12-inch memory bear

An original Anlaby Attic pattern for a shaped keepsake bear, with an optional waistcoat and trousers.



FABRIC PLAN FROM THE ADVERT

Blue gingham
Gusset B, one ear front D, one arm G and one sole I.

Sage green
Other ear front D, one front E, one back F, one leg H and the other sole I.

Cream floral
One cheek A, one head back C, other E/F panels, other arm G and other leg H.

Plain oatmeal for the other cheek A and head back C, plus both ear backs D. Use dark brown felt or thread for the nose.

Before cutting

Use stable woven cotton or shirt fabric for the bear. Back thin or stretchy garments with lightweight fusible interfacing. You'll also need stuffing, strong matching thread, embroidery thread, scissors, a fabric marker, pins or clips, tape and a ruler. For the clothes, add lightweight lining, bias binding, stretch jersey for the trousers and 6 mm elastic.

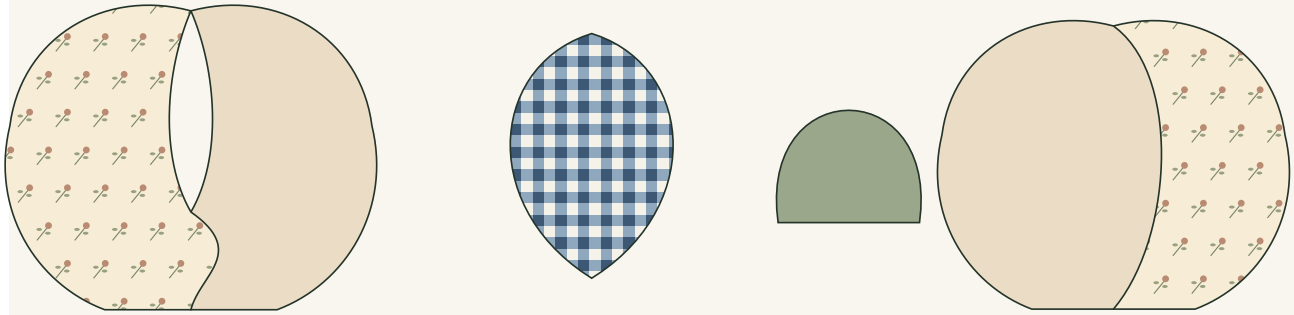
Print A4 template sheets 5–10 at actual size

Use 100% scaling and turn off Fit to Page. Check both sides of the 50 mm square on page 5. Cut on the solid lines. Dashed lines show stitching or folds as labelled. Each piece fits on one sheet. The finished height is a target of about 30 cm and will vary with stuffing.

Sew a scrap-fabric sample first. This pattern makes a display keepsake. Keep it out of reach of babies and young children.

Build the head

Work with right sides together unless stated. Use the 6 mm allowance and transfer the dots to the fabric.



A CHEEKS B GUSSET D EAR C BACK

01 Sew the cheeks and insert the gusset

Place the mirrored A cheeks right sides together. Stitch from chin F up to nose N. Open the cheeks and pin one long edge of B to the open inner edge of one cheek from crown T to N. Sew exactly between the dots. Repeat on the other cheek. Clip the curved allowance as needed.

02 Make and baste the ears

Pair each ear front D with a plain oatmeal ear back D. Sew around the curve and leave the straight base open. Clip, turn and press. With the ear front facing the cheek, baste the raw base between E1 and E2 on each A, pointing the ear towards the face.

03 Embroider the face and close the head

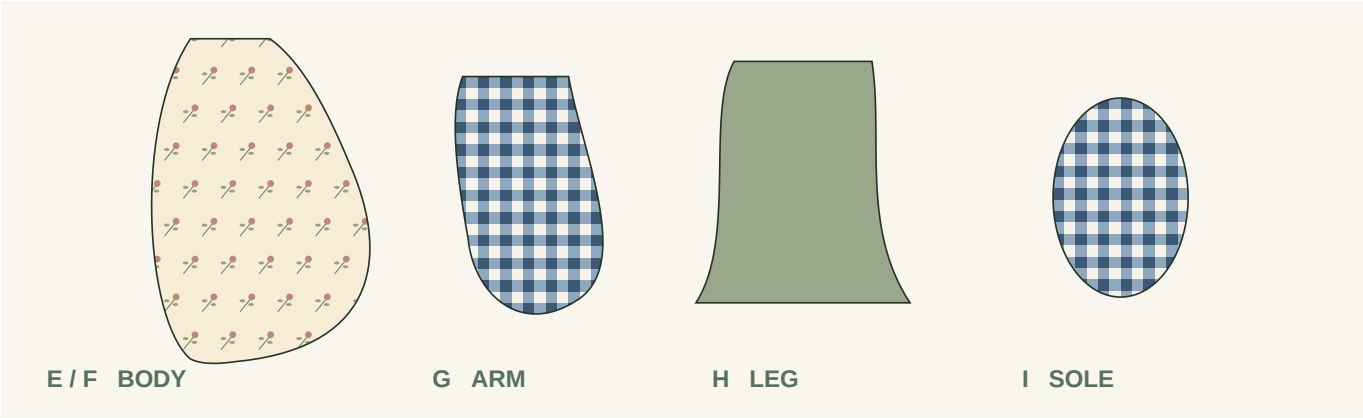
Embroider eyes at the dots. Centre felt nose J over N and stitch it down, or embroider the nose and mouth. Sew the two mirrored C pieces from crown T to centre-back neck Bk along the bowed edge. Match T and both S points, sandwich the ears, and sew the front to back between the two S points around the crown. Leave the full neck open.

04 Turn and check

Clip and notch the head seam without cutting the stitches. Turn through the neck. Check that the ears sit evenly and the four neckline segments are clear for attaching the body.

Body, limbs and finish

Cut two matching panels per limb, one mirrored. Stuff the limbs separately, then sew them to the body.



05 Sew the body and join the neck

Join E at centre front. Join F at centre back, leaving the gap between the two dots. Sew front and back together around the sides and base, leaving the neck open. Place the right-side-out head inside the inside-out body. Match F to F, Bk to Bk and the two S points. Stitch around the neck, backstitching over the start.

06 Sew two arms and two legs

Pair the G arms and sew around the curved sides, leaving the shoulder edge open. For each leg, pair mirrored H panels and stitch the long sides. Leave the top and sole edge open. Pin I to the foot with T at the seam marked T and H at the seam marked H. Match the two Q marks to the panel midpoints and sew around the oval.

07 Turn, stuff and close the openings

Turn the bear through the back gap and each limb through its top. Stuff in small tufts. Keep the tops of the limbs lightly filled so they can flex. Fold raw edges in by 6 mm and ladder-stitch the back and each limb opening closed.

08 Attach the limbs and check the sitting position

Pin the arms at the shoulder marks and the legs to the lower front at the hip marks, soles forward. Sit the bear down to check the angle before sewing. With doubled thread, ladder-stitch each limb securely to the body along its closed top. Make a second pass and bury the knots.

Waistcoat and trousers

Try the clothes on the stuffed bear before you finish the hems or secure the straps.

01

Waistcoat shell and lining

Cut mirrored K fronts in both fabrics and one L back on the fold in each fabric. Stitch the shell fronts to the shell back at the shoulders and sides. Repeat for the lining. Press seams open. Put shell and lining wrong sides together and baste around all raw edges.

02

Bind the edges and add the collar

Bind both armholes and the open front and hem edges with bias tape. Fold M in half lengthways, right sides together. Sew its short ends at 6 mm, turn and press. With both raw long edges aligned, stitch M to the neckline, matching centres and ends. Wrap the remaining neckline raw edges with bias binding on the inside.

03

Make the trousers

Cut two N leg panels. Fold each right sides together and sew the inseam from crotch point to hem. Turn one leg right side out and slip it inside the other. Match the inseams at the crotch, then sew the entire U-shaped rise in one pass. Pull the inner leg out.

04

Finish the waist and hems

Fold the top edge in 10 mm, then 10 mm again. Stitch near the inner fold, leaving a gap. Thread 6 mm elastic through and pin it to fit the bear. Overlap its ends by 15 mm and stitch securely. Close the gap. At each hem, fold up twice by 6 mm and topstitch.

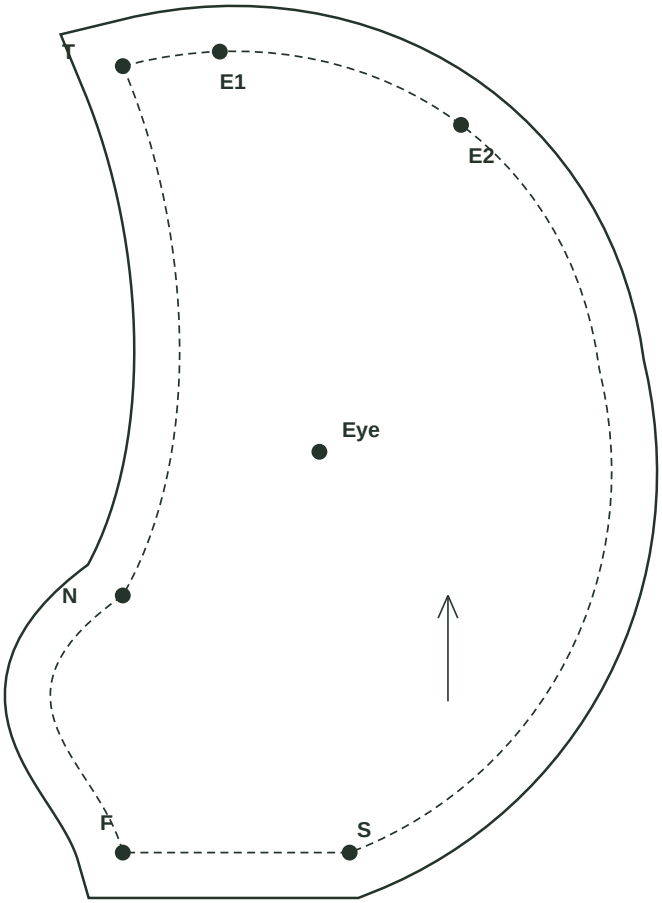
05

Add optional braces

Cut two O strips. Fold each long edge to the centre, then fold the strip in half lengthways and topstitch. Cross the strips at the back. Pin the ends to the waist, check the length on the bear and trim with 10 mm spare at each end. Fold those ends under and stitch them to the waistband.

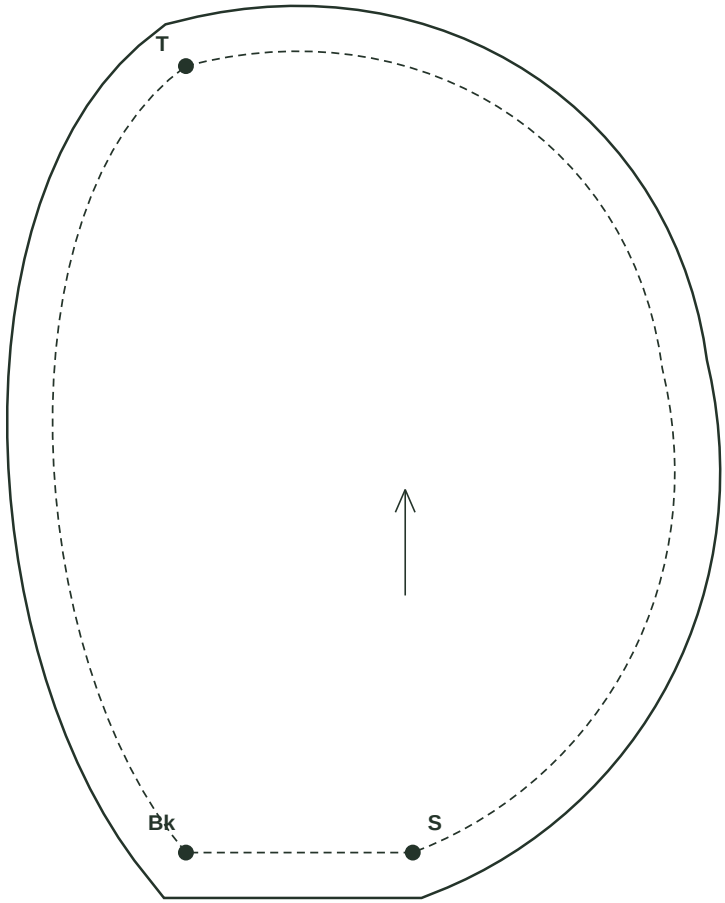
Head and ears

A, B, C and D. Mark the dots before removing the paper. B tapers towards the nose.



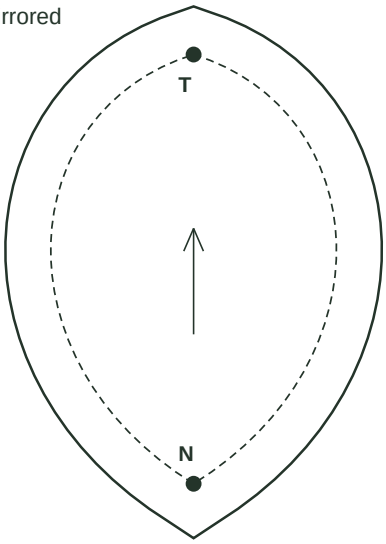
A Head side

Cut 2 mirrored



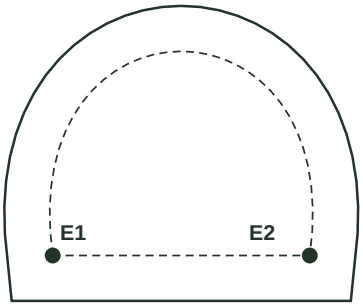
C Head back

Cut 2 mirrored



B Head gusset

Cut 1 in contrast fabric



D Ear

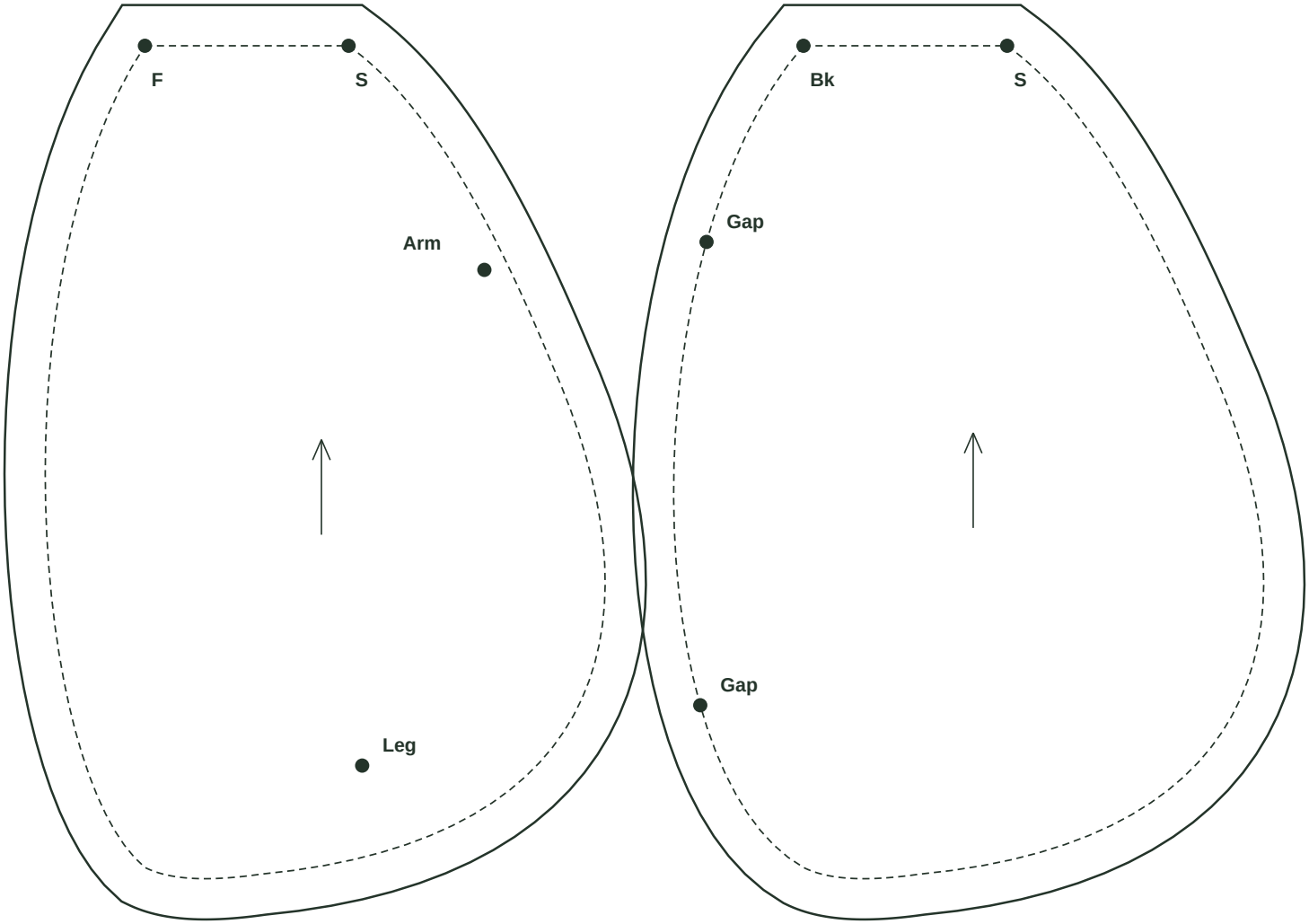
Cut 4 (2 outer + 2 inner)

50 mm

test square

Body front and back

E and F are mirrored pairs. Transfer both stuffing-gap dots to F.



E Body front

Cut 2 mirrored

F Body back

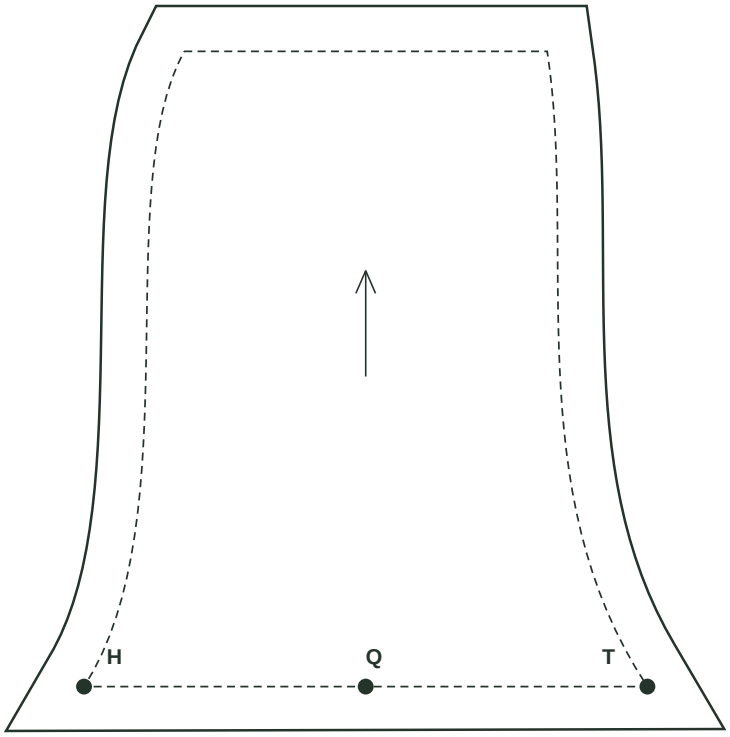
Cut 2 mirrored

Transfer the shoulder and hip marks

Use the Arm and Leg dots on both E pieces as starting points. Adjust the limb angle on the stuffed bear before sewing them in place.

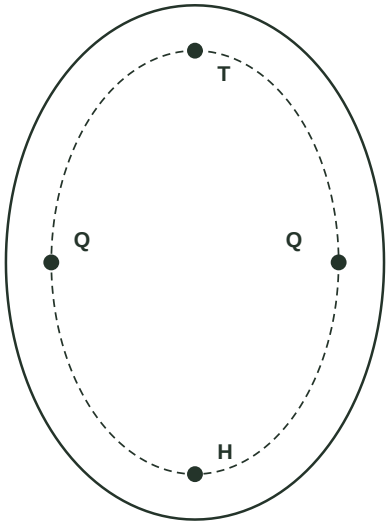
Arms, legs, soles and nose

Match T (toe), H (heel) and Q (quarter points) along the dashed stitching lines.



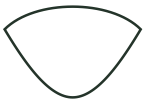
H Leg

Cut 4 (2 mirrored pairs)



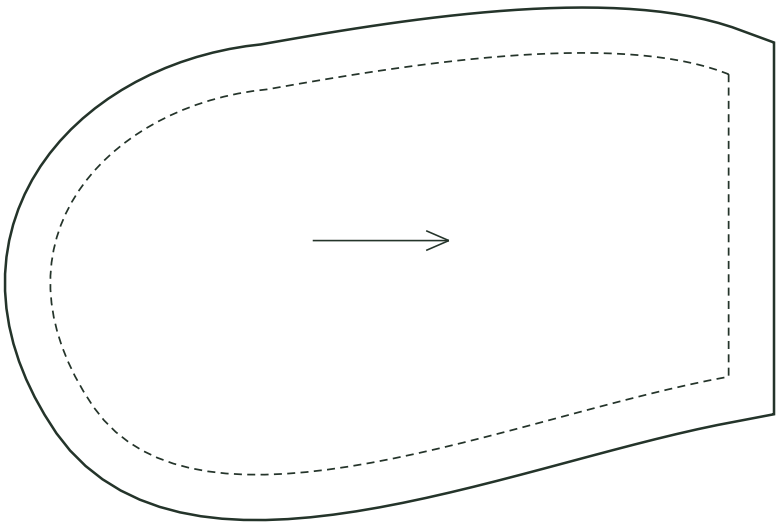
I Sole

Cut 2 in contrast fabric



J Felt nose

Cut 1 or embroider

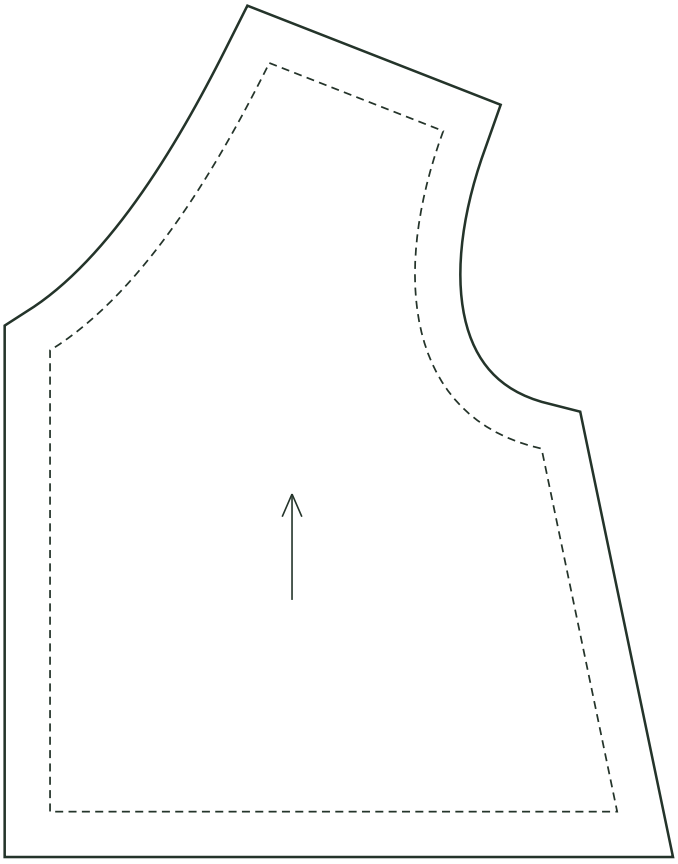


G Arm

Cut 4 (2 mirrored pairs)

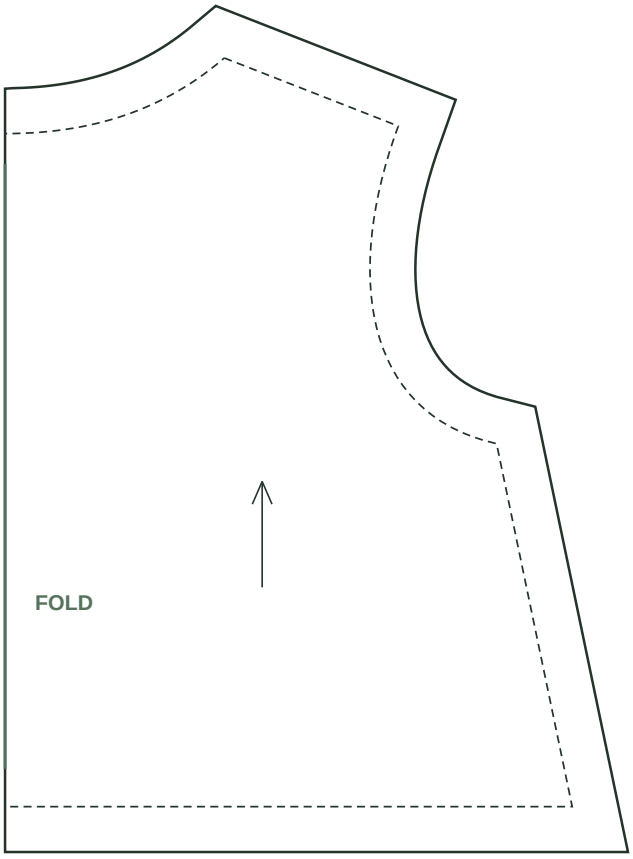
Waistcoat and collar

K and L include 6 mm. Use bias binding for the open edges. The fold on L has zero allowance.



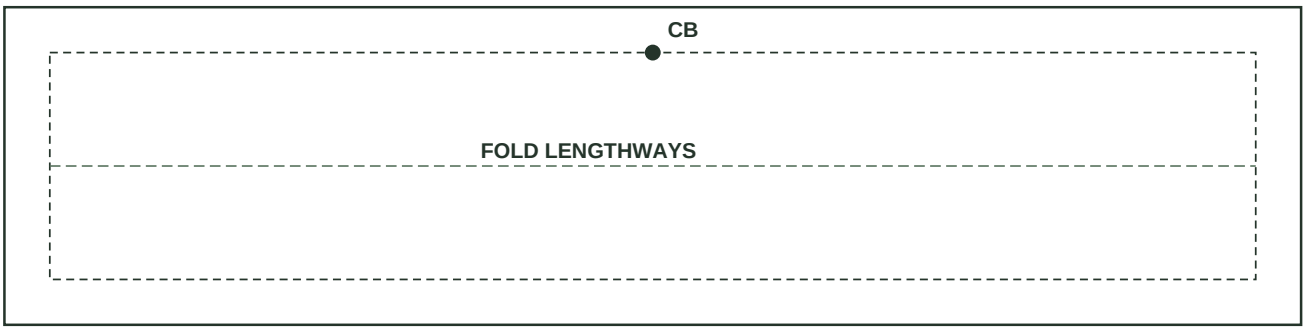
K Waistcoat front

Cut 2 mirrored shell + 2 mirrored lining



L Waistcoat back

Cut 1 shell + 1 lining on fold

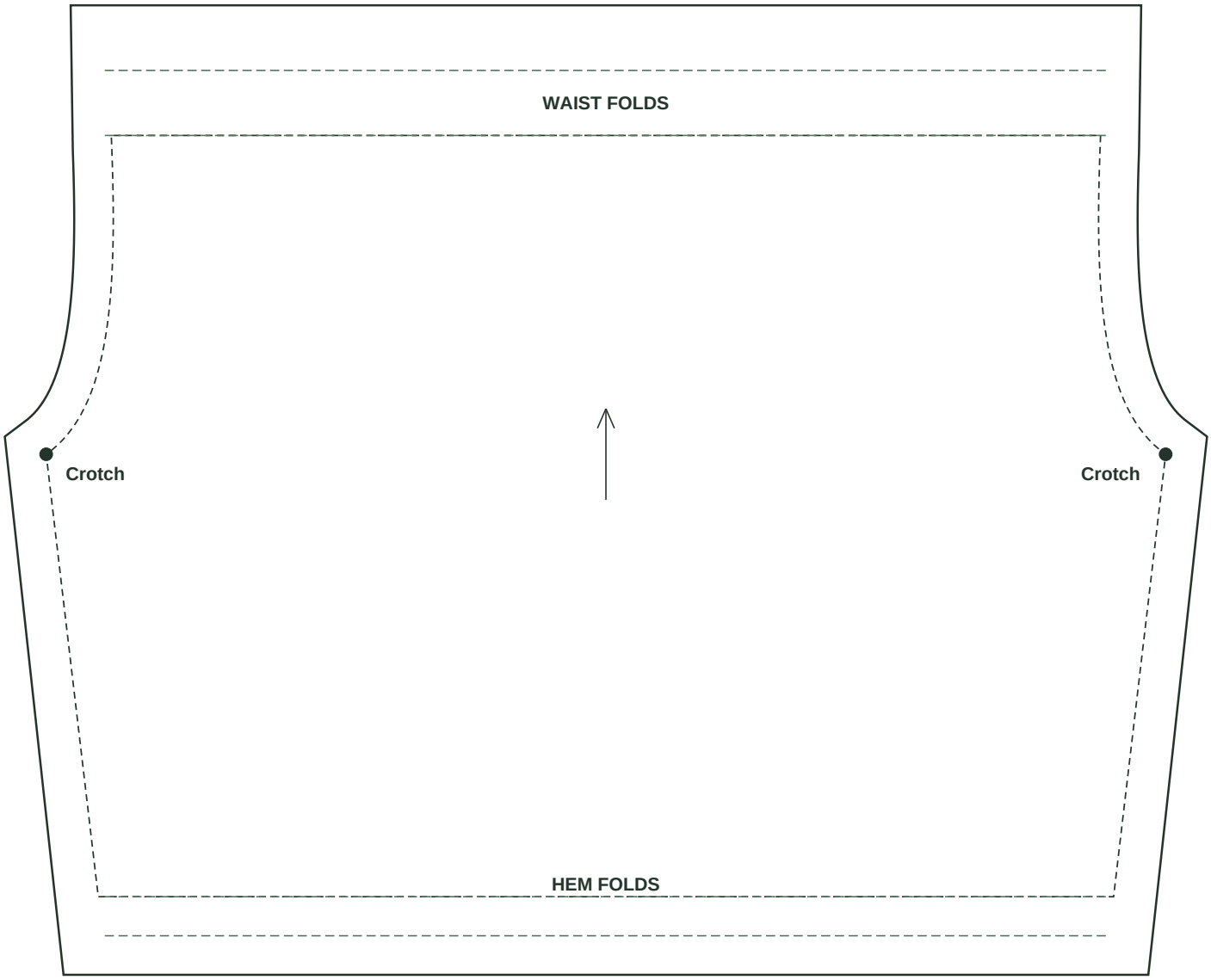


M Collar strip

Cut 1 on the bias

Trousers

Each N makes one complete leg. The two panels meet at the rise seam. Use a stretch fabric so the hems pass over the bear’s feet.



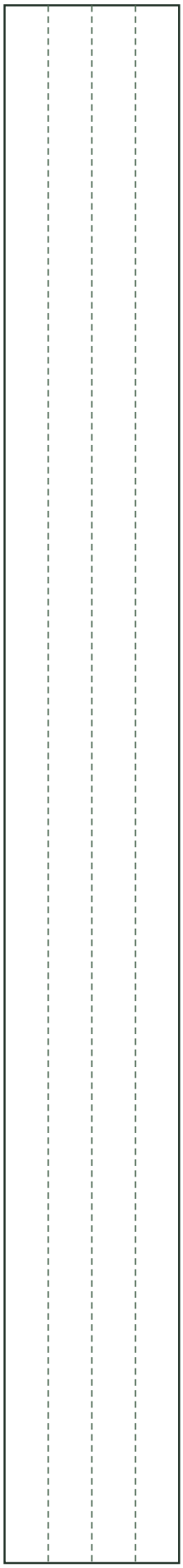
N Trouser leg

Cut 2

The next sheet has the full-size braces template. The trousers can also be worn with the elastic waist alone.

Braces

Cut two O strips. The template is 250 mm long. Try the braces on the stuffed bear and shorten them as needed before sewing the ends to the waist.



O Braces strip

Cut 2. Fold both long edges to the centre line. Fold the strip in half along the centre line and topstitch to make a 7 mm strap.