



8

Oversize Tunic

JUKI
MO-735

— advanced —



— easy —

without a pocket and a lining:



An overlock machine and a coverlock machine in one; when sewing a tunic, you will use a hemming stitch (an overlock machine), and when trimming a tunic, you will execute a coverlock stitch (a coverlock machine).



BEFORE YOU SET ABOUT TO SEWING, PLEASE PREPARE:

- 1.5 meters of a top material 1,5m wide; you can use either a knitted material or a woven fabric with added elastane (slightly flexible and stretchable) first prepare a form and then check if, with your dimensions, you do not need a different amount of material
- 1 meter of a material for a lining – if you use a knitted material on top, a lining should also be knitted
- a paper for forms, a ruler, a pencil
- threads, tailor scissors, a tape-measure, tailor's chalk (French chalk) and pins
- your T-shirt, choose the fitted one but not too tight-fitting and at least your mid-bottom-length; it will be used as a basis for a form, so its size should be similar to your body dimensions.

MEASURES AND A FORM:

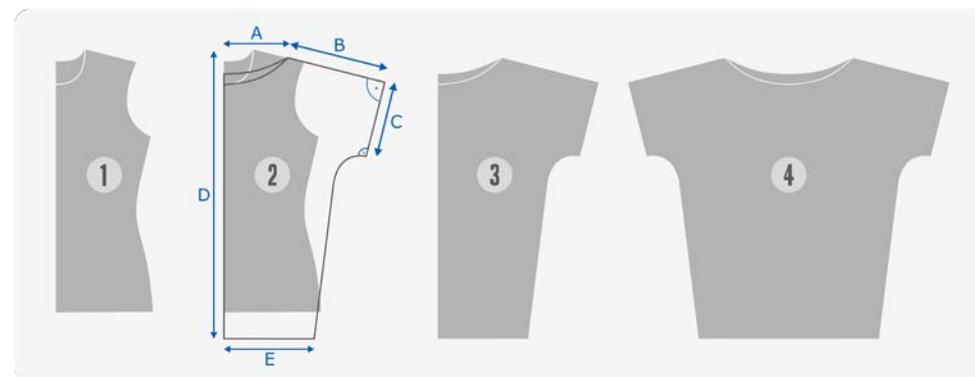
The work starts with preparing a form for half of a tunic; a front and a back are the same, they differ only in a shape of a neckline; the dimensions given refer to size 36/38 but you can modify them to your expectations and needs.

1. Prepare a form for half of a T-shirt; press your T-shirt with an iron and fold it in half lengthwise; spread it down on a paper so that the material stays not tightened or not gathered; outline your T-shirt; a shape of an armhole and a front part of a neckline should be copied by densely spiking seams with pins so that there are holes in the paper that determine the shape (if you put a thick material under the paper, pins will be spiked deeper and the holes will be more visible). Width of bottom of t-shirt pattern should be equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ of your hips circumference.

2. Convert a form for a tunic:
 - determine the width of half of a neckline ($A=14\text{cm}$); draw a front neckline of the same depth as a T-shirt; a back neckline should be slightly shallower than a front neckline
 - extend an angle of an arm to the desired length of a sleeve – measure it from where a neckline ends ($B=25\text{cm}$)
 - draw a width of a sleeve at a right angle, a width ($C=18\text{cm}$) should equal half of a circumference of your biceps increased by 4-10cm
 - determine the length of a tunic; measure the length from the highest point of a shoulder – the heights point of a neckline in the form of a t-shirt; If you want to pull up the tunic, to rest tight on the hips and give the loose, blouse-like effect above the hips, add 3-5cm ($D=66\text{cm}$)
 - determine the width at a bottom of a tunic ($E=24\text{cm}$) – If you want a tunic to be pulled up, the width should be a bit smaller that the width of a bottom of a T-shirt; If you want to wear a tunic loose, a bottom should be wider that in a T-shirt
 - with an arc, connect a width of a sleeve with a width of a bottom – draw the first 2cm of this line at a right angle to the edge of a sleeve, and then turn with a fluid arc and with a straight line connect an arc with a bottom; hence you widen a form in the chest and at the waist in relation to a T-shirt.

3. A form for half of a tunic is ready.

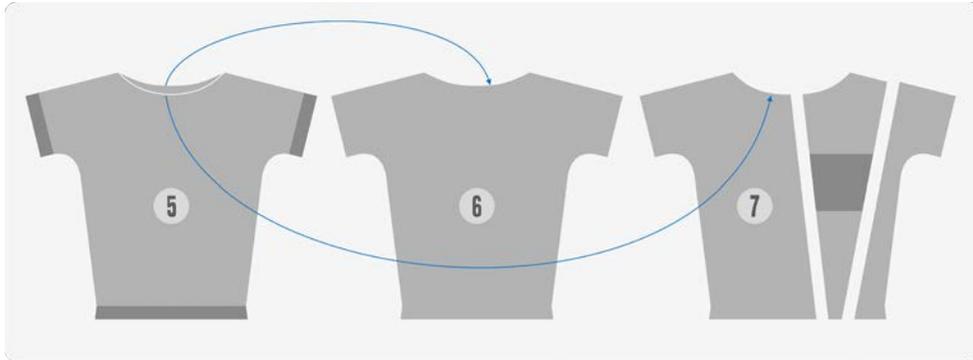
4. Now, you must set about preparing a whole – it is a form for a lining; if you are going to sew a tunic without a lining and a pocket, it is enough to add seam allowances and you can cut a material.



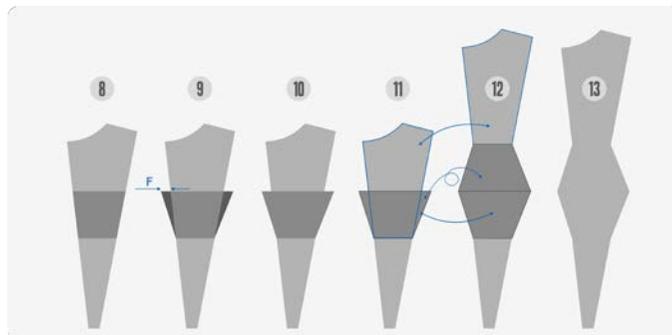
5. Add 2-3 cm allowance to a form of a lining for turning up cuffs (dark gray color); extend sleeves; at a bottom copy a form as a mirror-image – as sides are slanted, an allowance to be turned up underneath should also be sloping.
6. Now you have a ready form for a top fabric; just copy a back with a shallower neckline.

8. OVERSIZE TUNIC

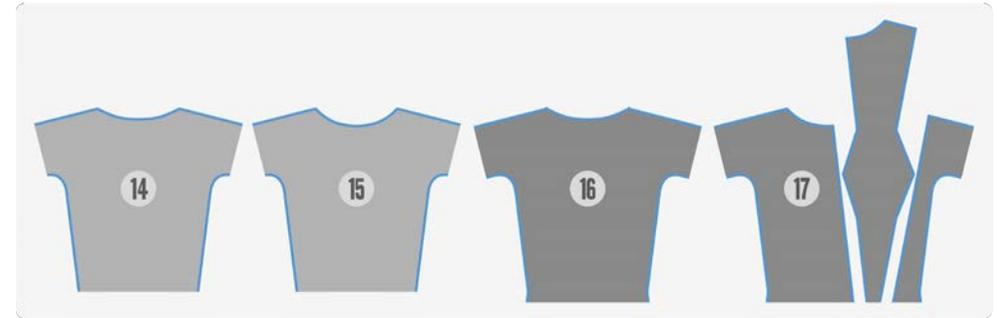
7. At a front form (with a deeper neckline), draw straight cuts between which there will be a pocket – it is recommended to make cuts tapering downwards; draw a pocket (dark gray color); side parts are already ready; now carefully prepare a pocket.



8. A middle part cut from a front.
9. Extend the upper edge of a pocket; the more you widen the edge, the more it will protrude and drop after sewing it up ($F=3.5\text{cm}$); connect the extended upper edge with a bottom part of a pocket (dark gray triangular shape).
10. A fragment with an extended pocket.
11. Isolate 3 parts: an upper part of a fragment of a blouse (a light gray part with a blue outline), a form of a pocket (dark gray part with black outline) and a lower part of a fragment of a blouse (a light gray part without any outline).
12. Draw aside an upper and a lower fragment, and insert a double form of a pocket between them in a mirror image.
13. A form for a middle part of a front tunic is ready.



Now add 1cm seam allowance – a blue line in the picture below; do not add it to the edges of a bottom and those of sleeves as you have already added it in step 5, the allowances added in step 5 will be used to cover edges on a lining; finished forms for a lining – 14 and 15, finished forms for a top material – 16 and 17; cut all parts so that the fabric will stretch across.



SEWING A LINING:

Fold a front and a back so that their right sides are in contact; pin the edges; sew shoulders and sides of a lining.

Caution! Pull out pins before the knife approaches or pin them 5cm away from the edge; sewing on arcs between a sleeve and a side of a blouse requires precision and caution so as not to cut an arm hole with a knife; when you approach an arc, gently flatten it before a presser foot, but do not pull a material.

A lining is ready! Quickly, isn't it?



SEWING A TUNIC:

Pin a pocket. Put the middle part of front on the table with left side of a material up; fold it in half at its widest part, turning up a narrower part to a right side; pin edges of a pocket; turn the whole element with a pinned pocket to a right side; place a pinned pocket on the upper part of the element; pin the protruding edges of a pocket with the edges of the upper part. Ready! A pocket will look like that after sewing it up.



Pin a fragment with a pocket together with the side parts of the front of the tunic.



Change threads to a different color and sew three elements in a front together using an overlock machine; now sew up a front with a back on the shoulders and sides, same as in a lining. Note to sew carefully on curves under an arm hole.



TRIMMING:

Prepare a top material and a lining; turn a top to a right side and leave a lining on a left side; slide a top part into a lining so that inside, their right sides are in contact; pin a neckline; if there is a difference in size, you can slightly adjust shoulder seams in order to reduce a neckline circumference. Do not stretch a neckline while sewing! Sew the two pieces on the edge of a neckline; be careful on the border between a front and a back as there is a sharp turn – similar to arcs, you need to straighten it in front of a knife so as not to cut a material; when sewing on a curve, do not stretch a neckline and pay attention that each layer of a material remains under a needle.



Turn a lining to a right side and slide it to the inside of top part through a neckline; to make a lining not visible on a right side, press a neckline with an iron so that it is about 2mm deeper than the edge; if a lining is still visible on a right side, sew a neckline using a regular machine.



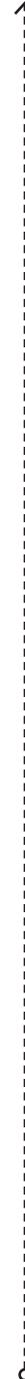
Turn a whole tunic to a left side and pin the edges of a lining with a top material within sleeves and at the bottom.



Now fold an allowance of a top material in sleeves and bottom on a lining and pin all 3 layers together (see a picture below); now it is time to trim cuffs using a function of a coverlock stitching; a seam is applied 1.5cm from the edge and should include all 3 layers, closing the edge of a lining inside a cuff; additionally you can baste all edges together, to make sewing with coverlock easier.



JUKI MO-735 makes a great combination of the two machines, switching it from an overlock to a coverlock takes only about 15 minutes; change the position of needles and thread the lower looper according to the instruction manual of the machine; when sewing a coverlock stitch, you must do a double stitching on top and underneath there will appear the so-called "ladder"; a challenge is that you sew on a right side – without seeing a bottom edge of cuff that is why we suggest to leave a wide cuff and after sewing, cut an unwanted part; this ensures that the whole seam is on a cuff, underneath.



Now it is time for a precise task – you must cut an excess of a material; if you want to avoid it and make a seam so as to cover the edge of a material with a cover-stitch, add smaller allowances on cuffs or cut them before sewing; but then you can't make any mistake; you need to carefully baste the edge of a cuff and sew on a right side, exactly in the place where a material ends underneath.

