ELLIS HACK

This hack tells you how to add a shirt sleeve and let-down tucks to your Ellis pattern. We made ours in a sheer cotton voile, so we are including a lining for the bodice and skirt. If you are making it in a non-sheer fabric, you can omit the linings.

EXTRA FABRIC REQUIREMENTS

For a lined version (using self fabric as lining) with two drops of fabric width in the skirt (see below - a) you will need an extra 3M added to your original fabric requirement.

For a lined version (using self fabric as lining) with three drops of fabric width in the skirt to create a more gathered look (see below - b) you will need an extra 5M added to your original fabric requirement (omitting in-seam pockets).

For an unlined version with two drops of fabric width in the skirt (see below - a) you will need an extra 1M added to your original fabric requirement.

For an unlined version with three drops of fabric width in the skirt (see below - b) you will need an extra 2.3M added to your original fabric requirement.

TWO OR THREE DROPS (USING WHOLE WIDTH OF FABRIC)

a, Referred to as two drops: The skirt pattern can be the whole width of fabric. The pattern can also be wider than the fabric by having less gathers (for narrow fabrics and the larger sizes).

b, Referred to as three drops: For a fuller skirt, you can add another drop. Use the skirt pattern three times. You won't need the pocket extension, so you can fold back the pattern.
INSTRUCTIONS
ADAPT YOUR PATTERN - SKIRT

Add 31cm to the length of your skirt pattern, then from the bottom mark the centre of each pleat: 21cm, 37cm, 49cm, 66cm & 76cm. These are the lines you will press.

ADAPT YOUR PATTERN - SKIRT LINING (OPTIONAL)
To create a skirt lining pattern. Use the original skirt pattern and reduce the length by 2.5cm.
ADAPT YOUR PATTERN - BODICE LINING (OPTIONAL)

To create a bodice lining, trace off the front bodice pattern (1) and mark 2cm from the top of the neck. Cut this section off.

ADAPT YOUR PATTERN - SLEEVE

To create your new sleeve pattern, draw a line, armpit to armpit (draw in a new straight grain at the centre of this line at a right angle. Measure the new underarm seam 43.5cm and the new sleeve bottom measurement (equidistant to the grainline) 35.5cm.* Mark the opening by measuring a quarter of the way along the sleeve (from the back of the sleeve - back has double notches) and mark an opening line 9cm up at a right angle.

ADAPT YOUR PATTERN - CREATE CUFF & OPENING BIAS

The cuff pattern measures 27.5cm* x 13cm.

*This measurement is based on a size 12 dress, please dec/inc the measurement by increments of 0.5cm per size.

The sleeve opening pattern measures 19cm x 3cm. This piece will be cut on the bias.

*This measurement is based on a size 12 dress, please dec/inc the measurement by increments of 0.5cm per size.
MAKING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Follow the Ellis & Hattie (as we are now lining the bodice) from 1-12. There is no need to finish any seams. Then work from 20-25 (although the method is the same, it won’t look like the illustrations as the bodice is now lined).

2. Sew the bodice side seams of the self layer together and the bodice side seams of the lining layer together.

3. With wrong sides together, stitch the self layer to the lining layer at the armhole 1.4cm away from the edge.

4. PREPARE BIAS
   Next: Press each side of the sleeve bias into the centre.

5. APPLY BIAS
   Next: Staystitch at the end of the openings on the sleeve and slash.

6. Open up the bias folds and with the right side of sleeve bias to the wrong side of sleeve pin and stitch together using a seam allowance of 0.7cm. N.B. You may have to make an adjustment to the bias length as some fabrics will stretch more on the bias. If it appears too long trim off any excess.

7. Trim seam allowance if necessary. Bring bias around to the right side of the opening, enclosing first stitching row. Edgestitch down.

8. Stitch diagonally across the top of the bias. Press bias towards the front sleeve (sleeve head with one notch).
8. With right sides together stitch sleeve seam. Finish edges together with an overlock or zigzag.

9. Interface half of the cuffs. Press up the seam allowance of the edge without the interfacing. Trim.

Fold at end of interfacing. Stitch at each side. Layer seam allowance and clip corners.

Turn the cuffs to the right side and press.

10. Pleat or gather the bottom of the sleeve until it measures the cuff. Stitch to reinforce, 1.4cm away from the edge.

11. Making sure the top bias remains up (pin if necessary) and with right side of the cuff (the side with the interfacing) to the right side of the sleeve, stitch together. Layer and snip seam and press towards the cuff.

This needs to measure the cuff. Keep the bias positioned as shown.
12. Arrange the cuffs on the inside to cover the seam, pin and tack in position.

13. Turn to the right side and edgestitch. Work buttonholes in the centre of the cuff, 1.3cm away from the edge. Sew on buttons.

14. SET IN SLEEVE
Follow steps 28 & 29 for setting in sleeves. The self and lining is treated as one layer.

15. SKIRT LINING
Follow step 31 and then turn up hem by 1cm (twice) and edgestitch next to the fold.

16. SKIRT
Follow steps 33-34 and then jump to step 40 for hem.

CREATE LET-DOWN PLEATS
Press a fold in each of the lines marked. Stitch the distance away from the folds as shown. Putting a marker on your sewing machine will help keep you accurate.

FINISH DRESS
With wrong sides together, pin your skirt lining to your skirt at the waist seam. Finish dress by following steps 35-39. An alternative to the slip stitch is to tack and edgestitch from the front. Stitch button to correspond with the rouleau.