

How to Use the Pattern Tool Set

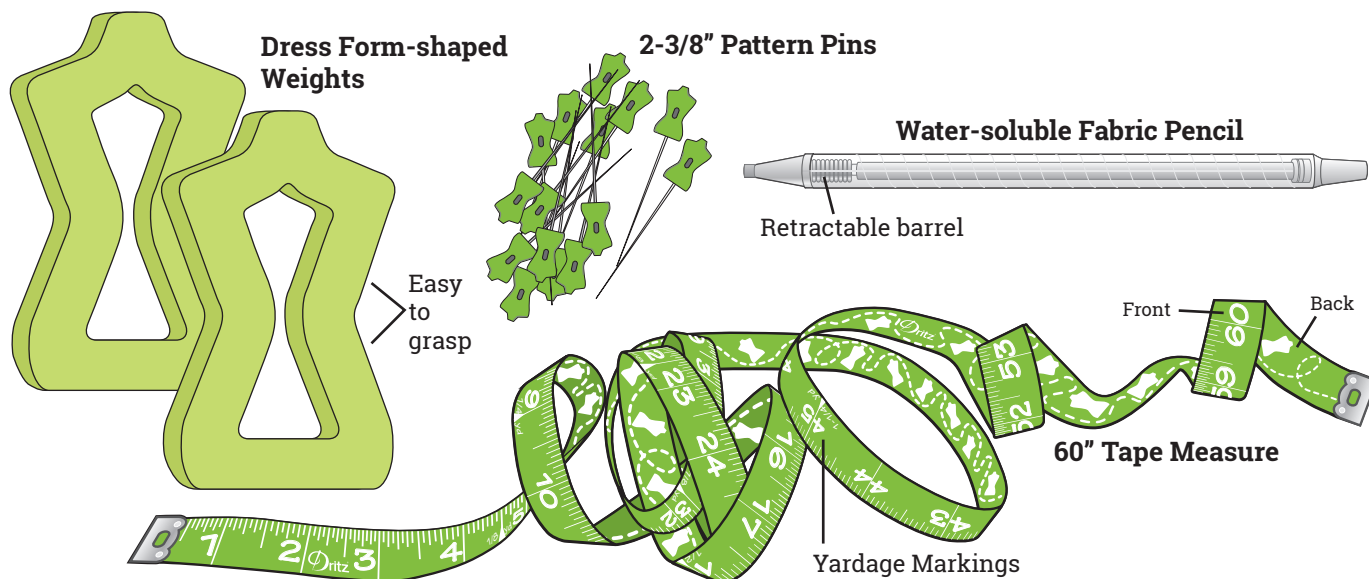
What are the Pattern Tools and what are they used for?

Accurately and easily measure, mark, pin and hold your pattern pieces before cutting to achieve the finished look the designer intended. Everything you need right at your fingertips. Make the finished garment professional looking and spectacular!

Dress Form-shaped Weights are easy to grasp and large enough to hold patterns in place for accurate tracing and cutting. They contain steel balls which have just the right amount of weight to hold patterns securely. Long **2-3/8" Pattern Pins** with dress form-shaped heads easily pin into patterns and are suitable for all types of fabric weights. The **White, Water-soluble Fabric Pencil** is a must-have for transferring pattern markings. The retractable barrel helps maintain a sharp pencil point, protecting the tip for storage. Simply twist! Marks can be removed with a damp cloth. The fun **60" Tape Measure** has yardage markings on the front and decorative dress form-graphics on the reverse side. Yardage measurements are also included for quick reference. To use these tools, place pattern on fabric, using tape measure to ensure an equal distance from grain-line arrow to selvage edge. Place a straight pin at top and bottom of arrow to secure. Place weights at corners to keep patterns from curling or sliding. The set is color coordinated with the perfect design theme for all your garment sewing!

You will need:

- Pattern Tools: Weights, Pattern Pins, 60" Tape Measure and Fabric Pencil
- Flat work surface
- Your project



How to Use Dress Form-shaped Weights

Garment Sewing:

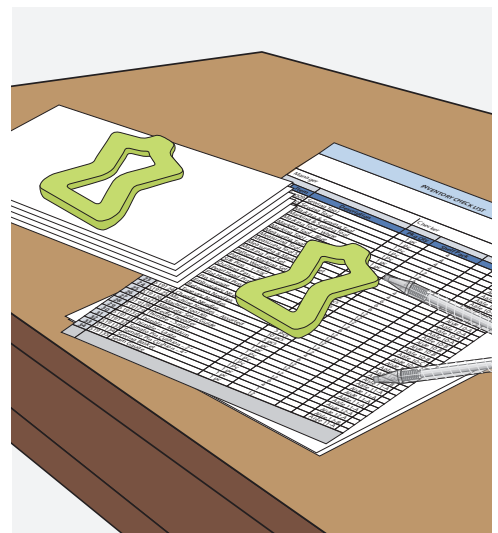
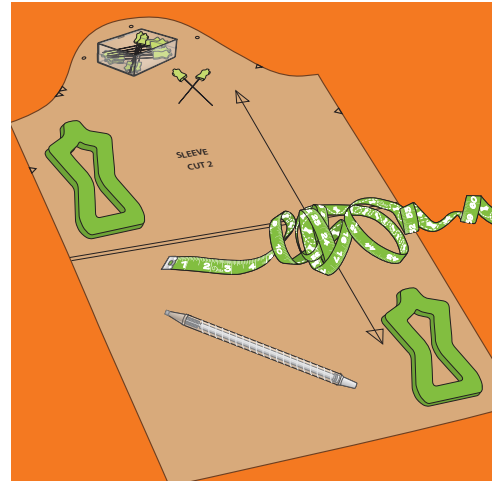
Accuracy is so important when cutting a garment. The pattern must remain in place with no slipping. When using fragile, easy-to-damage fabrics, pins should be avoided. Use these fun weights instead to keep the pattern in position as you cut! The top side is shiny while the underside is matte so weights don't slide. If fabric is extra slippery, place a pin at each end of the grainline arrow after making sure pattern is straight. Then move the weights as needed. The 1/2" depth and indented waistline makes them easy to grasp too! If you need more weights, they are sold separately in a set of 4.

Office or Household Paper Weights:

Traditional paper weights have been around for years, attractively holding a stack of paper in place on a desk. If you are a sewist, why not use these dress form-shaped weights in rooms other than the sewing room. They work near your computer or on that stack of projects you keep putting off, quickly transforming a messy stack into a creative arrangement!

Decorating:

They are dress forms, after all and a dashing color of green! Stand them up as table decor. Hang from a ribbon, centered in a frame, or one on its own withing a group of arranged wall decor!



TECHNIQUE TUTORIAL

How to Use Straight Pins with Dress Form-shaped Heads

Garment Cutting:

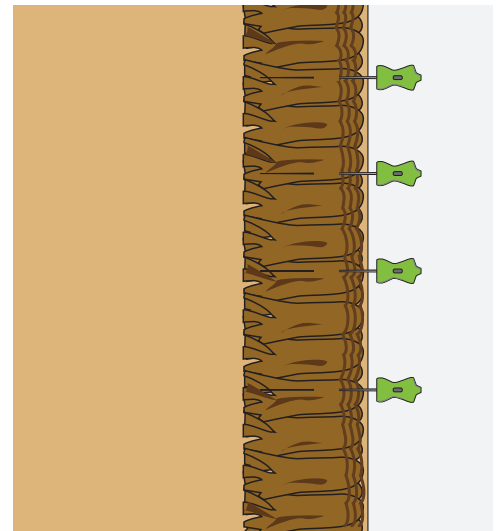
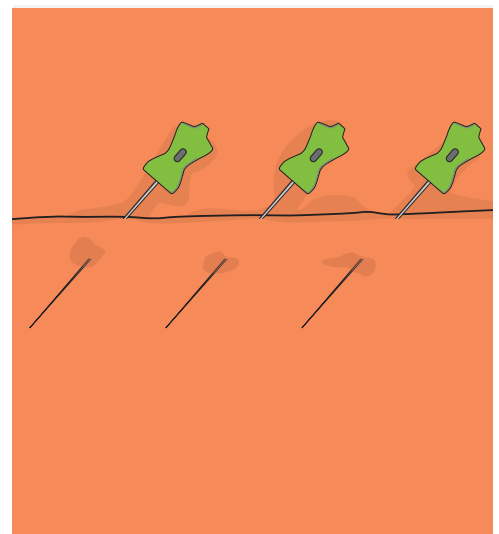
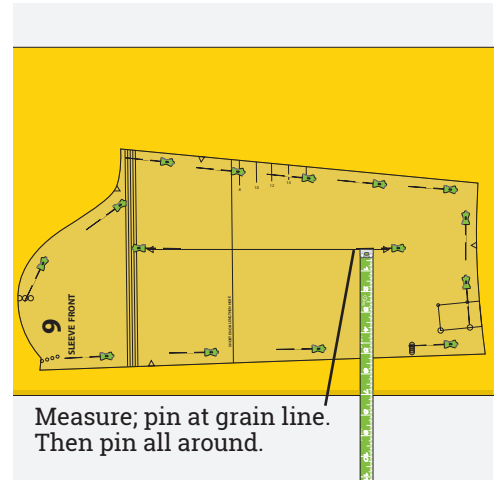
Sticking to the dress form theme, these are pins perfect for all phases of garment sewing. Use them when cutting out your pattern piece. First measure from the selvage to the grainline arrow to make sure the pattern is straight; then place a pin at each end of the arrow. Once the pattern is straight, use them every 4" or so all around to prevent slippage.

Garment Sewing:

The large flat heads are easy to grasp – no fumbling. Use them to hold seams together for joining. Always remove the pin as you sew to avoid broken needles.

Quilting, Crafts and Decorating:

While the dress form theme harks to dress-making, these pins can certainly be used for quilting and craft projects. The 2-3/8" length and bright green color makes them easy to see when quilting multi-color fabrics! And they won't get lost in home decorating fringe.



How to Use a Water-soluble Marking Pencil

Transferring Pattern Markings:

Patterns have many dots and squares that must be aligned for proper fit and shape. These marks must be transferred from the pattern to the fabric. Insert a straight pin through the mark to be transferred. Gently fold back the pattern paper until the pin is visible entering the fabric. Use the pencil to place a mark against the straight pin. Replace the pattern paper; repeat for other marks. Remove marking pins from marks.

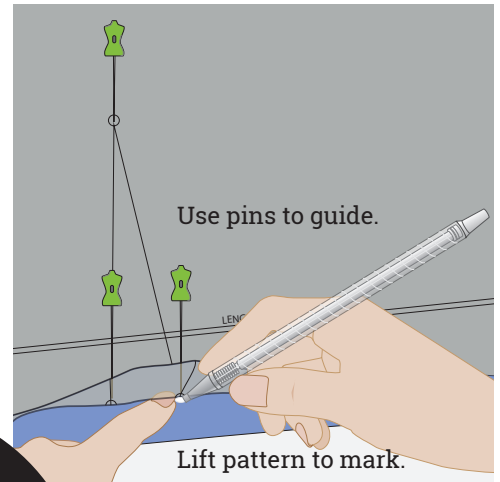
To sew, align marks; follow pattern to join pieces. Be sure to remove the mark with a damp cloth before you press.

Mark Right and Wrong Sides:

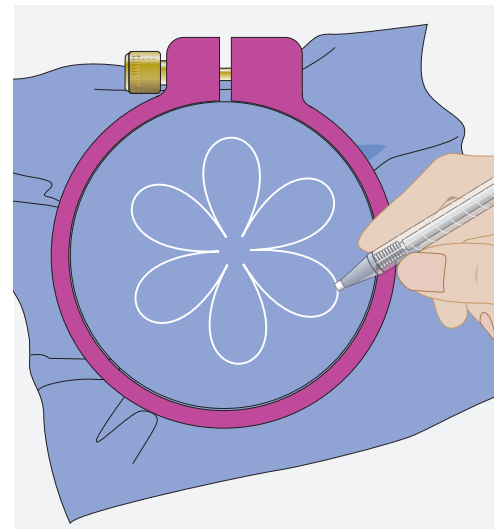
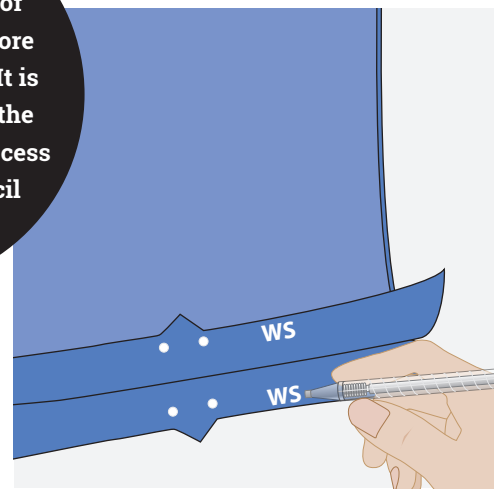
Many fabrics are almost the same on both the right and wrong sides. But on closer examination, the weaving may be slightly different. Or there is a nap that only shows up in certain lighting. Don't confuse the sides when sewing. Mark the right and wrong sides in advance. Mark the seam allowance or hem and then the marks don't need to be removed.

Mark Embroidery Designs:

A water soluble pencil is recommended by many designers as the best method of transferring an embroidery design to your project.



TIP: Always test the pencil on a scrap of your project fabric before marking the garment. It is important to also test the damp cloth removal process before using the pencil on your garment.



How to Use a Tape Measure

A sewist can never have too many tape measures. Keep one near every work station for quick measurements. That way one is always available to mark the distance to edges when centering an appliqué, or to double check pleat sizes as you press.

Grainline Measuring:

Make sure your pattern piece grainline is even with the fabric grain line. Place the pattern on your fabric. Take repeat measurements from the grainline arrow to the selvage edge of the fabric. Adjust until measurements are the same. Pin or place weights to secure. Do this with each pattern piece. Then you are ready to cut.

Body Measurement:

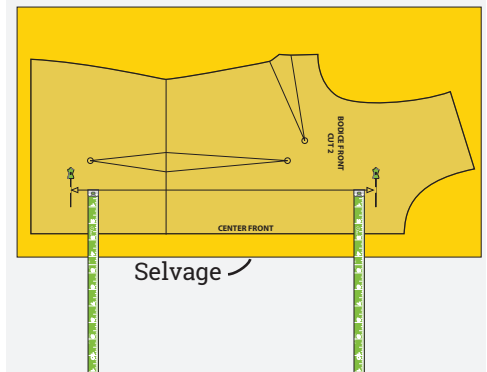
When measuring hip, waist and bust size on your body, the tape measure should always be parallel to the floor. Have a friend help you measure your own body to ensure the tape placement is correct and the line is parallel to the floor.

Confirm Fit:

Did you know that most garments with standard fit are designed with ease included in the pattern? The bust line usually has 2", the waist has 1" and the hip has 2". Ease is critical to prevent the garment from being too tight with unsightly pulls. Measure your pattern first, comparing it to your body measurements. Still not sure about the fit? Make up the pattern in muslin or scrap fabric; test the fit, alter the pattern as needed. Then cut your good fabric.

TIP: The longer the grainline, the easier and more accurate it is to achieve alignment. If printed grainline is short, use a ruler to lengthen it to almost the full length of pattern piece.

Measure distance of arrow at each end to selvage. Distance should match.



Make a copy of pattern if it is not full width. Measure front and back, side to side.

