Beltaine Fires

Tunic

Nursing Mod

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This is an add on tutorial guide only, instructing you how to use the pattern pieces in the Beltaine Fires tunic pattern in order to create a nursing top. It does not contain any additional pattern pieces. You will need to buy the main pattern in order to use this guide.

https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/MotherGrimmDesigns?ref=seller-platform-mcnav

A test fit using inexpensive fabrics is advised to establish best fit before using expensive fabric.

All materials and requirements are the same as the main tutorial. It can use the same bottom hem options as the main tutorial – plain, round blocking/pockets, hanky hem blocking/pockets and trim.

However if you wish to hide the feeding hole slits then you may wish to use a thicker fabric like a cotton lycra for the outer bodice piece. The band should be made from a 4 way stretch (50%+) fabric with good recovery.

Many thanks to my testers for trying this modification and sharing their photos.

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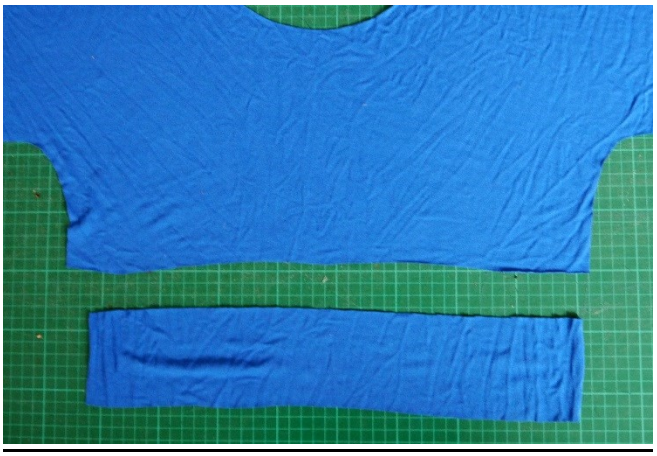
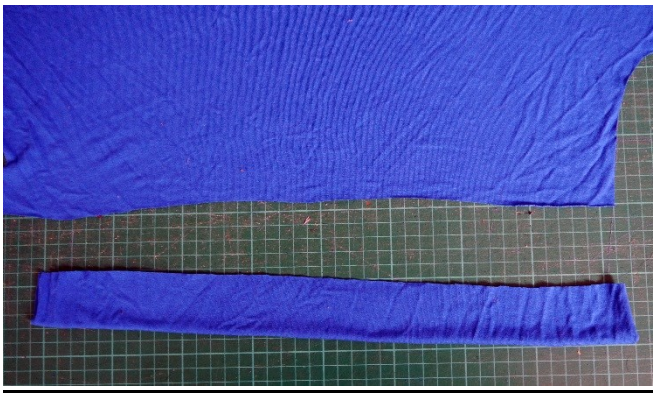
Instructions



You will need to cut out a complete front and back of your choice as normal.

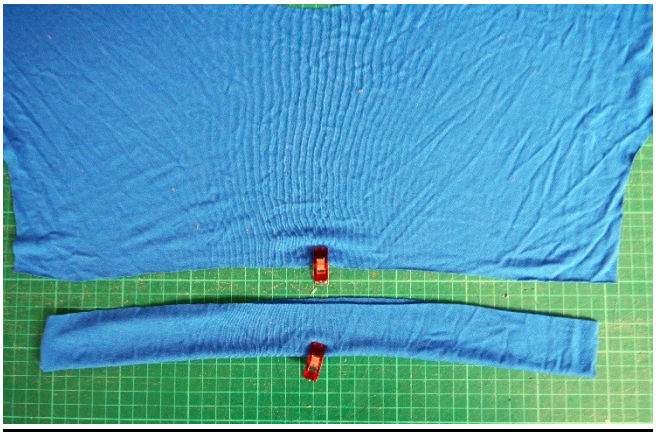
Sew on any colour blocking or pockets that you want to use and then stop before sewing the front and back pieces together.

You should then cut out a bodice piece and a band. If your cup size is H or above, then you may need to add 1-2” in length to bottom of the bodice piece.

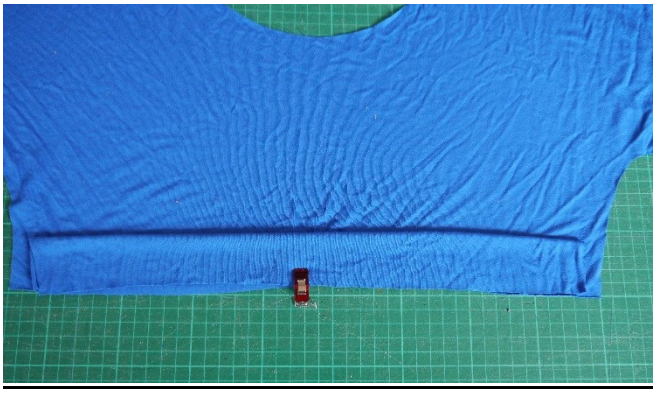


The band should be at least 4" high by 90% of the width of the bottom bodice measurement.

Fold the band in half, wrong sides together.



Find and mark the centre of the bodice and the band.



Clip/Pin the centre of the band to the centre of the bodice right sides facing.

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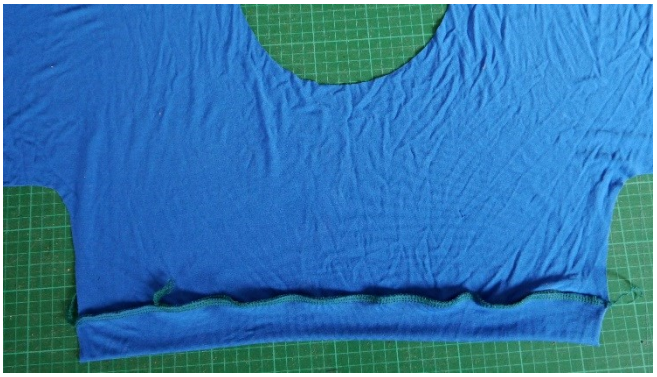
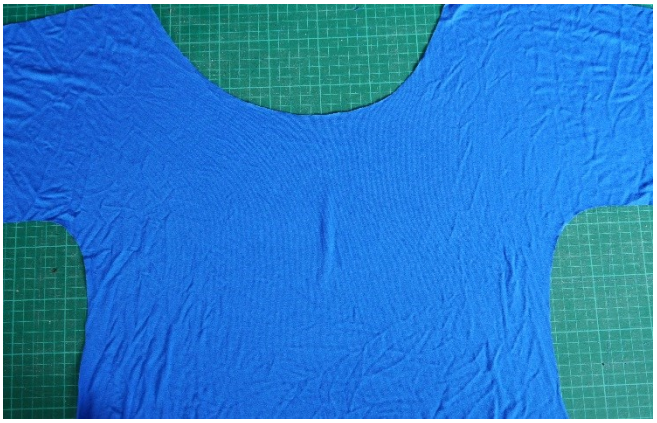
Stretch the band ends out to each of the bodice sides and clip.

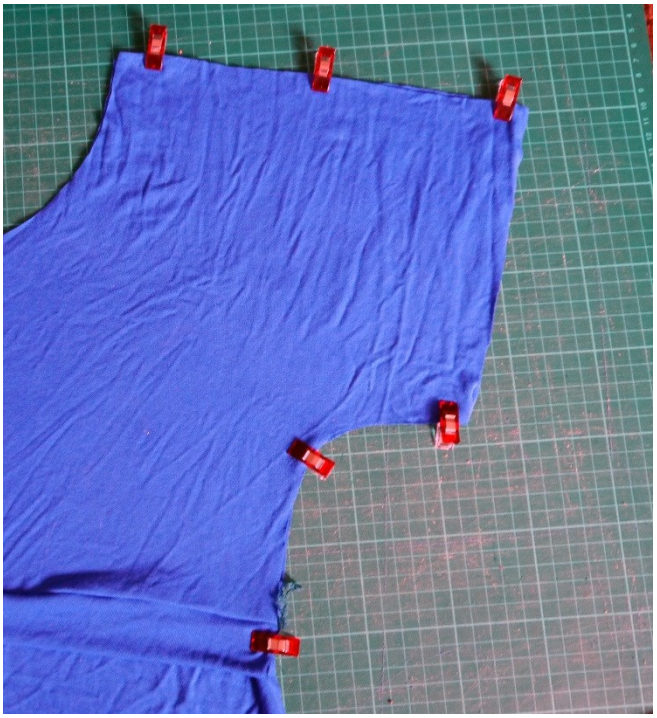


Sew the clipped edge of band and bodice together.

Gently stretch the band out to fit the bodice as you sew.



Take the front full length pattern piece of the top. (Any colour blocking or pockets should have been sewn on before this stage)



Overlay the banded bodice piece on top. Both pieces should be right sides up.

Match and clip the two tops along the side, sleeves and the neck.

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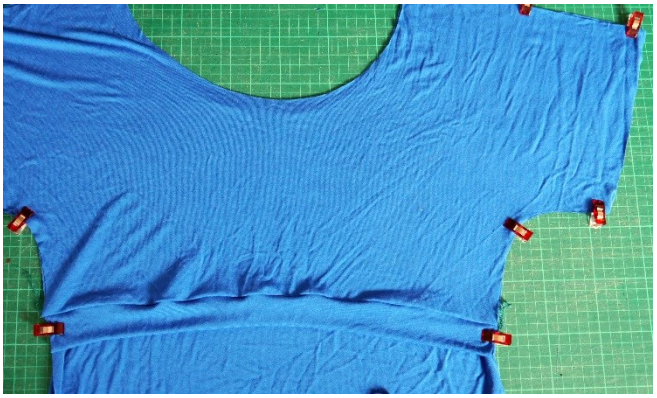
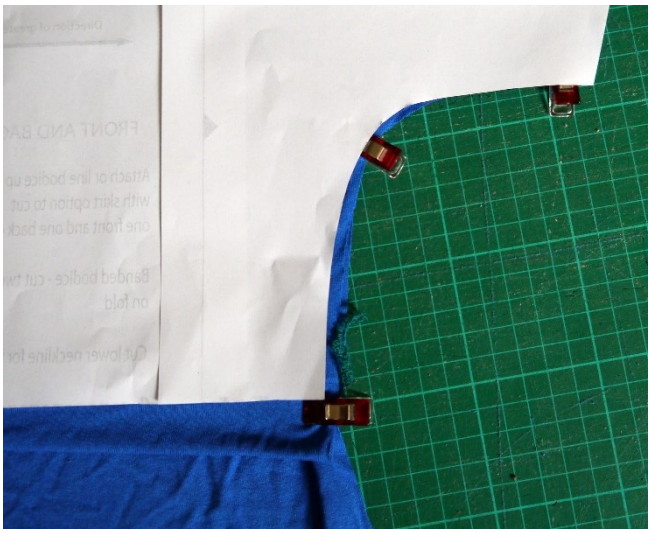


Make sure the clipped/pinned bodice band lies at the same distance from the arm curve on both sides.



You can use the pattern piece to check this quickly. Remember to take the Seam allowance of 1cm (3/8”) in the bottom band into account if using this method.

Tack the two pieces together along the sides, sleeves and neckline.

The top should lift up to reveal the under layer.

The openings will be added later. Make sure the band/bodice seam is lying flat and faces up towards the neckline along its width.

Sew the tunic together as normal, treating the sewn together front as one layer.

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You will then need to mark out where the opening should lie on your top.

Lift the banded front bodice up over the bust.

You can do next this bit in a mirror or ask a friend.

Then mark out where you want the access holes to be, using tailors chalk or pen. Or a washable marker will do the job if necessary.

Remove the tunic and cut slits along the lines that you have marked.

You may wish to sew them along the sides of the holes or band them in some way.

This is not necessary however as jersey fabrics should not unravel and it will increase the visibility of the slits under the top bodice.

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Moonstone bodice graded to coral bottom

Floral print is cl, the rest is bamboo slub.

Tester added seam allowance to the under bodice and skirt to make it blocked.

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<u>Sapphire bust graded to citrine waist and hips, tall height with +4cm added</u> – tester is 6ft

Rounded hem + pockets – made from DBP main and single brushed poly patterned.

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Diamond bust graded to Emerald – Tall height – made by Www.facebook.com/HENINAHEDGE

Double brushed poly used. Tester used banded bodice as the under bodice as well as outer bodice.

Emerald, regular height – model is 5ft 5. Made by https://www.facebook.com/sillypandaco/

Fabric is a black Jersey, two way stretch and light.

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Citrine bust graded to spinel waist/hip. Tall with elongated top bodice.

Fabric was a 95/5 cotton/spandex blend from Girl Charlee Fabrics.

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