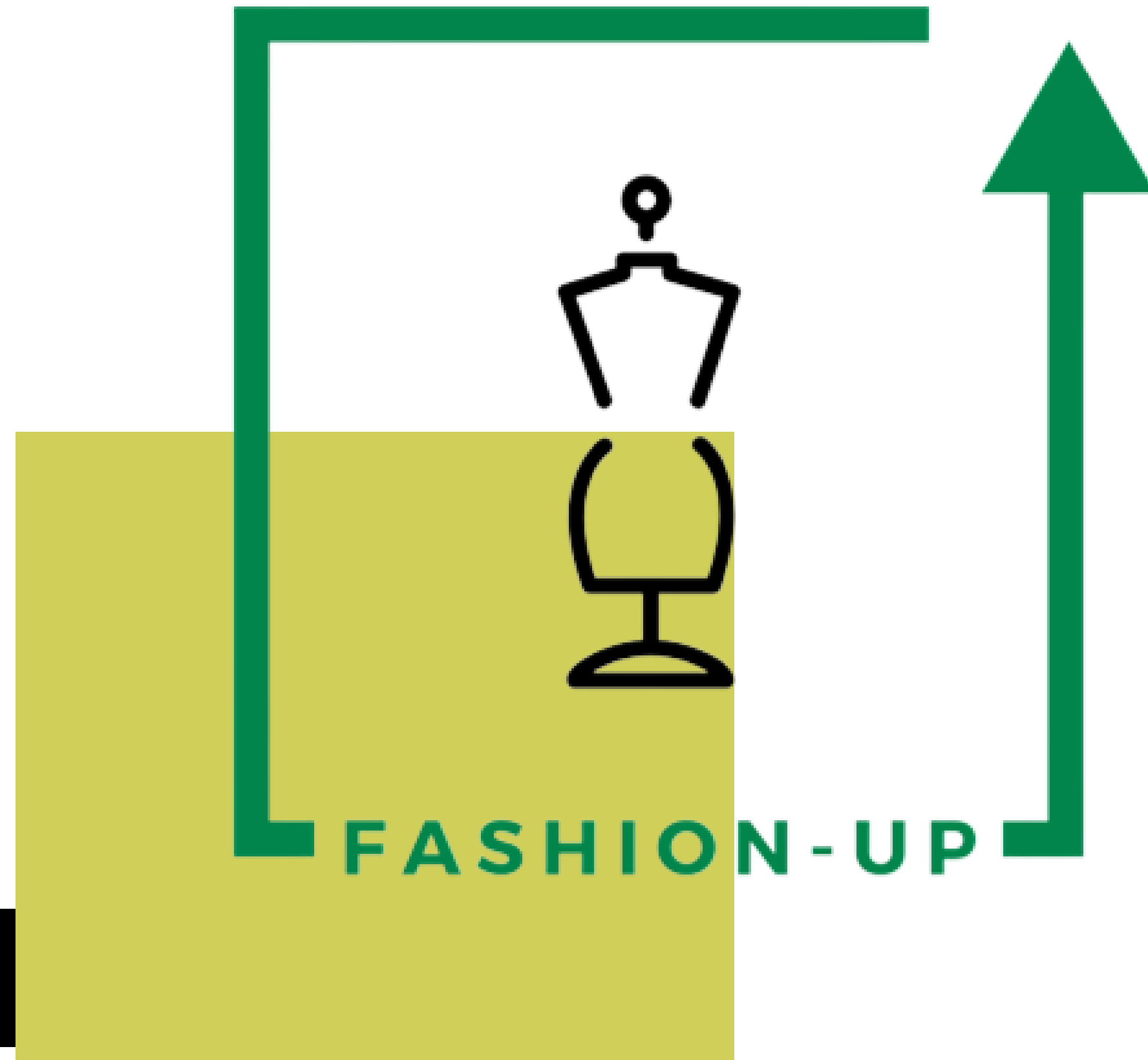


# Module 4

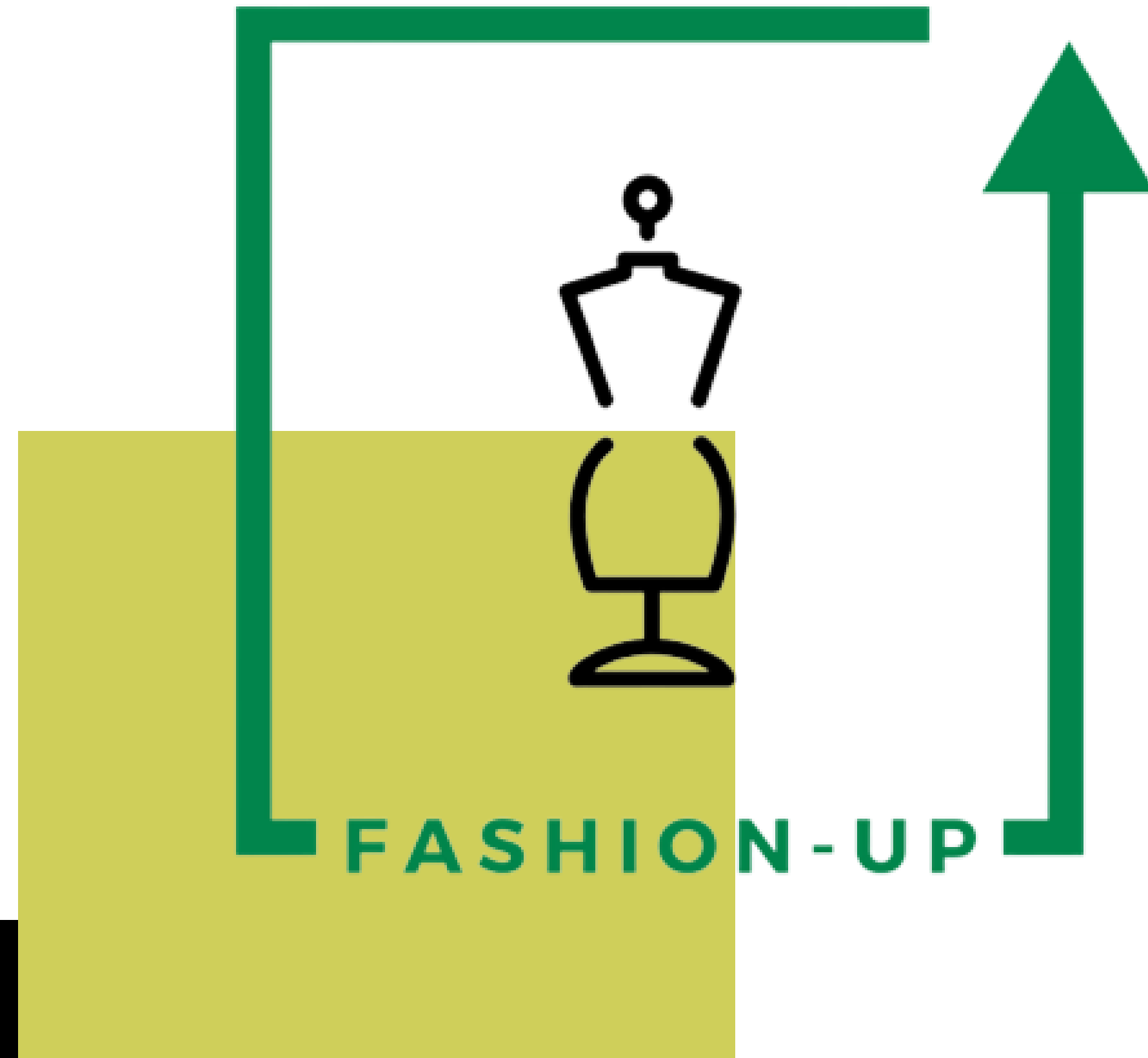
## UNIT 5

RE-STYLING STRUCTURED  
GARMENTS: COATS,  
JACKETS, AND BLAZERS



Duration: 32 hours

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them.





# Overview of the Unit

This unit is dedicated to the re-styling of structured garments such as coats, jackets, and blazers, with a strong emphasis on practical application. You will engage in advanced tailoring techniques, ensuring the structural integrity of the garment is maintained. The unit will also guide you through the entire process of planning, designing, and executing the upcycling of a structured garment.

By applying these techniques, you will be able to give garments a contemporary, upcycled twist, culminating in a final practical project where they bring their designs to life.



# Expected Learning Outcomes

By the end of this Unit, you will be able to do:

1. Plan, Design, and execute the upcycling of a structured garment.
2. Advanced tailoring techniques, including working with linings, shoulder pads, and complex closures
3. Give garments a contemporary, upcycled twist

## Pre-requisite knowledge

Prior experience in working with a sewing machine, and pattern cutting is recommended.

**Estimated Reading Time**

13 minutes



# Learning Objective

The goal of the Unit is to equip learners with the techniques to give structured garments a contemporary, upcycled twist, culminating in a final practical project where they bring their designs to life.



## Target Audience

This Unit targets people/learners/entrepreneurs, young with legal age and adults including: NEETs, low skilled adults looking for a job, professionals already working in the artisanal tailoring area, students graduated by Secondary Schools with fashion design and/or textiles clothing production curricula. A special regard will be given to women with economic fragilities or due to their refugee and migrant condition.

## Key concepts

structured garment and Advanced tailoring techniques

For this Unit's practical part, you will need a sewing machine, pins, chalk or similar, scissors, measuring tape, rulers deadstock fabric and second-hand structured garments, tread for sewing,, machine and hand needles

# Necessary equipment





01

## Teacher's Profile

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Expertise in advanced tailoring techniques, plus specialized skills in working with structured garments

01

## Methodology

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Small theoretical explanations with demonstrations of design, pattern cutting and sewing techniques as well as hand sewing details, followed by practical exercises..

# Overview

**Introduction to Design and Pattern** of a structured garment: jackets, coats and blazers

**Construction of a structured garment:** jackets, coats and blazers

**Advanced tailoring techniques**, including working with linings, shoulder pads, and complex closures



# Introduction to Design and Pattern

There are a variety of styles for coats, jackets and blazers. When looking into the design and pattern of these garments we will look, more particularly, into the blazer jacket, since it's the most complex.

We will also learn how to clone a pattern of a pre-existing garment, with and without the need to dismantle it.

In between we will look into some designers and brands that develop this type of garments in the most original ways.



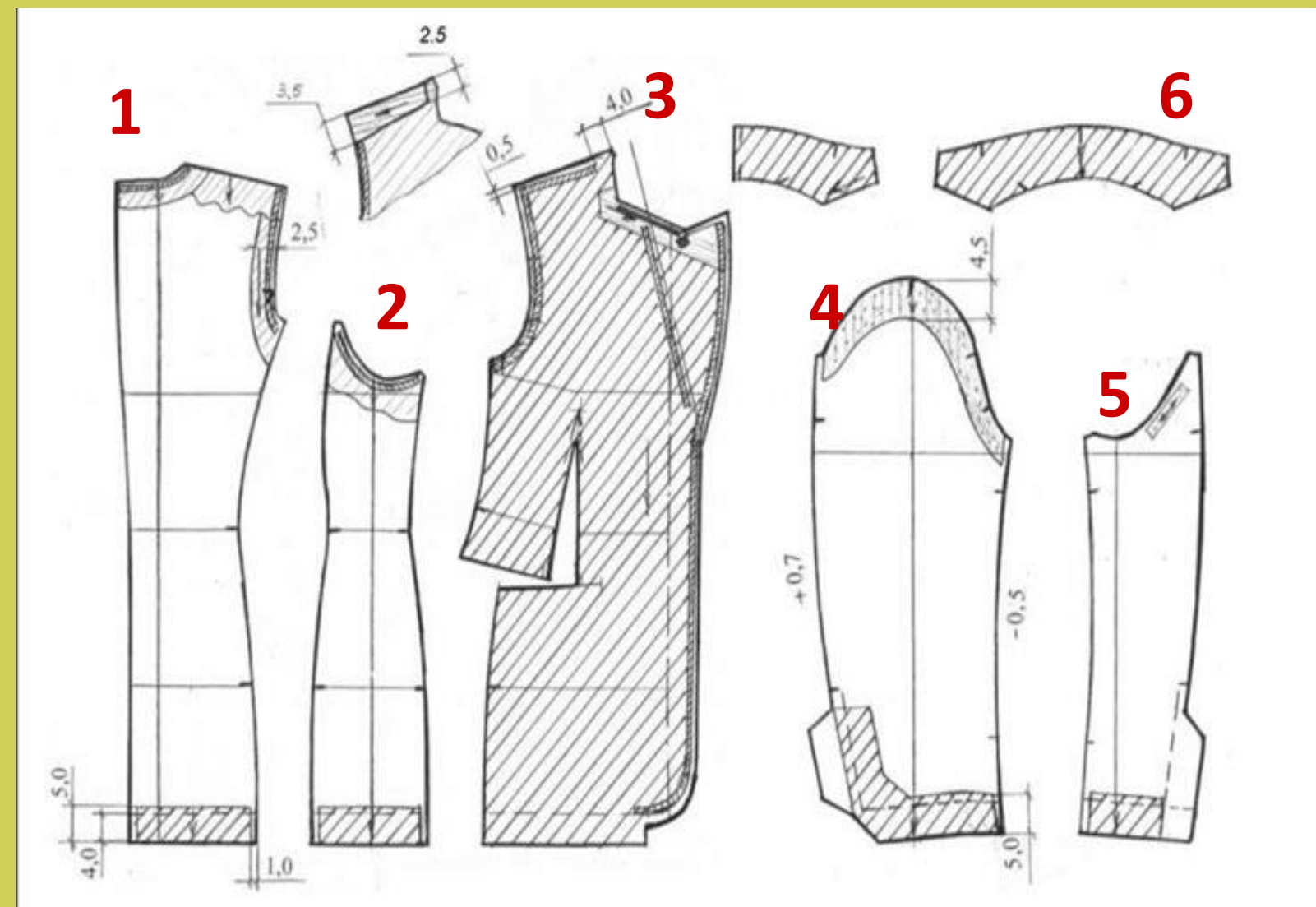
# Introduction to Design and Pattern

## jackets, coats and blazers

### Basic Notions

- **Back piece (1)** has normally a seam on the center back to adjust to the contour of the body
- The **Lateral piece (2)** it connects the front with the back making the fit more elegant
- **Front piece (3)** has chest darts (vertical lines aligned with the chest). They help to drape the blazer by taking in some fabric to create a tapering contour. **Lapels** are the folded fabric from the collar to the top button of the suit jacket. The **Sleeve** is normally a two piece component - **top (4)** and **bottom (5)** giving a more ergonomic cut
- **Collar (6)** The **notch** is a cut-out where the lapel meets the collar.

The pattern of a blazer jacket is normally composed by the following components:



# Introduction to Design and Pattern jackets, coats and blazers

## Basic Notions

### Interior components:

**Facing** - front opening and back neck

**Lining** - sleeve (minus hem allowance plus 3 cm); front piece (minus the facing plus 3 cm), lateral piece, back piece (minus the facing plus 3 cm) with extra ease on the back- box pleat (2,5 cm closed) and pockets

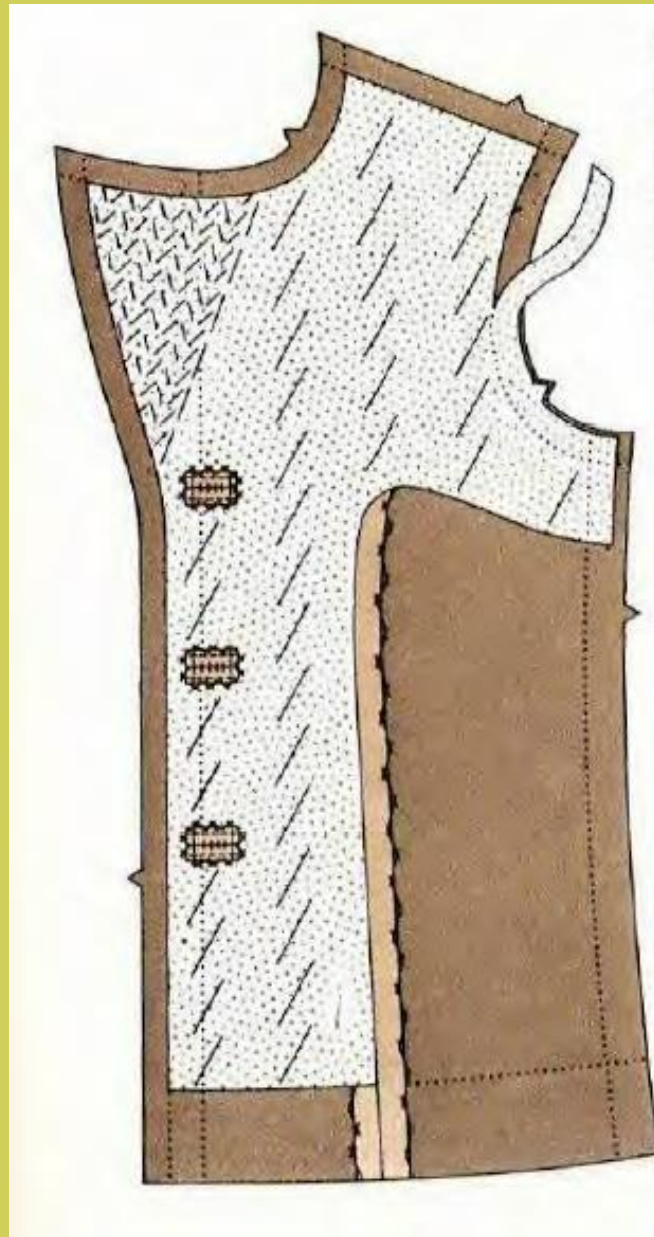
**Fabric Stabilizer (interlining)** - front neck, lapel and opening, shoulder and armhole (single piece); back neck, shoulder and armhole (single piece); edge of sleeves (hem); collar - this pieces have no seam allowance

**Shoulder Pad** - the shoulder pad should be apart from the neckline 2,5 cm and outlining the top of the sleeve cap.

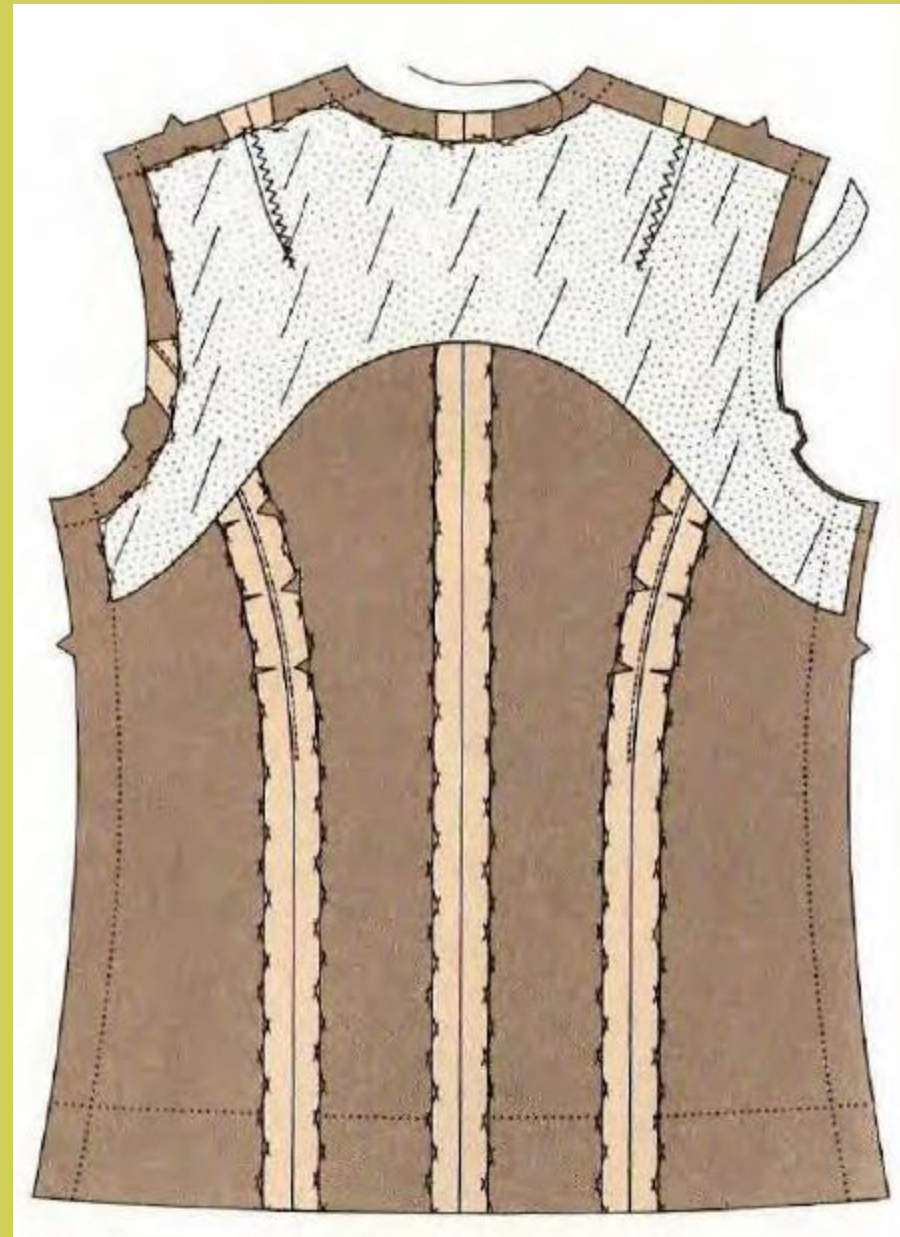


# Introduction to Design and Pattern jackets, coats and blazers

## Basic Notions



Front Interlining



Back Interlining



Facing and shoulder pad



# Introduction to Design and Pattern

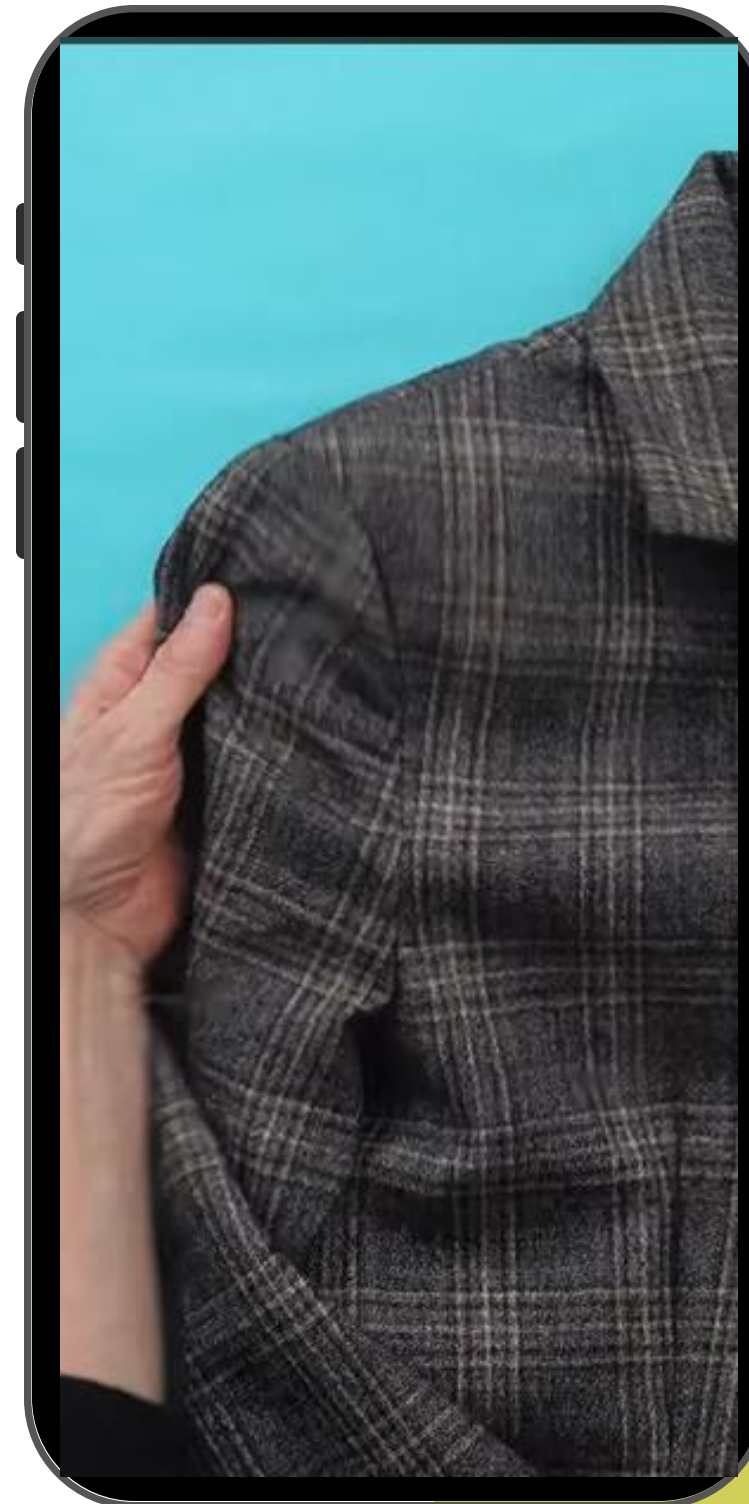
In this video we will be able to examine some of the fine details of four different designer garments, including two jackets.

The extra touches added to garments is what makes them very special.

Watch here



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N4HCkretvPU&t=60s>



# Introduction to Design and Pattern

## jackets, coats and blazers



Encounters with exceptional people, theatre work as well as meditations give **Christine Mayer** inspiration for her collections. It is particularly material that has been marked by life, which embody a source of creativity for her. She tries to sense and experience the stories, which each garment holds. It is this specific process, through which the fabrics can be transformed into unique pieces. This, literally, creative process gives to rise to ever-new fashion metamorphoses.

Mayer Peace Collection Fall – Winter 2012

## Mayer Peace Collection



# Introduction to Design and Pattern jackets, coats and blazers

## Basic Notions

### Cloning a pattern with disassembly

#### SOME TIPS:

- Ideally disassemble the component you want copy or alter, if not cut it the closer to the seam possible.
- Press the component you took out
- Copy to a paper if you want to keep the pattern, if not put it directly on the fabric or clothing you are going to use as a material
- Don't forget to add seam allowance if you cut and not disassemble
- Cut the fabric and add any detail or extra component you want before attaching it back into the garment.





# Upcycling a denim jacket by cloning the sleeve

In this video we can see how to clone a pattern of a denim jacket sleeve by taking it out, but also the whole upcycling process of transforming the garment using a dress.

Watch here



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2OAB28LTSD8>



# Introduction to Design and Pattern

## jackets, coats and blazers



*“Rei Kawakubo reinforced tailored pieces adorn several subtle prints in comforting patchworks: saturated flowers, swirls of colors, geometrical patterns... Her designs are perfectly fitting, filling the gap between the past and our future.”*

Not being a upcycled collection this pieces show us how mixing patterns, colours and textures in a pre-existing garment can have a beautiful and unique result.

Comme des Garçons Homme Plus Fall 2016 Menswear Fashion Show

## Mayer Peace Collection



# Introduction to Design and Pattern

## jackets, coats and blazers

### Basic Notions

#### Cloning a pattern with Over Draping

when you don't want to break the garment apart

##### SOME TIPS:

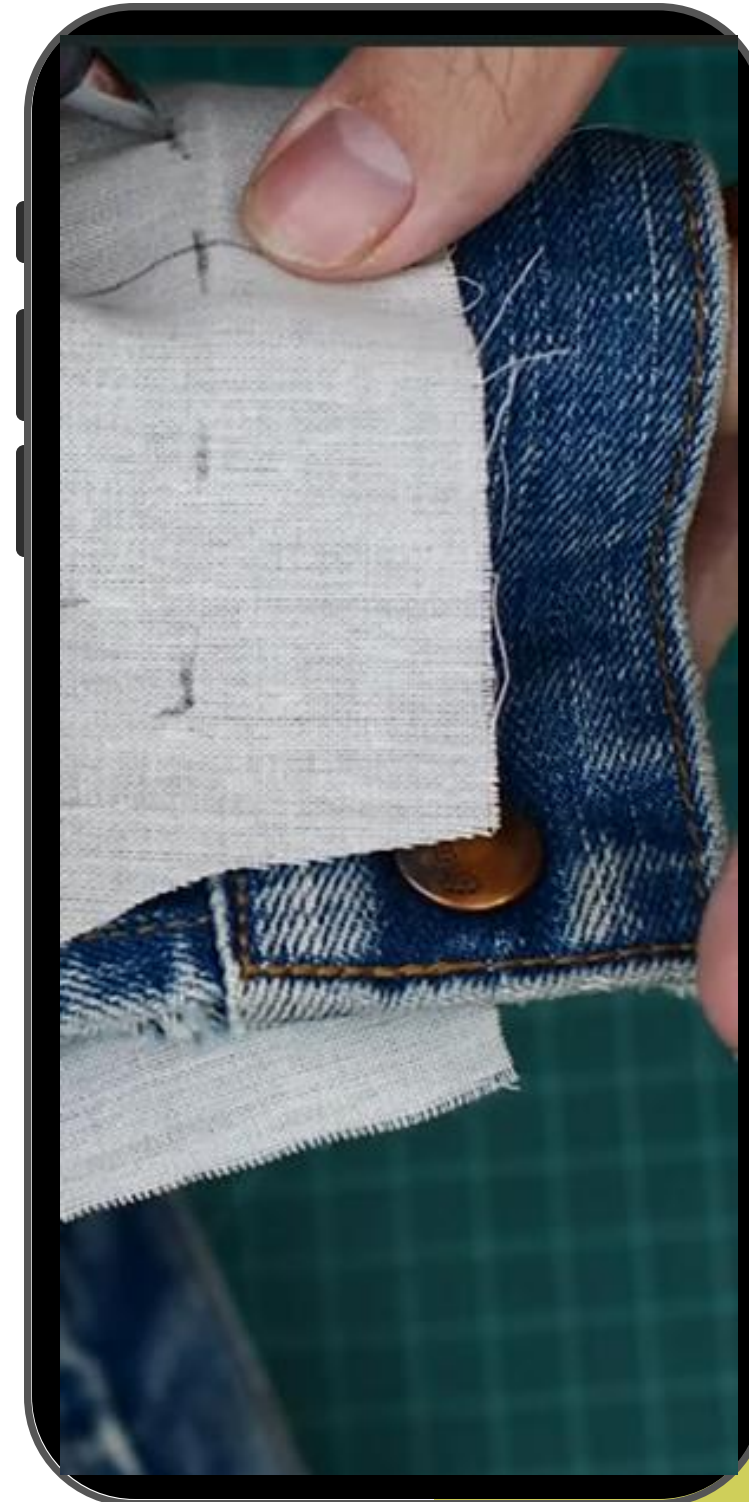
- Press the garment you want to clone
- Use a lightweight piece of muslin to lay over the area you wish to pattern, and pin into all the seams, outlining the entire component
- Fold the fabric to reproduce pleats or darts if there are any and use pins to hold them.
- Mark the perimeter, as well as all the details with a pencil or fabric marker and unpin your muslin.
- Transfer the shape onto a piece of paper as your pattern.





# Cloning a pattern with Over Draping

In this video we can see how to clone a pattern of a denim jacket without the need of disassembling the garment.



Watch here



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O5epSZ6l-zc>

# Introduction to Design and Pattern

## jackets, coats and blazers



*“Juana Díaz is a designer and textile artist. Since 2000, she has maintained her own fashion design brand, JD, which stands out for its simple upcycling design line that adapts to the different bodies and personalities of those who wear her garments. Among her productions, Telas del Futuro stands out, a seal of the JD brand, with pieces that are handcrafted, using waste from local fashion production.”*

Juana Diaz, Telas del Futuro (2010)

### Telas del Futuro



# Construction of a structured garment

There are a numerous ways to assemble a structured garment. When looking into the construction of these type garments we will give a more generic view, listing all the fundamental steps and giving useful tips.

We will also learn how to construct a simple winter coat without lining.

In between we will look into some designers and brands that develop this type of garments in the most original ways.



# Construction of a structured garment

## Basic Notions



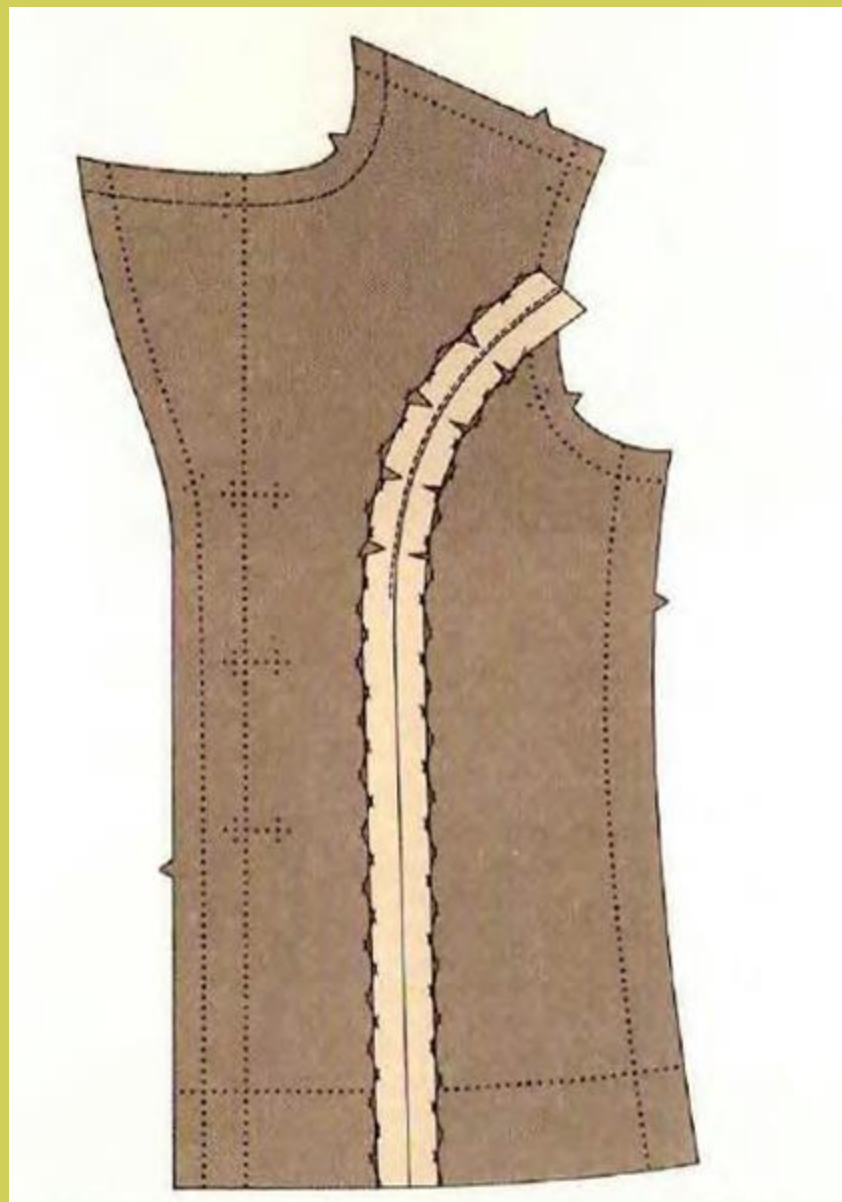
### STEP by STEP:

1. Apply pockets first of all
2. Assemble the front piece with the lateral piece(if there is one), and both back pieces together;
3. Fuse the front and back interlining
4. Assemble front and back together by the shoulder and lateral
5. Fuse the sleeve bottom interlining
6. Assemble top and bottom pieces of the sleeve together
7. Use a basting stitch on the cap sleeve for a better fit and attach it to the armhole
8. Assemble the collar before attaching it to the garment
9. Fuse the facing interlining, and assemble front and back components by the shoulder seam
10. Attach the facing to the garment

### Some Tips

- ★ Press every seam open in the iron
- ★ Take your time when fusing the interlining, or it won't stay together for long
- ★ If the garment is not going to have a lining make sure the facings hide the interlining on the front and back pieces and that all visible seams have a bias tape finishing (see unit 2)

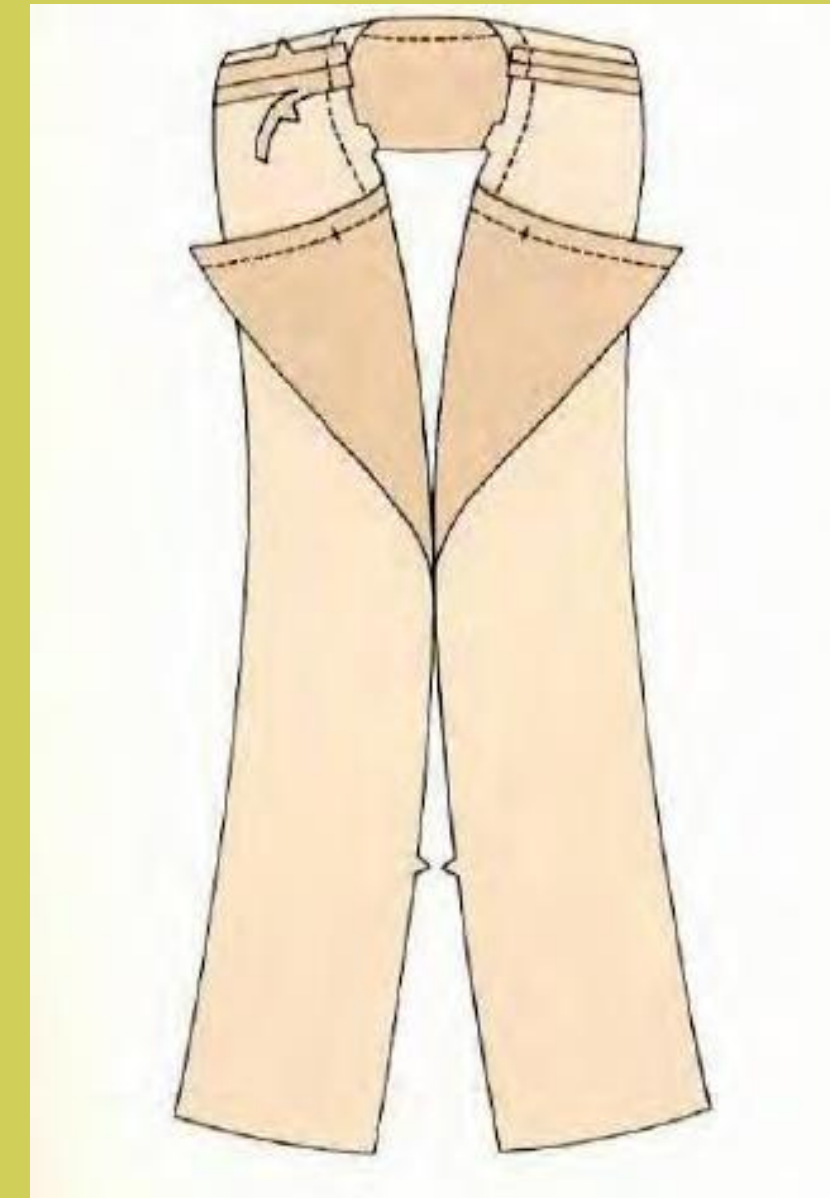
# Construction of a structured garment Basic Notions



Assemble the front piece with the lateral piece



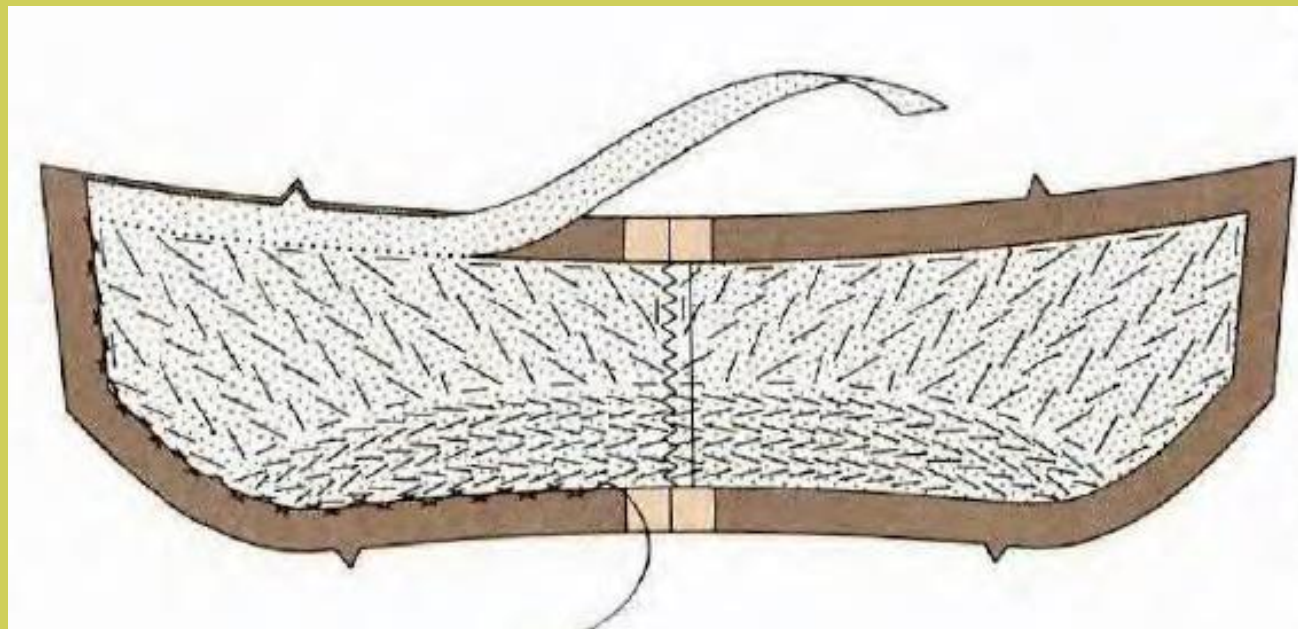
Assemble front and back together by the shoulder



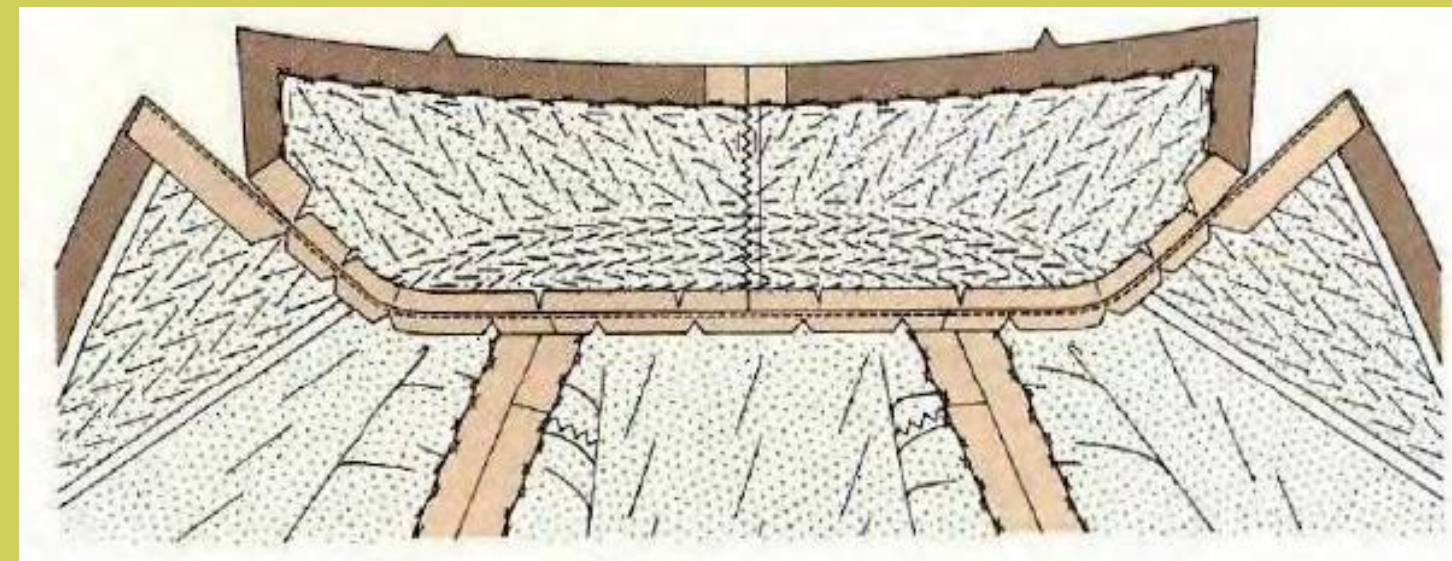
Assemble front and back facing by the shoulder seam

# Construction of a structured garment

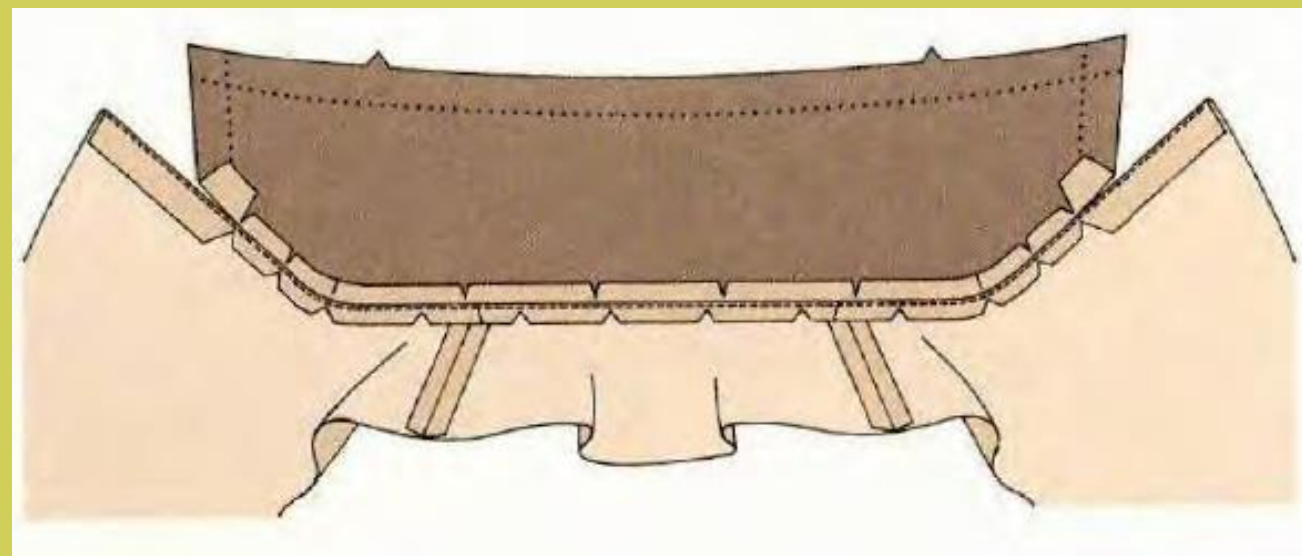
## Basic Notions



Assemble the collar before attaching it to the garment



Assemble collar with the facing



Assemble collar with the garment



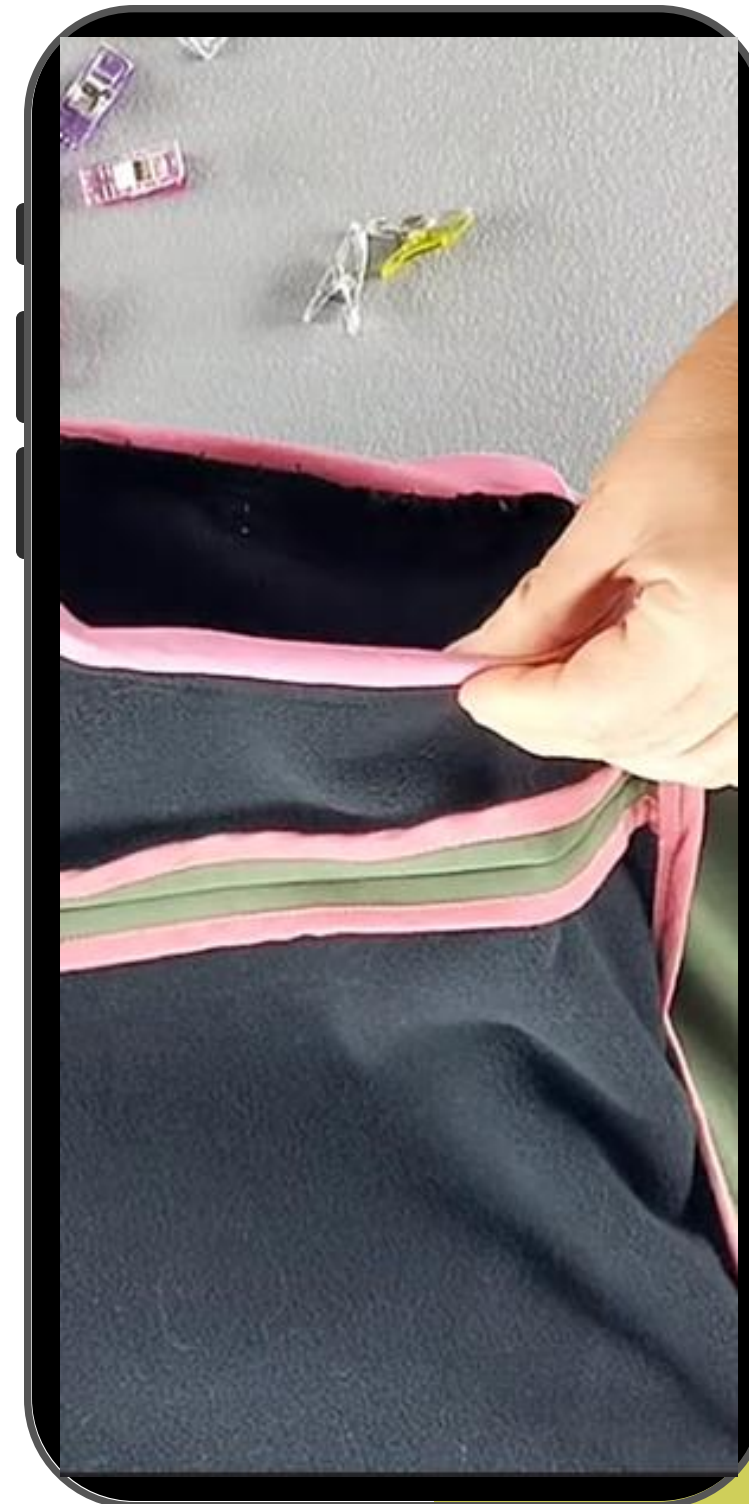
# Construction of a structured garment

In this video we will cover how to sew a pre-existing pattern, how to sew a separating zipper on a jacket, how to sew princess seams, how to sew Hong Kong seams, all while learning how to sew a jacket.

Watch here



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jSFnLi-YQXw>



## Advanced tailoring techniques

There are a variety of tailoring techniques applied to structured garments.

When looking into this topic we will look, more particularly, into the lining, the shoulder pad and complex closings..

We will also learn how to create a shoulder pad from scratch and how to apply it in the garment

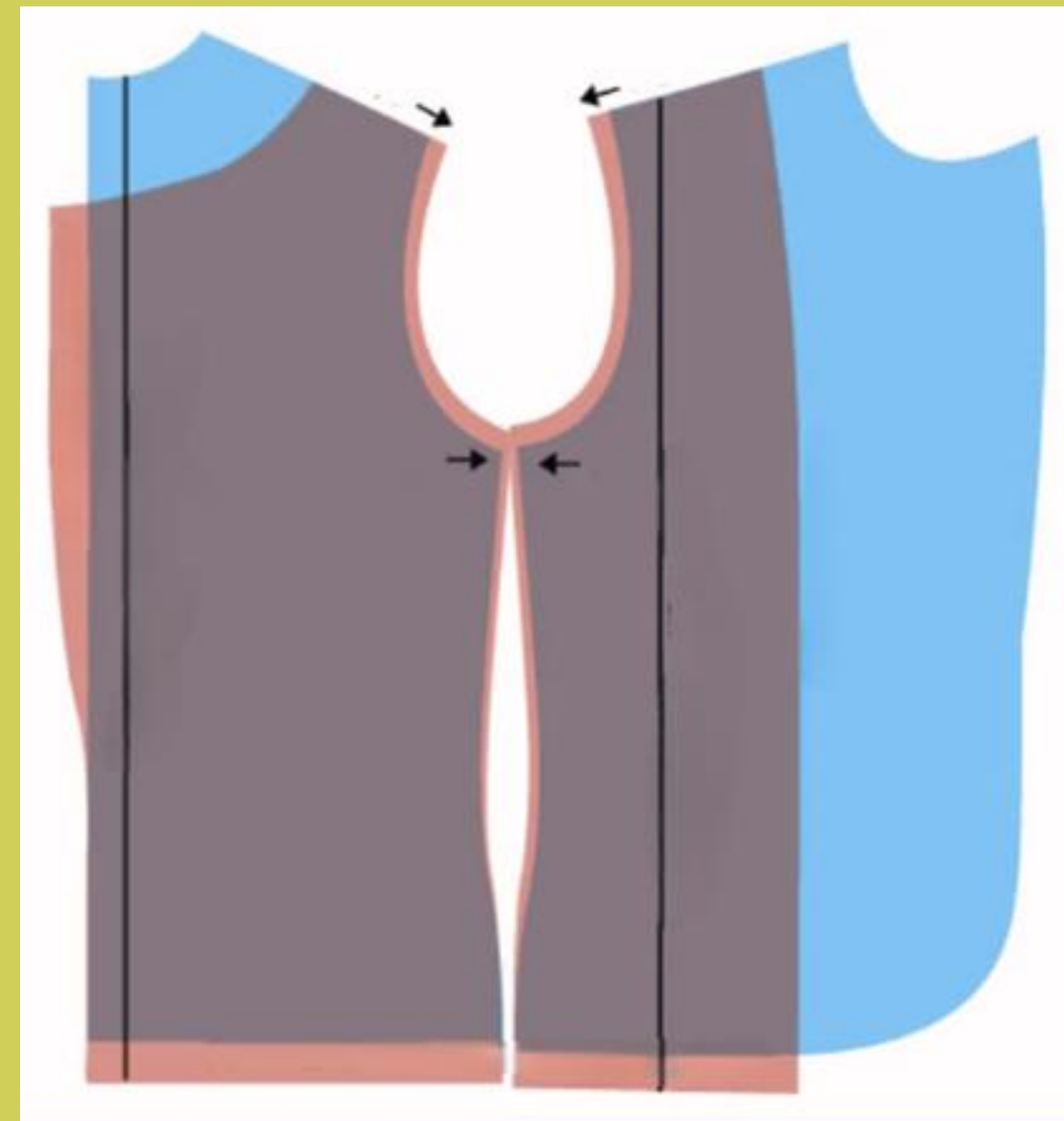
In between we will look into some designers and brands that develop this type of garments in the most original ways.



# Advanced tailoring techniques - Lining

## ADD LINING TO UNLINED JACKET

1. Draft the collar facing: The first thing to do is draw out the facing for the collar at the desired width and extended it down the down the center front. The facing should be 7 to 15 cm wide (depending on the size of the garment. Use a french curve ruler to follow the curve of the neckline and then a ruler to make a parallel line to the center front. Make sure that the back facing and front meet each other in the shoulder.
2. Once the facing line was drawn, cut along that line to split the front pattern piece in two. The negative of the facing will be the lining (but we still need to add seam allowance (2 cm on the facing and 2 on the lining) the back lining should have also extra 2,5 cm extra on the folded center back to make a box pleat for comfort.
3. Cut out the lining: use the same pieces as the main outer jacket, but in your chosen lining fabric. Don't forget to add seam allowance as explained before, if you prefer you can draw on paper another pattern for the lining already adding the seam allowance.



# Advanced tailoring techniques - Lining

This video provides a detailed tutorial on how to sew a coat, featuring a wool cashmere fabric and viscose lining. The creator walks viewers through each step, from cutting and pinning to stitching and finishing, offering tips and techniques for achieving a professional result. A PDF sewing pattern is available on the creator's website.

Watch here



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q2cx34cuyp0>



# Advanced tailoring techniques



*Annika Sanders and Kerry Seager's seemingly endless enthusiasm for their craft has resulted in timeless, deconstructed, re-cut and completely transformed clothing. No two Junky designs are the same - they can be cut from the same pattern but the raw materials will always be different.*

## Junky Styling



Junky Styling - Wardrobe Surgery (2013)

# Advanced tailoring techniques

In this video we can see Junky Stylings shop in London's Hackney district, back in 2013 to see an operation in process.



Watch here



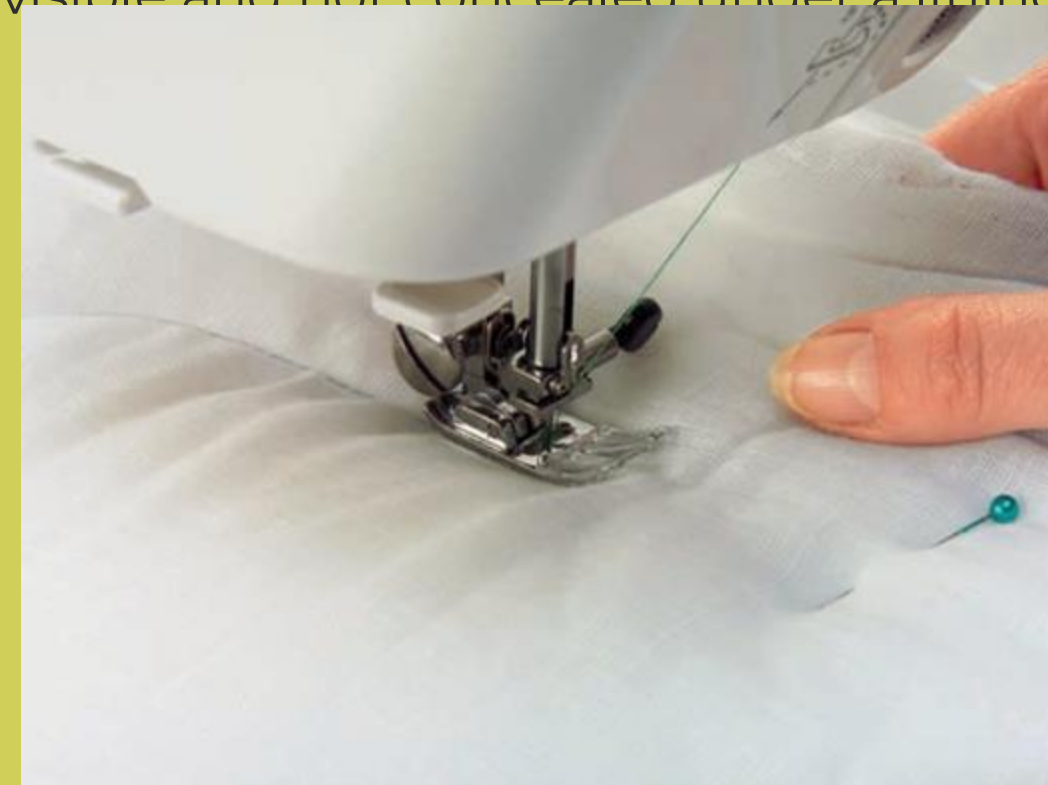
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VFmYrFXg3vI&t=373s>

# Advanced tailoring techniques - Shoulder Pads

You can use a basic formula to create a shoulder pad to perfectly suit a particular garment and the figure. It should extend from the front notch, up and over the shoulder to the back notches of the armhole and curve smoothly on the inner edge, sitting 3.5cm from the neck. It can be very thin - suitable for a blouse or dress - or thicker, to take up the space between the shoulder and a tailored jacket or coat. Use more or fewer layers as required and cut appropriately for the garment type.

1. Collecting the materials required: For one custom shoulder pad, buy a simple, commercially produced pad. Cut a 40cm square of muslin and the same in soft wadding. Place the muslin on the work surface and cover it with the wadding. Fold it diagonally and position the pad in the centre, next to this fold line.
2. Creating the pad: Wrap the outer layers around the pad and pin flat. Sketch the outline shape and size of the required shoulder pad and sew a line of straight stitching to define this line.

**Tip:** The muslin layer can be replaced with lining fabric if the shoulder pad will be visible and not concealed under a lining.



# Advanced tailoring techniques - Shoulder Pads



3. Finishing the pad edges: Sew over the line of stitching with a satin stitch (close zigzag), then trim close to the stitches to remove the excess fabric and wadding. Or, use an overlocker for a neat edge.
4. Quilting the shoulder pad: Fit a walking foot to the sewing machine for best results; if that is not possible, reduce the pressure of the presser foot this makes it easier to sew through the thick layers. Lengthen the stitch to 3.5mm (7 stitches per inch). Quilt the layers together, starting across the front edge and spiralling into the centre.
5. Sewing the pad in place: Mould the pad into the shape required and hand-stitch into place at the top of the shoulder. Only sew the centre 10-12 cm and leave the ends free. Secure the neck edge with a few hand stitches to hold the pad in place.



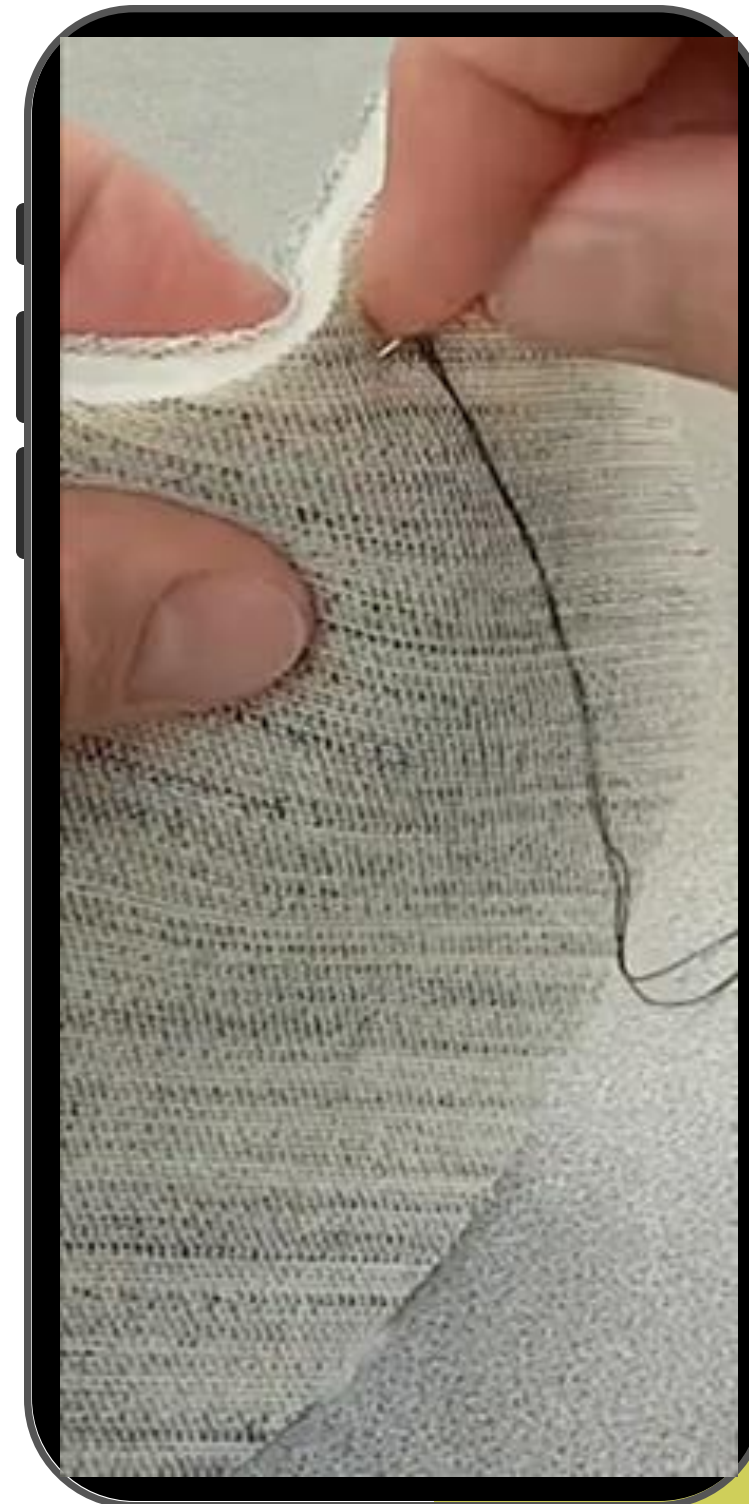
# Advanced tailoring techniques - Shoulder Pads

In this video we can see how to make shoulder pads using three layers of cotton wadding and two outer layers of canvas. These pads are for a jacket that will be unlined, and for that the pads are covered with lining material so they will have a finished look on the inside of the jacket.

Watch here



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7t\\_oJWImT9I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7t_oJWImT9I)



# Advanced tailoring techniques

## Frankenstein Patchwork Pieces



*Hybridized blazers and coats (..) infuse menswear staples with high-contrast textiles sources from bombers, chore coats and down jackets. This yields some pretty wild results, as bright blue quilting takes over an otherwise understated salt-and-pepper herringbone wool jacket and striking orange bomber panels interrupt a brown houndstooth blazer. High visibility seams, pockets and zippers lend extra functionality and flair to the updated outerwear.*



Fall/Winter 2020 collection, COMME DES GARÇONS by Junya Watanabe



# Advanced tailoring techniques- Complex Closures

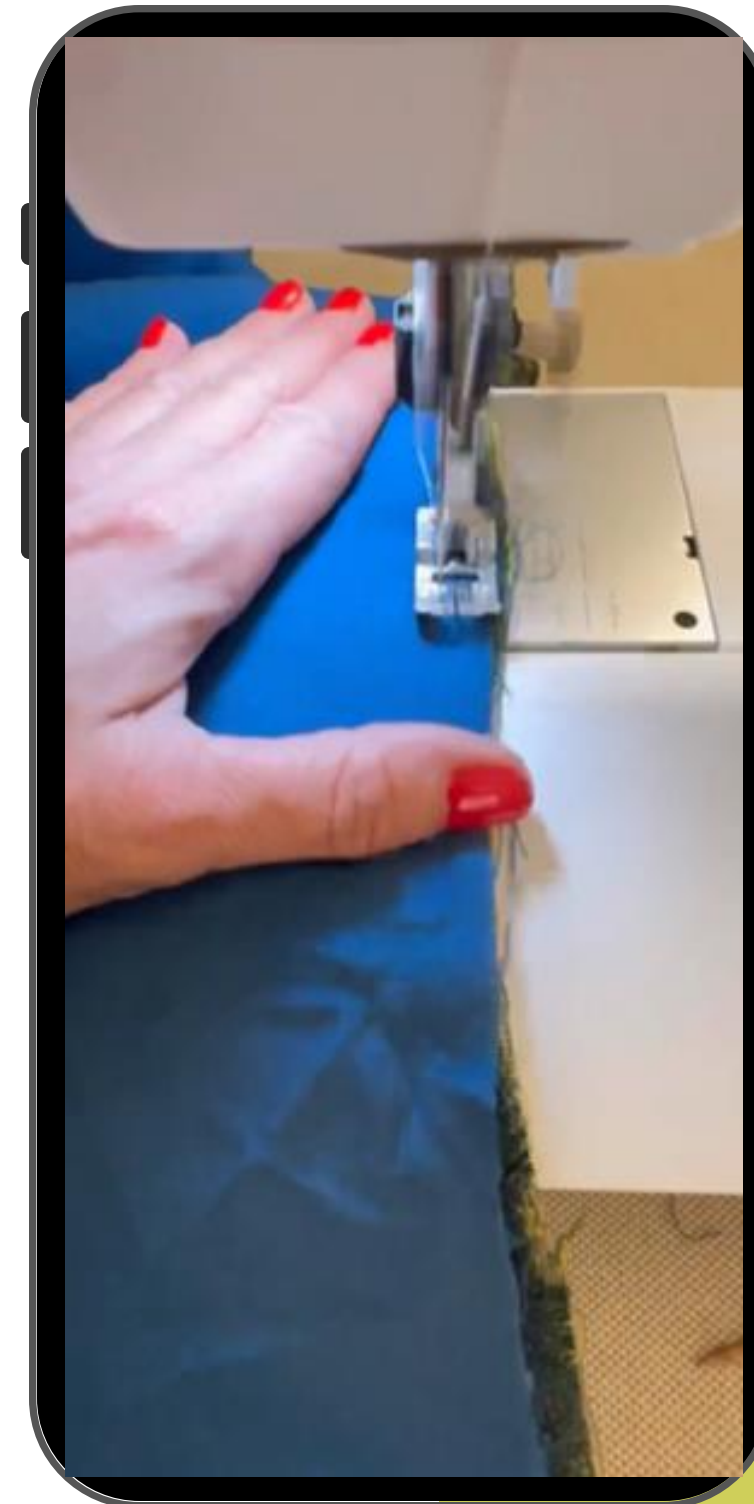
## Lining and hem connection

1. Align the right sides of the main fabric and the lining/facing and sew the bottom part. Make sure that the edge of the lining's side seam aligns with that of the main fabric. When you do this, you'll notice an excess of main fabric forming a triangular shape. Trim this excess fabric on both sides for a neater finish. Leave a large opening to facilitate turning the garment right side out.
1. From the right side of the coat, fold the hem up to the desired length, making sure it is even all the way around the coat. Pin the hem in place along the fold line. Turn the coat inside out so that the wrong side of the coat is facing you. Starting at one end of the hem, insert the needle into the folded hem and then bring it back up through the main fabric, taking a small stitch that catches a few threads of the fold and the main fabric.
1. Move along the hemline, making sure that your stitches are evenly spaced and do not show on the outside of the coat. When you reach the end of the hem, knot the thread securely and cut off any excess.
1. Turn the garment right side out, turn in the edges along the seam line and close the opening with a blind stitch by hand.



# Advanced tailoring techniques- Complex Closures

In this video we'll show you the expert techniques to close a lined garment at the hem.



Watch here



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XGHrUVwIPZk&t=99s>



# Advanced tailoring techniques- Complex Closures

## Lined Garment with separating zipper

Unzip your zipper and separate the two sides.

1. Lay one side of the zipper on the edge of your fabric, with the right sides facing each other. The zipper teeth should be facing toward the rest of your fabric, and the edge of the zipper tape should be facing the edge of your fabric. The top and bottom stoppers of the zipper should be perfectly aligned with the top and bottom marks you've made on your fabric.
2. Pin or hand-baste the zipper into place. Fold the excess zipper tape at the top of the zipper diagonally towards the edge of the fabric for a cleaner finish at the top.
3. Using a zipper foot and a straight stitch with a length of 2.5 to 3 mm, sew the zipper to the fabric. Make sure you're following the correct seam allowance here, and don't get too close to the teeth. Otherwise, you might have trouble closing the zipper. Backstitch at the beginning and the end.
4. Remove any pins or hand-basting stitches that are left, and flip the zipper out so that the zipper teeth are facing out. The fabric should naturally fold along the stitching line.
5. Finger press or iron this fold. Some fabrics like quilting cotton or linen work great with finger pressing, while others like wool or knits require additional heat, weight, and steam.
6. Using a zipper foot and a straight stitch with a slightly longer length of 3 to 3.5 mm, topstitch / edge stitch along the fold. Your stitches should be about  $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3 mm) away from the fold.
7. Repeat steps 2-7 on the other side of the zipper, making sure it's aligned with the first side on the top, bottom, and any other important points.

# Advanced tailoring techniques- Complex Closures

## Lined Garment with separating zipper

### TIPS:

- ★ Maintain the diagonal fold at the top as you sew.
- ★ When you're sewing the side of the zipper with the slider and the pull, you'll need to stop a little before you reach them to move them out of the way. To do so, stop with your needle in the down position, lift up the presser feet, and slide the slider toward the back. Put the presser foot back down and continue sewing.

### Tips for sewing a separating zipper to stretchy fabric:

- ★ Sew the two sides in the same direction
- ★ Don't pull on the fabric
- ★ Stabilize with knit interfacing



# Advanced tailoring techniques- Complex Closures

In this video I would love to share with you an easy way how I like to insert linings and zippers into hoodies and jackets.



Watch here



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aZN3bzUQIDg>

# Advanced tailoring techniques

## The Camino Re-Cut Jacket



*Each season, Denham endeavours to create at least one flagship style that uses fabrics re-cut from historically, culturally or ethnically significant textiles. The company recycles the rich narratives that live within the warp and weave of these materials as well as the materials themselves.*

*The Camino Re-Cut Jacket demonstrates a laborious attention to detail, with boned and bound seams and hook and eye closures.*



Denham, Spring Summer Collection 2011





# Practical application

This activity is for participants to work by themselves re-creating a jacket (second hand clothes) using and fabric scraps, other second hand clothes but also the fabric piece that resulted from unit 4 activity .

# Activity on Creating a Structured Garment

Using a second-hand jacket without lining, fabric scraps and other second-hand clothes, but also the fabric piece created in unit 4 activity, participants will have to recreate the garment using techniques we learned during this unit.

01

## Materials needed

- Sewing machine
- Sewing kit
- Clothes for upcycling
- Fabric scraps
- Pattern Cutting material

02

## Objectives

- To understand the pattern and components of a jacket
- To be able to create new pattern out of a pre-existing garment through disassembling
- To be able to use techniques of the previous units to recreate components of an existing garment
- To understand how to construct a structured garment: a jacket
- To be able to use different advanced tailoring techniques like, shoulder padding, lining and closures

03

## Duration

6 hours

## Setting

a room where you can put participants in individual table each with a sewing machine



# Activity on Creating a Structured Garment



## Plan

Time	Activity
00:00 – 00:30	Evaluating the garment and planning
00:30 – 01:45	Choosing the materials ; Cut and disassemble
01:45 – 02:30	Copying the pattern(s)
02:30 – 03:00	Cutting the pattern on the chosen materials
03:00 – 04:00	Assembling the new pieces on the garment
04:00 – 05:00	Adding the shoulder pad and assemble the lining
05:00 – 06:00	Attach the lining with the garment and account for the closure

# Activity on Creating a Structured Garment

## Implementation

1. Evaluating the garment and planning: choose which parts of the jacket will be replaced and transformed or replaced, plan what is a better strategy for the time you have
2. Choosing the materials: knowing which parts are going to be transformed or replaced you should know more or less the amount of fabric you will need - look into what you have and choose according to the jacket material and aesthetic
3. Cut and disassemble: every piece your going to replace or transform should be disassembled from the garment if not cutted - make sure not to cut where you don't know how to do a proper finishing
4. Copying the patterns: if you're replacing one or more components you will have to copy the patterns of the pieces you cutted or disassembled - if the piece was cutted make sure to give extra seam allowance - Also drape over the back and front pieces of the jacket so you can create the lining for the jacket



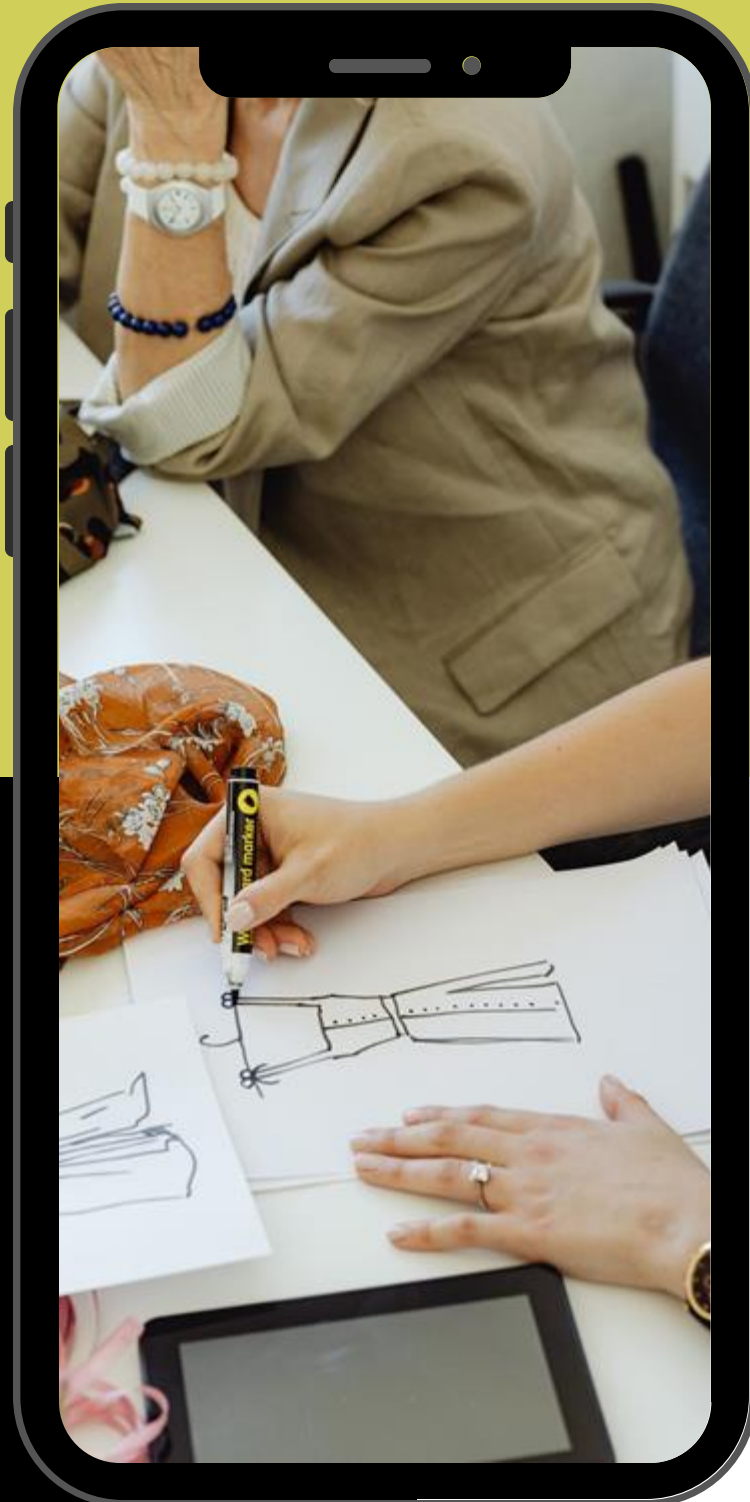
# Activity on Creating a Structured Garment



## Implementation

5. Cutting the pattern on the chosen materials : after having your patterns you can start cutting them on the materials you choose; make sure that they have the proper structure, if not consider working with multiple layers or adding fabric stabilizer.
6. Assembling the new pieces on the garment: Here you will find that it will be easy to sew if you have disassembled - because already did that path but backwards. If you didn't need to disassemble the collar, do it now if your jacket didn't had a facing
7. Adding the shoulder pad and assemble the lining: sew the pad by hand (you use one from the store or do one yourself) and sew the lining with the facing creating an replica of the jacket, leave an opening on the side seam of the lining
8. Attach the lining with the garment and account for the closure: sew the facing with the jacket leaving 2 cm unsew on each side by the hem, sew the jacket hem with the lining; pass the sleeves through the hole you left on the lining and sew
9. Close the hole in the lining sewing by hand with a ladder stitch.

# Unit Summary



In this Unit you have gone through the design and pattern of the structured garments, more specifically blazer jackets . You learned how blazers, jackets and coats are composed and how to copy a pattern with and without disassembling. You also learned how to construct garment with and without lining. You were familiarized with different ways to upcycle a jacket/coat/blazer through several examples and learned some specific advanced tailoring techniques like, shoulder padding and complex closures

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