

Cuff Placket for Sleeve

These instructions are inspired by professional shirt-maker and owner of Fashion Sewing Supply Pam Erny's blog "Off the Cuff" - search for "sleeve placket". Because her instructions are so good (with great photos) I'm asking that you start there. Following is a summary of her method, including my modifications, including a simpler option of a one piece placket (big thanks to our own Pia who introduced me to the one piece placket concept).

The advantage to the two piece placket is that it allows for the upper and under plackets to be different fabrics. The advantage to the one piece placket is that it is simpler to cut out and construct.

Instructions

- 1 Determine length of sleeve placket opening per wearer's preference (will likely NOT match printed pattern). If the wearer likes to roll up their sleeves and/or if they have substantial forearms, they will appreciate a longer placket opening.

2

Two Piece Placket Method
Cut a slit in the sleeve the length of the desired placket opening.

One Piece Placket Method
Mark sleeve slit (do not cut) on WS by drawing a line an inch or so longer than the desired placket opening. Place a dot where the placket opening ends.

NOTE: Slit is on the BACK half of each sleeve. Lay out both sleeves to double-check that you have a left and right sleeve and that the slits are located correctly. This is especially important if lack of fabric required cutting sleeves in a single layer.

3

Cut the two placket pieces per Erny's template. (Oaktag or manila file folder paper works well.) Width is standard, length varies according the desired placket opening.

Same, but cut template as one piece. Draw a line where Erny has the two pieces separated.

- 4 Cut out placket pieces, making sure you have a right and left.
- 5 Place placket piece(s) on sleeve, RS of pieces to WS of sleeve. As Erny says, it's easy to remember which piece goes where: the large side of placket piece goes on "big" side of sleeve, small piece on "little" side. Line up the marked slit lines, and place a mark on the placket piece(s) where the top end of the placket opening will be.
- 6 Starting on the smaller side, using a 1/4" SA and short stitch length (1.5 on my Bernina), stitch up from sleeve edge to 1/4" past slit mark, sink needle, turn 90°, stitch to 1/4" past slit, sink needle, turn 90°, and stitch down the larger piece with 1/4" SA.

If you are following along with Erny's blog instructions, you will notice that the above is a simplification of her instructions.

7

Still on WS, snip Y from top of slit all the way* into corners. From RS, press tiny fabric triangle up.

Still on WS, cut up placket slit marking from sleeve edge, stopping at placket end to snip Y all the way* into corners. From RS, press tiny fabric triangle up.

*As Pam Leggett says, don't be a "chicken clipper"!

8 Turn everything to RS. Fold big side out of the way. (Erny's photo of this is very clear.)

9 Working with the small side: Press SA towards placket piece. Fold raw edge of placket piece in 1/4". Press. Fold placket piece over to cover stitching line, press, and close by edgestitching up from sleeve edge.

10 Working from big side: Bring big side down, on top of small side. (Make sure small triangle is still firmly pressed up.) Press SA towards placket piece. Fold raw edge in 1/4" and press. Fold over to just cover stitching line.

11 Form peak of tower as shown in Erny's photo. Press. If needed, secure with a dot of glue baste (or, my preference, a tiny square of Wonder Tape). Holding everything together, look at WS to make sure all the raw edges are tucked in.

12 Placket stitching: Make a temporary mark on the RS where the raw edges are tucked in underneath. Sink needle to start, JUST above this mark, and stitch placket following either diagram below.

