Nancy's Notions®

Ruffled and Tied Cardigan

Fashion features abound on this graceful cardigan. Organza elegantly rules as the most versatile fabric–used in the optional ties, belt loops, edging, and binding.

Supplies:

- Adult size sweatshirt
- ½ yd. fabric (cuffs and binding)
- 1 yd. organza
- Matching all-purpose thread
- Fabric glue
- Optional: Paper-backed fusible web, such as Wonder Under™

Directions:

Note: All seam allowances are ¼" unless otherwise noted.

1. Prepare sweatshirt and fabrics:
   - Prewash sweatshirt and cotton fabric following manufacturer's instructions. Press if necessary.
   Optional: Staystitch neckline before removing ribbing to prevent stretching.
   - Remove ribbing from sweatshirt hemline, neckline, and sleeves. Reserve ribbing for later use.

   - Straighten hem edges.

2. Prepare sweatshirt center front:
   - Find the center front of the sweatshirt:
     - Turn the sweatshirt wrong side out.
     - Fold the sweatshirt, meeting shoulder or raglan seams and side seams or foldlines. Pin edges. This creates a fold along the center of the sweatshirt.
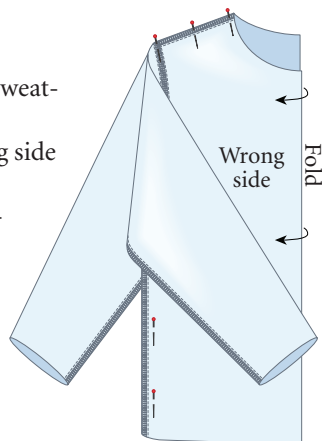
   - Press the fold. Remove the pins and draw a solid line along the fold mark, extending from the upper edge of neck ribbing to the lower cut edge.
   - Mark center back on the back neckline.
   - Shape the neckline:
     - Measure down from the neckline the depth of the desired V-neck, approximately 5"–7". Make a horizontal mark on the center marking at that point.
     - Using a ruler, measure and mark from the edge of the neckline at each shoulder seam to the horizontal mark.
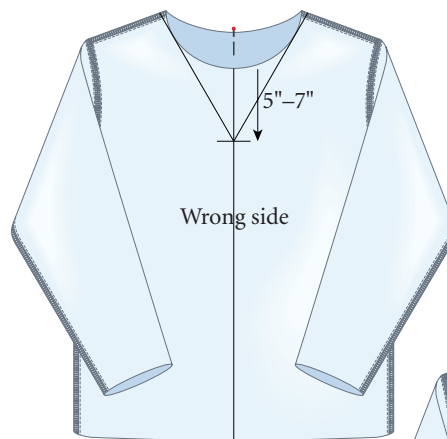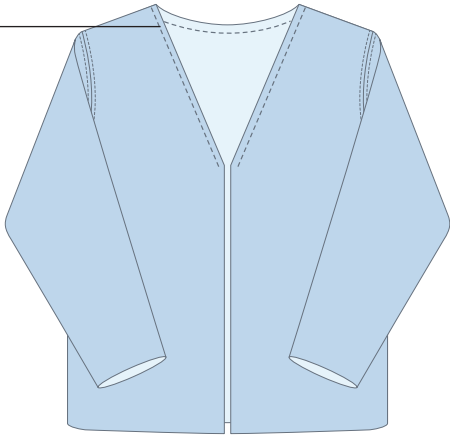
     - Cut along the marked centerline and V-neckline to create an open front V-neck cardigan.
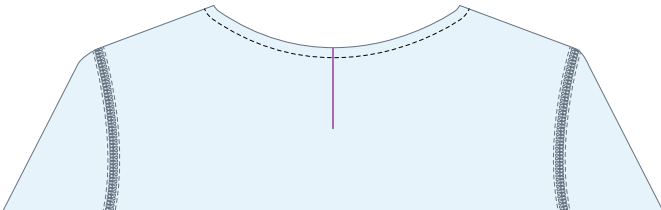
3. Prepare neckline and add darts:
    - Try on sweatshirt. Check size of neckline opening. Trim approximately ½" off the entire neckline, trimming more or less as desired. Staystitch neckline.

Staystitch neckline

    - Add darts:
        - Find center back of the sweatshirt. Draw a 3" chalk line along the center back, on wrong side of the fabric.

        - Position ruler and mark 2" from top of the center back line on each side.
        - Reposition the ruler and mark 2¼" from the base of the 3" center back line on each side.
        - Draw a line connecting the 2" and 2¼" lines on each side of the center back for positioning the darts.

2" 2"

2¼" 2¼"
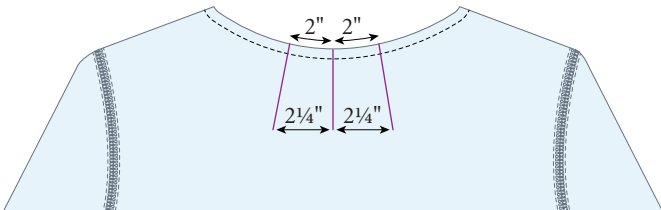
        - Fold on the new dart lines and pin.
        - Stitch the darts ½"–⅜" from the fold at the top, and taper to the fold at the bottom of the marked line for each dart.

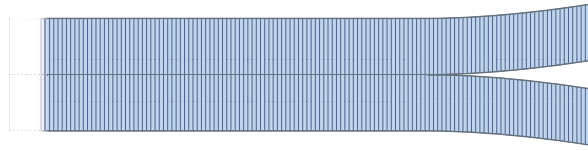Stitch ½"–⅜" from fold at dart top

Taper end of dart to fold
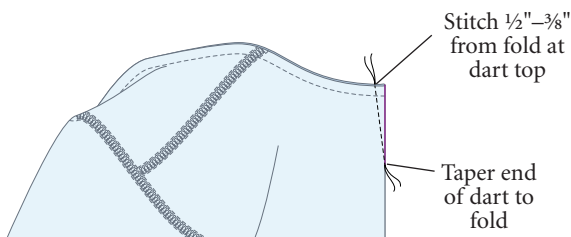
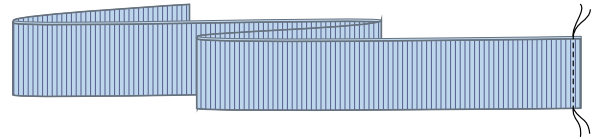4. Prepare ribbing for neckline ruffle:
    - Open the hemline ribbing section, and press.

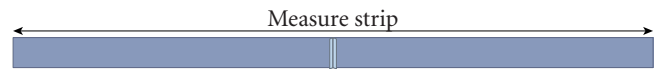*Note: The width of the ribbing will vary with each shirt.*

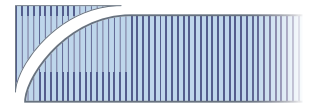   - Cut hemline ribbing in half on the fold.

    - Join short edges of ribbing to make one long strip.

    - Measure the length of the strip.

Measure strip

    - Curve edges, as desired.

5. Prepare bias cut organza strips:

Note: Piece bias strips as necessary to obtain the length needed for each area that it is used.

    - Cut three 1½" x 18" bias organza strips (belt loops, ties on sleeves)
    - Cut 1" wide bias organza strips equal to the measured length of the ribbing (ruffled neckline trim).
    - Cut 5" wide strips to equal your waist measurement plus 36" (tie closure).
    - Measure cuff edge. Cut two 2½" bias strips that length plus 1" (cuff binding).
    - Prepare organza binding:
        - Measure the outer edges of the sweatshirt, including the neckline, center front, sleeves, and hemline.
        - Add 12" to allow sufficient length for seaming strips and mitering corners.
        - Cut and seam 2½" wide bias strips to equal the determined length, joining strips at short ends, right sides together, with diagonal seams to reduce bulk. Trim seams to ¼"; press seams open.
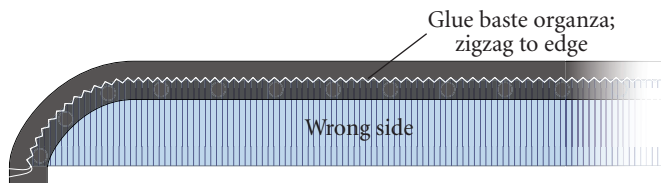
Wrong side

Right side

Paper-backed fusible web
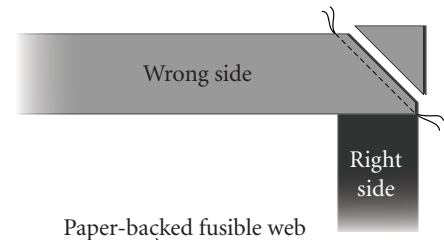
        - Cut one end of binding strip at a 45° angle using a rotary cutter, mat, and quilting ruler. Fold in ¼" at trimmed end of binding. Optional: Press a ¼" strip of paper-backed fusible web to the folded-under edge of the binding.

Fold

Wrong side

- Fold binding in half, wrong sides together, meeting length-wise edges. Press.
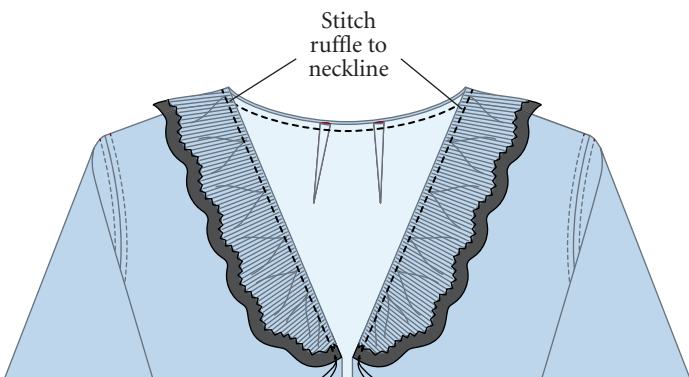
Right side

Fold

6. Complete the ruffled neckline:
   - Glue baste a 1" wide organza strip to the wrong side of one curved lengthwise edge of the ribbing extending organza ½" beyond ribbing. Stitch with a zigzag stitch.
   - Set your machine for a basting stitch with a length of 4.0 or longer.

Glue baste organza; zigzag to edge

Wrong side

   - Baste along the lengthwise raw edge of the ribbing opposite the edge with the organza trim.
   - Gather ribbing and pin the wrong side of the ribbing to the right side of the neckline, placing the ribbing seam at center back of the sweatshirt.
   - Align the ruffle edges at the base of the V-neckline; pin.
   - Gather the neckline evenly; pin.
   - Stitch the ruffle to the neckline.

Stitch ruffle to neckline

7. Stitch binding to the sweatshirt:
   - Mark the right side of the sweatshirt ¼" from each center front hemline corner.
   - Meet the angle-cut end of the binding (the end with the paper-backed fusible web) to the right side of the sweatshirt, meeting raw edges and starting at the center back hem. Stitch binding to sweatshirt, beginning 6" from the end of the binding.

6"

Right side
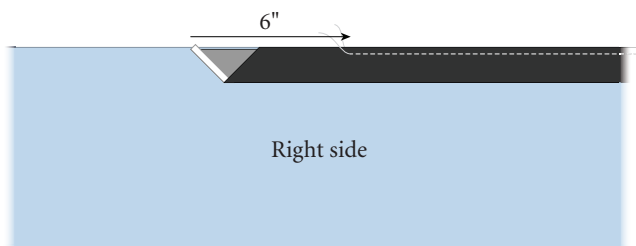
- Stop stitching at the marked point at the first corner. Lock stitches.

Stitch to marked point

Right side
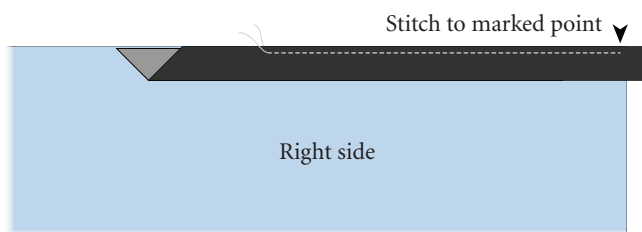
- Fold the binding up, creating a 45° angle, aligning the cut edge of the binding with the cut edge of the sweatshirt.
- Fold the binding down, meeting binding fold to the top edge of the sweatshirt and the binding cut edge to the sweatshirt edge. Continue stitching. This miters the corner.
- Fold in a slight tuck at the V-neck edges, aligning the cut edge of the binding with the cut edge of the sweatshirt. Repeat a tuck fold at the opposite V-neck edge, and miter the fold at the second hemline center front corner.

Fold binding up

Right side

Fold binding down; stitch

Right side
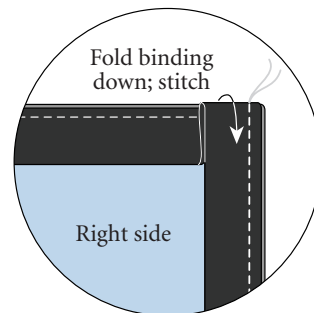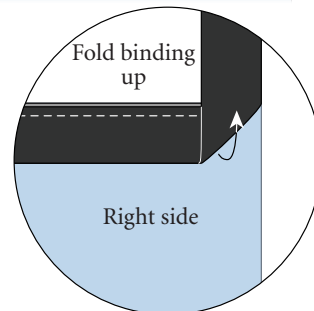
Note: Add a slight curve to the edges at the V-neck and center front hemline for feminine rounded edges rather than mitered corners.

Slight tuck
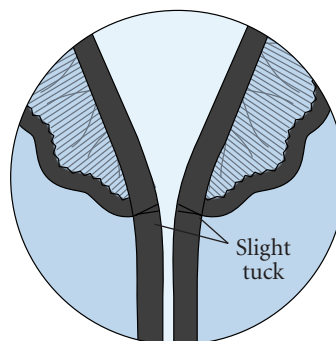
- Join binding ends:
  - Remove the paper backing from the fusible web.
  - Insert the free end of the binding inside the beginning of the binding so that the binding is smooth and even with the edge of the project.
  - Unfold binding; trim excess. Press to fuse binding ends together.
  - Refold binding and stitch remainder of the binding seam.

Insert binding end; stitch remainder of seam
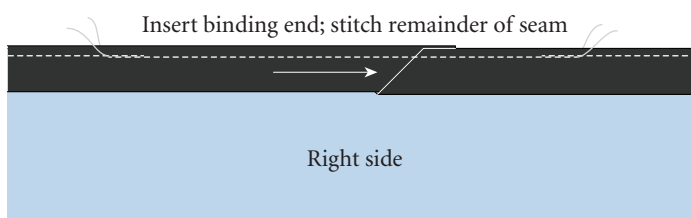
Right side

- Complete the binding:
  - Fold and press binding away from the sweatshirt.
  - Fold binding to the wrong side of the jacket, covering stitching and tucking in corners to miter them.
  - Stitch in the ditch, the well of the seam, sewing from the right side of the sweatshirt, to secure the binding.

8. Add cuffs:
   - Trim 4" from each sleeve to form cuffs. Remove the side seam from the cuff sections, and round the corners at the bottom edges. Label the right and left sleeve cuffs.

4" Remove side seams **Left**
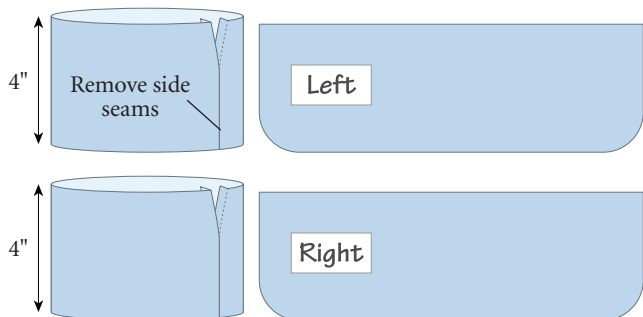
4" **Right**

- Add bias trim to cuff:
  - Extend binding beyond the cuff edges.
  - Meet the cut edges of the folded bias binding to the right side of the cuffs, raw edges even; stitch.
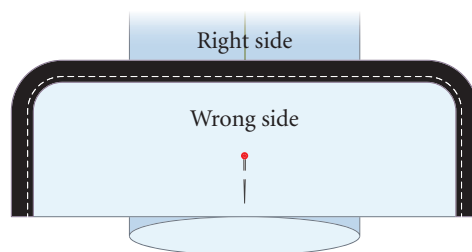
Right side
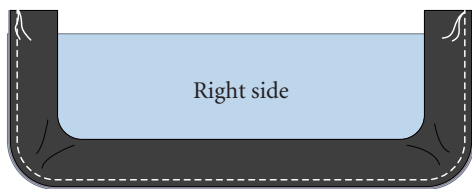
- Fold and press binding away from the cuffs. Fold binding to the wrong side of the cuffs, covering the stitching line. Stitch in the ditch.
- Trim any binding that extends beyond the cuffs.
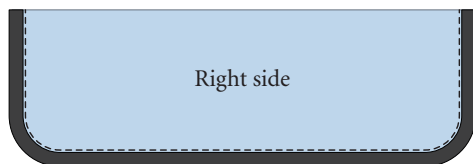
Right side

9. Attach cuffs to sleeves:
   - Meet short ends of cuff to identify the center.
   - Place a pin at fold marks of the cuffs. Position marked folds to underarm seam, right sides together; pin. Position open curved edges of the cuff on the front of the sleeve.
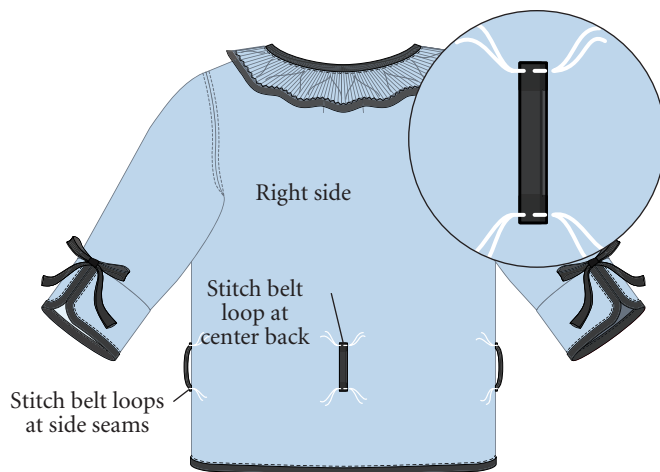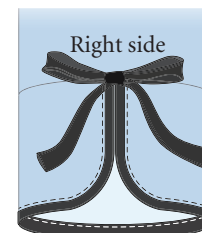
Right side

Wrong side

- Stitch, and press seam toward sleeve.

10. Stitch bows and belt loops:
    - Fold the 1½" x 18" strips lengthwise, and stitch with ¼" seams.
    - Turn tubes right side out, using your favorite method.
    - Cut three belt loops from one of the 18" tubes, and make a bow with each of the remaining 18" strips for the sleeves.

Cut 3 belt loops

Make 2 bows

- Bartack a bow to each sleeve at the intersection of the cuff opening and sleeve.
- Position belt loops at side seams and center back at waistline. Turn under ½" at each end of the belt loops.
- Stitch belt loops in position.

Right side

Right side

Stitch belt loop at center back

Stitch belt loops at side seams

11. Create waistline tie closure:
    - Stitch or serge ¼" from the lengthwise edges.

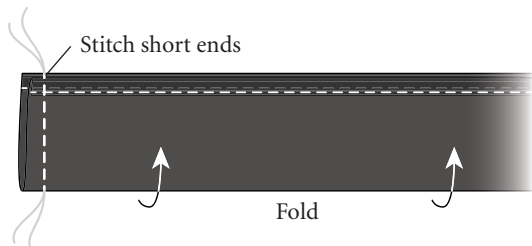Waistline measurement + 36"

Stitch ¼" from edges
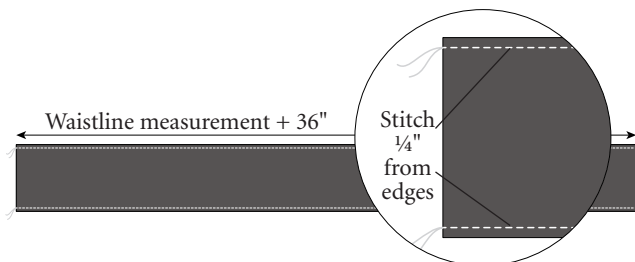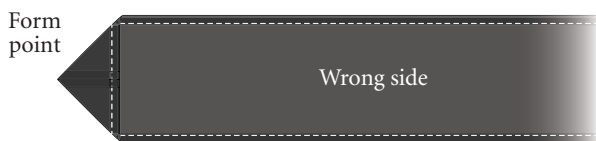
- Turn under the hem twice and topstitch.

Turn edges twice; topstitch

- Finish end of ties:
  - Fold fabric with stitched edges meeting, right sides together.
  - Stitch a ¼" seam at each end.

Stitch short ends

Fold

  - Fold seamed edges to form a point on each tie end. Turn right side out.

Form point

Wrong side

Turn right side out

Right side

- Insert tie through belt loops. Tie belt into a bow when wearing the cardigan.

Add hand or machine embroidery, or other embellishments to further enhance this sweatshirt makeover.

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