

Fall 2006 Cut Two Fabric Collection

CLOTHESLINE
Cut *Two*

Fall is my favorite time of year for fabric buying. The colors, textures and garment potential are so exciting. In this collection you will find fabrics to live your life in. These are yummy everyday "feel good" fabrics. They are not fancy in a "fancy" sort of way but delicious and inviting. They are what you want to wrap yourself in this fall and winter. Feeling comfortable, being able to breath and looking great is the perfect combination. There are sixty-seven knit fabrics and three woven fabrics offered here to help you enjoy sewing for the season.

In this collection you will see some new CJ stretch fabrics. For the first time I have included a lighter ounce weight cotton/LYCRA®. It has a small amount of polyester included, which will keep the shrinkage to a minimum, and help lighten the hand and add drape. My standard cotton/LYCRA® is a suit weight fabric, a little too heavy "handed" for most tops and full garments. This lighter ounce fabric will add more ease to a garment and feel lighter than the suit weight cotton/LYCRA®.

I have also added more and more rayon/LYCRA® jersey fabric than ever. I love sewing and wearing this fabric. It is the same fabric that you see in all the garment catalogs and stores, but nicer! The variety of colors is so exciting! Keep in mind that although the fiber content is the same the stretch and hand can vary, so refer to the percentage (%) of stretch chart when choosing your pattern size.

Many of you will be happy to see the inclusion of slinky back in the collection. The new colors are what brought them back! Remember that the large percentage of stretch in slinky adds lots of ease to a garment, so size down. Choose simple patterns that use the excellent draping quality of slinky to its fullest.

Among all these great fabrics are the seasonal choices. Unique, special and great to work with describe them to a tee. Spend time with them and you will fall in love, like I did.

Within each color group it is possible blend the different shades, weights and textures for incredible monochromatic outfits. It is equally as much fun to mix and match the colors. Number each fabric swatch and un-staple them so you can move them around and put your own favorites together.

Please note the garment ideas and comments for the fabrics along with the standard information on the fabric page. Also notice that the percentage of crosswise stretch is included there. Use this number along with the body and tissue pattern measurement to choose the right size for your garment. Use the Elongation Ruler on the CJ "Perfect Sizing" Worksheet to check the stretch of your fabrics from now on. Please utilize the tools offered in this Cut Two issue; they will help guide you to better fitting clothes! I hope you love the fabrics.

Happy Sewing!

Christine

The Importance of Ease and Measurements

Presenting Christine Jonson's "Perfect Sizing" Worksheet

"This will revolutionize sewing!" is what I keep hearing every time I present my "Perfect Sizing" Worksheet at a workshop. I am so excited to offer this formula to help you make good decisions when pairing pattern size and fabric. After years of offering my tissue pattern measurements, stretch guides and countless articles and advice on this subject I finally put it all together to come up with my "Perfect Sizing" Worksheet. It has taken years of experience and months of tweaking to get it ready. Let me explain my concept.

The difference between your body measurements and your garment is one thing, but add the stretch of your fabric into the equation and things change. Determining the qualities of your fabric adds to the mix as well. Thinking about these factors independently is important but combining them as a tool is, well, useful!

Knowing the maximum stretch of a finished garment made with your chosen fabric in your selected size will give you the information needed to decide if that size will be the right size for the fit you want to achieve before you even purchase or cut into the fabric. A four-inch swatch is all you need to make your decision.

After taking your body measurements, choosing your pattern, finding the tissue pattern measurements and determining the percentage of stretch in your fabric you are ready to do the math! The answer is the "would be" maximum stretch and ease of the finished garment made up in that fabric and that size. Once you have those numbers you can make a determination if you need to use that size or to plug in the tissue pattern measurements of the next size up or down and decide if those numbers will give you the desired fit. The final evaluation step will help refine your choice based on the numbers. The characteristics of your fabric will work with the ease measurements and give your garment either a closer fit or a looser fit.

A simple example would be if your average hip measurement is 42" and your chosen pant pattern in the size closest to a 42" hip allows 1/2" of ease at the hip and your fabric has 0% stretch then it is obvious you need to use a larger size. You would not be able to sit down! However, if your fabric offers 25% stretch you would find in doing the math that your finished garment would stretch to 53" at the hip and give you 11 inches of total hip ease. Then that size seems perfect. Furthermore, if after evaluating your fabrics' characteristics you decide that the fabric's weave will "grow" adding even more ease after wearing you may want to use a smaller size pattern.

This same thought process should be used for the bust and waist as well. Keep in mind which area of the garment will be easiest to alter and come closest to that measurement then alter the other. An example of this would be choosing the best size pattern using the hip measurement instead of the waist measurement for a pair of pants. Altering the waist will be easier and only affects the waistline whereas altering the hip can affect not only the hip but the crotch as well.

Some garments will require measuring the bust, waist and hips and doing the math. Wherever you need to check ease you need to do the math!

Print extra copies and keep a notebook full of your worksheets. Be sure to attach a fabric swatch for future reference. This "Perfect Sizing" Worksheet notebook will become an invaluable tool for pairing pattern and fabric. Have fun and sew more!

Christine Jonson's "Perfect Sizing" Worksheet

STEP 1 – Take your **Body** Measurements:

High Bust _____
 Bust _____
 Waist _____
 Hips – Standing _____
 Hips – Sitting _____
 Average Hip Measurement _____
 (Standing + Sitting) ÷ 2 = _____
average

STEP 2 – Choose your Pattern:

Name _____
 Number _____

STEP 3 – **Tissue** Pattern Measurements (TPM):

Compare your measurements from Step 1 to the TPM chart.
 Choose a size based on your average hip measurement for pants and skirts. Use your high bust measurement for jackets, dresses and tops. Fill in those measurements here:

Bust _____
 Waist _____
 Hips _____

STEP 4 – Choose your Fabric:

Fabric _____
 Content _____
 Care _____

STEP 5 – Determine Stretch of Fabric using Elongation Ruler:

_____ % Cross Grain Stretch

STEP 6 – Calculate Maximum Stretch of Garment:

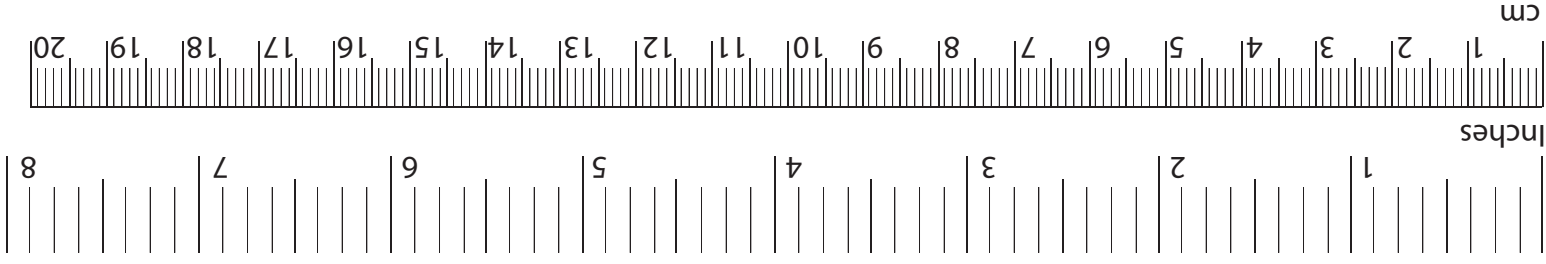
Bust _____ + (_____ x _____ %) = _____
 Waist _____ + (_____ x _____ %) = _____
 Hips _____ + (_____ x _____ %) = _____
 TPM TPM Stretch Max. Stretch

STEP 7 – Calculate the Ease of Garment:

Subtract measurements from Step 1 (**Body** measurements) from measurements in Step 6 (maximum stretch of garment)

Bust _____ - _____ = _____
 Waist _____ - _____ = _____
 Avg. Hip _____ - _____ = _____

Staple Fabric
 Swatch Here
 AFTER
 You Check
 For % of Stretch



ELONGATION RULER

Fold 3 inches of your swatch between the arrows. Hold the left side tight and stretch the right side to its fullest to determine the elongation percentage. THIS IS AN APPROXIMATE MEASUREMENT

TEST SAMPLE LENGTH

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Elongation Percentage
 20% 40% 60% 80% 100% 120% 140%

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Christine Jonson's "Perfect Sizing" Worksheet

STEP 8 – Evaluate:

FABRIC

- Knit
- Knit w/LYCRA®
- Woven
- Woven w/LYCRA®

STRETCH

- Really Stretchy
- Pretty Stretchy
- Sort of Stretchy
- Not Very Stretchy
- No Stretch

HAND

- Soft with Drape
- Stable with Drape
- Soft with No Drape
- Stable with No Drape

RECOVERY

- Snappy
- Good
- Soft
- Poor

WEAVE

- Tight
- Loose
- Will Loosen with Wearing
(i.e. Linen)

Compile Fabric Characteristics:

Fabric _____
Hand _____
Stretch _____
Recovery _____
Weave _____

DEFINITIONS OF EASE

Wearing Ease – The extra amount of fabric needed beyond actual body measurements. It is the *additional minimum* inches added in order to sit and move.

General Wearing Ease Guidelines:

Bust – 3-6 inches Hips – 2-3 inches

Design Ease – To understand the designer's intended design ease, *calculate the difference* between the **Body Measurement Chart** [back of pattern envelope] and flat **Tissue Pattern Measurements (TPM)** [inside on guide sheet]. **Read all the information supplied in your pattern**, including garment description, illustrations and pattern sheet details.

Negative Ease – When proper fit is achieved by the pattern measurements being smaller than your body measurements. It can be anywhere from one to five inches smaller depending on the stretch and recovery of your fabric.

FINAL ANALYSIS

If the pattern does not have enough wearing ease, the fabric needs to stretch.

If the fabric does not have enough stretch, the pattern must have enough ease.

NOTE: *Using your High Bust measurement to choose a size will allow the neckline, shoulders and armholes to fit properly. You may still need a Full Bust adjustment.*

*Also, if the pattern that you are using does not supply the TPM, you **must** take the necessary measurements yourself.*

Christine Jonson Patterns

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Pattern Sizing Chart and Body Measurements

Size	XS		SM		MD		LG		XL	
	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22
Bust	30-1/2	32-1/2	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48
	78cm	83cm	87cm	91cm	97cm	102cm	107cm	112cm	117cm	122cm
Waist	24"	25"	26-1/2"	28"	30"	32"	34"	36"	38"	40"
	61cm	64cm	67cm	71cm	76cm	81cm	86cm	91cm	97cm	102cm
Hip	33"	34-1/2"	36"	38"	40"	42"	44"	46"	48"	50"
	83cm	88cm	91cm	96cm	102cm	107cm	112cm	117cm	122cm	127cm

Select Tissue Pattern Measurements

These are the actual tissue measurements for the patterns without the seam allowances and hems. If you are using a fabric that does not shrink when it is pressed these will be the finished garment measurements. Use these measurements as a guide to determine ease and length. This is better way to choose the right size pattern because you can find out how much extra room there will be in the actual garment when compared to your body measurements. Consider the fabric you are using, soft fabrics that drape will add to the ease whereas denim will be more exact.

No. 1010 – Keyhole Top

Size	XS	SM	MD	LG	XL
Bust *	30	33-1/2	37-1/2	41-1/2	45-1/2
Waist *	26-1/2	30	34	38	42
Hips *	30	33-1/2	37-1/2	41-1/2	45-1/2
Back Length	18-1/8	18-5/8	19-1/8	19-5/8	20-1/8
Short Sleeve Length	4	4-1/4	4-1/2	4-3/4	5
Long Sleeve Length	23	23-1/2	24	24-1/5	25

* Circumference

No. 1010 – Flare Leg Pant

Size	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22
Waist	26-1/2	27-1/2	29	31	33	35	37	39	41	43
Hips	35	36	37-1/2	39-1/2	41-1/2	43-1/2	45-1/2	47-1/2	49-1/2	51-1/2
Inseam	30	30-1/4	30-1/2	30-3/4	31	31-1/4	31-1/2	31-3/4	32	32-1/4
Side Length	40-1/8	40-5/8	41-1/8	41-5/8	42-1/8	42-5/8	43-1/8	43-5/8	44-1/8	44-5/8
Front Crotch	10-3/8	10-5/8	10-7/8	11-1/8	11-3/8	11-5/8	11-7/8	12-1/8	12-3/8	12-5/8
Back Crotch	12-1/2	12-7/8	13-1/4	13-5/8	14	14-3/8	14-3/4	15-1/8	15-1/2	15-7/8
Width at Hem	18-3/8	18-5/8	18-7/8	19-1/8	19-3/8	19-5/8	19-7/8	20-1/8	20-3/8	20-5/8

No. 1010 – Trouser Pant

Size	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22
Waist	24-3/4	25-3/4	27-1/4	29-1/4	31-1/4	33-1/4	35-1/4	37-1/4	39-1/4	41-1/4
Hips	33-7/8	34-7/8	36-3/8	38-3/8	40-3/8	42-3/8	44-3/8	46-3/8	48-3/8	50-3/8
Inseam	30	30-1/4	30-1/2	30-3/4	31	31-1/4	31-1/2	31-3/4	32	32-1/4
Side Length	41-1/8	41-5/8	42-1/8	42-5/8	43-1/8	43-5/8	44-1/8	44-5/8	45-1/8	45-5/8
Front Crotch	11-1/2	11-3/4	12	12-1/4	12-1/2	12-3/4	13	13-1/4	13-1/2	13-3/4
Back Crotch	13-3/8	13-3/4	14-1/8	14-1/2	14-7/8	15-1/4	15-5/8	16	16-3/8	16-3/4
Width at Hem	16-1/4	16-1/2	16-3/4	17	17-1/4	17-1/2	17-3/4	18	18-1/4	18-1/2

Select Tissue Pattern Measurements

No. 526 – Wrap Dress

Size	XS	SM	MD	LG	XL
Bust *	27-1/4	31	35	39	43
Waist *	27	30-1/2	34-1/2	38-1/2	42-1/2
Hips *	36	39-1/2	43-1/2	47-1/2	51-1/2
Back Length (neck to hem)	50	50-1/2	51	51-1/2	52
Sleeve Length (including cuff)	24	24-1/2	25	25-1/2	26
Width at Hem *	68-3/4	72-1/4	76-1/4	80-1/4	84-1/4

* Circumference from Center to Center... not to diagonal front edge.

No. 1025 – Base Wear Two

Straight Skirt

Size	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22
Waist	26-1/4	27-1/4	28-3/4	30-3/4	32-3/4	34-3/4	36-3/4	38-3/4	40-3/4	42-3/4
Hips	32-1/2	33-1/2	35	37	39	41	43	45	47	49
Width at Hem	32	33	34-1/2	36-1/2	38-1/2	40-1/2	42-1/2	44-1/2	46-1/2	48-1/2
Back Length	32-3/4	33	33-1/4	33-1/2	33-3/4	34	34-1/4	34-1/2	34-3/4	35
Back Length with Flounce	37-1/4	37-1/2	37-3/4	38	38-1/4	38-1/2	38-3/4	39	39-1/4	39-1/2

No. 1025 – Base Wear Two

Taper Skirt

Size	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22
Waist	26-1/4	27-1/4	28-3/4	30-3/4	32-3/4	34-3/4	36-3/4	38-3/4	40-3/4	42-3/4
Hips	32-1/2	33-1/2	35	37	39	41	43	45	47	49
Width at Hem	28-3/8	29-3/8	30-7/8	32-7/8	34-7/8	36-7/8	38-7/8	40-7/8	42-7/8	44-7/8
Back Length	19-1/2	19-3/4	20	20-1/4	20-1/2	20-3/4	21	21-1/4	21-1/2	21-3/4

No. 1025 – Base Wear Two

Tee Shirt

	XS	SM	MD	LG	XL
Bust	30-1/2	34	38	42	46
Waist	27	30-1/2	34-1/2	38-1/2	42-1/2
Hips/Width (at Hem)	32-1/2	36	40	44	48
Back Length	21-1/2	22	22-1/2	23	23-1/2
Sleeve Length	17-5/8	18	18-3/8	18-3/4	19-1/8