**Practicing Pattern Adjustments**

**Garment Descriptions:**

* Loose fitting
* Fitted
* Semi-fitted
* Close Fitting

**How much ease?**

* Ease – refers to the amount of extra fabric allowed in a garment to make it comfortable to wear

**Minimum ease allowances:**

* Chest/Bust – 3 to 4 inches
* Waist – ½ inch
* Hips – 1” snug fit, 2” roomy fit
* Backwaist Length – ½”
* Crotch Depth – ½” for 35” hips; ¾” for 35-38” hips; 1” for 38” plus hips

**Adjusting Pattern Length**

**Lengthening** – add same amount

Original hemline

Amount to add

**Shortening** – measure up amount to shorten and draw a new line parallel to the original hemline

Original hemline

New hemline

**Lengthening using the adjustment line (=):**

* 1. Cut between lines
  2. Add paper
  3. Measure the amount to add, tape the pattern in place
  4. Re-draw cutting and stitching lines at the side

**Shortening using adjustment lines:**

* 1. Measure up from the lower lengthening or shortening line
  2. Draw new line
  3. Place tissue under
  4. Fold pattern piece, bring the lower adjustment line to the newly drawn line
  5. Tape in place
  6. Re-draw stitching line

**Adjusting Crotch Depth:**

* 1. Draw in a crotch depth line (if there is not one already) at a right angle with grain-line arrow
  2. Measure from line to waist (not counting the seam allowance)
  3. Subtract your measurement plus ease to get the amount needed to be adjusted

**Adjusting Sleeve Length:**

Make ½ the change above the elbow and ½ the change below the elbow

**Adjusting Pattern Width:**

Minor decrease: when dealing with two pieces of the pattern (like the front and back) divide total adjustment by 4, subtract that measurement from the original line and then re-draw:

Back

Front

Example: to reduce by 1”, subtract ¼” from each line

Minor increase: when dealing with two pieces of a pattern (like the front and back) divide total adjustment by 4, add that measurement to the original line and then re-draw:

Example: to add 1”, add ¼” to each line

Back

Front

**IF** adjustment is more than ½” (2” total) then use **Slash and Spread Method.**

**Lengthening at Waistline:**

Same as previous notes:

Add or shorten at the bottom

**Wearing ease**: extra room allowed in patterns for wearing comfort

**Design ease**: an extra amount of fullness provided in patterns to give the garment its special look or silhouette