



Betty  
Kingston

Easy to make • Australian made •

# Kimono Wrap

Kimono style for Jacket, Dress and Sleepsuit Sz 3mths to 9mths

## Skill level – Beginner

A simple and beautiful kimono style adaption to make your very own jacket, dress or sleepsuits.

### Suggested Fabrics

Light and medium weight cottons including modern quilting cottons, gingham, linen, cotton poplin, cotton sateen and other lightweight washable blends. Perfect for flannel and sleepwear fabrics.

### Notions

Matching thread, snap fasteners if used, 5m (5.5 yards) of bias or crossgrain binding. If making your own crossgrain binding you will need 30cm of 45" 115cm fabric.

### Useful tools

Sewing machine, scissors, pins, seam ripper and rotary cutter. Snap fasteners can be bought with a tool kit.

This pattern is designed for use with a sewing machine.

## Size Chart

Age	3+ mths	9+ mths
Weight	11-17 lbs 5-8 kg	17-22 lbs 8-10kgs
Size	000/00	0

## Material Requirements

	3+ mths	9+ mths		3+ mths	9+ mths
Christening/Sleepsuit 45" 115cm fabric	1.9 yard 1.7 metre	2 yard 1.8 metre	Christening/Sleepsuit 60" 150cm fabric	1.2 yard 1.1 metres	1.3 yard 1.2 metres
Dress 45" 115cm fabric	1.1 yard 1 metre	1.2 yard 1.1 metre	Dress 60" 150cm fabric	32" 80cm	36" 90cm
Jacket 45" 115cm fabric	28" 70cm	32" 80cm	Jacket 60" 150cm fabric	26" 60cm	28" 70cm



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# Kimono Wrap Instructions

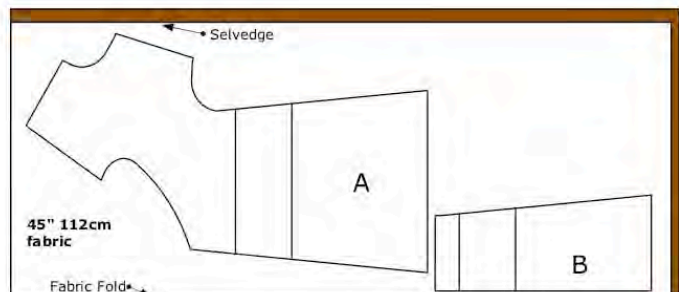
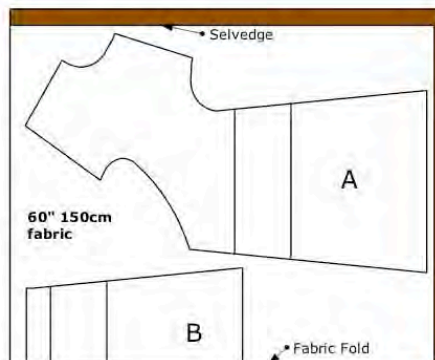
All seams are french seams and as there are only four seams in total, you won't be at the sewing machine all day. The seam allowance is 5/8" / 1.5cm to accommodate a french seam. Please read the instruction all the way through before you start making the kimono.

Fabric, notions and other requirements are listed on the back cover of the pattern. If you plan to use this pattern for a sleepsuit, please use fabric manufactured for sleepwear, which has fire retardant properties.

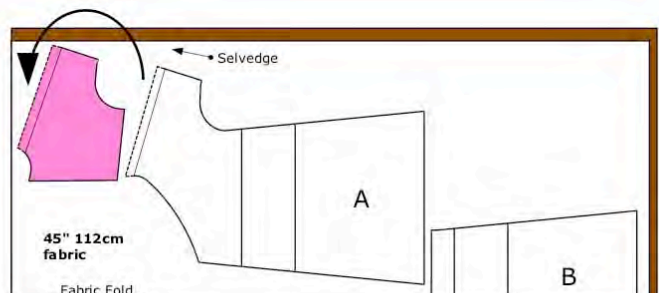
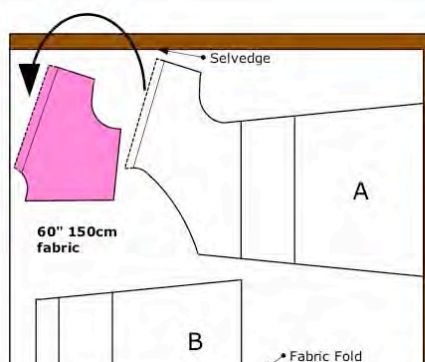
The photos used in the tutorial will refer to a polka-dot kimono dress with a flower back panel and an ivory christening wrap (sleepsuit length).



**Step One.** **Cut out your fabric pieces.** You will cut two of the front kimono panels (Pattern Piece A) and one back panel on the fold (Pattern Piece B). One-way designed, striped, plaid or obvious diagonal materials are not suitable for this pattern.



To use a one-way designed fabric or fabric with nap, cut Pattern Piece A at the sleeve midpoint. Add a 5/8" 1.5cm seam allowance to the new sleeve edges. Flip the new pattern piece (to face down) and align to follow the grainline. You will need to french seam this seam before continuing with tutorial (using the same french seam approach outlined in Step Three).





**Step Two.** **Navigation tabs.** This is important as the tabs are referred to through this tutorial.



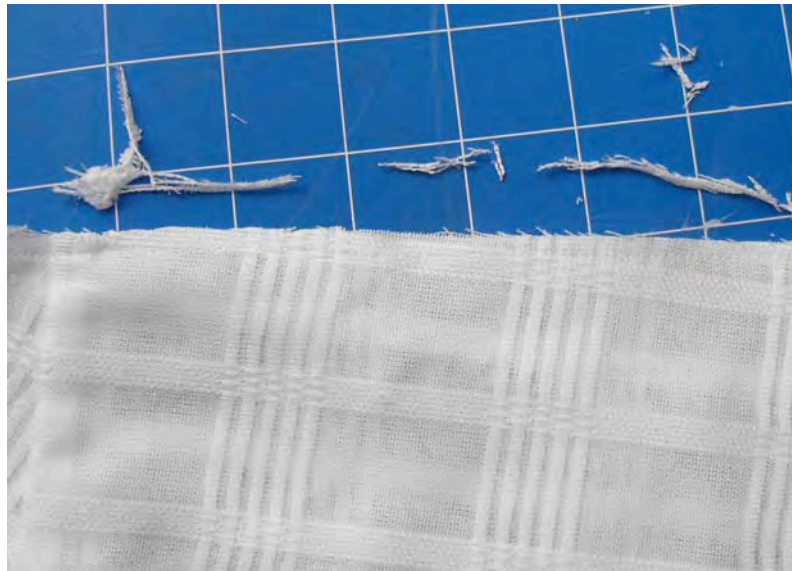
Cut out the navigation words (included in the pattern). Pin these to the right side of your fabric in the same location as the words on the pattern itself. Pin to both front panels (Pieces A).

**Step Three.** **Join the centre back of the front panels (Pieces A) using a french seam.** Your first seam is  $\frac{1}{4}$ "/6mm and your second seam will be  $\frac{3}{8}$ "/1cm throughout the tutorial.

You will use your iron as much as the sewing machine, so turn it on ready for use - highest setting appropriate for the material (I said you weren't at the sewing machine all day, you're at the iron instead!) Hand creasing or pins is not sufficient, particularly on the large side seams.



With WRONG sides together, sew a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " 6mm straight stitch seam. You are sewing against your instincts and sewing directly onto the right side of the fabric.



Trim any loose threads along the seam and trim the seam where it is bulky or larger than  $\frac{1}{4}$ "/6mm.



Fold the fabric over so RIGHT sides are together. Press with your iron so the seam is in the middle of the fabric pieces.



Here is the pressed seam on the polka dot dress kimono



Sew a 3/8" 1cm straight stitch seam enclosing the first smaller seam. Trim loose threads.



**Step Four.** **Attach the back panel piece (B) to front piece (A).** With WRONG sides together sew front panel (Piece A) to back panel (Piece B) along the 'back' marked with your navigation tab. Sew a french seam following instructions in Step Three.



1<sup>st</sup> seam sewn on the right side ¼"/6mm in size. Trim any loose threads or fray. You can see that I've used a different material for the back panel on the polka dot kimono dress.



Fold over right sides together and press the seam.



2<sup>nd</sup> seam is sewn on the wrong side 3/8"/1cm in size.



Same french seam on the christening wrap.

**Step Five.** **Complete the Sleeve Hems.** Baby garments have small wrist openings that are difficult to machine stitch once the sleeve is complete. For this tutorial you will hem the sleeves before the sleeve seam.



Fold a small 1/4" 6mm edge to the wrong side of the fabric. Fold again, 1/4" 6mm to enclose the raw edge. I complete this on the ironing board pressing with each fold.





Stitch along the inner edge. Press again to sharpen the hem seam.



At this point all the short bits have been completed so you should see the kimono coming together. You can remove all the navigation pieces if you haven't already (and save them for your next kimono...)

#### Step Six.

**Stitch the side seams using a French seam.** French seams cannot be used on corners as the fabric within the enclosed seam is pulled in different directions with a puckered result. A french seam will go around a gentle curve (if you talk to it nicely). The kimono arm is curved to allow this.



Placing WRONG sides together, pin your front and back panels together down the side. Start stitching from the sleeve wrist opening sewing down the side to the bottom of the kimono.

*Remember start with WRONG sides together.*



Check your curved underarm and very carefully trim or cut the seam in a couple of places to further minimise any potential puckering before sewing the second seam.



Fold over RIGHT sides together and iron the seam, give the curve a gentle stretch. Finish the french seam with a 3/8" 1cm seam, again starting from the wrist opening. Repeat these steps for the other side seam.



Well that's it for the seams. Take stock of your work - looks great doesn't it? I love seeing the french seams completed.

We are now at our halfway point ready to finish the raw edges around the kimono. Go and get a nice cup of tea or coffee ready for the next part.



**Step Seven. Bind the front and bottom raw edges.** You can finish the raw edges with either bias binding or cross grain binding. I used bias binding on the christening wrap and crossgrain binding on the sleepsuit and dress. There is a wealth of information provided [HERE](#) showing how to create different bindings. Sew Mama Sew tutorial by Autum on making bias binding [HERE](#) is perfect.

The crossgrain binding I used is created from 2" 5cm strips folded down to 1"/2.5cm binding. Cut these the full width of your fabric (of choice) - enough to create 5 metres or 5.5 yards (that is 5 strips if using 45" fabric). Join the strips together at a 45 degree angle.



Fold the binding in half lengthwise and press. Open up and fold the raw edges into the middle using the first fold crease as a guide. Press with a warm iron.



Insert the kimono edge into the binding. Start at the front panel below the neckline curve. You don't need to tuck or enclose the beginning raw edge of the binding. It will be enclosed by the neckline binding.



The kimono is sandwiched in the binding.



Straight stitch down the front panel until you get to the bottom edge – sew to the edge.

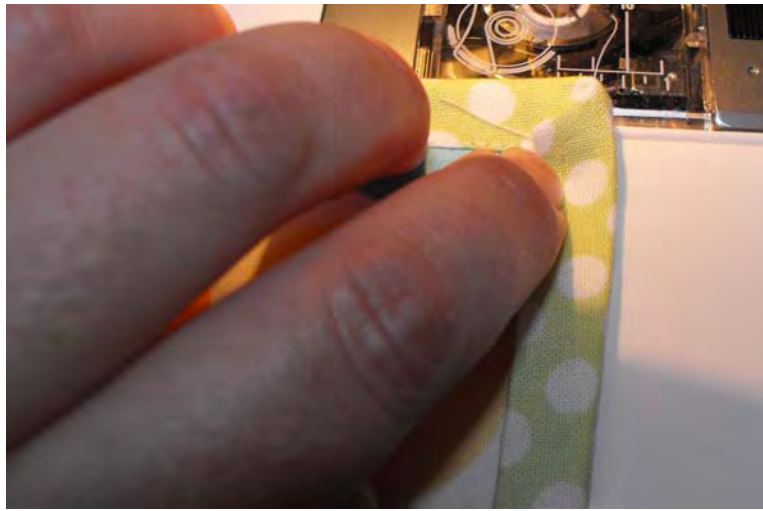


When you reach the corner, remove the kimono and binding from underneath the foot and cut the thread. Do not cut the binding.



Turn the binding at right angle aligning it to the bottom raw edge.

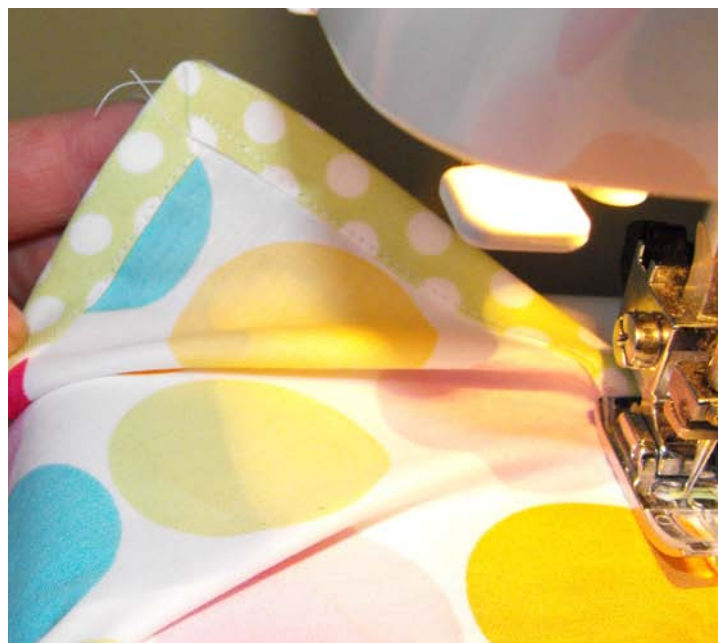




Tuck the excess fabric at the corner and fold over the binding creating a mitered corner.



Continue to stitch from the mitered corner along the bottom edge of the kimono.



Repeat this process at the other corner. Finishing the binding at the front edge on the other side of the kimono just below the neckline.

**Step Eight.** **Bind neckline edge and create the front ties.** You will bind the neckline edge the same way as the front/bottom except that you will create two ties at the start and end of each front opening. As you will be working the binding around a curve, stitch slowly, easing the fabric into the binding as you go. You can always stop with your needle down, presser foot up, and pivot your kimono slightly to help move around the curve.



Enclose the raw edges of the ties: Open the folds of the binding. Fold over the edge to the wrong side. Close the folds of your binding enclosing the raw edge.



Tie allowance is 12" 30cm. Mark this along your binding so you know when to attach to the neckline.

Stitch from the tie along the neckline to the other side also allowing a 12"/30cm tie allowance. If you intend to use snap fasteners rather than ties on your kimono, stitch a smaller tie allowance 3/8" 1cm in finished length, enough to hold the snap.

**Step Nine.** **Attach additional ties.** Placement of ties for the kimono is marked on the pattern. For the jacket or dress, you may only want to use the neckline ties. For the sleepsuit, you may want to attach ties or fasteners down the front and along the bottom edge.

Every tie along the front will need a tie inside the kimono or a tie on the side seam edge of the kimono. Before attaching the ties, determine which front panel will tie internally and which will cross over the top. Is there a right way to cross over the

kimono? Not sure but you can always follow tradition: right front over left for girls and left front over right for boys.



To make ties, cut lengths of the binding 12"/30cm in length and sew the binding lengthwise to enclose. As before, you can tuck the ends into the binding before sewing.



Your neckline ties will have an opposite located on the curve of the underarm. For internal ties, use the French seam as a base to attach the ties. For external ties, stitch the ties on the side seam.

Other options available for ties include ribbon and snap fasteners. For my christening kimono, I used thin ivory ribbon.





If using fasteners, you need to reinforce the snap. You can use binding or ribbon to provide this. I attached the snaps to the binding along the front of the kimono and a little piece of ribbon for the snaps on the inside.

**Step Ten.**     **Admiration.** Once the ties have been attached, the kimono is complete. Stand back and admire your gorgeous kimono wrap. Upload a photo to flickr so we can all admire your great work.

This tutorial is available as a Sew Mama Sew tutorial for personal use

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For further assistance, please email Benita at [bettsykingston@gmail.com](mailto:bettsykingston@gmail.com)



Navigation Tools

Click and Drag to Rotate Pieces

Centre Back Centre Back  
Back Back  
Front Sleeve Front Sleeve  
Back Sleeve Back Sleeve  
Neckline Neckline

Size: All-around 5'6" / 1.5m

Kimono Back

A  
Kimono Front  
Cut Line

B  
Kimono Back  
Cut Line

On Fold

Size: All-around 5'6" / 1.5m

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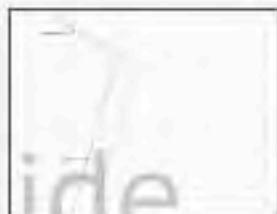
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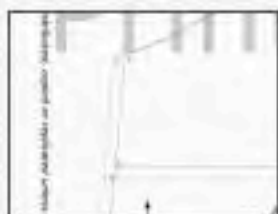
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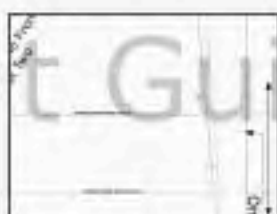
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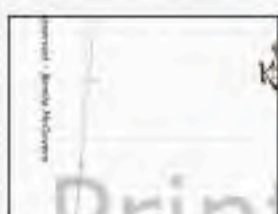
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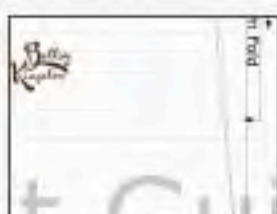
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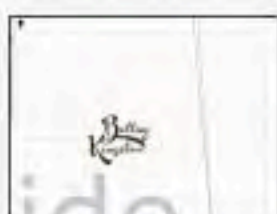
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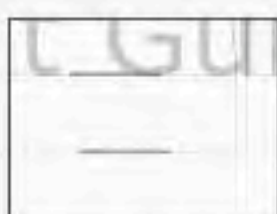
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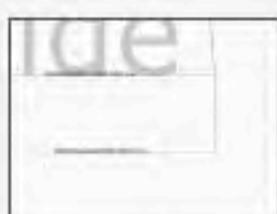
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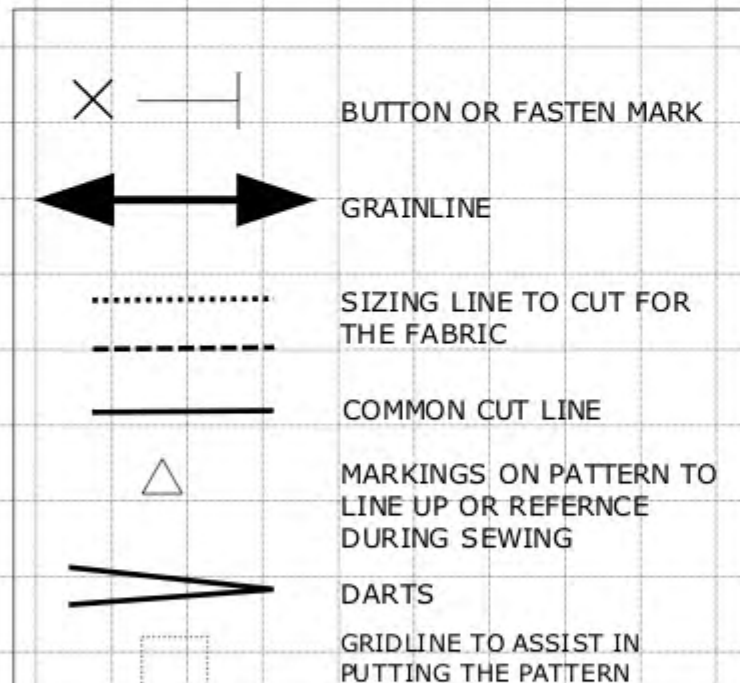
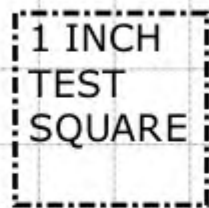


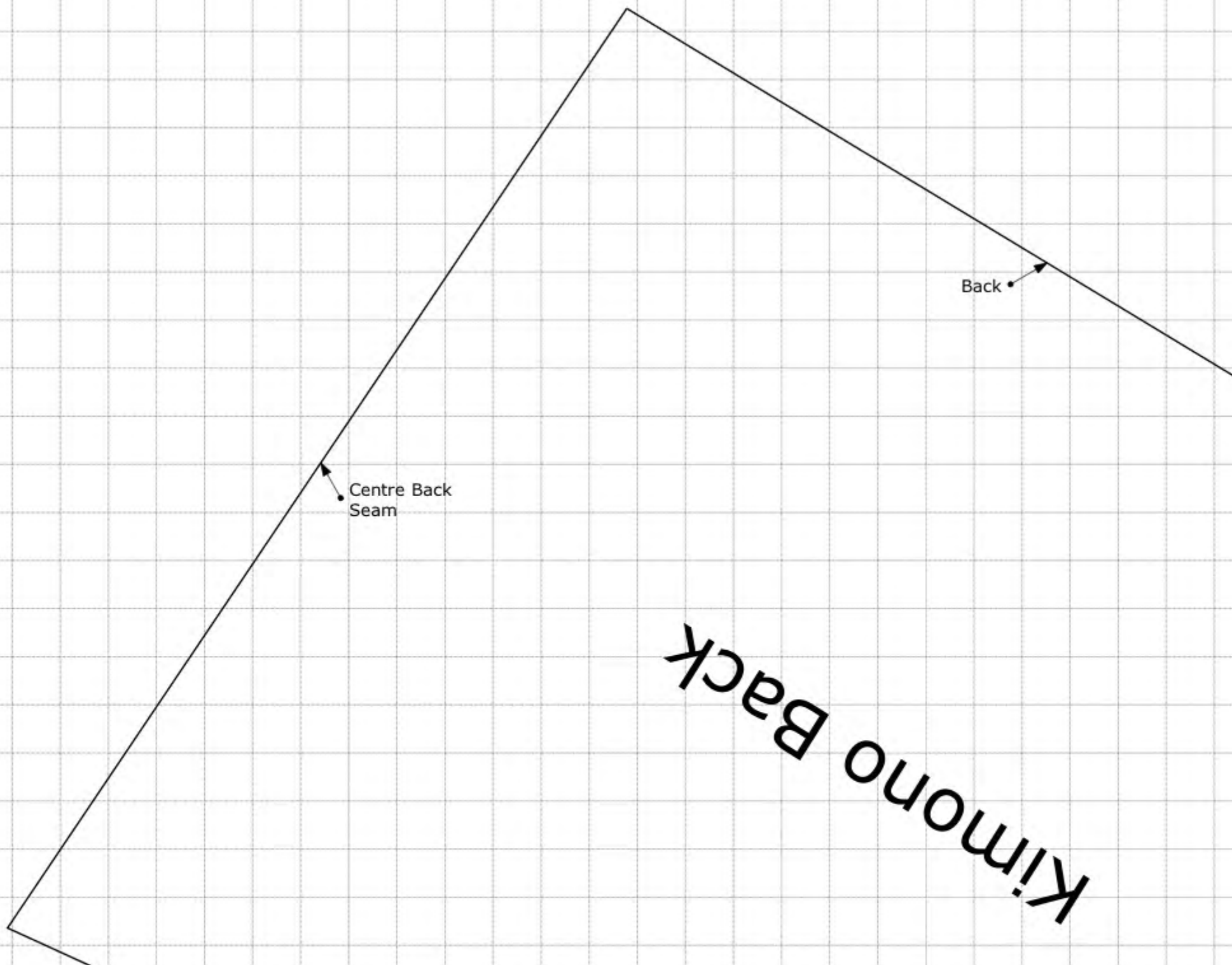
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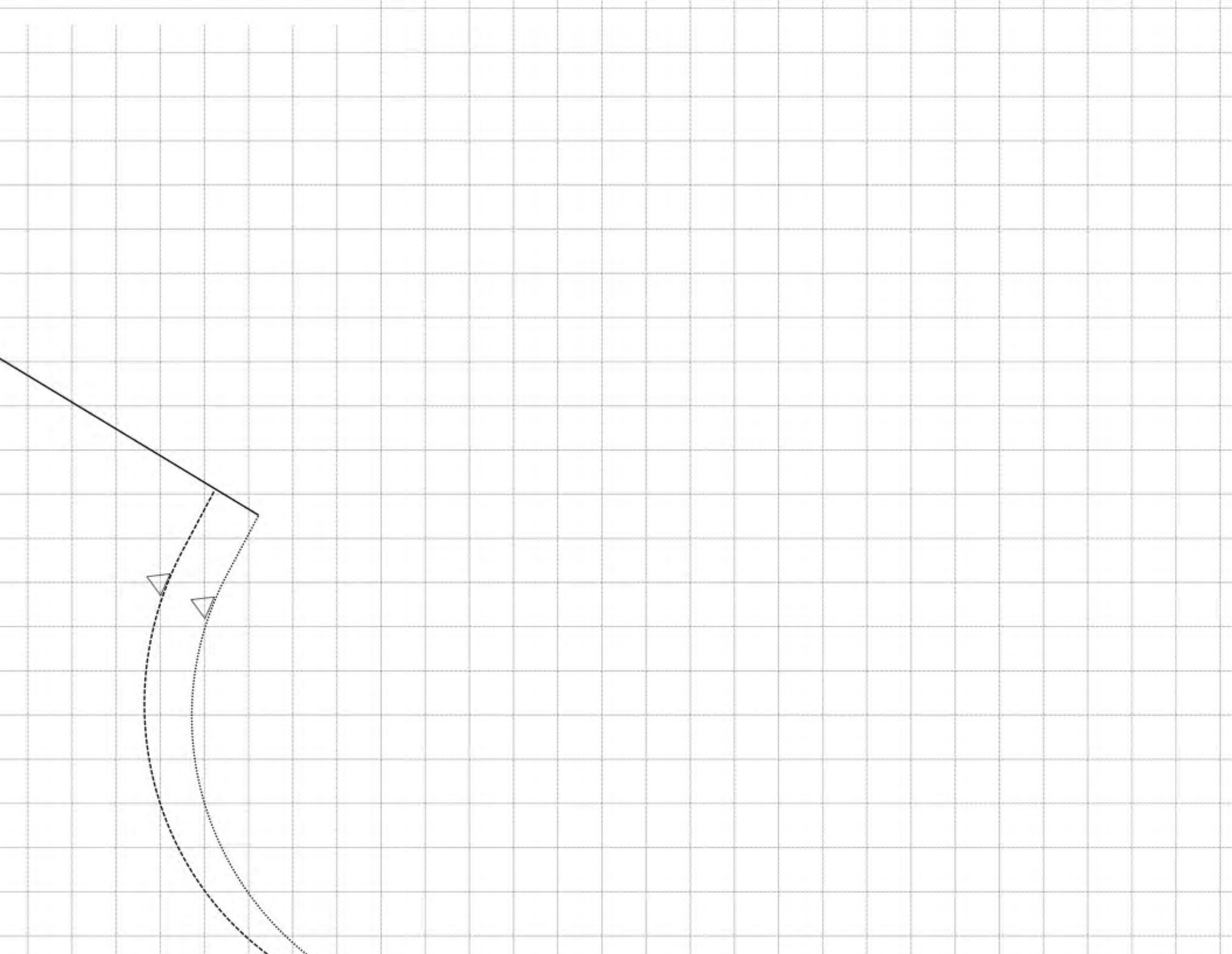




Centre Back  
Seam

Back

Kimono Back







DURING SEWING  
DARTS  
GRIDLINE TO ASSIST IN  
PUTTING THE PATTERN  
TOGETHER

***Navigation Tabs***  
***Cut and Pin to Fabric Pieces***

**Centre Back**

**Centre Back**

**Back**

**Back**

**Front Sleeve**

**Front Sleeve**

**Back Sleeve**

**Back Sleeve**

**Neckline**

**Neckline**

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Print



• Neckline

Seam Allowance  $\frac{5}{8}$ " / 1.5cm

• Front

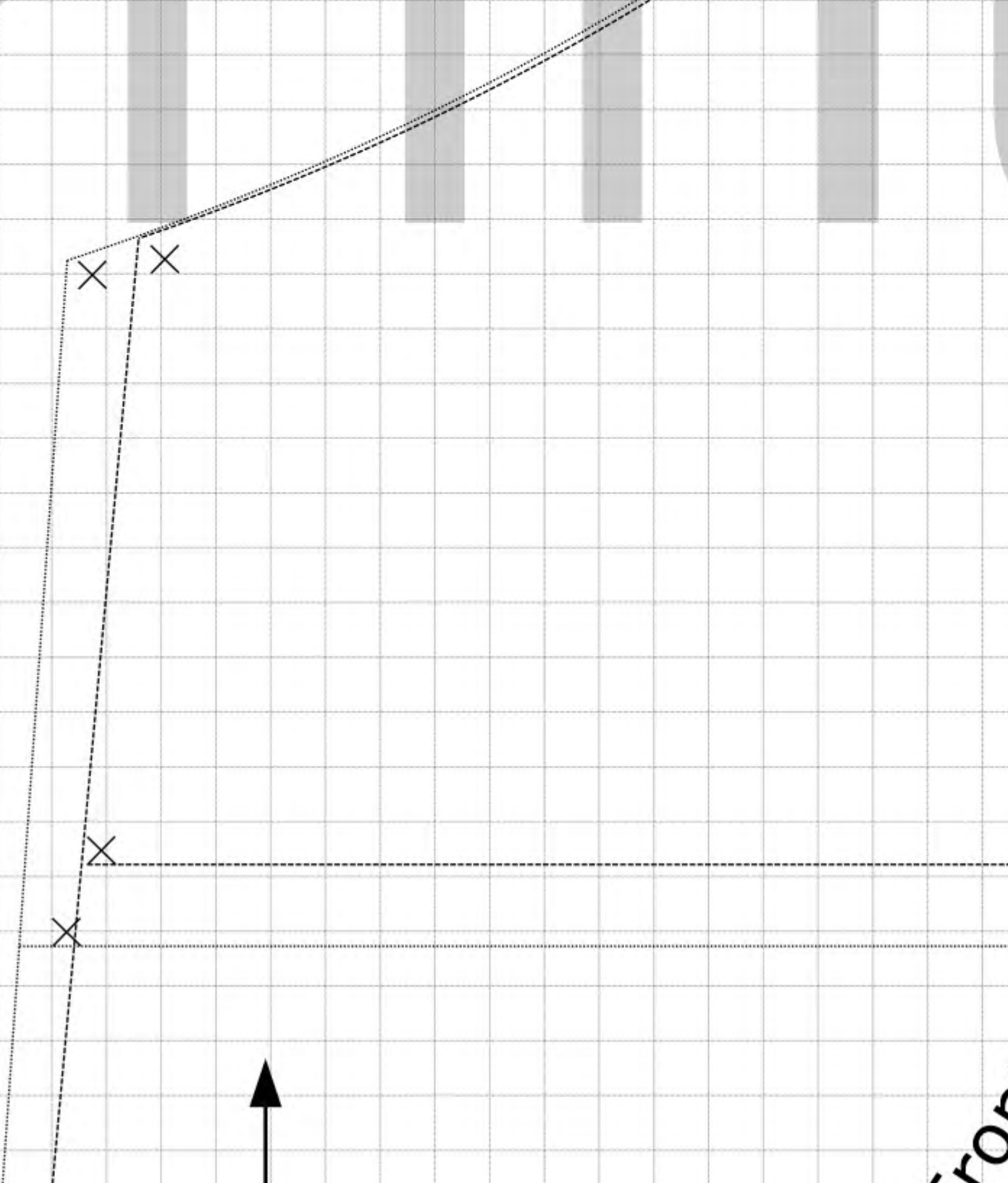
Back Sleeve

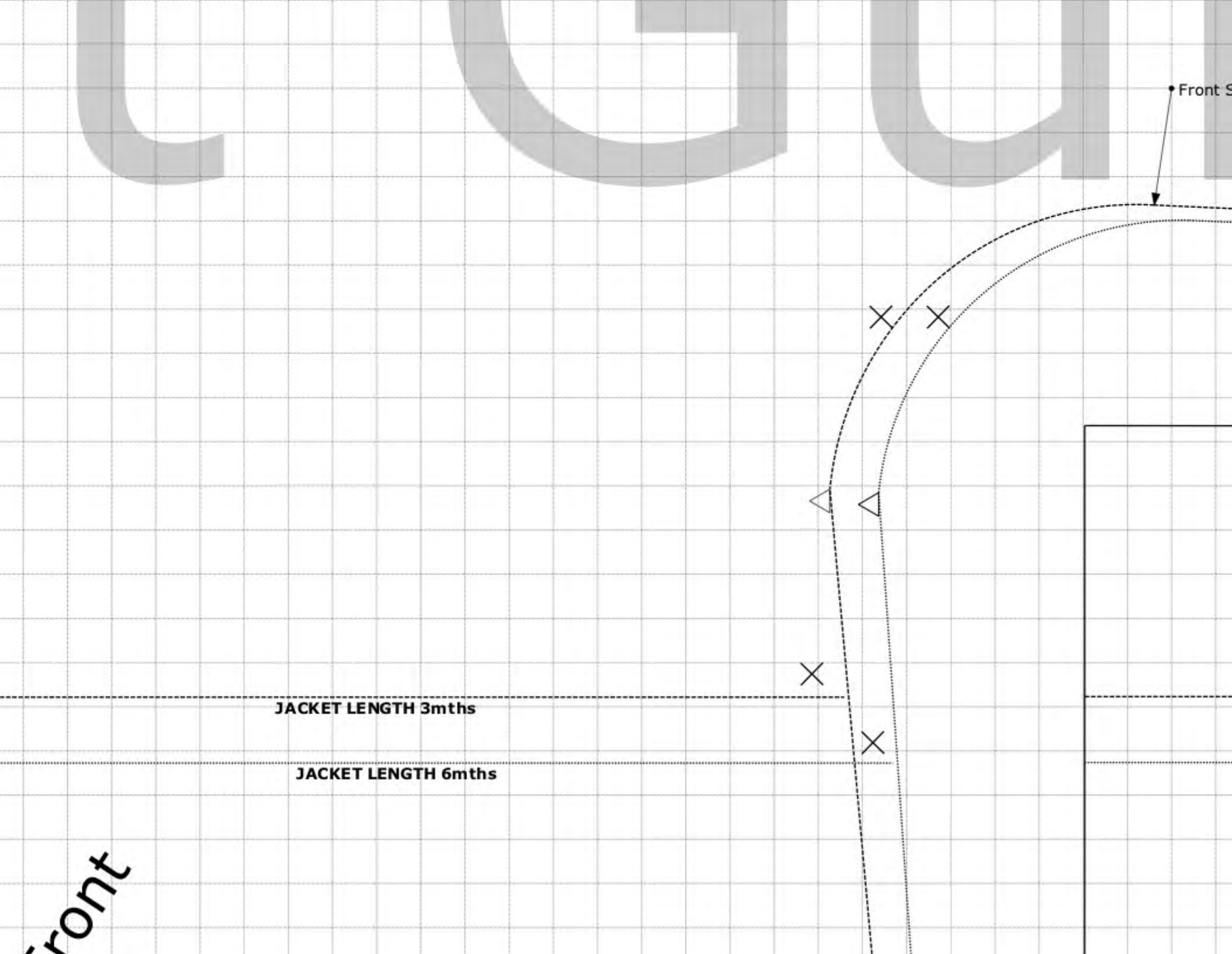
Sleeve

Front Sleeve



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Front S

JACKET LENGTH 3mths

JACKET LENGTH 6mths

front

• Front Sleeve

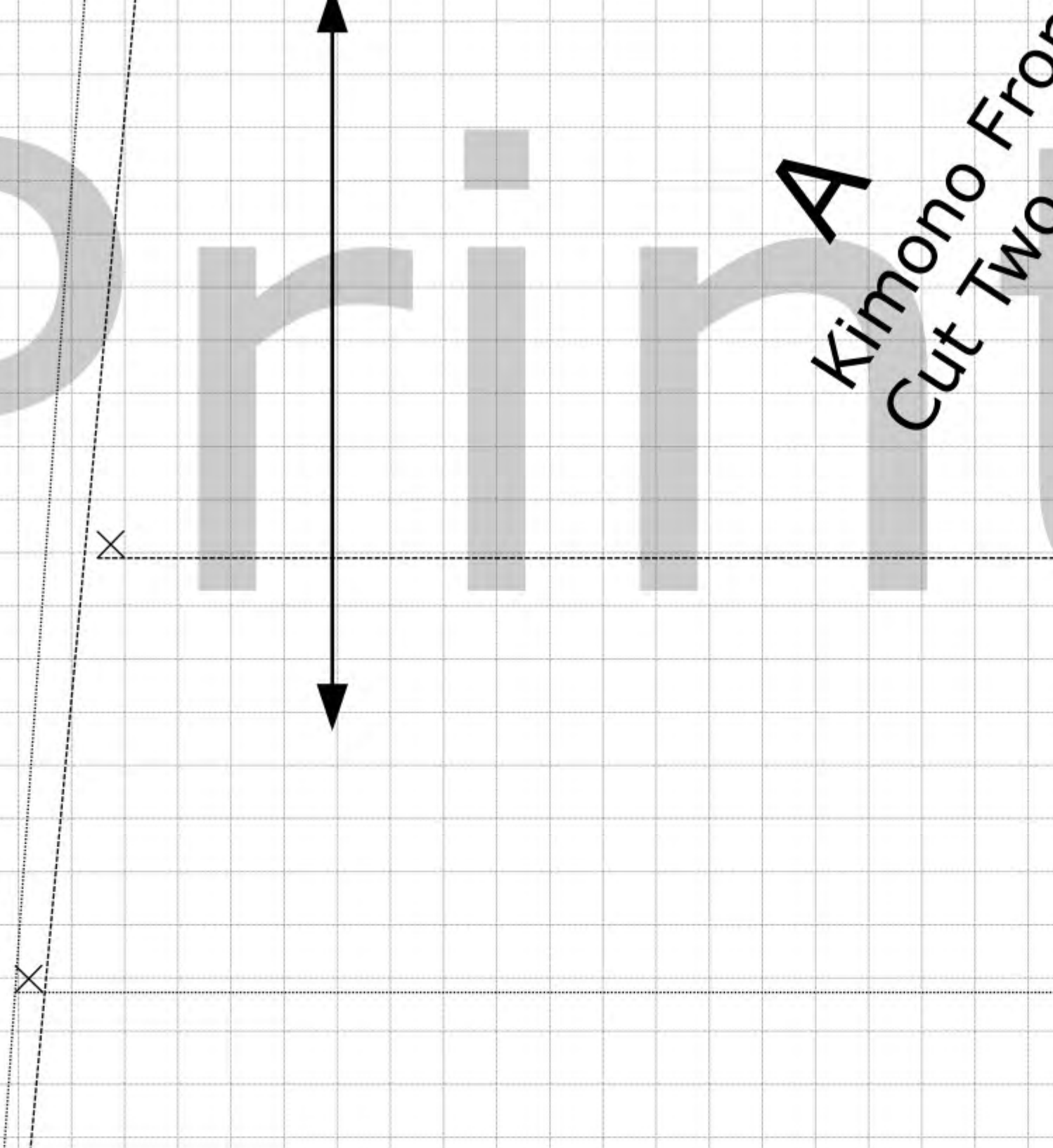
**JACKET LENGTH 3mths**

**JACKET LENGTH 6mths**

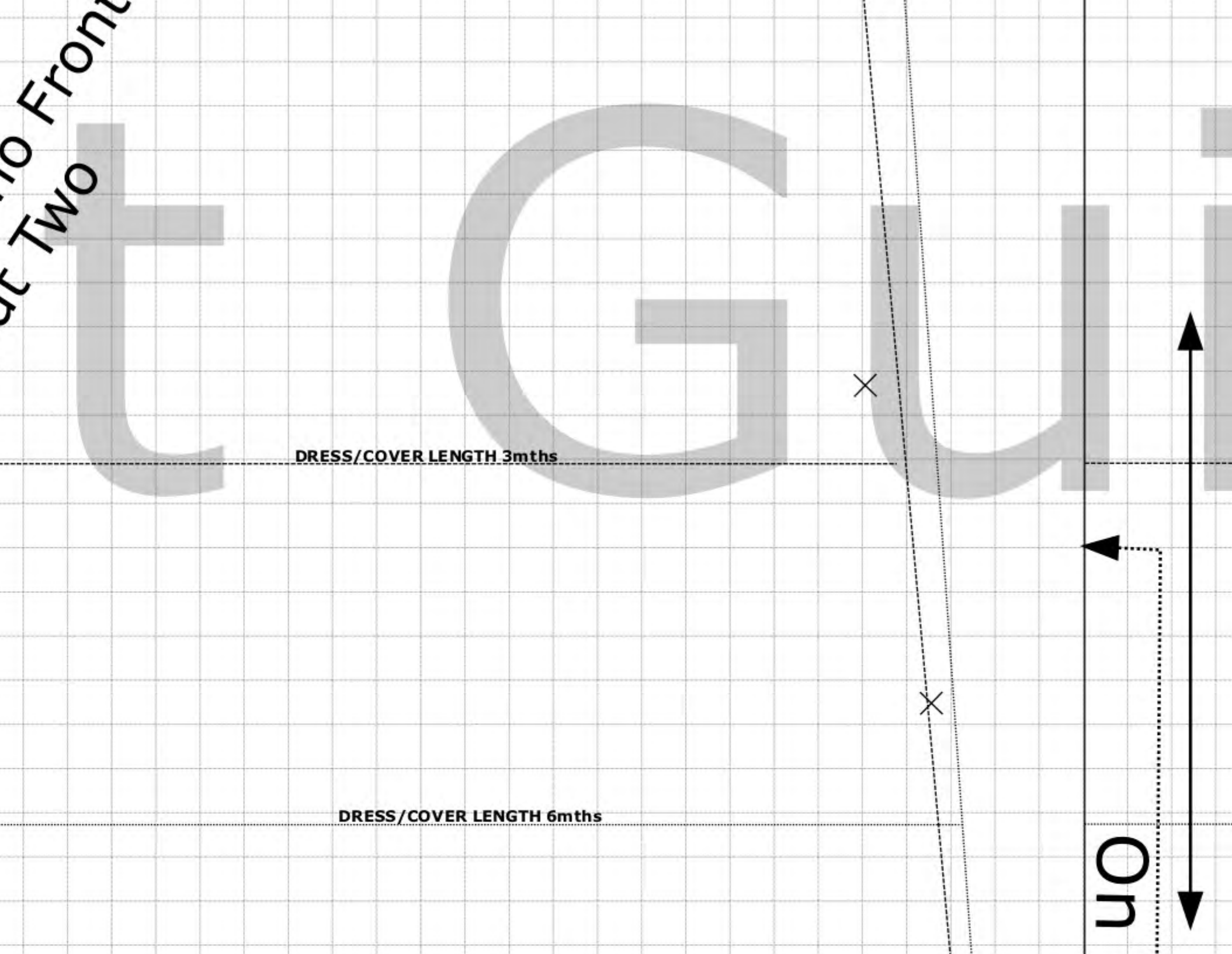
**Seam Allowance 5/8" / 1.5cm**



# A Kimono Front Cut Two



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Two Front

DRESS/COVER LENGTH 3mths

DRESS/COVER LENGTH 6mths

On

Seam Allowance 5/8" / 1.5cm

DRESS/COVER LENGTH 3mths

**B**  
Kimono Back  
Cut One

DRESS/COVER LENGTH 6mths



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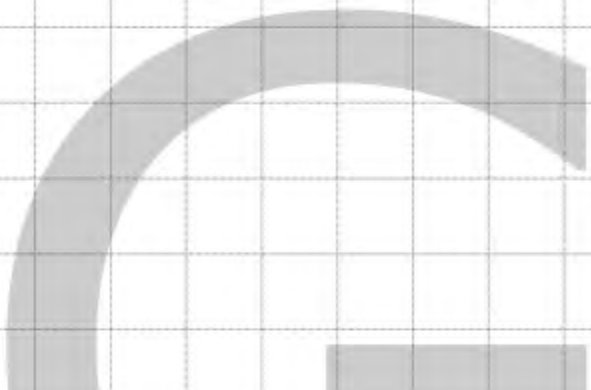
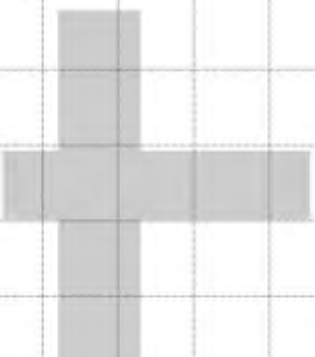
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On Fold



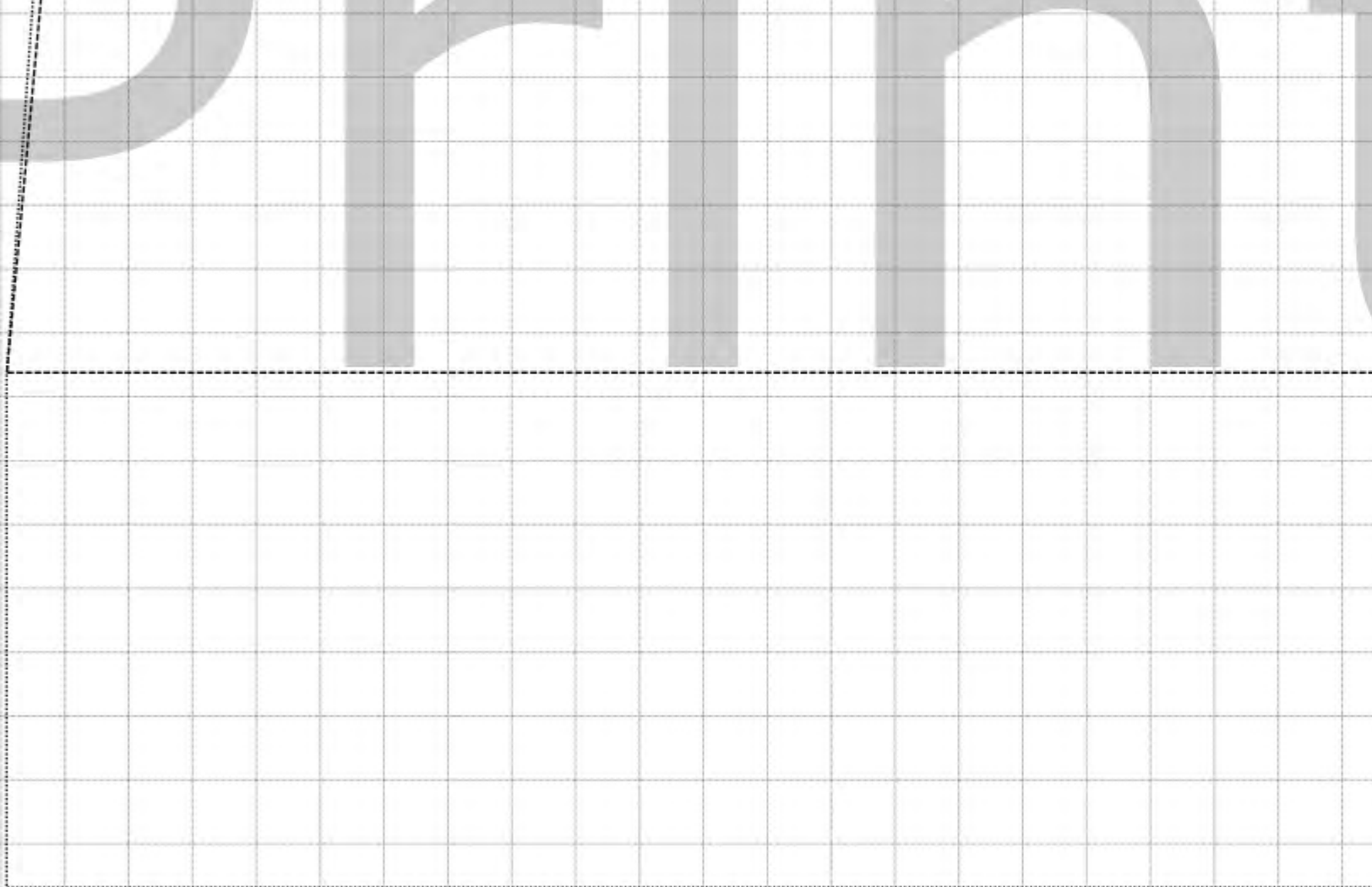


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**CHRISTENING GOWN/SLEEPSUIT LENGTH 3mths**

**CHRISTENING GOWN/SLEEPSUIT LENGTH 6mths**

**CHRISTENING GOWN/ SLEEPSUIT LENGTH 3mths**

**CHRISTENING GOWN/ SLEEPSUIT LENGTH 6mths**