

# RAQUEL BRALETTE

A MODERN FEMME PULL ON BRALETTE

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# 01: ABOUT MADALYNNE INTIMATES

Madalynne Intimates is the manifestation of Maddie Flanigan's passion for sewing and teaching lingerie. She is the founder and owner, and her budding brand offers ready made bras, bralettes, and underwear, as well as DIY lingerie kits, lingerie sewing patterns, and bra making workshops. Overall, Madalynne's overarching vision is to provide women with well-fitting intimates that support more than just your shape. From a floral lace halter bralette to a cheeky underwear, intimates that lift your personal style, and at the same time, intimates worth baring.



[www.madalynne.com](http://www.madalynne.com)



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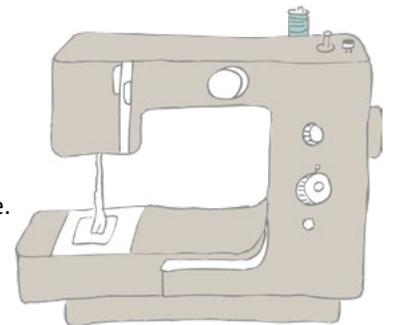
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Included in this packet is the Raquel bralette pattern as well as a complete sew along. If you're a visual learner and need pictures, this sew along will walk you through each and every step so that your sewing experience is enjoyable. This guide will also include additional tips and tricks for sewing lingerie. Ready? Let's get started!



## 02:OVERVIEW

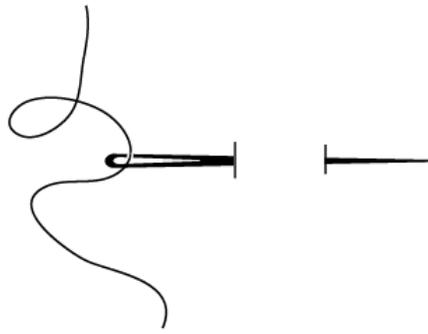
With its modern silhouette, the Raquel bralette is what every girl looks for when she wants to feel like herself, but slightly more stylish. It features a cutout at center front and is finished with soft, picot plush elastic and all metal hardware. It has a forgiving fit and lends itself to being layered underneath oversized tops and dresses.

The Raquel is a bralette, also called a soft bra, meaning that it does not have underwires. The amount of stretch your fabric and lining have and the firmness of your elastics will play a big role in the amount of support your bra provides.

Available in sizes XS-3XL.



# 03: SUPPLIES



**1/4 YD MAIN FABRIC:** Fabric that will be used for the outer layer of the bralette. Pattern was designed to be made with fabric that has 30-40% stretch. Recommended fabrics include stretch lace, stretch mesh, jersey, or any fabric with 8-15% spandex.



**2 YDS COMBO FABRIC:** Decorative fabric that will be sewn on the front cups and bottom of the bralette. Pattern was designed to be made with fabric that has 30-40% stretch. Recommended combo fabric is stretch galloon lace.



**1/4 YD LINING:** Fabric that will be used to line the bralette. Pattern was designed to be made with lining that has 30-40% stretch. Recommended linings include stretch mesh and power net.



**2.5 YDS PICOT PLUSH ELASTIC, 1/4"-1/2" WIDE:** Elastic that will be used to finish top and bottom of the bralette. Width will depend on the size and the desired amount of support. Recommended to use 1/4" or 3/8" for sizes XS-M and 1/2" for sizes L-3XL.



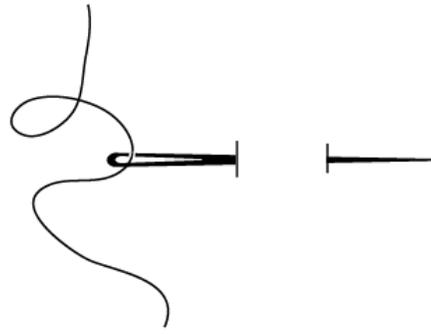
**1.5 YDS SHOULDER STRAP ELASTIC, 1/4"-3/4" WIDE:** Elastic that will be used for bralette straps. Recommended width 1/4"-3/8" for sizes XS-M and 1/2"-3/4" for sizes L-3XL.



**1/2 YD PLUSH CHANNELING, 3/8" WIDE:** Plush channeling will be used at the center front cutout to add support.



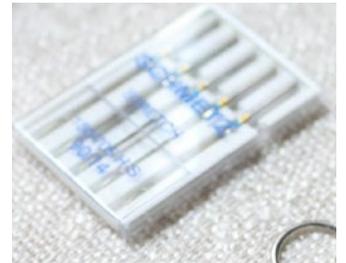
# 03: SUPPLIES



**1/2 YD PLASTIC BONING:**  
Plastic boning will be inserted into plush channeling at the center front cutout to add support. Width should be less than the width of the channeling.



**2 PAIRS RINGS + SLIDERS, SIZE VARIES:** Rings and sliders will be sewn to the shoulder strap elastic. Width of rings + sliders should be the same as width of strap elastic.



**BALLPOINT NEEDLE:**  
The type of needle you use depends on the type of fabric. For stretch laces, stretch meshes, jerseys, and similar stretch fabrics, the suggested types are ballpoint, stretch or microtex needle, size 70/10 or 80/12.



**ODIF'S 505 SPRAY:**  
Optional, but highly recommended. Used mostly to spray baste main and combo fabric to lining prior to cutting. Recommended brand is Odif's 505.



**28MM ROTARY CUTTER:**  
You can use regular scissors, but a rotary cutter is recommended to get a more precise cut.



**POLYESTER THREAD:** As opposed to cotton thread, polyester thread has "give", so it will stretch slightly with your fabric.





### MADALYNNE DIY LINGERIE KITS

Avoid the headache of sourcing all those odds and ends needed to make lingerie. Receive all fabrics and trims for the Raquel bralette as well as Madalynne's other patterns in an exclusive "intimate" box.

[www.madalynne.com](http://www.madalynne.com)



# 04: GETTING STARTED



**PRINT PATTERN:** Be sure that your printer settings are not set to scale or zoom and that you are printing at 100%. To ensure you're printing the right size, first print out the page with the test square then measure to ensure the square is 2" x 2". If it isn't, you may need to adjust your printer settings.

**SEAM ALLOWANCES:** All seam allowances are 1/4" except for bra front - top and bottom ruffle pattern pieces. There are no seam allowances along bottom/straight edges of both patterns. Refer to section 05: Cutting + Direction of Greatest Stretch.

**FIND YOUR SIZE:** Determine your size using the size chart below. For the Raquel bralette, please refer to the row labeled "MADALYNNE PDF PATTERNS (ALPHA SIZE)". If you are between sizes, I suggest sizing UP. Generally, if you normally wear a 28/30 band, choose an X-SMALL, a 30/32 band - a SMALL, a 34/36 band - a MEDIUM, a 38 band - a LARGE, a 40

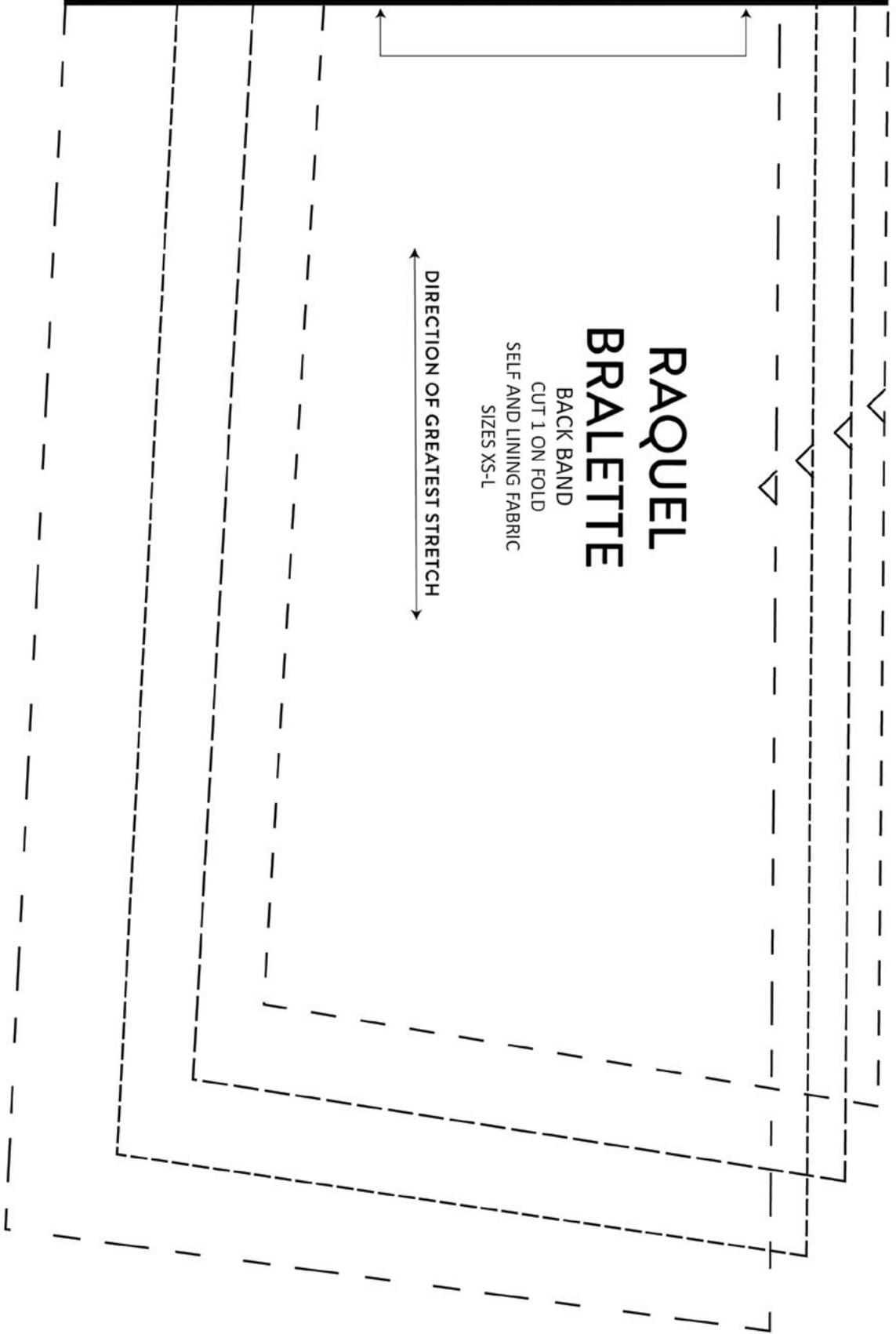
SIZE CHART

	26.5-28.5 in	28.5-30.5 in	30.5-32.5 in	32.5-34.5 in	34.5-36.5 in	36.5-38.5 in	38.5-41.5 in	41.5-45.5 in
FULL BUST (ACROSS THE FULLEST PART OF THE BREAST)	26.5-28.5 in	28.5-30.5 in	30.5-32.5 in	32.5-34.5 in	34.5-36.5 in	36.5-38.5 in	38.5-41.5 in	41.5-45.5 in
MADALYNNE PDF PATTERNS (ALPHA SIZE)	-	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL
MADALYNNE PDF PATTERNS (BAND SIZE)	-	32	34	36	38	40	42	44
MADALYNNE COMMERCIAL PATTERNS (BAND SIZE)	32	34	36	38	40	42	-	-

# RAQUEL BRALETTE

BACK BAND  
CUT 1 ON FOLD  
SELF AND LINING FABRIC  
SIZES XS-L

DIRECTION OF GREATEST STRETCH



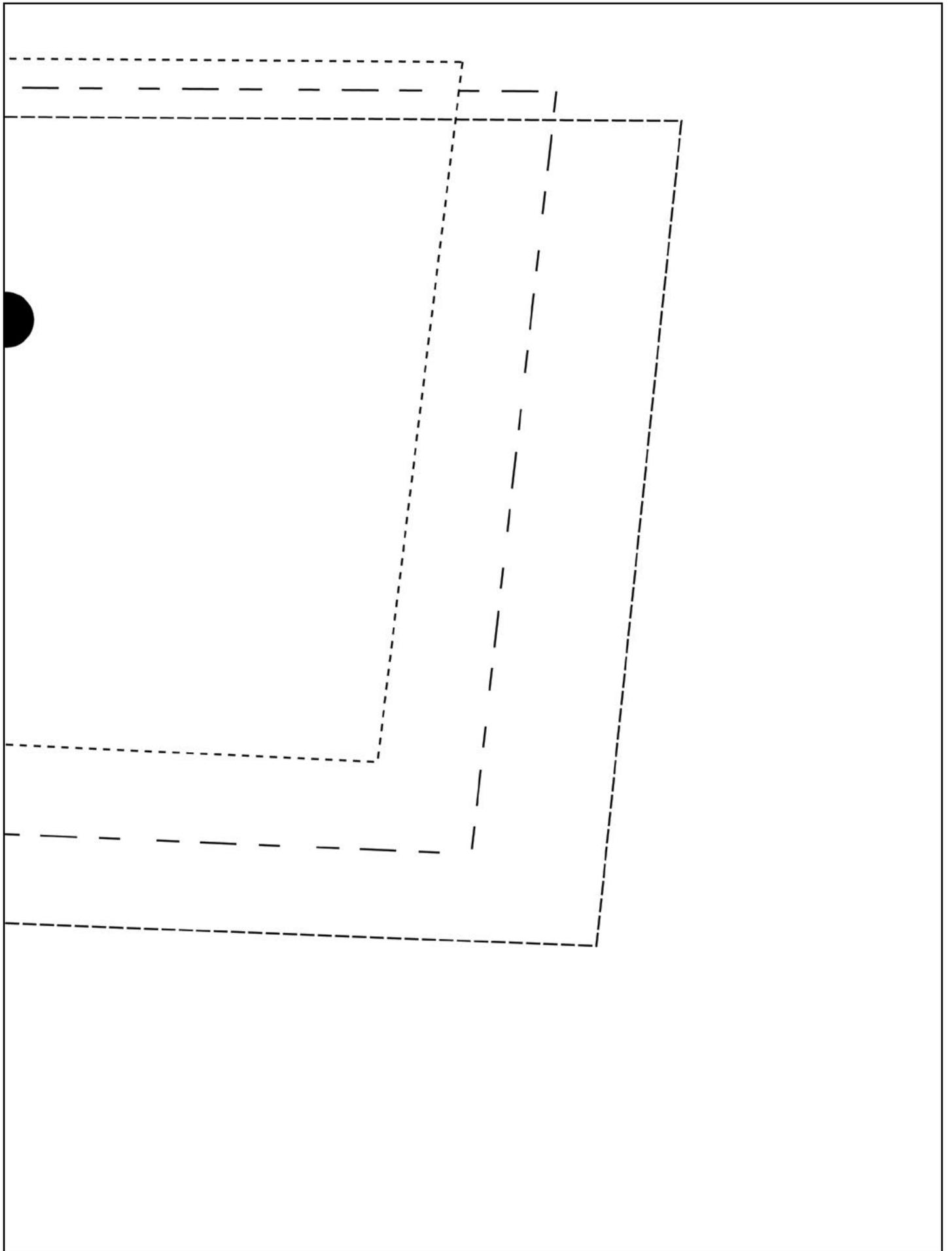
# RAQUEL BRALETTE

BACK BAND  
CUT 1 ON FOLD  
SELF AND LINING FABRIC  
SIZES XL-3XL

← DIRECTION OF GREATEST STRETCH →

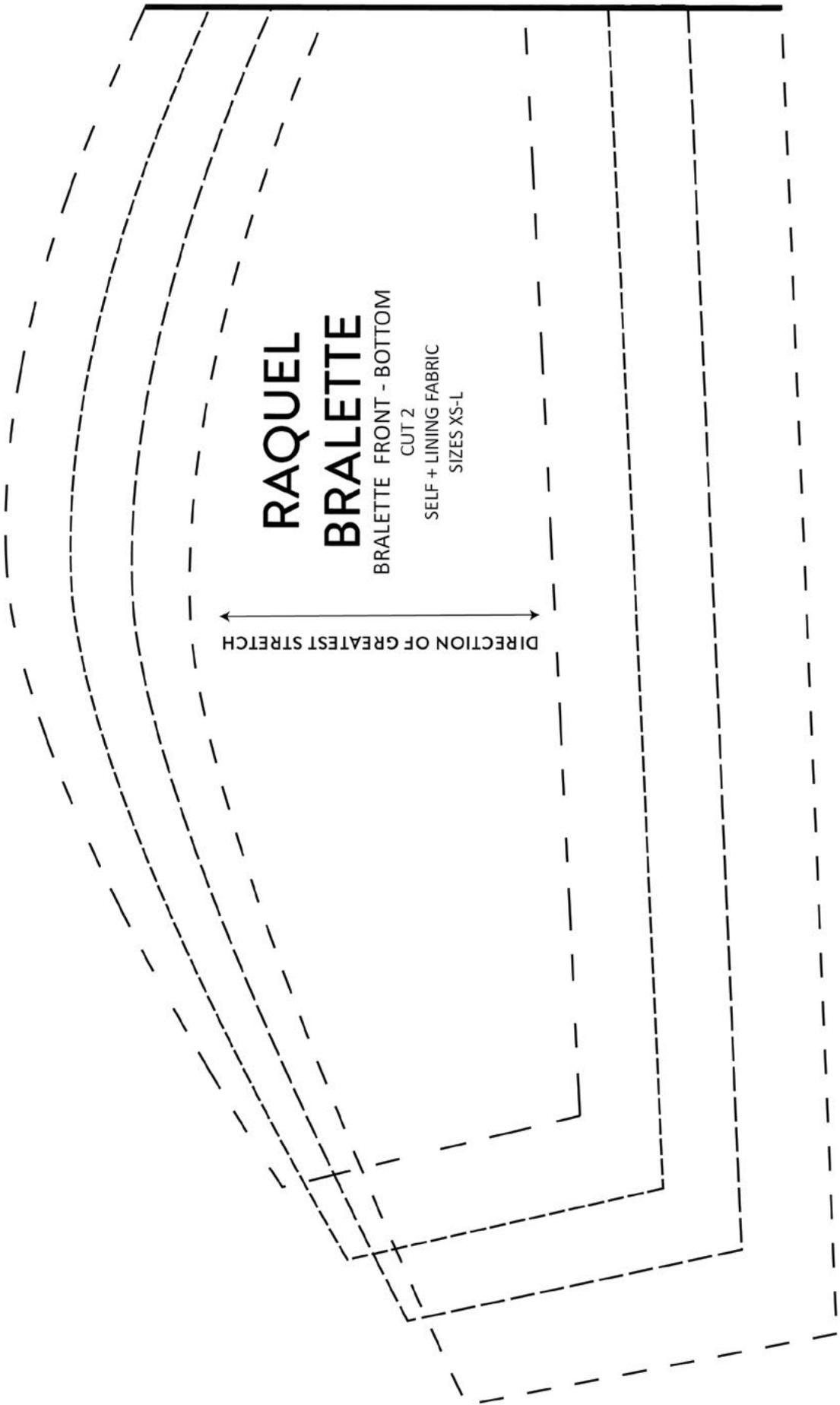
*test square*  
2"x 2"

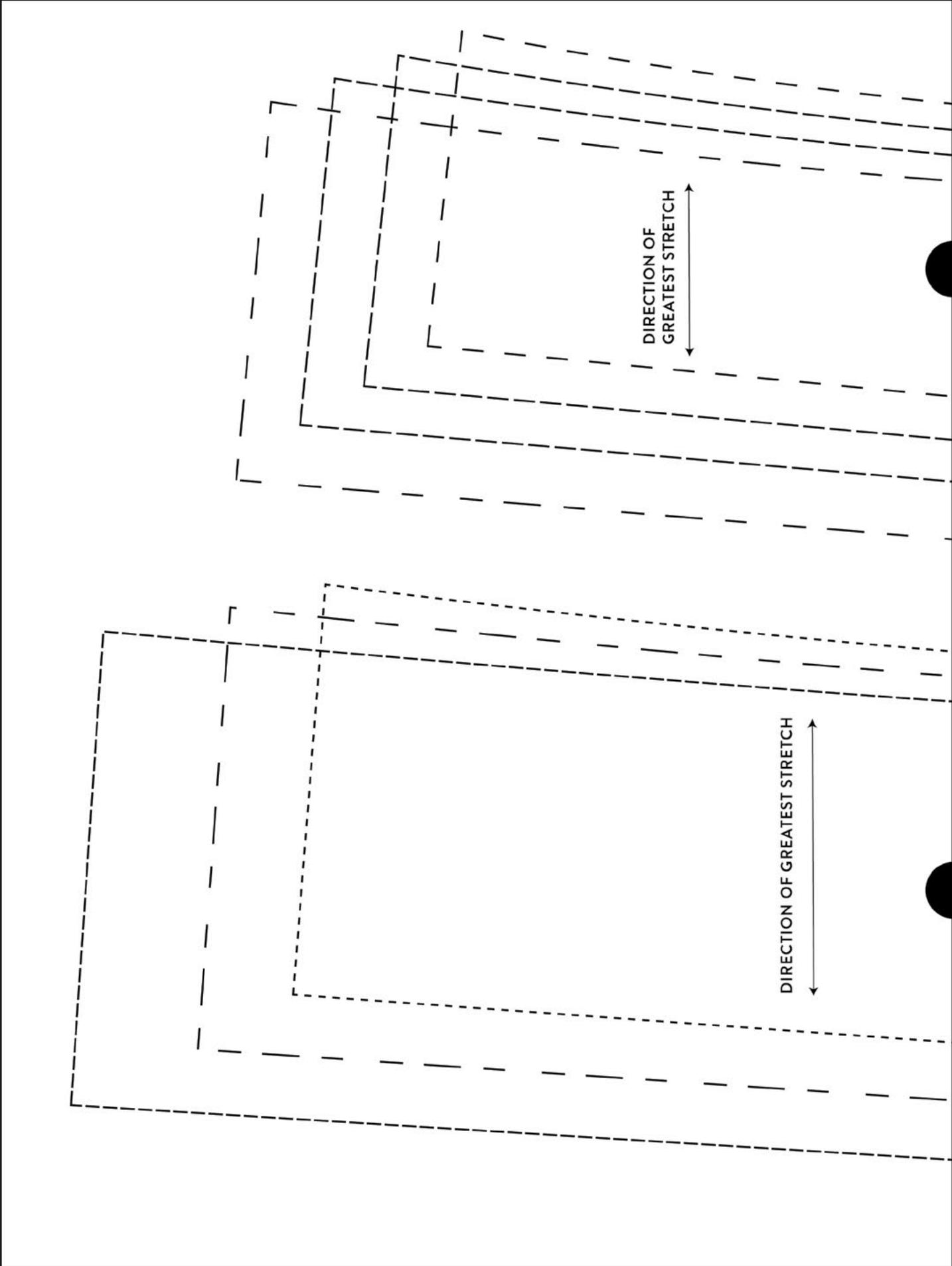
- — X-SMALL
- SMALL
- — — MEDIUM
- — LARGE
- X-LARGE
- — 2XL
- 3XL

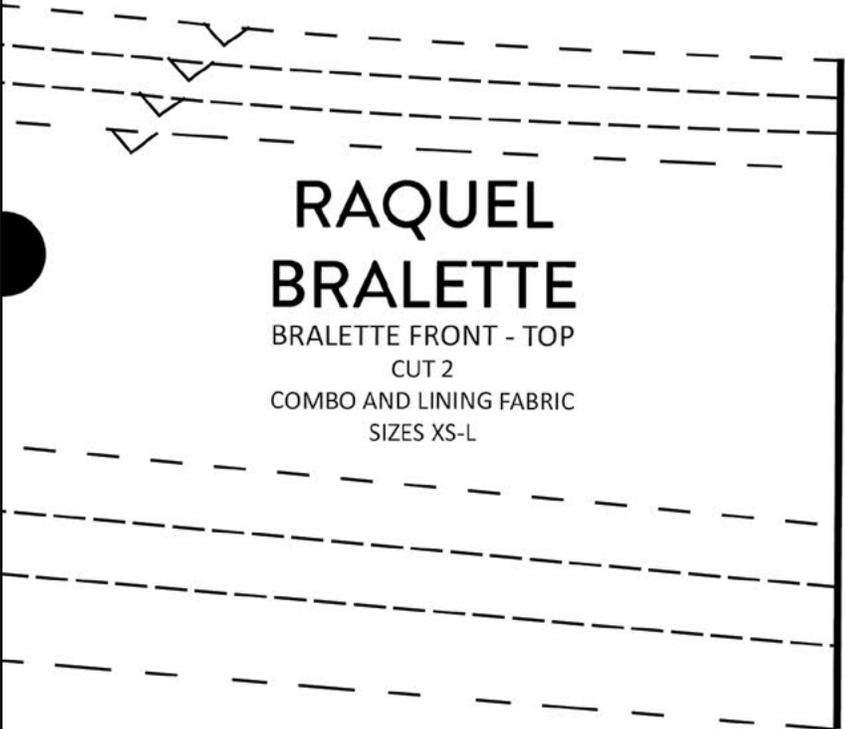


**RAQUEL  
BRALETTE**  
BRALETTE FRONT - BOTTOM  
CUT 2  
SELF + LINING FABRIC  
SIZES XS-L

DIRECTION OF GREATEST STRETCH



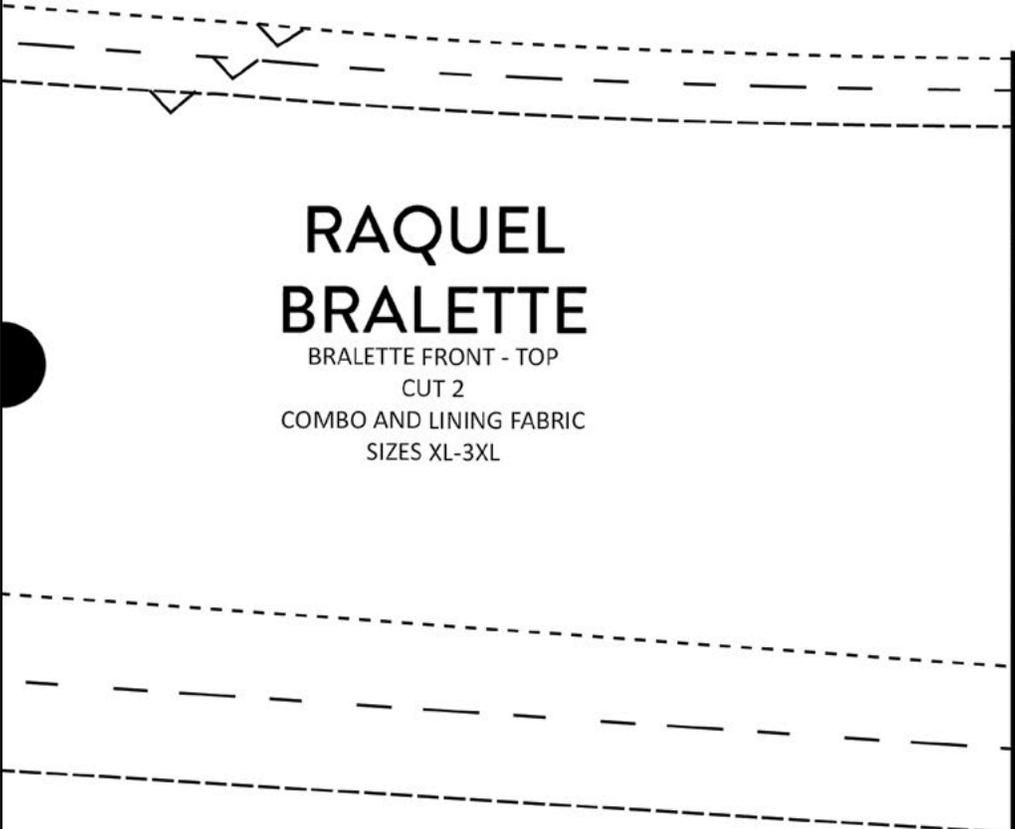
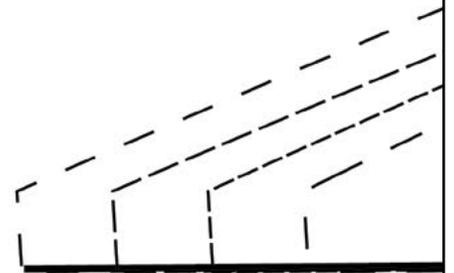




RAQUEL  
BRALETTE

This pattern piece is for the XS-L size. It features a top edge with a scalloped hemline, indicated by a dashed line with small triangles. Below the hemline, there are several horizontal dashed lines representing seam allowances. A solid black circle is located on the left side of the pattern.

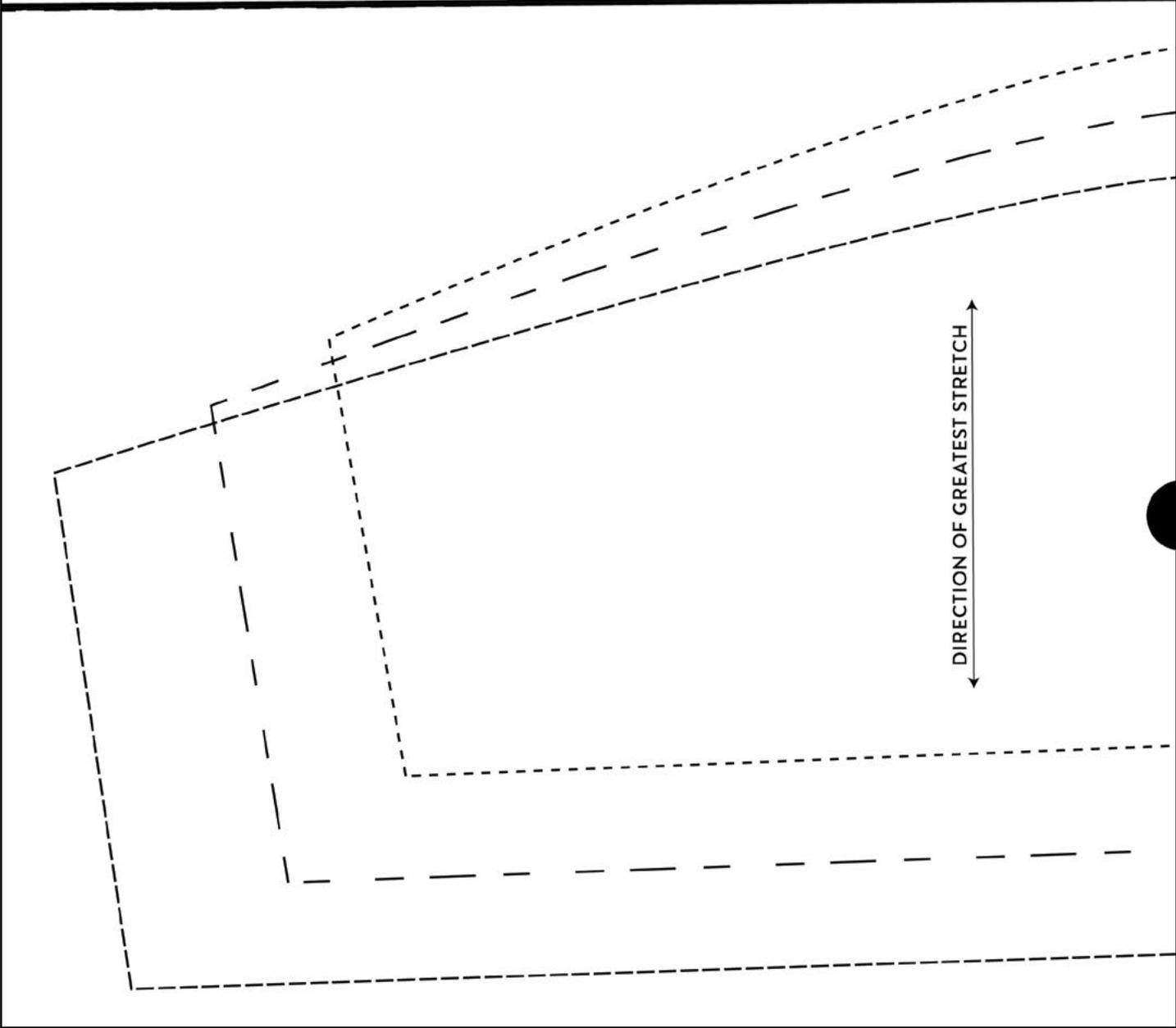
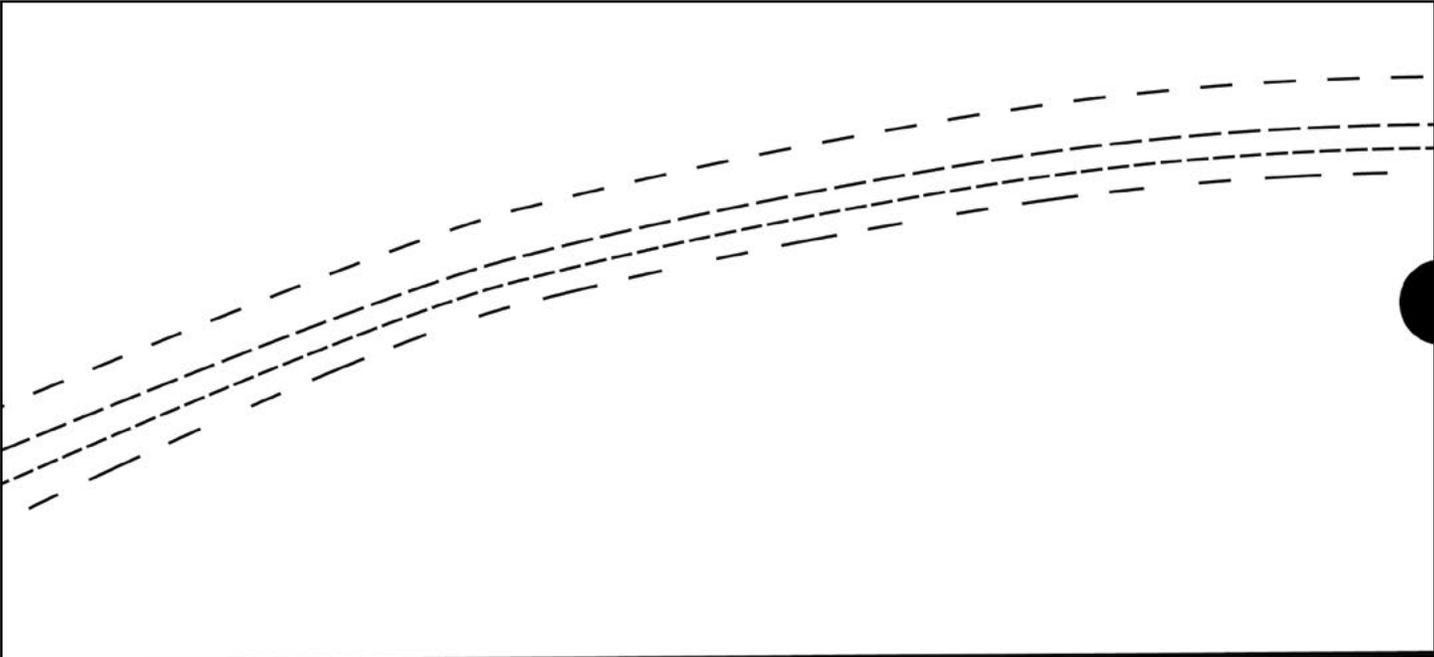
BRALETTE FRONT - TOP  
CUT 2  
COMBO AND LINING FABRIC  
SIZES XS-L



RAQUEL  
BRALETTE

This pattern piece is for the XL-3XL size. It features a top edge with a scalloped hemline, indicated by a dashed line with small triangles. Below the hemline, there are several horizontal dashed lines representing seam allowances. A solid black circle is located on the left side of the pattern.

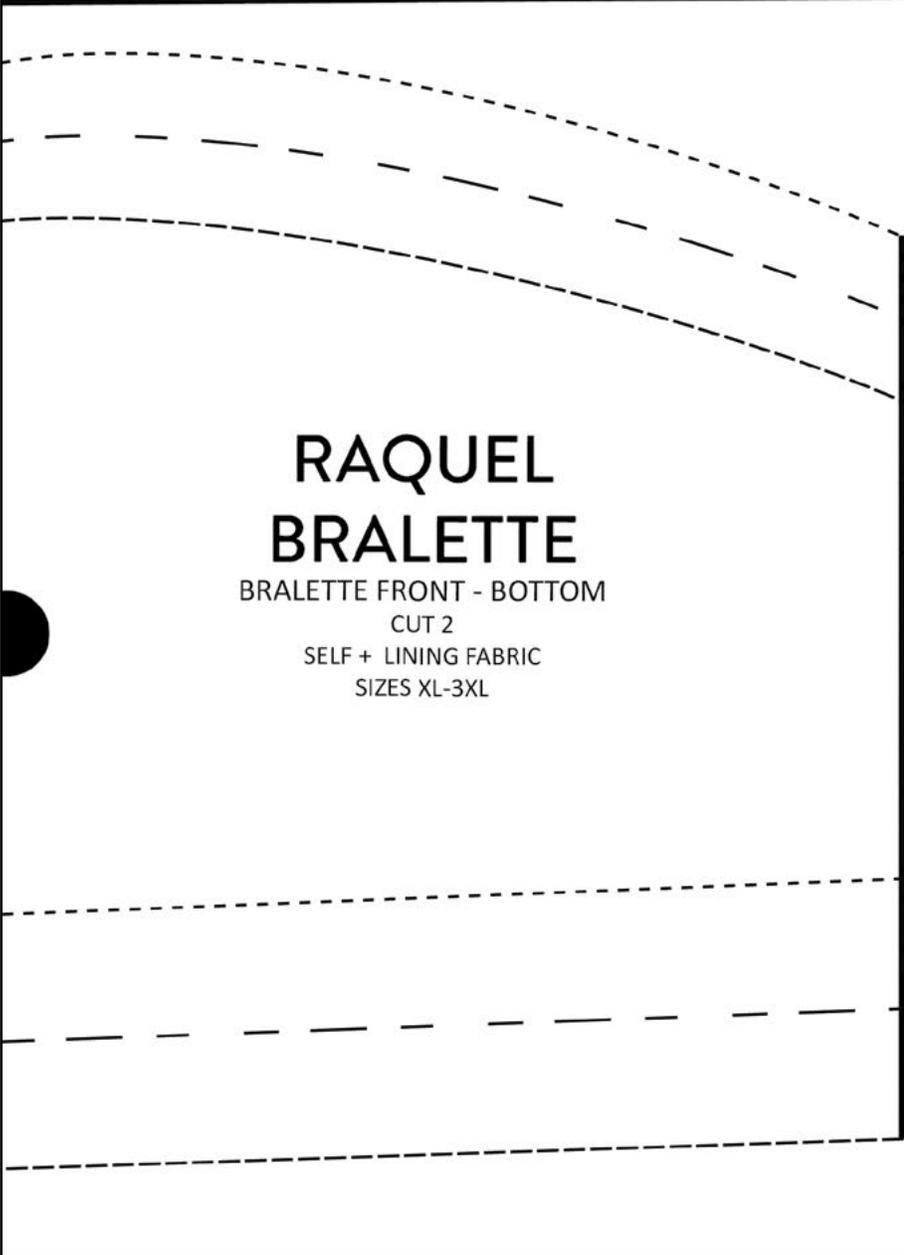
BRALETTE FRONT - TOP  
CUT 2  
COMBO AND LINING FABRIC  
SIZES XL-3XL





**RAQUEL  
BRALETTE**

BOTTOM RUFFLE  
CUT 2  
COMBO FABRIC ONLY  
SIZES XS-L



**RAQUEL  
BRALETTE**

BRALETTE FRONT - BOTTOM  
CUT 2  
SELF + LINING FABRIC  
SIZES XL-3XL



**RAQUEL  
BRALETTE**

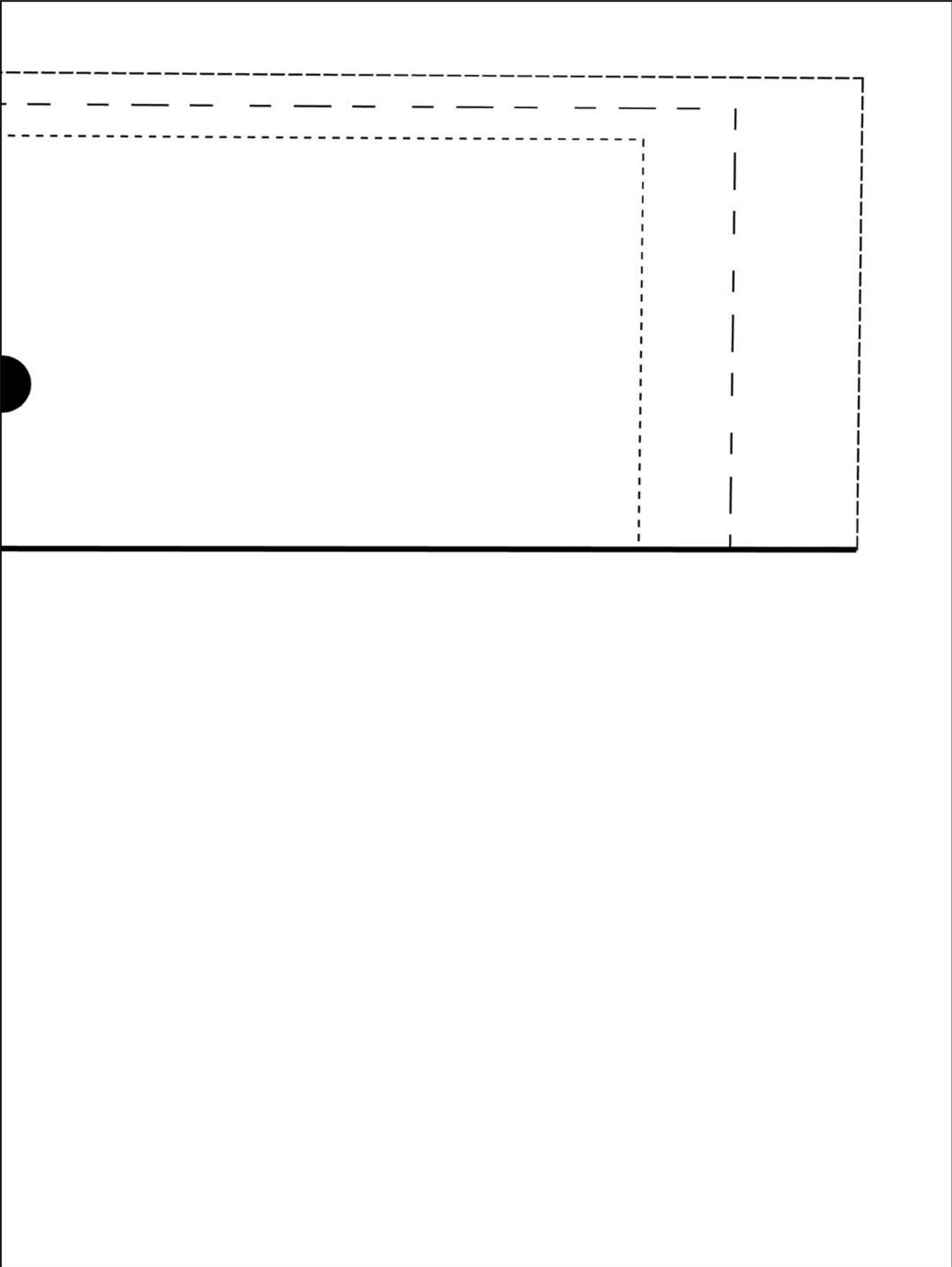
BOTTOM RUFFLE

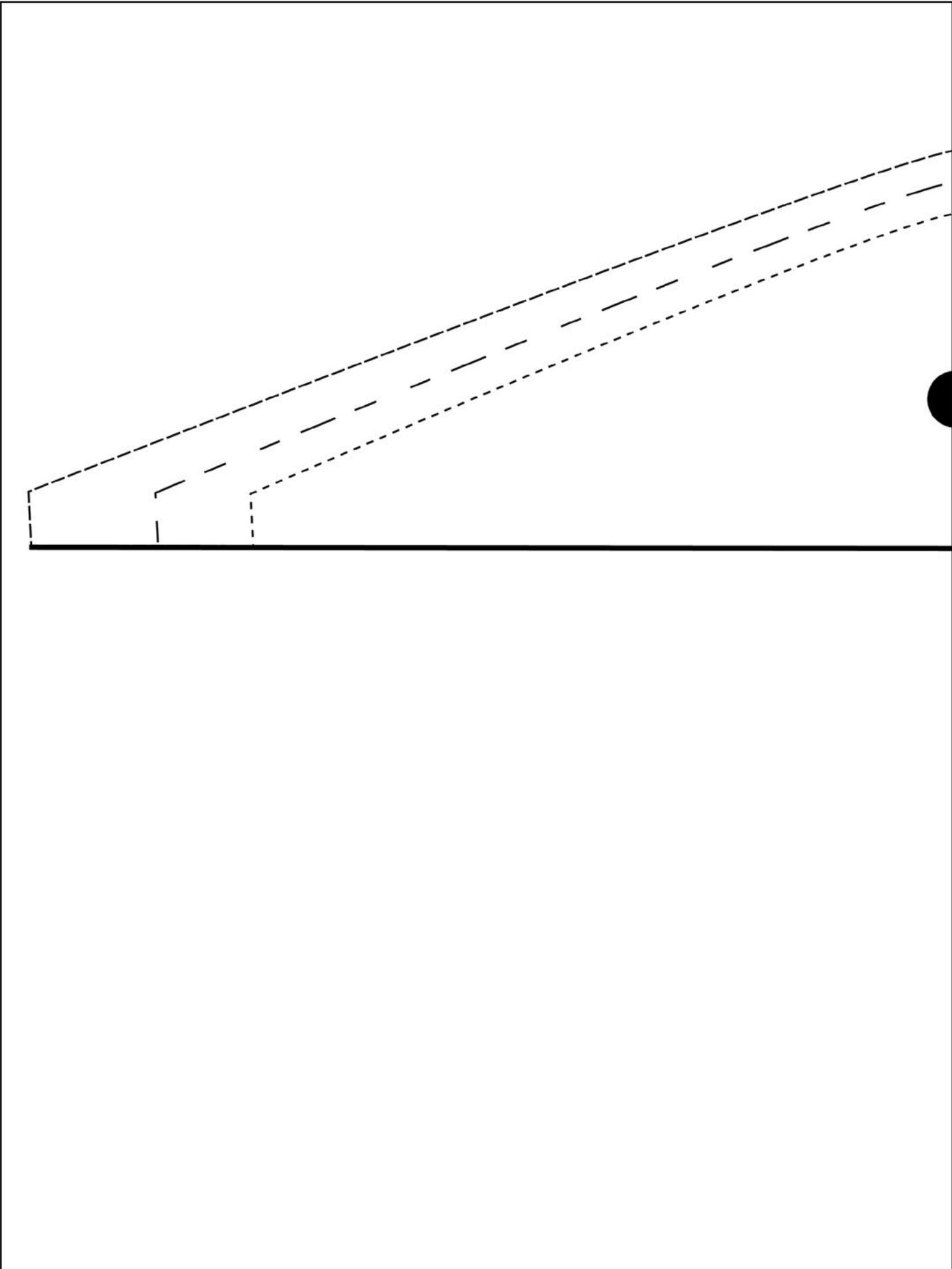
CUT 2

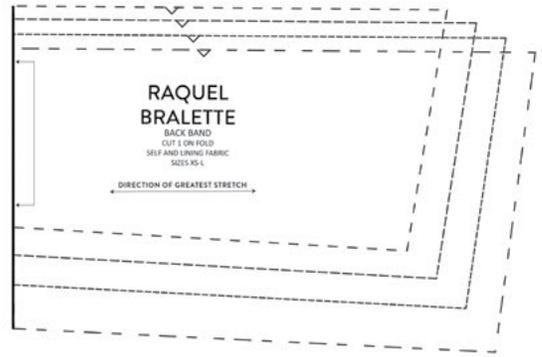
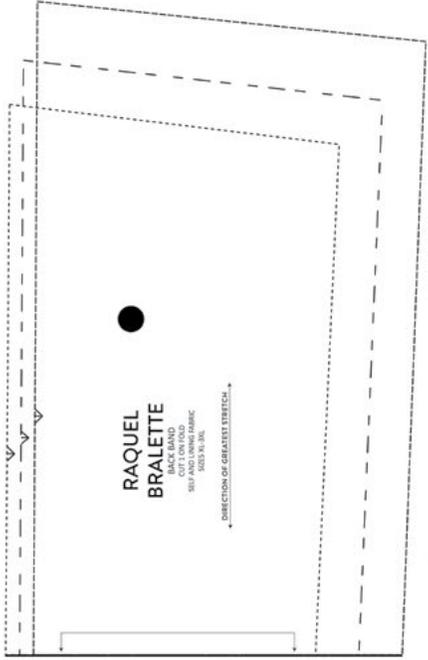
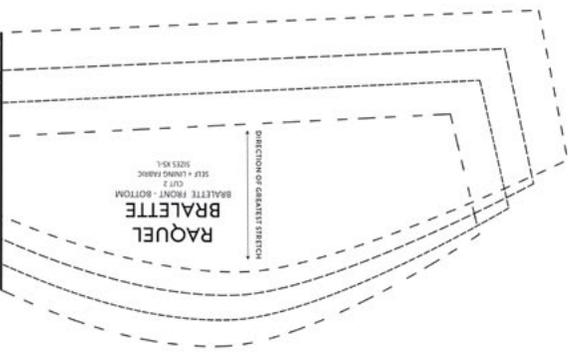
COMBO FABRIC ONLY

SIZES XL-3XL



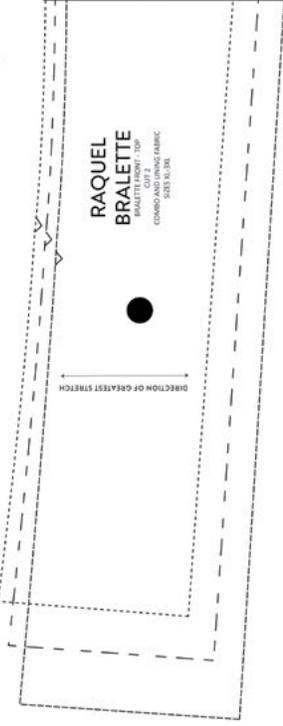
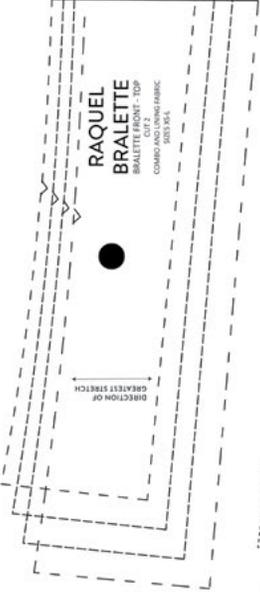
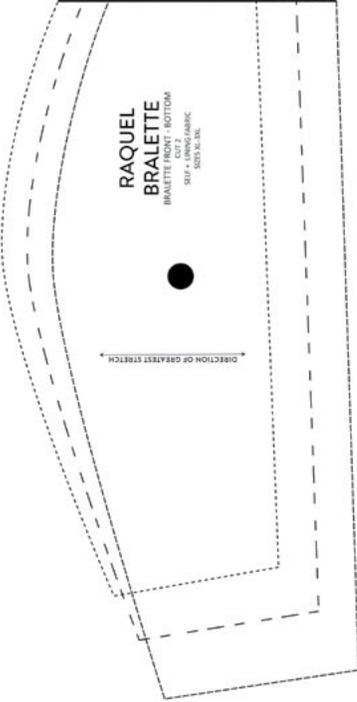
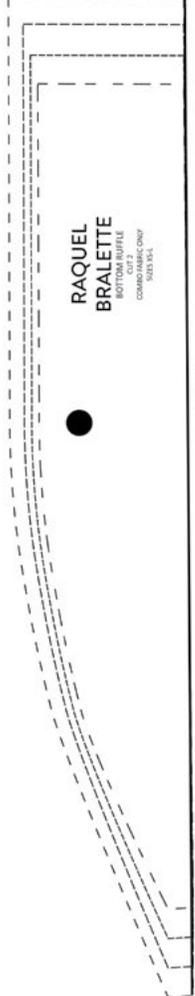






TEST SQUARE  
2" x 2"

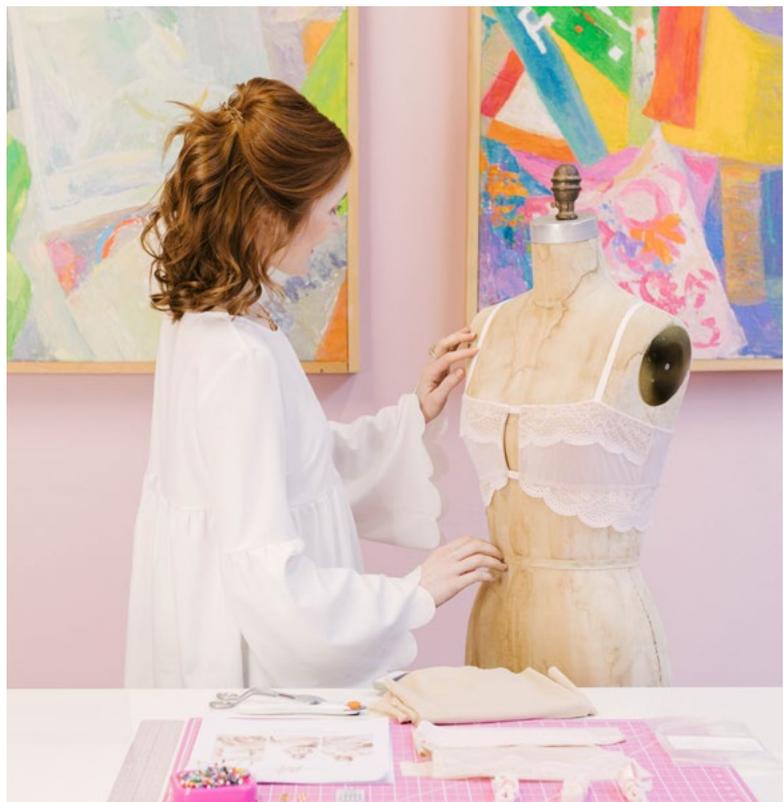
- - - - - X-SMALL  
 - - - - - SMALL  
 - - - - - MEDIUM  
 - - - - - LARGE  
 - - - - - X-LARGE  
 - - - - - XXL  
 - - - - - XXXL





VIDEO TUTORIAL!

[Click here](#) to watch the full video tutorial for the Raquel bralette on YouTube



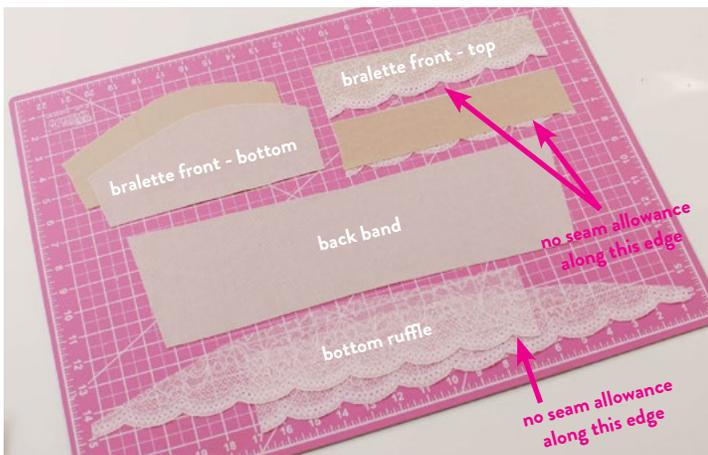
# 05: CUTTING + DIRECTION OF STRETCH

**CUT PATTERN:** Follow the instructions to print your pattern. Even though the directions state it, be sure that your test square measures 2" x 2". After, use a pair of paper scissors or a rotary cutter to cut along the black line on the right or the left edge. Then, overlap or butt the sheets together so that the circles align. Tape together. Refer to three images below. Next, find and cut out your size.



**CUT FABRIC:** Cutting fine fabrics such as stretch mesh and lace can be really difficult. It's like cutting chiffon – lots of shifting! To make it easier, use a temporary spray adhesive such as Odif's 505 to spray baste the main fabric and the lining fabric together prior to cutting. You won't permanently adhere them – the glue will wear off in a short amount of time and/or during washing.

For the Raquel bralette, spray baste the self and the lining fabric for the bralette front - bottom and back band pattern pieces prior to cutting. For the bralette front - top pattern piece, spray baste the combo fabric and the lining fabric prior to cutting with bottom edge of the lining fabric aligned with the high point of scallop on the galloon lace. When cutting the bottom ruffle pattern pieces, align bottom/straight edge of the pattern with the high point of the scallop on the galloon lace as well. Refer to YouTube video tutorial and images below.

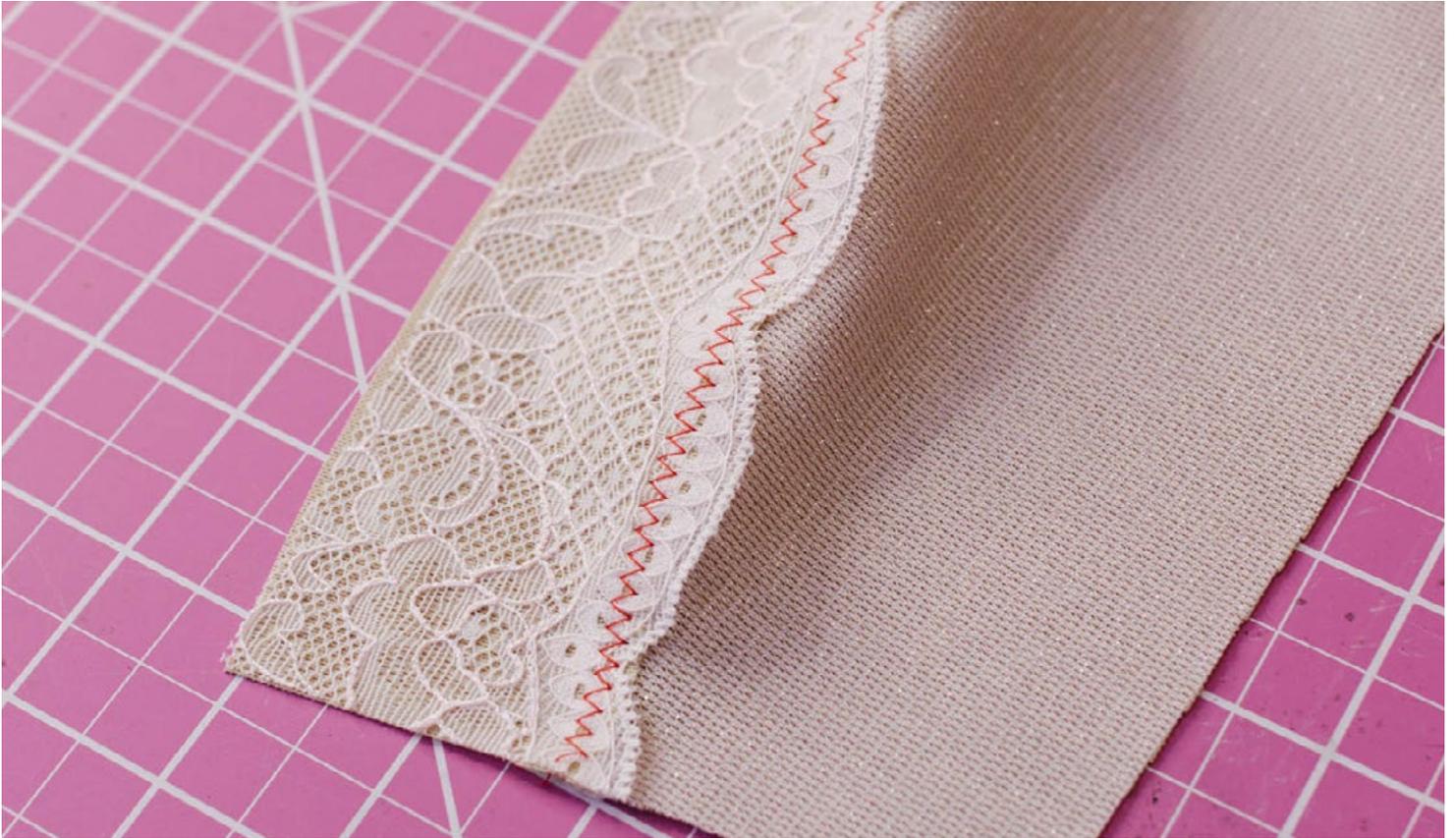


**DIRECTION OF STRETCH:** In a woven fabric, grainline indicates the direction of the fabric that has the least amount of stretch. In most cases, patterns are aligned with this line. In bra making, patterns are cut according to the direction of greatest stretch (DOGS). So, when looking at the pattern for the Raquel bralette, lines with arrows indicate DOGS, not grainline.

To find the DOGS on your fabric, pull lengthwise and crosswise. What has more stretch? On stretch fabrics, there is either stretch in one direction, called a 2-way stretch, or a stretch in all directions, called a 4-way stretch.

If you're using a 2-way stretch fabric for the Raquel bralette, make sure that the DOGS on the pattern align with the direction of your fabric that stretches MORE for both SELF and LINING. If you're using a 4-way stretch, you can cut in any direction.

# 06: SEWING



**ASSEMBLE BRALETTE CUPS & BOTTOM RUFFLE AND SEW SIDE SEAM:** If you have a serger, you can serge the top edge of the front bralette - bottom. It will look cleaner on the inside and it will serve as a guideline when overlapping the bralette front - top and bralette front - bottom. If you don't have a serger, it is okay to leave a raw edge since most lingerie fabrics don't fray.

Lay bralette front - top over bralette front - bottom so that they overlap 1/2". The overlap takes into account the height of the scallop (or the distance between the high point of the scallop and the low point of the scallop) on the galloon lace. So, you will measure the overlap from the low point of the scallop. Refer to image on page 22. If you serged the top edge of the bralette front-bottom, align the lining on the bralette front-top with the bottom stitch line of the serge. Refer to image on right.

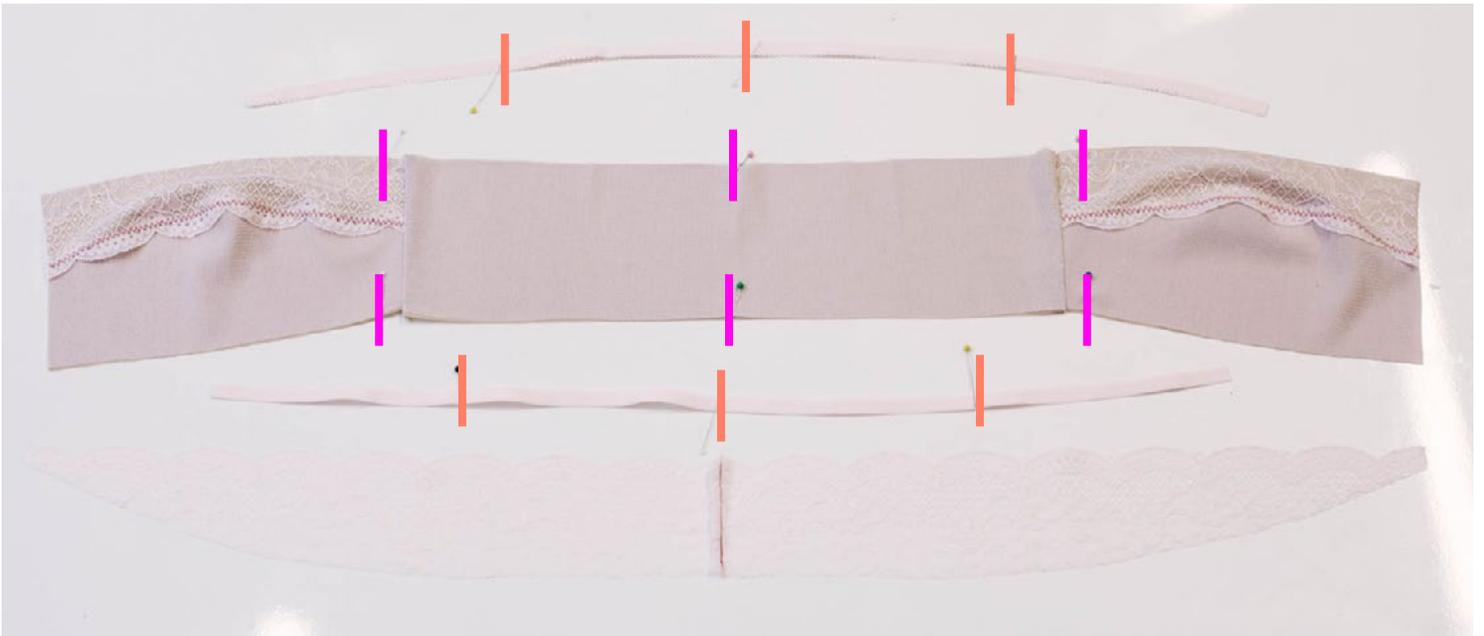
Sew with a zigzag stitch. Width of the zigzag stitch should be approximately 1/4" wide.

With right sides together, sew front bralette cups to back band at side seam. Use a straight stitch. Finish seam allowances with a serger if you have one. If you don't, it is okay to leave seam allowances raw.

After, sew bottom ruffle together at center back - also use a straight stitch. You do not need to serge.

*Tip: Why use a straight stitch on stretchy fabric? Generally speaking, a zigzag stitch is used on horizontal seams, and a straight stitch is used on vertical seams. During daily wear, your body moves widthwise, not lengthwise, unless you're doing jumping jacks all day long ; )*





**ATTACH PICOT ELASTIC:** On the Raquel, the top and the bottom of the bralette have gathers, also called shirring. So, you will cut your elastic shorter than the length of the top and the bottom of the bralette and stretch it while sewing. You will measure the top and the bottom and multiply it by 0.8. For example, if the the total length of the top of your bralette measures 34", then:

$$34 \times 0.8 = 27.2$$

So, cut your picot elastic for top 27 1/4".

*\*\*okay to round up and down to the nearest 1/4"\*\*\**

Once you've cut your elastic, you will divide it into quarters and mark it with a pin. Do the same for the top and the bottom of the bralette. Refer to image above - the purple lines indicate pins on the bralette and the orange lines indicate pins on the picot elastic. Then match

up the pins on the elastic with the pins on the bralette. Repin together- right side of bralette should be facing up and elastic should be on top. The pattern has 1/4" seam allowance throughout, so if you're using 1/4" elastic, you will align the flat edge of the elastic with the edge of the fabric. If you're using 3/8" elastic, the elastic should extend 1/8" beyond the fabric's edge. In both cases, the picot should face inward (towards the fabric) and the plush side should face up. Sew along the picot edge with a zigzag stitch. Refer to image on left below as well as YouTube video tutorial.

Next, fold the picot elastic to the wrong side and sew another line of zig zag stitches. Sew along the flat edge and stretch the elastic while sewing. Refer to image on right below as well as YouTube video tutorial.





**ATTACH CHANNELING + STRAP ELASTIC AT CENTER FRONT CUTOUT:** If you've been to a Bra Making with Madalynne workshop, a quote that is often said is, "perfection is overrated." This is very true. However, when attaching the channeling and the strap elastic at the center front cutout, try to be as close to perfect as possible. If the strap elastic isn't sewn perpendicular to the center front edge, the bralette will look tilted when worn.

Cut 2 strips of channeling that are slightly longer than the center front cutout. Also cut 2 strips of strap elastic that are 1.5" long.

Place right/shiny side of strap elastic against right side of bralette at top and bottom so that it aligns with the picot. Then, place channeling on top so plush side is facing up and aligned with the edge of the fabric. Refer to image on left below. Sew with a straight stitch as close to the inner edge of the channeling as possible. Recommended to switch to a universal needle size 100/16. After turn channeling to the wrong side and sew the opposite edge the same way. Then repeat for other side.

**INSERT PLASTIC BONING:** Cut 2 strips of plastic boning that are 1/2" less than the length of the center front cut out. This will give the boning "play room" - you don't want it to be too tight inside the channeling - as well as room to sew a bar tack on top and bottom.

Insert plastic boning inside plush channeling. It goes inside - not between the channeling and the fabric. Refer to image on left below. Once it's in place, sew a bartack (a straight stitch back and forth at least 3x with a slightly smaller stitch length) on top and bottom and then trim channeling close to the stitch line. Refer to image on right below.





**MAKING + ATTACHING STRAP ELASTIC:** To make strap elastic, cut 4 strips of elastic - two will be cut 2" long for all sizes, and 2 will be cut according to your size. Refer to chart below.

Use your pattern to mark front and back strap placement on your bralette.

For the two short strap elastics that are 2" long - feed one end through the ring and then fold back. With the back of the bralette wrong side out, sew at back strap points. Strap elastic should extend approximately 3/8" below top of back band on inside (width of the elastic). Sew with a bartack approximately 1/8" below the top edge of the back band (as close to the picot as possible) and another bartack at the bottom of the picot elastic. Refer to image above.

For the two long strap elastic - feed one end through the bottom of the slider, over the center bar, and then down through the other side. It should look like a belt buckle with one short end and one long end. Fold the short side down 3/4" and sew a bartack as close to the slider as possible. Trim close to stitching. Refer to image on left below. Weave long side of the strap elastic through ring with wrong side face up. Refer to image in middle below. Then weave up and over the center bar again just like in previous step. Refer to image on right below.

The "standard" length from slider to ring is approximately 2".

Last, attach at front strap points the same way as back strap points.

#### STRAP ELASTIC CUTTING GUIDE

SIZE	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL
CUT LENGTH OF STRAP ELASTIC	16"	16"	16 1/4"	16 1/4"	16 1/2"	16 1/2"	16 3/4"



THAT FEELING WHEN YOU....

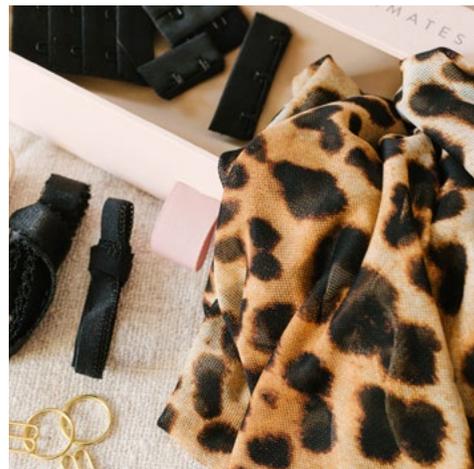
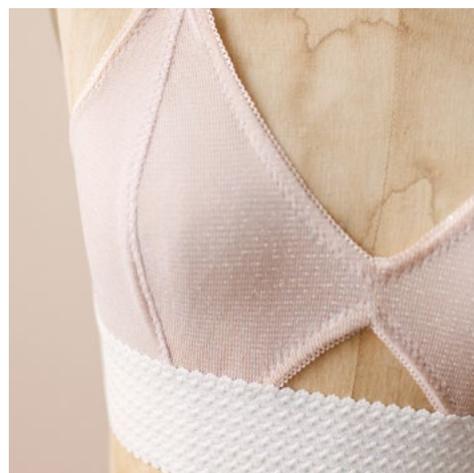
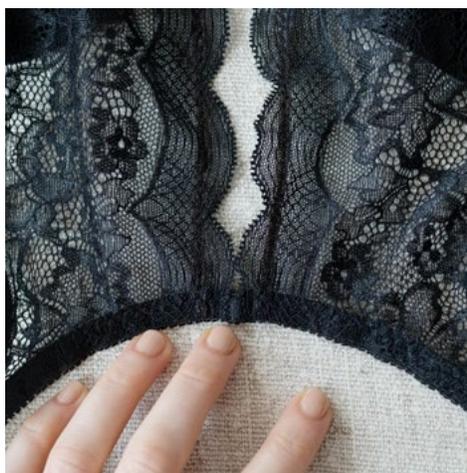


*finish!*

## 07: MORE MADALYNNE

Did you know? Madalynne has 3 other FREE PDF patterns as well as 6 lingerie patterns + 1 bodysuit pattern with Simplicity.

Visit [www.madalynne.com](http://www.madalynne.com) for more information and to shop the patterns and DIY sewing kits.



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