

Male Body Block

The male body block is similar to the female in most ways, but, because it has fewer curves to negotiate, is simpler to draft. I've used the male block with my own measurements (though made tighter across the chest and looser through the waist) for male character costumes.

For the male block, you'll need the same measurements as the female, minus bust point to bust point and centre shoulder to bust point, and with the added measurement of narrow chest. The narrow chest is measured in the same way as narrow back, only across the front. For general instructions, measurements, and materials, please see the female body block instructions at <http://www.silivren.com/bodyblock.pdf>.

Male Body Block – Back

- 1) As with the female block, draw lines 5 cm (2 in) from the edge down each side of your paper and across the top. Mark A in the upper left hand corner.
- 2) Measure down from A back length. Mark B.
- 3) Measure down from B lower hip depth. Mark C.
- 4) Measure down from A arm hole depth. Mark D.
- 5) Bisect the distance between A and D. Mark E.
- 6) Bisect the distance between A and E. Mark J.
- 7) Measure out from point A along the horizontal $\frac{1}{6}$ of narrow back. Mark. Measure up from this mark 1.5 cm ($\frac{1}{2}$ in). Mark F.
- 8) Join A and F with a shallow curve to form the back neckline.
- 9) Extend all points (except F) across on the horizontal to the line on the right edge of the paper. Mark A2, B2, C2, etc.
- 10) Measure out from point E along the horizontal $\frac{1}{2}$ of narrow back. Mark G.
- 11) Join F and G for dropped shoulder guideline.
- 12) Measure out from D on the horizontal $\frac{1}{4}$ chest. Mark H.
- 13) Measure out from C on the horizontal $\frac{1}{4}$ hip. Mark I.
- 14) Draw a vertical line up from the D-H line so it passes through point G and the line J. Measure 1 cm ($\frac{3}{8}$ in) out from the intersection of the vertical line and the J line. Mark X.
- 15) Join F and X for the shoulder line.
- 16) Join X, G and H with a shallow curve to form the armscye.
- 17) Join H and I.
- 18) Measure in along the horizontal line B from its intersection with the H-I line 3 cm ($1 \frac{1}{4}$ in). Mark K.
- 19) Join H-K and K-I. Draw in slight body curve.
- 20) **Back Dart Placement:** Measure and bisect the B-K line. Subtract $\frac{1}{4}$ of the waist measurement from the B-K measurement. This is the WHOLE dart width. Place half of the dart width on either side of the bisection point on B-K. Mark the placements. Draw a vertical line from 5 cm (2 in) below the D-H line, through the B-K bisection point, and down to 5 cm (2 in) above the C-I line. Join the dart width marks on B-K to the end points on the vertical dart line, forming an elongated diamond shape.

Male Body Block – Front

- 1) Make sure points A through E and J are squared across horizontally to the right hand side and marked A2 through E2 and J2.
- 2) Measure out on the horizontal from point D2 $\frac{1}{4}$ chest plus $1 \frac{1}{2}$ cm ($\frac{1}{2}$ in) working ease. Mark H2.
- 3) Measure out on the horizontal from point C2 $\frac{1}{4}$ hip plus $1 \frac{1}{2}$ cm ($\frac{1}{2}$ in) working ease. Mark I2.
- 4) Measure out on the horizontal from point E2 $\frac{1}{2}$ narrow chest. Mark G2.
- 5) Draw a vertical line up from the D2-H2 line so it passes through point G2 and the J2 line.
- 6) Measure out on the horizontal from point A2 $\frac{1}{6}$ narrow back plus $1 \frac{1}{2}$ cm ($\frac{1}{2}$ in) working ease. Mark. Measure up from this mark 2 cm ($\frac{3}{4}$ in). Mark F2.
- 7) Measure down from A2 7.5 cm (3 in). Mark O.
- 8) Connect F2 and O with a deep curve to form the front neckline.
- 9) Measure F-X on the back block. With the end of your ruler on point F2, pivot the ruler until the measurement of the F-X line intersects with the J2 line. Mark the intersection X2.
- 10) Join F2 and X2 for the shoulder line.
- 11) Join X2, G2 and H2 with a deep curve for the armhole.
- 12) Join H2 and I2.
- 13) Measure in on the horizontal line B2 from its intersection with the H2-I2 line 3.5 cm ($1 \frac{1}{2}$ in). Mark K2.
- 14) Join H2-K2 and K2-I2. Draw in slight body curve.
- 15) **Front Dart Placement:** Repeat as point 20 on the back block.