

Eithni's Reasonably Period Pants Pattern

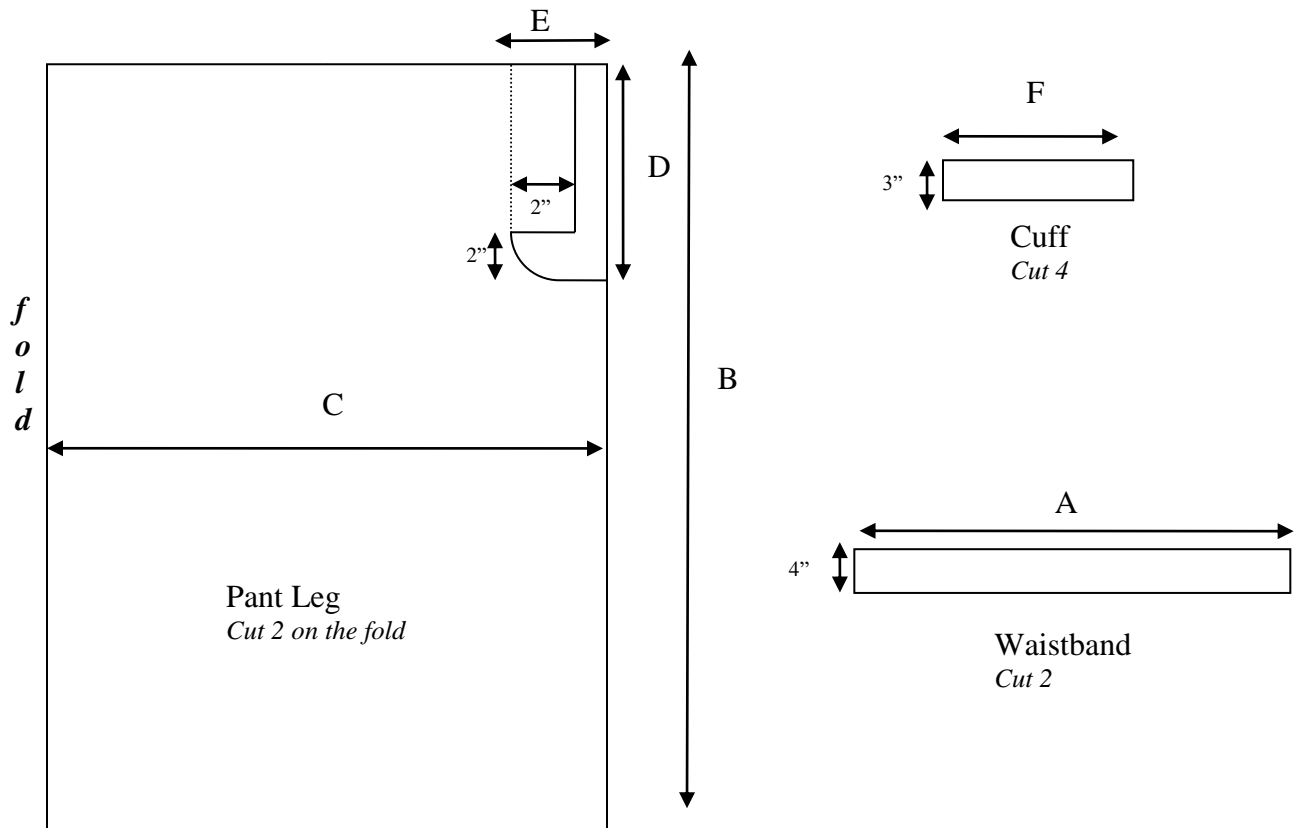
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Measurements to take:

Body measurement to take	Measurement in inches	Calculation	Final number	Key
Waist		Add 3" =		A
Waist to desired length		Add 5" =		B
Thigh		Multiply by 0.75 =		C
Waistband-to-waistband (front to back through your legs)		Multiply by 0.4 =		D
Waistband-to-waistband (same as above)		Multiply by 0.15 =		E
Calf* (where cuff should fall)		For a solid cuff, add 1" For a buttoned cuff, add 2" =		F

This assumes 1/2 inch seam allowances.

*If you plan to use a solid cuff, make sure your foot will fit through a circle the size of your original calf measurement!



Directions:

1. Take the measurements and do the calculations above.
 - Notes on measurements – The suggested width of the waistband and the cuffs are wider than you might expect. This is to help prevent the shirt from escaping or portions of the leg from being exposed while fighting. If you will point the pants to the doublet, have very tall boots, and/or don't plan on wearing these to fight, you may use more narrow cuffs and waistband.
 - Use newspaper, packing paper, or really cheap fabric to draw out the pattern pieces. Hold them up to yourself to see if they are reasonable.
 - The little flaps shown next to the dotted line are really only needed on the front pieces, but it reduces the opportunity for error if you cut them all the same and correct later.
2. If this is the first time you are making this pattern, use reasonable fabric, but something you are not terribly attached to. WASH, DRY, and IRON your fabric before you begin! Pin the pattern pieces to your fabric, trying to save fabric but keeping them straight along the grain.
3. Cut out the pieces, being sure to cut the side of the leg along the fold. Do NOT cut along the dotted line!
4. Pin together the waistband pieces with right sides together. Sew along the two short edges and one long edge. Clip, turn, and press.
5. There are two cuff options:
 - If you want a solid cuff: Pin together the cuff pieces along one long edge, right sides together. Sew. Open up the piece so it lays flat, then with right sides together, pin the cuff into a circle. Sew, flip one piece inside the other so the right sides face out, press. Check that you can get your foot though - if not, cut a larger cuff or convert to a buttoned cuff!
 - If you want a buttoned cuff: Pin together the cuff pieces, right sides together, to form two flat rectangular cuffs. Sew along the two short edges and one long edge of each. Clip, turn, and press.
6. Pin right sides of the legs together and then sew the inseam. If you are using a solid cuff, you should sew the entire length. If you wish to have a buttoned cuff at the calf, leave the last 2-3 inches open and then finish the slit with a tiny hem.
7. Pin the two legs together along the crotch seam, from the waistband on the side that will be the back to 1" past the little flap on the side that will be the front. Trim the flap off of the back panels, along the dotted line on the cutting diagram. Repin along the new edge. Sew.
8. Loosely pin the pants to the waistband to try on the fit. If you make any of the below alterations, adjust this number on your worksheet so you remember for next time.
 - If the pants feel like they are giving you a wedgie, unpin and re-cut measurement E a little deeper (Either just in the back or both front and back, depending on where your issues are). Repin, resew, and try on again.
 - If the crotch is too close to your business, unpin and re-cut measurement D a little deeper, repin, resew, and try on again.
 - If the crotch appears to be too low, try pinning the pants to the waistband a ½-1" higher – you will lose a little bit of the poof, but it should not be terribly noticeable. Try on again and trim the top edge of the pants as necessary.
9. Unpin the waistband from the pants. Decide which side of the fly will be the button holes. Take the little flap on that side, fold it to the inside along the dotted line on the cutting diagram. Then turn the edges under a tiny bit and stitch the flap down. This will provide some stability for the buttonholes. (Note: if you want to have your pants lace shut, repeat this process on both sides to provide stability for the eyelets.)
10. If you are using buttons, on the other flap, turn the outer edge over about ¼" and press. Then fold the rest of the flap in half and sew down the open edge to form a little flap. This will stabilize the buttons and provide some insurance against gaping.

11. Pin the pants legs to the waistband, starting with the little flap you just created. This piece should lay flat. Evenly pleat the pants fabric into the waistband so that the right sides are together and that you are only pinning one layer of the waistband – what will be the OUTSIDE layer – to the pants. Sew the edge you pinned.
 - A note about pleating – If you leave the fronts and backs of the pants unpleated, you will avoid the “bubblebutt” look. Pin the little flap flat into the waistband. Then pin the middle of the remaining waistband to the back seam of the pants. Then pin the other front edge of the pants to the end of the waistband. Measure about four finger widths from the back seam on each side and pin that flat. Do the same around the fly in the front. Pleat in the excess fabric around the sides of the legs, leaving the front and back flat.
12. Add the cuffs to the ends of the legs, evenly pleating the leg fabric into the cuff so that the right sides are together and that you are only pinning one layer of the cuff – what will be the OUTSIDE layer – to the pants. Sew the edge you pinned. If this is a buttoned cuff, it will be a straight seam. If it is a closed seam, you will sew completely in a circle. On the cuffs, the pleating can be evenly distributed all the way around.
13. On the waistband and cuffs, turn the loose edge waistband or cuff under about ½ inch and whip stitch it to the inside of the pants along the seam you just sewed.
14. Add ties, eyelets, or buttonholes and buttons on the waistband and cuffs. If you are using buttons, they should be placed about 1” from the edge, providing a small amount of overlap.

I *strongly* recommend finishing all exposed seams with zig-zagging over the edges or using flat felled seam construction for strength and longevity of the garment. You can also sew little reinforcing patches at the bottom of each cuff slit to prevent them from tearing out.