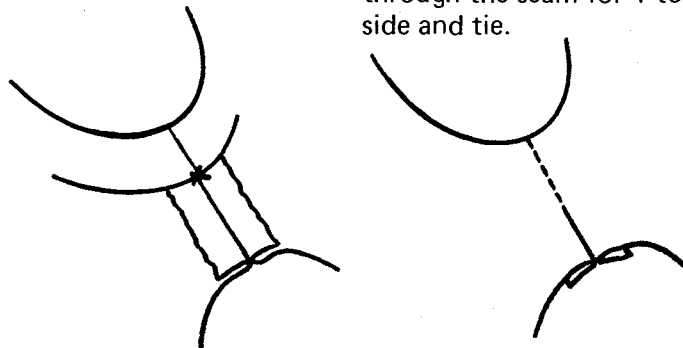
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A facing should lie smooth and flat, and not show on the right side.

The fitted facing is the most commonly used at necklines and armholes. The interfacing is always attached to the garment, not the facing. The neck edge of the garment should be staystitched.

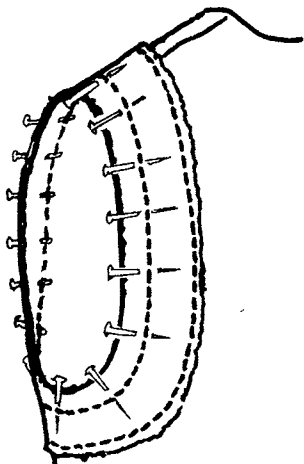


1. Stitch seams of facing pieces the same width as garment seams.
2. If fabric ravels, clean finish outer edge of facings (see helps in Help Yourself to Sew) pink and edge-stitch, or zig-zag.
3. Place right side of facing on right side of garment matching seams and notches.
4. Pin and stitch on seam line.
5. Trim seam allowance to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. If fabric is bulky, grade seams to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and $\frac{1}{8}$ inch.
6. Clip into seam allowance every inch just to the stitching line. This will help curved edges lie flat.
7. Understitch close to the seam line on the right side of the facing through both the facing and the seam allowances.
8. Turn and press facing to underside.
9. Fasten the facing with a few hand stitches through a seam allowance or dart, or machine stitch on outside exactly through the seam for 1 to 2 inches. Pull threads to wrong side and tie.

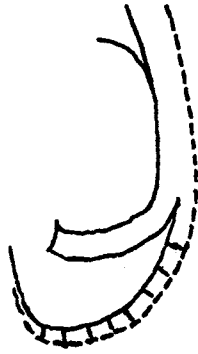


The extended facing is used when attaching a rolled collar and will be explained in that section. The extended piece is folded back to form a finished edge on a garment with a front opening.

The bias facing is used on gently curving edges, and is not interfaced. If you are making your own pattern, or changing a pattern, this is a good facing to use. It can also be used in skirt or sleeve hems.

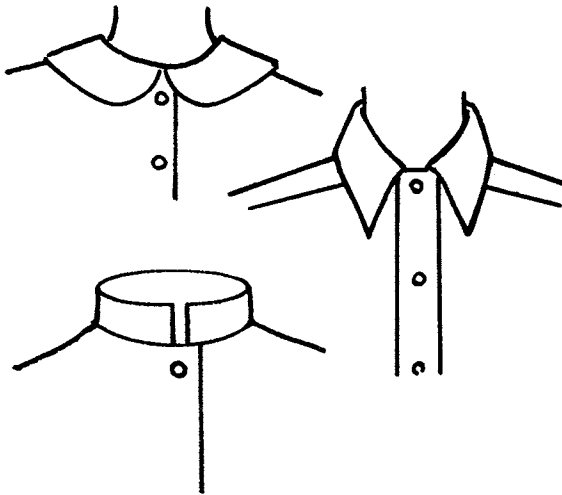


1. Cut a true bias strip at least $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide.
2. Stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from one edge.
3. Place the unstitched edge on the garment edge, right sides together.
4. Pin and stitch in a $\frac{5}{8}$ inch seam.



5. Trim seam allowance to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch.
6. Clip into seam allowance every inch just to the stitching line. This will help the curved edge lie flat.
7. Understitch close to the seam line on the right side of the facing through both the facing and the seam allowances.
8. Turn and press facing to underside.
9. Turn under raw edge at $\frac{1}{4}$ inch stitching line and slipstitch in place through fold.

COLLARS



The kind of collar on your garment depends on its shape at the neckline. It can be flat, rolled, or standing. It may be sewn on with one of the three kinds of facings described above — fitted, extended, or bias — or just by itself.

A good collar should have these characteristics:

- both ends are the same in size, shape, and placement.
- neither the under collar nor the seam shows at the outer edge.
- the collar sets on you as it does on the pattern picture.

Collar designs will vary with the pattern and current style, such as rounded, square, middy.

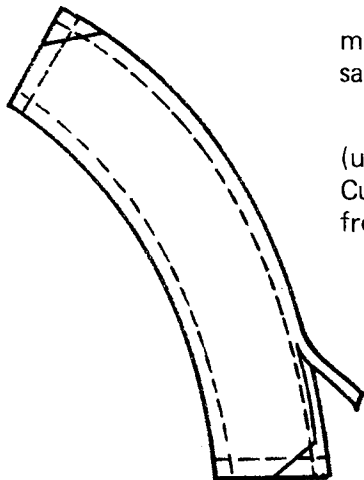
MAKING THE COLLAR

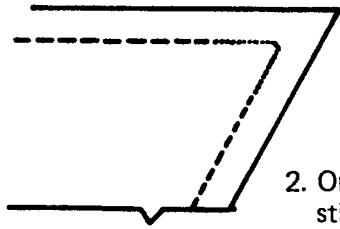
Few patterns have both an upper and under collar pattern. When they do, the upper collar is slightly larger to allow for roll and to help keep the seam from showing. You may want to cut the outer edge of the under collar $\frac{1}{8}$ inch smaller than the upper collar. Do not change the neckline edge. Sometimes the upper collar is called the collar, and the under collar the facing.

Choose interfacing that is lighter in weight than your garment fabric. Cut the interfacing on the same grain and with the same pattern as the collar.

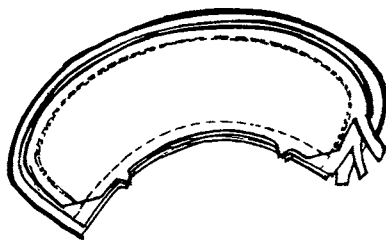
Place the interfacing on the wrong side of the upper collar (unless you're tailoring, then it's placed on the under collar). Cut $\frac{3}{4}$ inch off the interfacing corners. Machine baste $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from the edges and trim close to the stitching.

1. Place right sides of both collar sections together, matching notches and ends. Pin and stitch on seam line except at neckline edge.

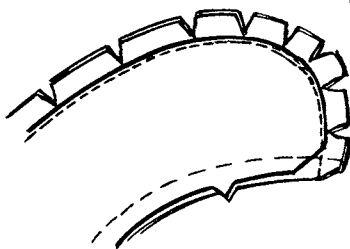




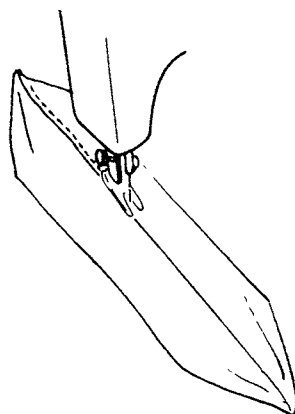
2. On a collar with pointed corners, use a shortened (20 to 25) stitch for $\frac{1}{2}$ inch at each side of corner. Take two stitches diagonally across the corner. The small stitches let you trim closer to seam; the two stitches make it less bulky to turn.
3. Grade seam allowances to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and $\frac{1}{8}$ inch. Trim interfacing as close to the stitching as possible.



4. On a curved collar, clip out triangle-shaped pieces to reduce bulk when collar is turned.



5. Understitch through under collar and seam allowance close to the seam line.
6. Turn collar to right side. Press, gently rolling the seam line to the underside of the collar.



ATTACHING THE COLLAR

A rolled collar, that rolls up against the neck, can be attached with an extended or fitted facing. It should not be used with a bias strip facing because the stitches will show.

■ To attach with an extended facing:

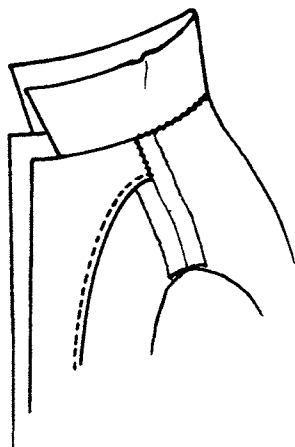
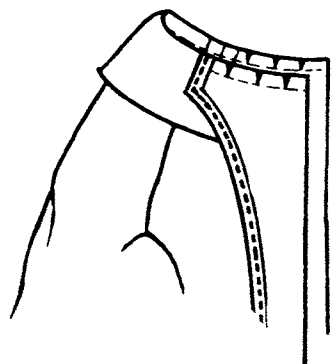
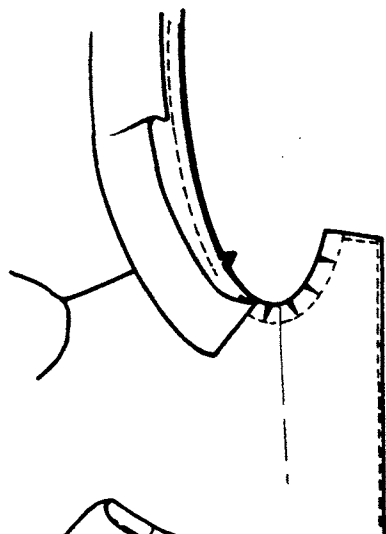
1. staystitch the garment and extended facing at neckline. Clip to stay in line.
2. clean finish outer edge of facing, if fabric ravel, or pink and edge-stitch.
3. place the under collar to the neck edge, right sides together, matching notches and end markings.
4. pin and stitch under collar to back section of garment to about 1 inch beyond each shoulder seam.

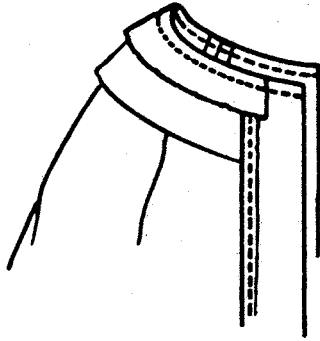
5. pin entire collar in place and fold extended facings over collar. The end of facing will be in line with shoulder seam.
6. stitch on seam line from front edge to shoulder seam.

7. trim and grade seams to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and $\frac{1}{8}$ inch.
8. turn corners and press.
9. clip seam at shoulder seam so it can be turned up into collar across the back. Slipstitch this edge to garment.

■ To attach with a fitted facing:

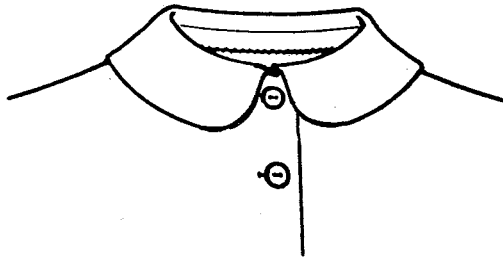
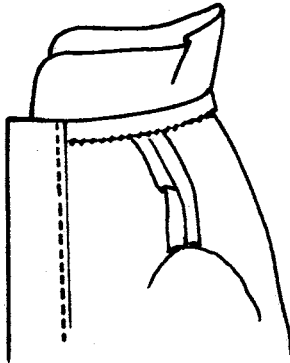
1. staystitch neckline of garment and facings.
2. stitch shoulder seams of facings.
3. clean finish outer edge of facing, if fabric ravel, or pink and edge-stitch.
4. clip to stay line of garment and facings.
5. place under collar side to neck edge, right sides together, matching notches and end markings. Machine baste.
6. place completed facing to neck edge, right sides together, matching notches. Stitch along seam line.
7. trim and grade seams to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and $\frac{1}{8}$ inch. Understitch where possible.
8. turn and press. Fasten facing at shoulder seam.



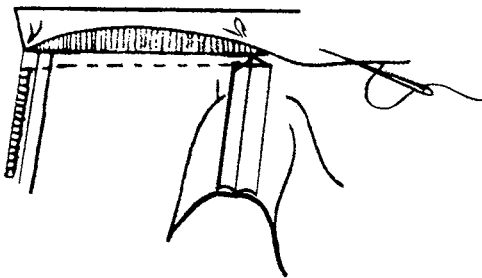


■ A flat collar can be attached with a fitted facing or a bias facing since the collar will cover the hand stitches. To attach with a bias facing:

1. cut a 1½ inch bias strip the length of the neckline from facing edge to facing, plus 1½ inches.
2. staystitch the collar and garment neckline. Clip to this line.
3. clean finish outer edge of garment facing, if fabric ravel, or pink and edge-stitch.
4. place collar to neck edge, right sides together, matching notches and end markings. Machine baste.
5. turn garment facings to right side over collar ends.
6. place right side of bias strip over collar.
7. stitch on seam line.
8. trim and grade seam to ¼ inch and 1/8 inch.
9. turn bias edge under and slipstitch to garment.



A standing collar should have a bias-cut interfacing attached to the side of the outer collar. A turtleneck collar is a standing collar made wide enough to fold over and cover the neckline seam. If woven fabric is used, it should be cut on the bias; if knit fabric is used, this is not necessary. These collars can be attached the same way as a rolled collar with no fitted or bias facing.



Developed by Eileen G. Anderson, urban extension agent

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