

Hi everyone, thank you so much for everyone that has voted on Instagram. This is the design we are finally going to execute. It's been crazy at work but now I finally have time to work on the draping this top. And I am calling this a top because the bottom is basically a circular skirt. I am going to execute it with a lot of pleats. So it's just going to be a matter of calculating the bottom circumference and pleating that into my waist. So really, the important thing is for me to make the pattern for the top portion of the dress. This video will capture the process of how I am going to drape this. Let's get started.

In my studio, I have everything needed to make this possible. For style taping, I am going to use this hem tape. It is a type of seam binding tape to outline the style lines, and which I will use it as a guide to drape.

I am going to make the neckline higher to capture the essence of the design.

<Outlines the silhouette on dress form>

Now that my style line is set, I have cut out a big block of muslin. It is very light weight and comparable the main fabric I will use.

I am going to drape the center panel first.

Once I get the fabric on to the body, I will beginning to trace the outline. My dress form has these seam groves at the princess seams, under bust seams, and side seam. They made it easy for me to always have a standardized shape. It's very helpful.

I briefly marked where the pattern pieces or seam line is, and they will be true later when I take them off the form. I can cut it away after marking.

Here is the center front piece, lets go to the back.

This is the second piece, we need to remember what we did on the first piece. If you remember, when we traced out the style like, we traces on the top of the seam binding, so for consistency, we will do the same. And for the waist tape, we drew at the middle of the tape. So we will do the same here. So this is my center back piece.

We finished the center back and center front pieces, so now we are going to do the more challenging part, which is the side panel. Here I have prepped the muslin. I've drawn a cross for a cross and straight grain. This will be used as a guide line, as we manipulating the fabric we don't lose track of our grain line.

For the side seam, we can take off the front piece. Since we have the style lines in place, the pattern shape will not change. So I have the cross grain line up to the chest level. This little tape is my chest level. And we move straight across to the back. This take alot eyeballing obviously, as you don't want this to be totally skewed. You will notice as you get this line across straight, the straight grain will be a little on the angle. This is OK, it's just our body shape in play. This will give an amazing contrasting stripe variance as well. Which I am looking forward to and counting on. This little bubble, we don't want that. So we will cut it like this to make sure the fabric lays nice and flat. And this is how we drape a side panel. So this piece is on the body, nice and flat. We can continue to mark. Always remember to mark on the outside of the tape. Starting with there the princess seam is. Just go around, marking all the lines.

For the side seam, you might ask if we mark inside or outside of the side seam. I always like to mark the outside of the side seam, only because it give me more room to work with. And ease over body is important, because this dress form is exactly my size, if I mark it skin tight on a woven fabric, it'll not be so comfortable. So here is my side panel. I am going to mark is side front. So now I will go ahead with the side back.

<drape side back>

<finish with fully pinned draped top. >