

# Menswear Cargo Pocket Sewing Instructions and Pattern



Pattern pieces begin on page 5

You should have 7 printed pattern pages comprising (after cutting and taping sections):

## **The four pieces to the pocket pattern consists of:**

- 1 – Pocket Support Facing
- 1 – Under Flap (contrasting fabric)
- 1 – (Upper) Flap (cut 2 per pocket)
- 1 - Pocket

*Finished pocket placement size = 8 5/8" W x 8" L with a center hangdown of abt. 1"*

*Finished Flap placement size = 9 3/4" W x 2 5/8"L*

*Flap placement line should be 3/4" above pocket corners placement.*

This pattern is for pockets that go on an adult male's cargo shorts. My sons have shorts that are similar, with and without tucks in various places which are sized slightly smaller.

The original cargo pocket pattern, drafted from Susan Kahlje's tutorial, did not include the tucks found on these, which give them the popular 3 dimensional look.

I hope you enjoy this adult size, updated version of the cargo pocket pattern. If you do, please feel free to drop me a line at [joyce@buttercup149.com](mailto:joyce@buttercup149.com)

Gidget J.L. Barrett

## **Important First Steps:**

1<sup>st</sup> – Make sure you use a heavy duty jeans needle. There are times when you will be going through 5 layers of fabric. Make sure your machine can handle it without risk, especially when using a heavy fabric such as duck.

2<sup>nd</sup> – When topstitching – use a longer stitch length and go slowly, the result will be cleaner.

The fabric used was a heavy wt duck and had a relaxed – lived in look to them. A lighter fabric will most likely need a good interfacing to achieve the same dimensional cargo pocket look.

## Pocket Support Facing

1<sup>st</sup> Cut apart pieces and tape together – butting blue lines.

1. Fold under at fold lines indicated and Press.
2. Topstitch to garment from the inside (Wrong Sides to Wrong Sides).
3. Circles are shown only as guides for placement of corners of the pocket flap only.

## Under Flap

1. Fold Under Flap Lining Piece along fold line, wrong sides together – press. You can baste other three sides together at this point if shifting of fabric is an issue.
2. Sew Buttonholes onto Under Flap. 1-1/8” Keyhole Buttonholes work nice.

## (Upper) Flap

1. Sew Lower Edge of Pocket Flap together, between circled guides only, using 1/4” S.A.
2. Turn and press.
3. Sew on Contrast Label if desired to back side piece of pocket flap (This will get flipped over later). Green placement box shown is for a 1-3/4” x 3” Label.

*Note: A contrast fabric would be cute here, especially if it matches a top to be worn with the shorts. (This works great for helping children to coordinate clothing)*

## Combining (Upper and Under) Flaps and Sewing to Garment

1. Place Under Flap Lining Piece (right sides out) on top of Turned (i.e. label stitched) Pocket Flap. Sew, using a 1/4” seam on each side to bottom of Under Flap Lining Piece. Turn inside out. *This should place the front (label) side piece of pocket flap UP.*
2. Baste flaps together, 1/4” in from top edge.
3. Topstitch remaining 3 edges (including angles) using 1/4” S.A.
4. Sew 5/8” Bar tack through layers using guidelines shown on Pocket Flap.
5. Sew pocket flap unit to garment, raw edges down from finished placement line. Use 1/4” S.A. Turn Flap over and topstitch through all layers using 1/4” S.A.

## Pocket Construction

1<sup>st</sup> Cutout the four pieces of the pattern and tape it together. They are noted upper left, lower left, upper right and lower right.

2<sup>nd</sup> While pattern is still on the fabric, cut out lower tucks along dashed lines. Other tucks are NOT cutout, they will get pressed toward the the top of pocket. Additionally, there is a seam – off center at the top that runs down the length of the pocket. Indicated with a dashed line. Cut this seam open along the dashed lines.

### **Off center Seam at Top of Pocket:**

1. The remainder of the seam is a fold line. Fold this edge, aligning cut edges, and sew using a 1/4” S.A. All the way down. This seam should be finished – zigzag or serge to the fold line.
2. Press seam to the left of pocket.
3. Topstitch a needle-width away (1/16”) from seam.

### **Top and Bottom Tucks (to the left of off center seam):**

1. Sew Tucks, top and bottom, stopping at circles. Press tucks to the left.
2. Topstitch lower tuck a needle-width away (1/16”) from seam.
3. Sew 1/4” Bar tack perpendicular to Lower Tuck only, where shown on lower right pattern piece. This is to reinforce that tuck where the pocket will receive the most weighted stress.

### **Lower Side Tucks:**

1. Create tucks as shown on the sides of pocket pattern, stop stitching at circles. Press tuck toward the top of pocket.

### **Lower Corners:**

1. Fold in half (half mark in center marked by plain circle.)
2. Sew “L” shape created by folding, using 1/4” S.A. - note: upper edge curves in slightly toward center.

### **Upper Edge:**

1. Fold under on first fold line, and then fold under again on second fold line. Press.
2. The pressing should reveal where the fold is underneath. With the pocket face-up, topstitch 1/8” from fold line reveal.

### **Topstitching Pocket Outline:**

1. Fold pocket at the center of tucks. Solid guide lines shown. Note: Tuck on left is 1-1/4”, while Tuck on Right is 1-1/2”.
2. Topstitch 1/4” from folded edge with pocket face-up, turning at lower corners. *Note: These are not tucks sewn from the wrong side. Merely, a way to show the fold that will get topstitched.*

## Attaching Pocket to Garment:

Pocket placement is 3/4" below flap placement.

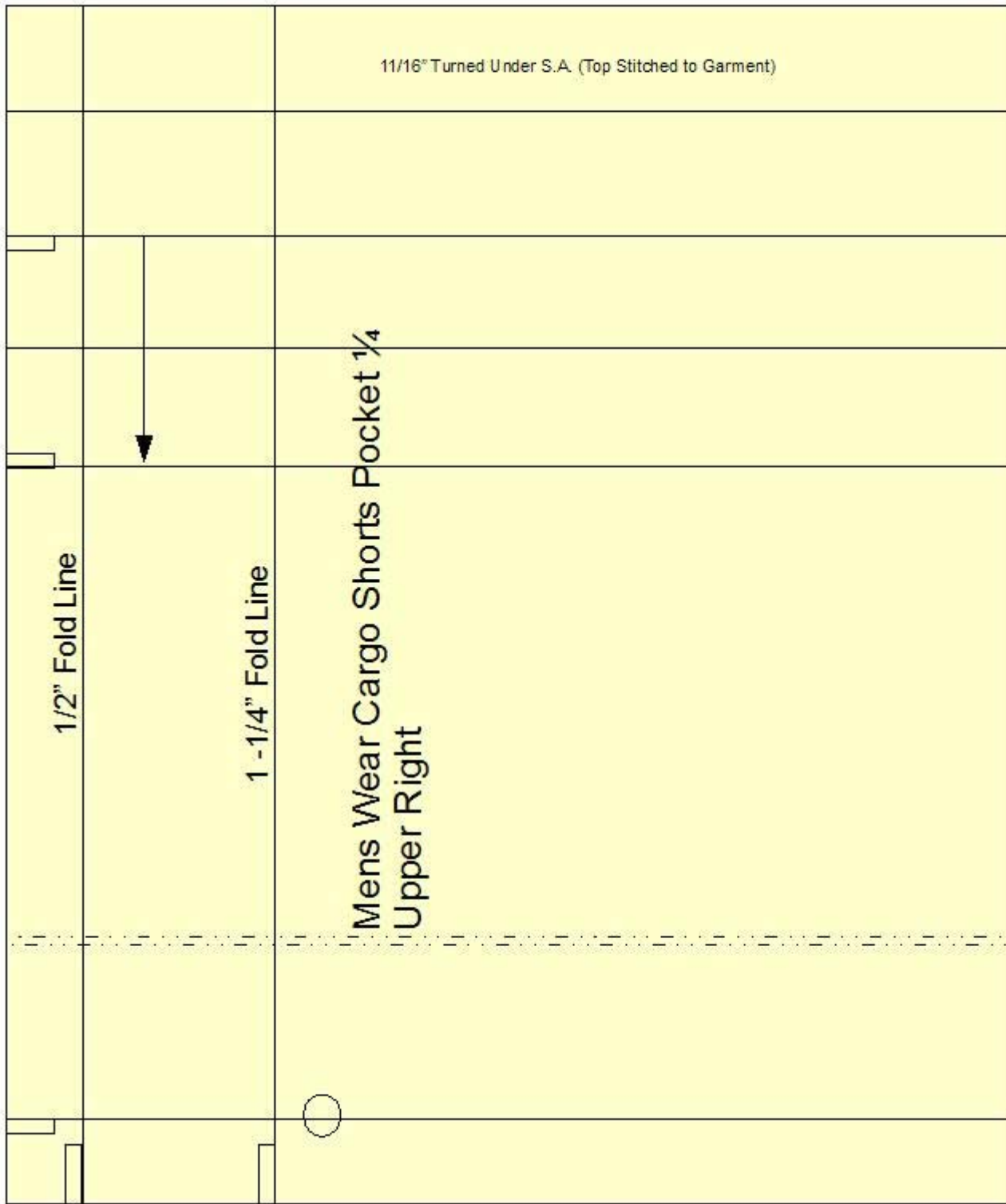
*Note: You may want to mark straight lines on garment for placement using pocket measurements on page one.. The bottom of the pocket will curve down from the finished topstitching about 1" below. The seam you sew – attaching the pocket at the bottom should be straight across, not curved down..*

1. Press under 5/8" seam allowance on sides and bottom.
2. Topstitch Pocket to the garment a needle width away (1/16") from pocket's folded edge.
3. Sew 1/4" Bar tack into corner angles, affixing pocket corners to garment.
4. Sew a 3/8" Bar tack at upper pocket corners, right on top of existing topstitching, starting about 1/8" below fold line.

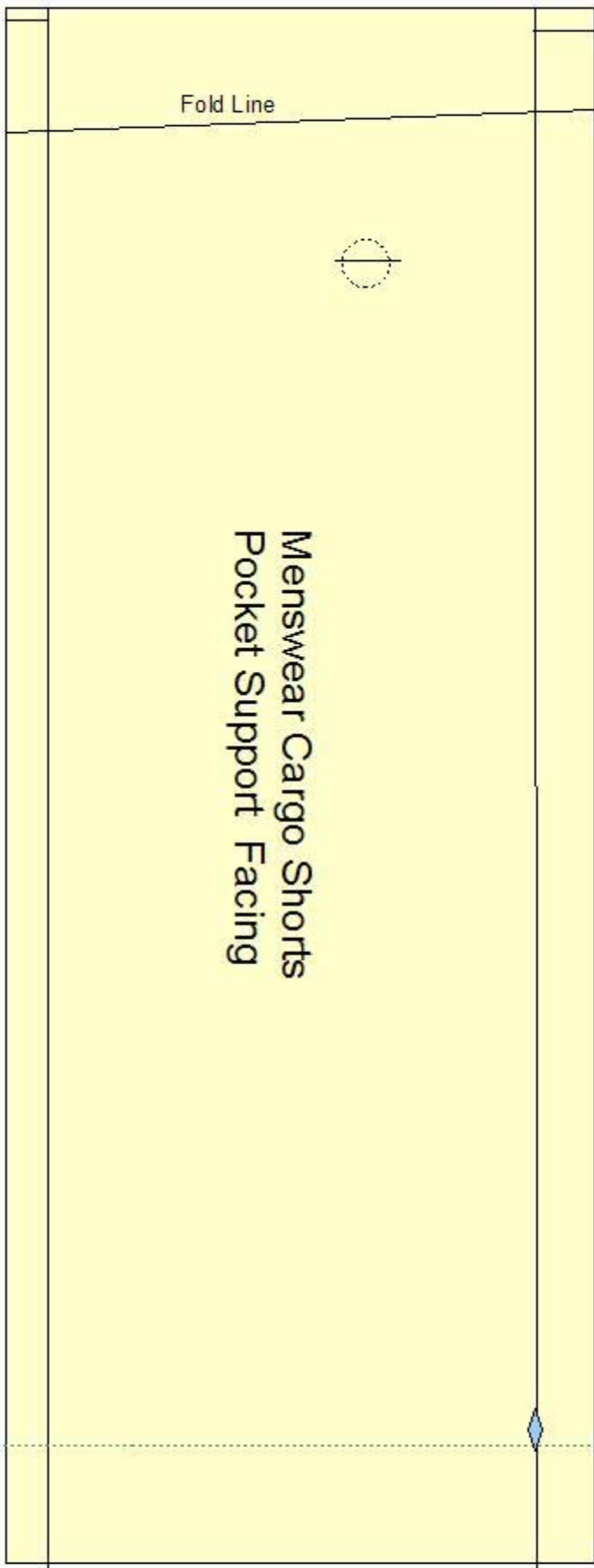
Sew Buttons on upper pocket. Note, on the pocket I deconstructed, the left button was sewn at 1" in from the left side + 1" from top folded edge. The right button was sewn 1" from right side + 5/8" from top folded edge.

I had already confiscated the buttons from the shorts I took this pattern from, so I can't tell you for sure what size/type button was used, but I suspect it was a 1" slightly raised shank-less khaki button (given that the buttonhole was a 1-1/8" keyhole buttonhole).

## 7 Pattern Pieces Follow



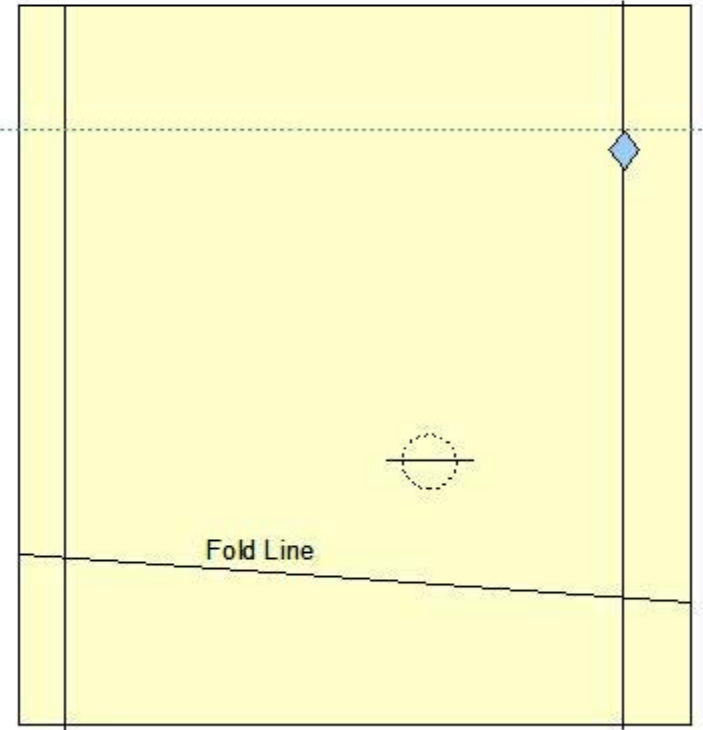
Upper edge hemmed before side tucks taken.



This piece gets folded under and topstitched to the inside of the shorts at the side seams. It's purpose is to aid in support of the pocket and flap seams.

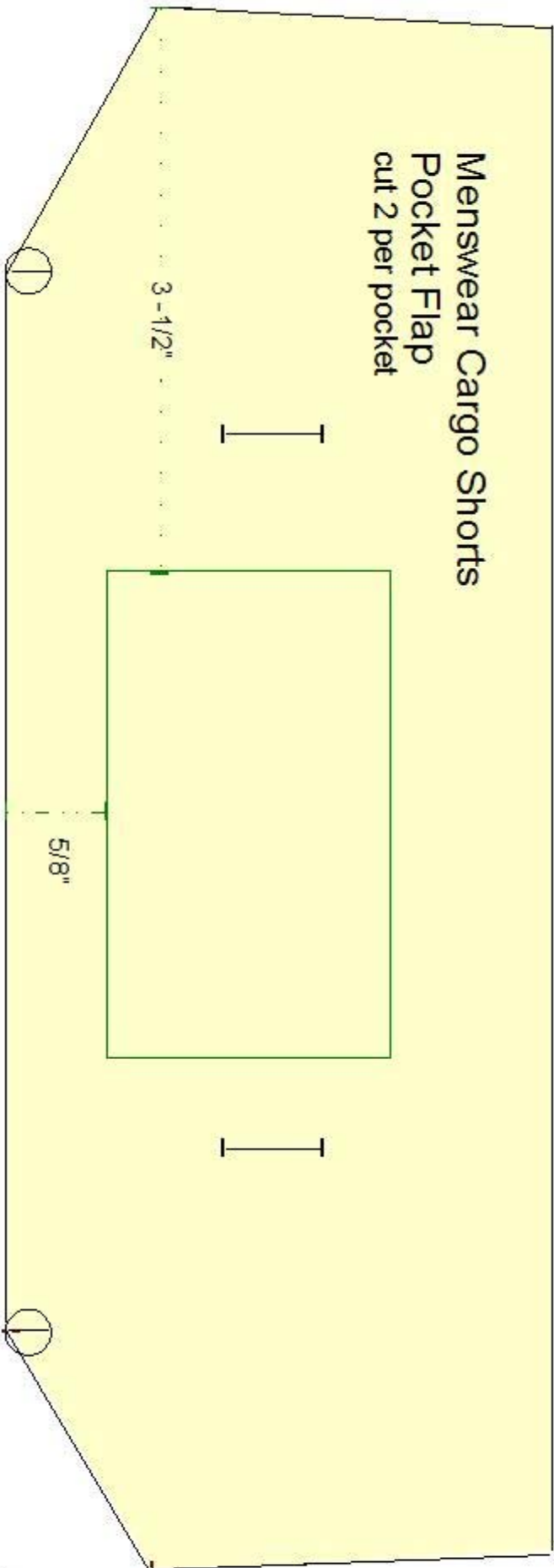
The dots are to reference the corners of the pocket which will get topstitched on from the right side of the garment.

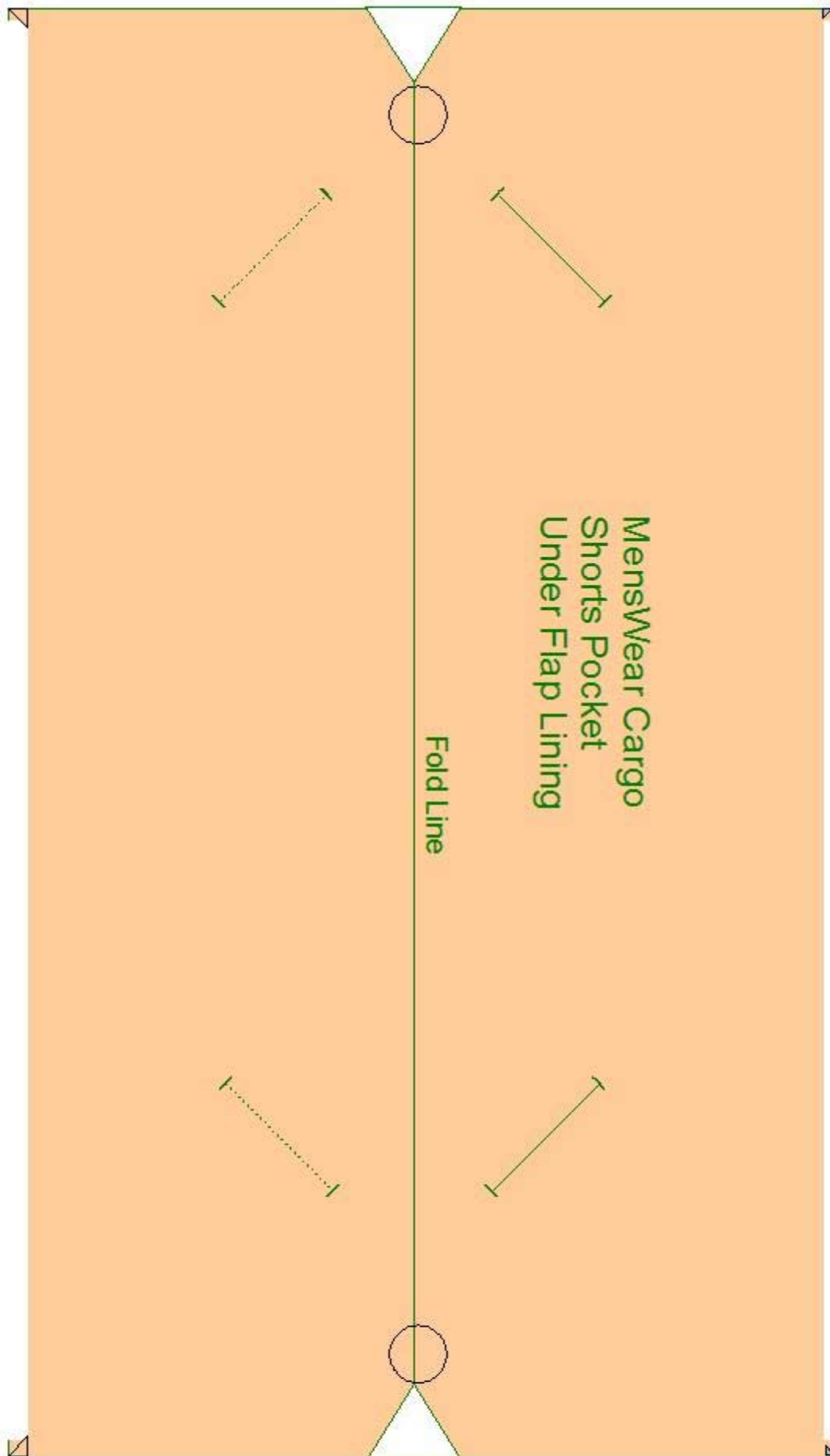
Cut and join these together at the blue line. Cut size = 11 5/8" w. x 3 1/2" h. with staggered side seams.



3/8" S.A. On all edges except Top of Flap, which is 1/2".

Bar Tacks are decorative and are made after flap is attached to underflap contrast piece.

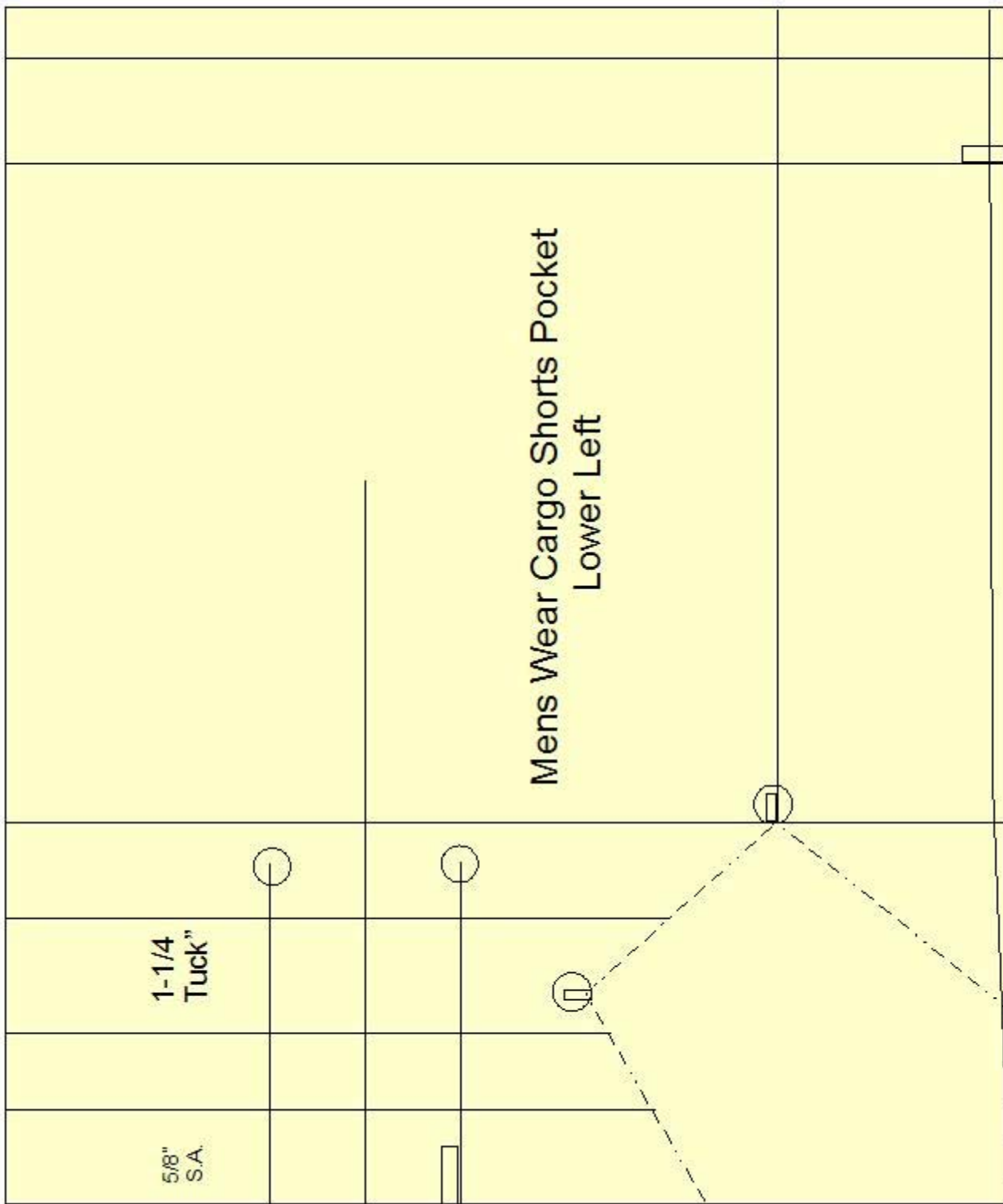




Note:  
These are the actual button holes that will be attached to the buttons of the pocket.

3/8" S.A. On Ends, 1/2" S.A. On bottom edge after folded.

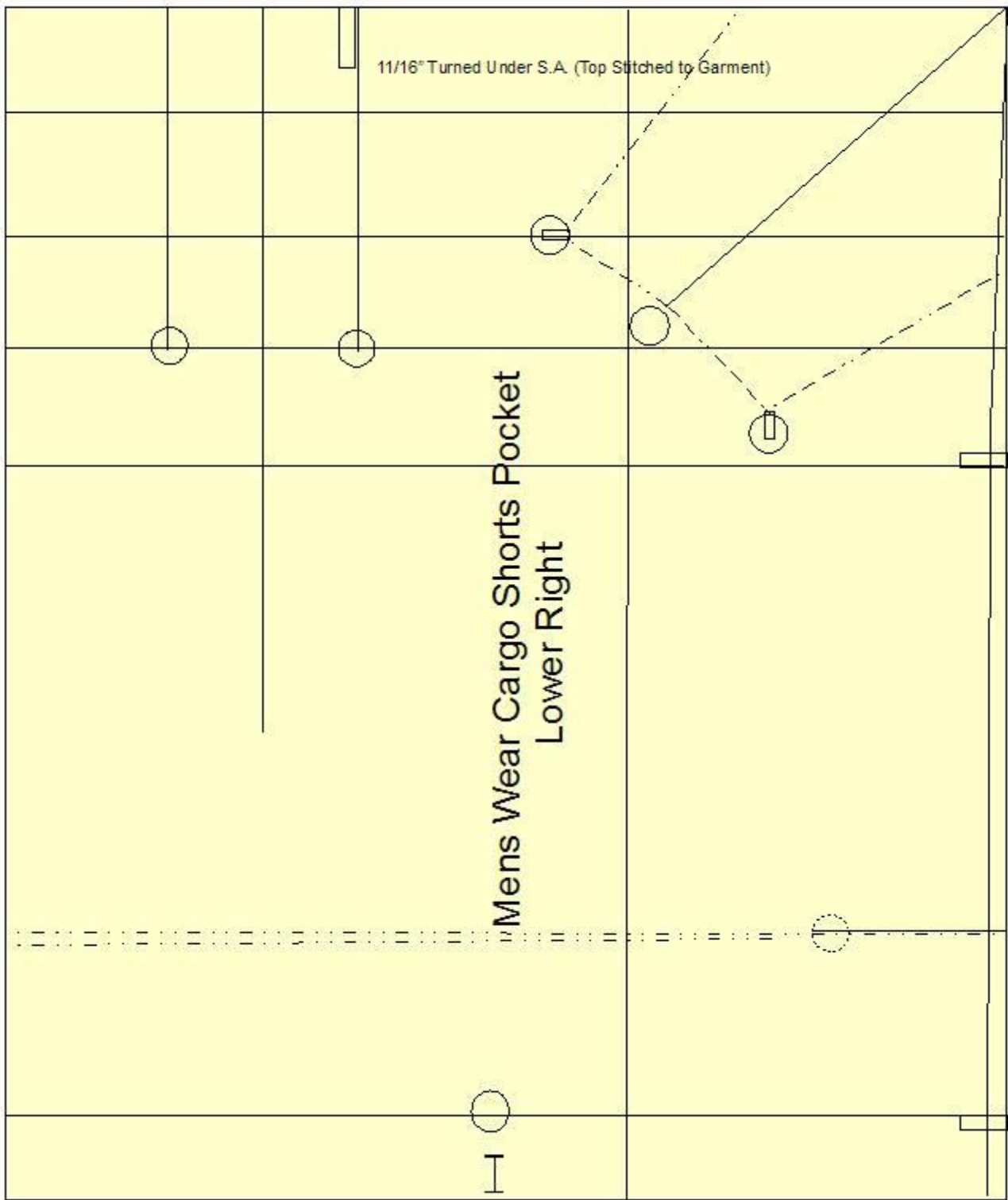
Sewn to Pocket Flap on Ends – stopping at fold line - circles.



6- 9/16" High

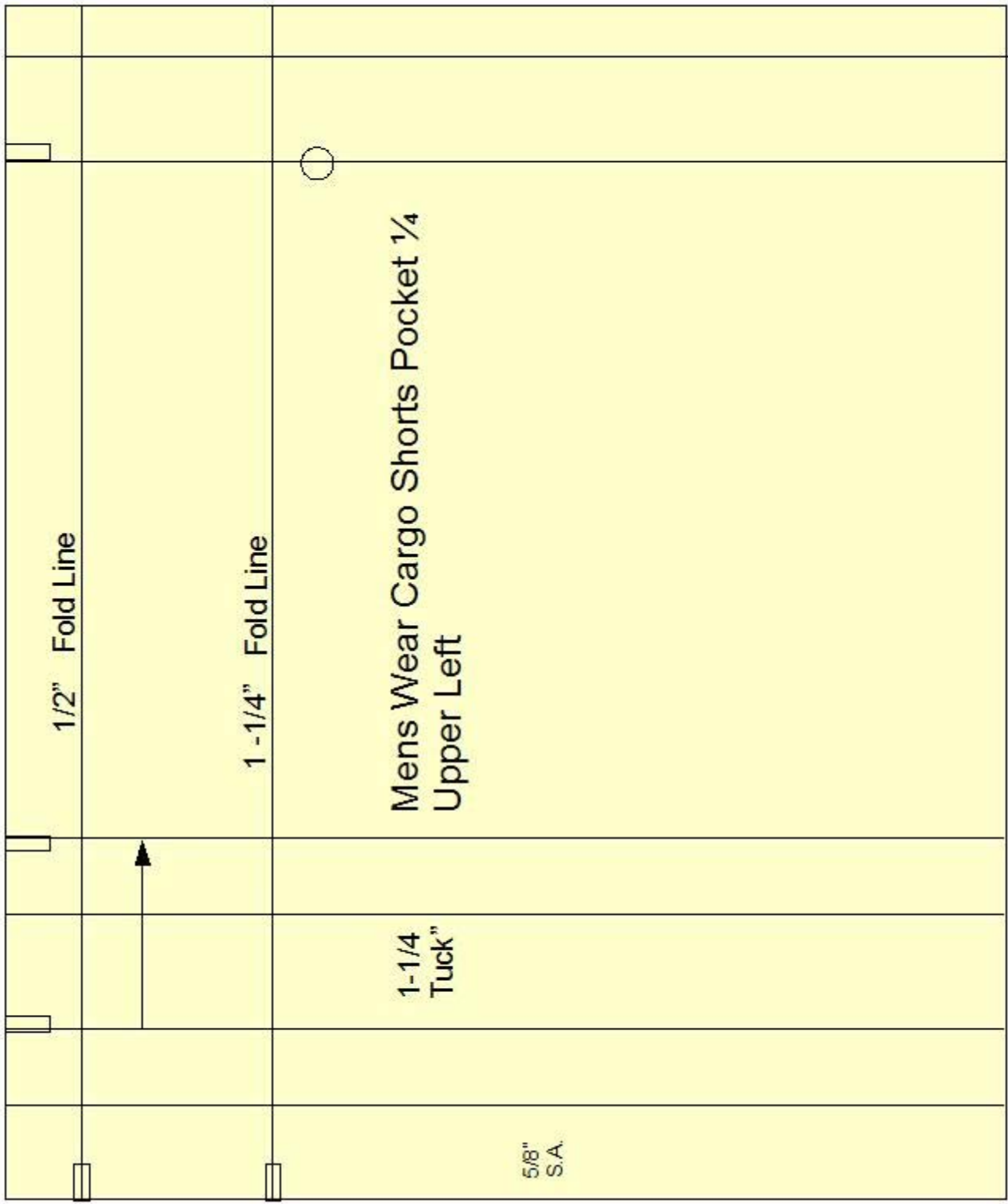
Notes: Side Dart pressed up – towards top of pocket.

Upper edge hemmed and side darts sewn before side tucks sewn.



Notes: Side Dart pressed up – towards top of pocket.

Upper edge hemmed and side darts sewn before side tucks sewn.



7 - 13/16" Wide

6- 9/16" High

Upper edge hemmed before side tucks taken.