The Bandeau Romper

Created and Designed by Andrea Patton for Fabricworm.com

Needed supplies:
2 Yards of ½ inch elastic
1.5 Yards Knit Fabric such as Patty Young's Collection of Knits for Michael Miller
Scissors
Pins
Tailor's Chalk
Sewing Machine
Overlock Machine
Thread
Elastic Thread (If you don't have it, don't worry, it's not completely necessary).
Tape Measure

*Before starting, measure your waist-line and top of the bust. Cut two pieces of elastic (1/2 inch thick) 1 inch shorter than these measurements.

1. Lay pattern pieces out on fabric. The picture below shows how to lay out the pattern pieces on a fabric with non-directional design (pattern pieces in picture below are of a size Large). If the print of your fabric is one-directional, make sure to lay pattern pieces out appropriately to fabric design. (This is why we have suggested 1.5 yards of fabric.)
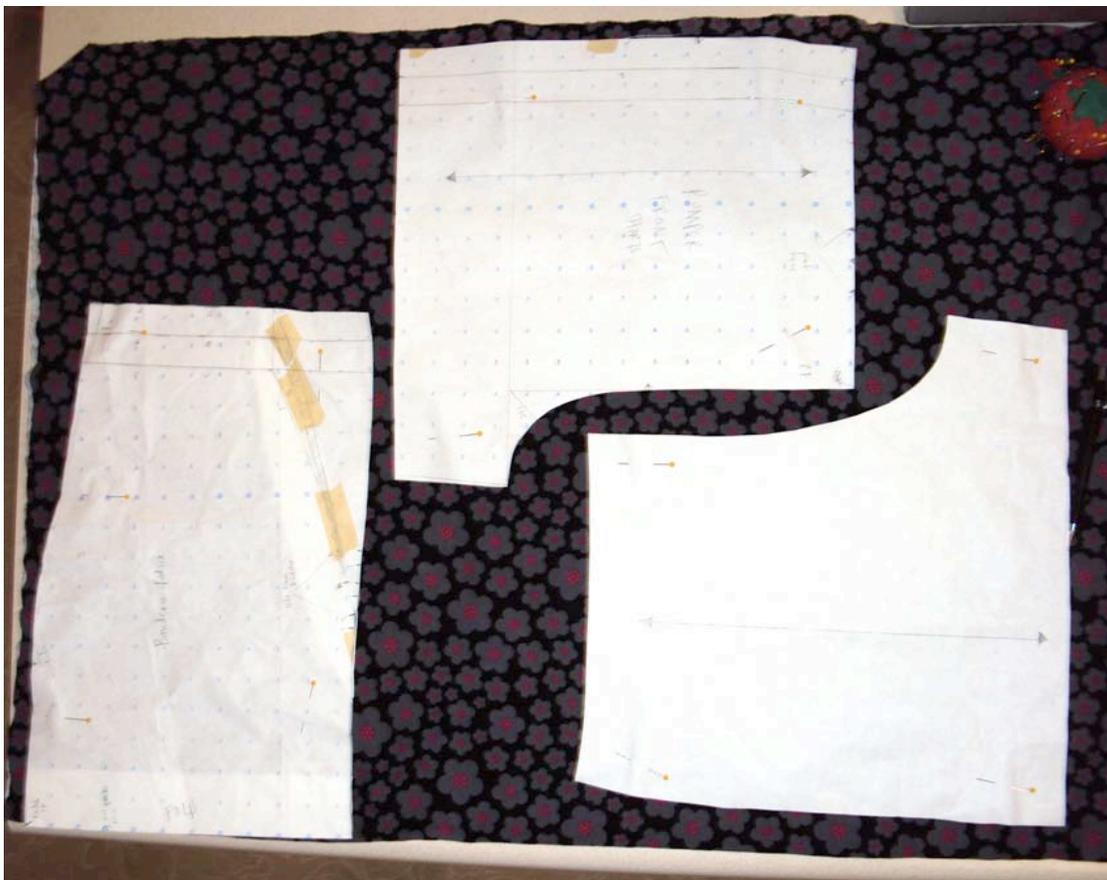
2. Cut out pattern pieces making sure to snip notches (do not snip past ¼ inch), poke awl hole on Bandeau Bodice if you want to make a sweetheart neckline.*
   *This romper can be made with a sweetheart neckline, or a straight-across neckline, picture below is of a sweetheart neckline.

3. With right sides of fabric facing eachother, overlock center back seam together of the Bandeau Bodice. Most overlock machines work at a ¼" seam allowance.
4. At ¼ inch seam allowance, tack-sew front pleats down to hold them in place. Bring each outside notch to the center notch, to make a box pleat (see photo below).

5. With right sides of Back Short and Front Short facing each other, overlock side seam and crotch seam together for each short.
6. Turn, one short leg right side out, and the other inside out. (The right side out pant leg will be inside the pant leg that is inside out.) With right sides together, match up crotch notches and pin in place. Overlock the short legs together.
7. Pin Bandeau Bodice to Shorts with right sides of fabric facing each other, matching front, back, and sideseam notches. Overlock together. (You will have to stretch Bandeau Bodice slightly to match shorts while overlocking.)
8. Overlock the top edge of the Bandeau Bodice. Measure out a piece of elastic to fit around the top of your bust. Overlap the elastic edges ½ an inch and tack stitch multiple times until the elastic is well secured into a continuous circle.
9. Fold top overlocked edge of Bandeau Bodice over the elastic, leaving 1/8" to ¼" excess overlap to stitch in place. Stitch completely around the top of Bandeau Bodice so that the elastic is enclosed within it, you will have to pull the elastic and push back fabric as you sew.
10. If you want a sweetheart neckline, use elastic thread** to sew a line from the Center Front (just below encased elastic) down to the awl mark. NOTE: Elastic thread is only used in the bobbin, use regular polyester or cotton thread on top. You will want to sew with right side of fabric facing up.
      **If you don't have elastic thread, you can set your sewing machine to its largest basting stitch and sew a straight line from just beneath elastic down to awl hole, do not backstitch and make sure to leave long thread tails. Pull one end of the string to gather front bust, when it is fully gathered, tie off ends of thread. Bring threads in front of garment to the back and tie them off there.

11. For the elastic waist, measure out a piece of elastic as tight as you want it to be around your waist. Overlap the elastic edges ½ an inch and tack stitch multiple times until the elastic is well secured into a continuous circle.
12. Mark elastic into four equal parts. Match up one of the marks with the center front, side seam, center back, and then the other side seam. Elastic will be much shorter than the fabric. To sew the

elastic in, stretch the elastic so that it matches up with the length of fabric waist line while sewing directly in the center of the elastic. Try to "stitch in the ditch" of the waist seam. You will be stretching the elastic and sewing at the same time. Make sure not to overstretch your knit fabric.

13. To hem the bottom of the shorts, first overlock the raw edges and turn under a ½ inch. Stitch in place at a ½ inch seam allowance.

14. Your romper is almost finished!

15. For the straps cut three 1 inch wide strips that are the length of the fabric (58-60 inches)

16. Stack up three of the strips one on top of the other, and stitch to hold in place. Braid the entire length of strips and stitch at the end to hold in place. Tack stitch twice in the middle of the braid and cut the braid in half between the stitches.

17. Pin straps in place wherever you like (or go strapless!), you can have an a-symmetrical strap, a halter, a cross in the back, or regular spaghetti straps. Pin in place and tack down to keep straps secured to your garment. You may have excess length in your straps; just trim the excess off after you've tacked them to the garment.
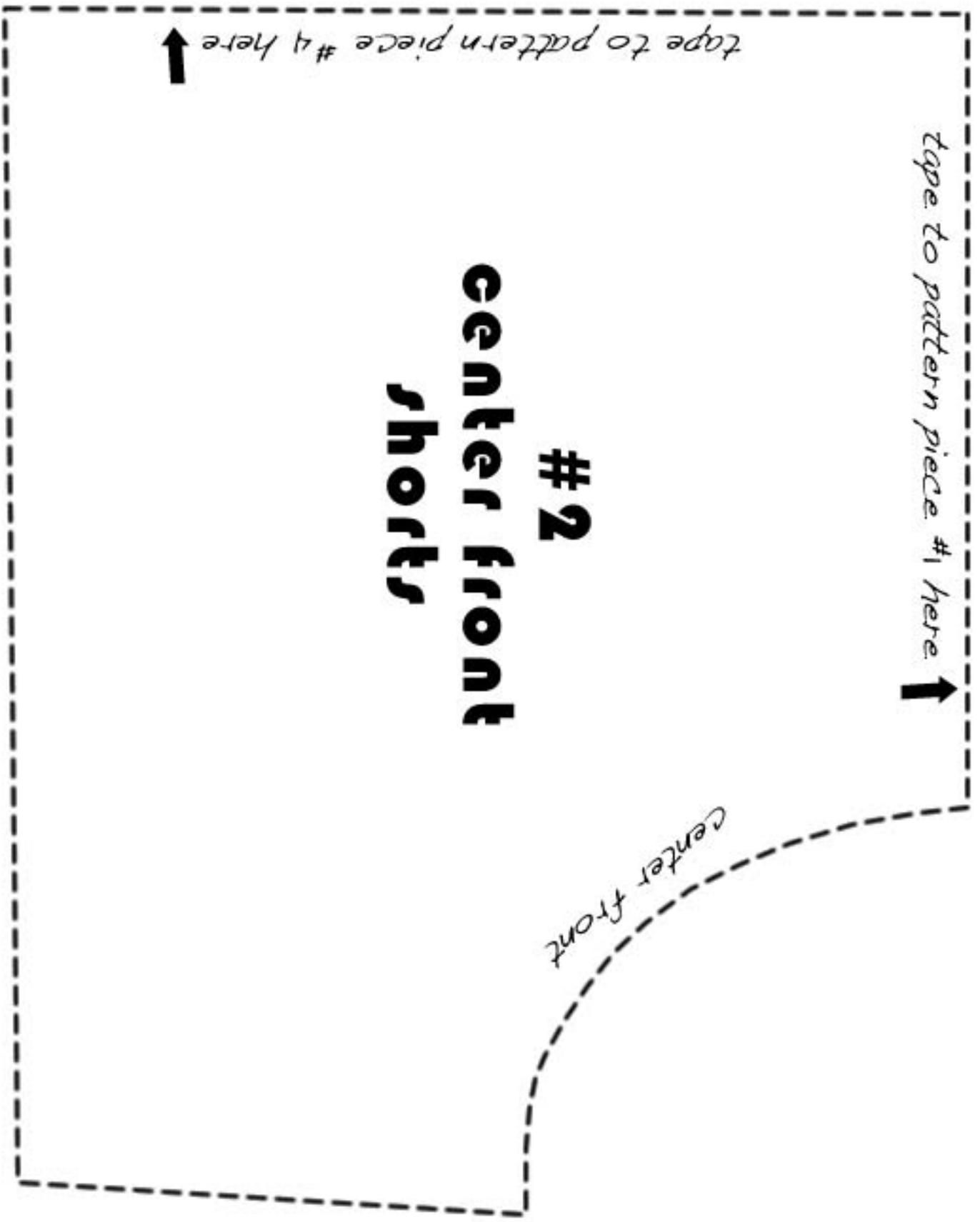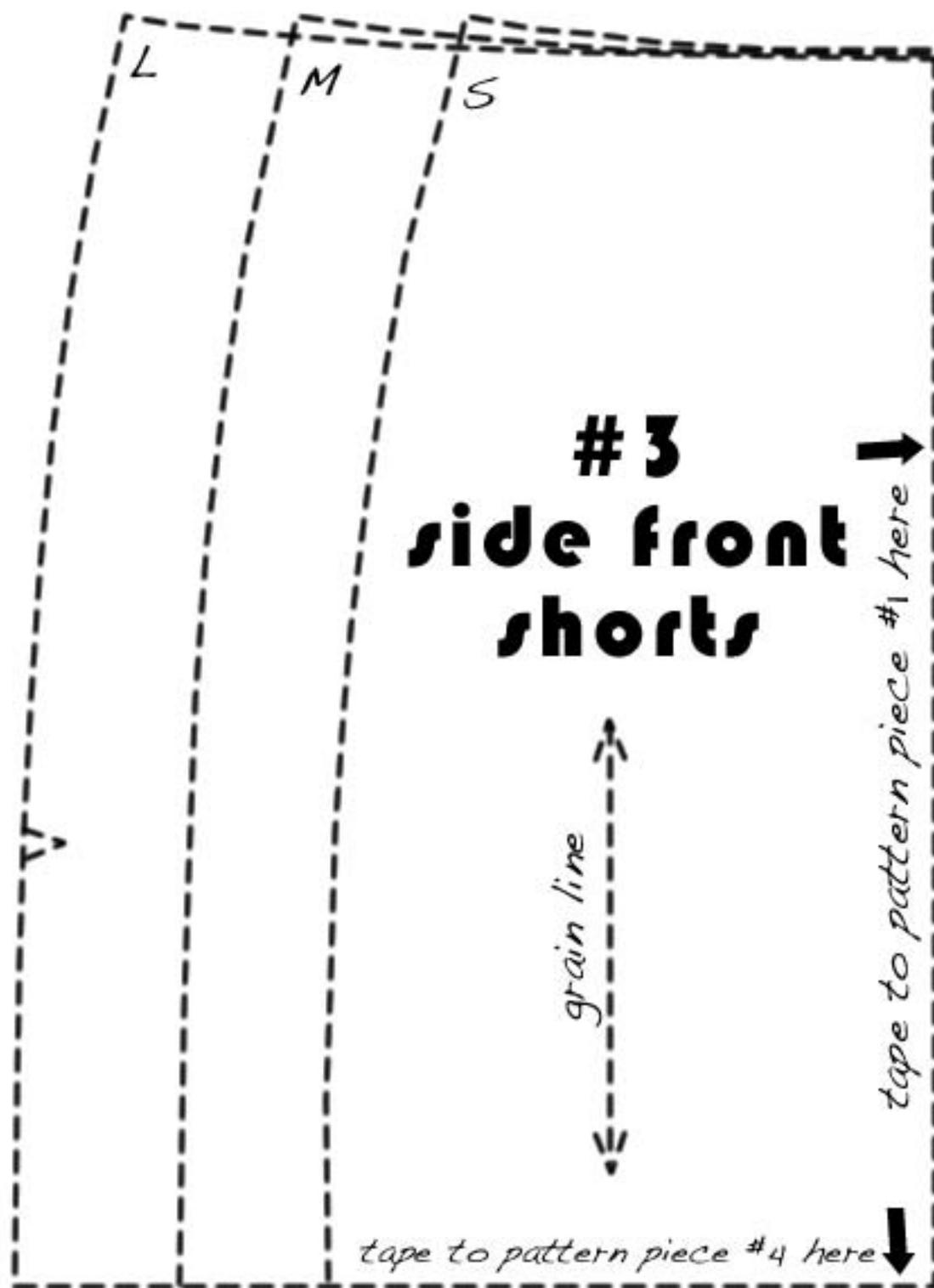
18. Voila! Enjoy your new summer romper!

front pleats

tape to pattern piece #3 here ←

center front

#1
center front
shorts

tape to pattern piece #2 here ↓

tape to pattern piece #4 here

tape to pattern piece #1 here
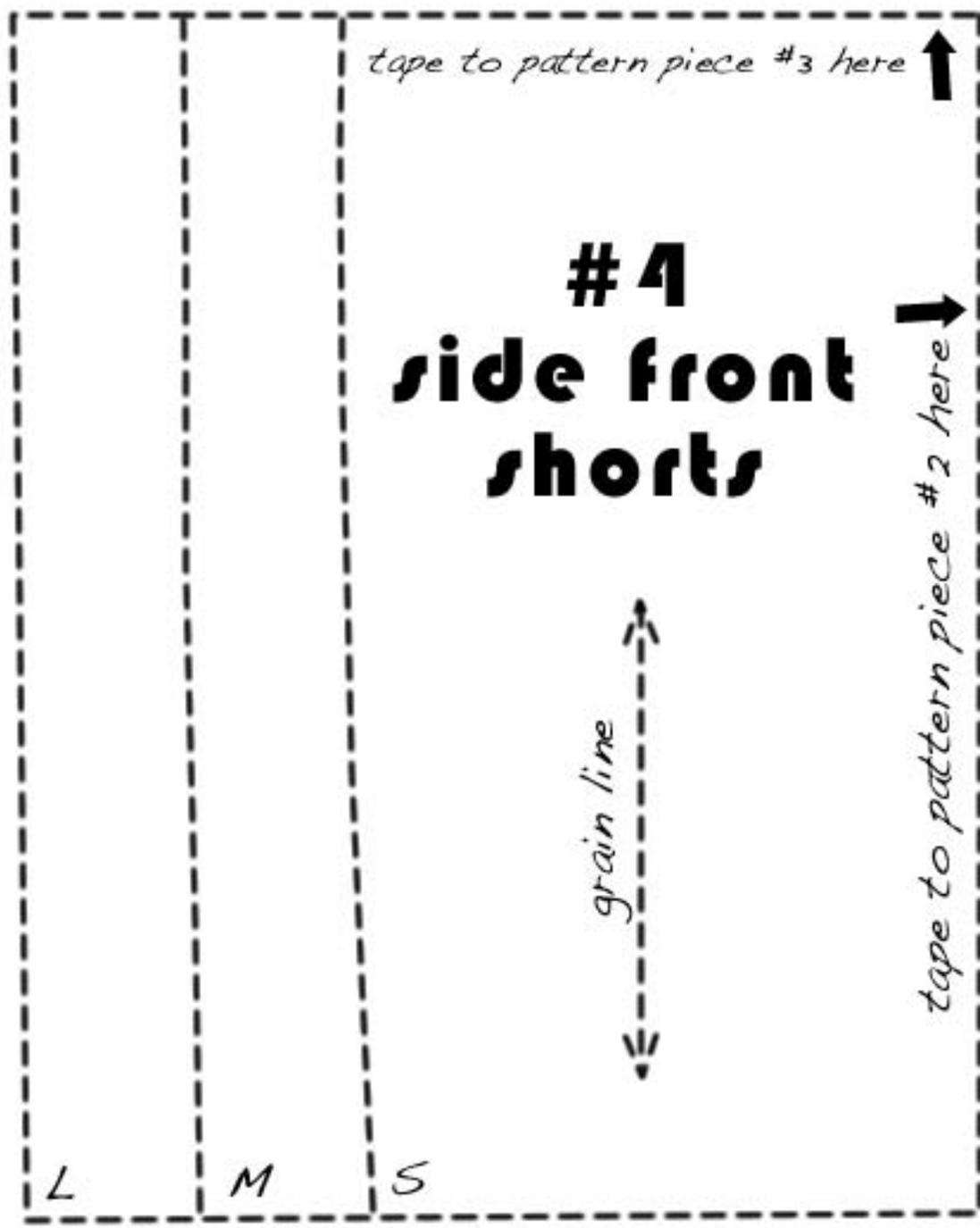
#2
center front
shorts

center front

L

M

S

#3
side front
shorts

tape to pattern piece #1 here

grain line

tape to pattern piece #4 here

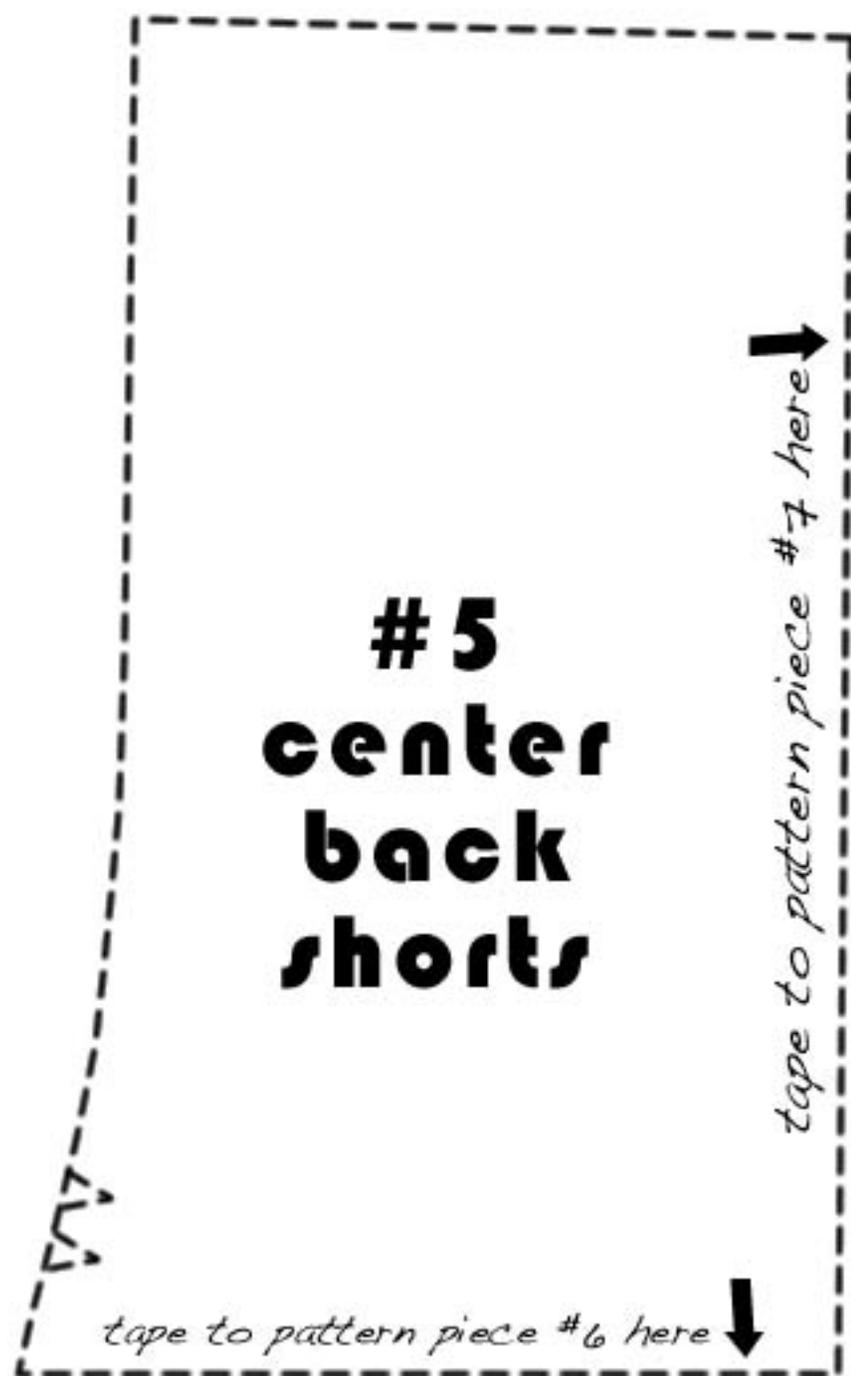tape to pattern piece #3 here ⬆

#4
side front
shorts

grain line

tape to pattern piece #2 here ➡

L   M   S

#5
center
back
shorts

tape to pattern piece #7 here ➡

tape to pattern piece #6 here ⬇

tape to pattern piece #5 here

tape to pattern piece #8 here

#6
center
back
shorts

#7 side back shorts

tape to pattern piece #5 here

tape to pattern piece #8 here

grain line

S

M

L

S

M

L
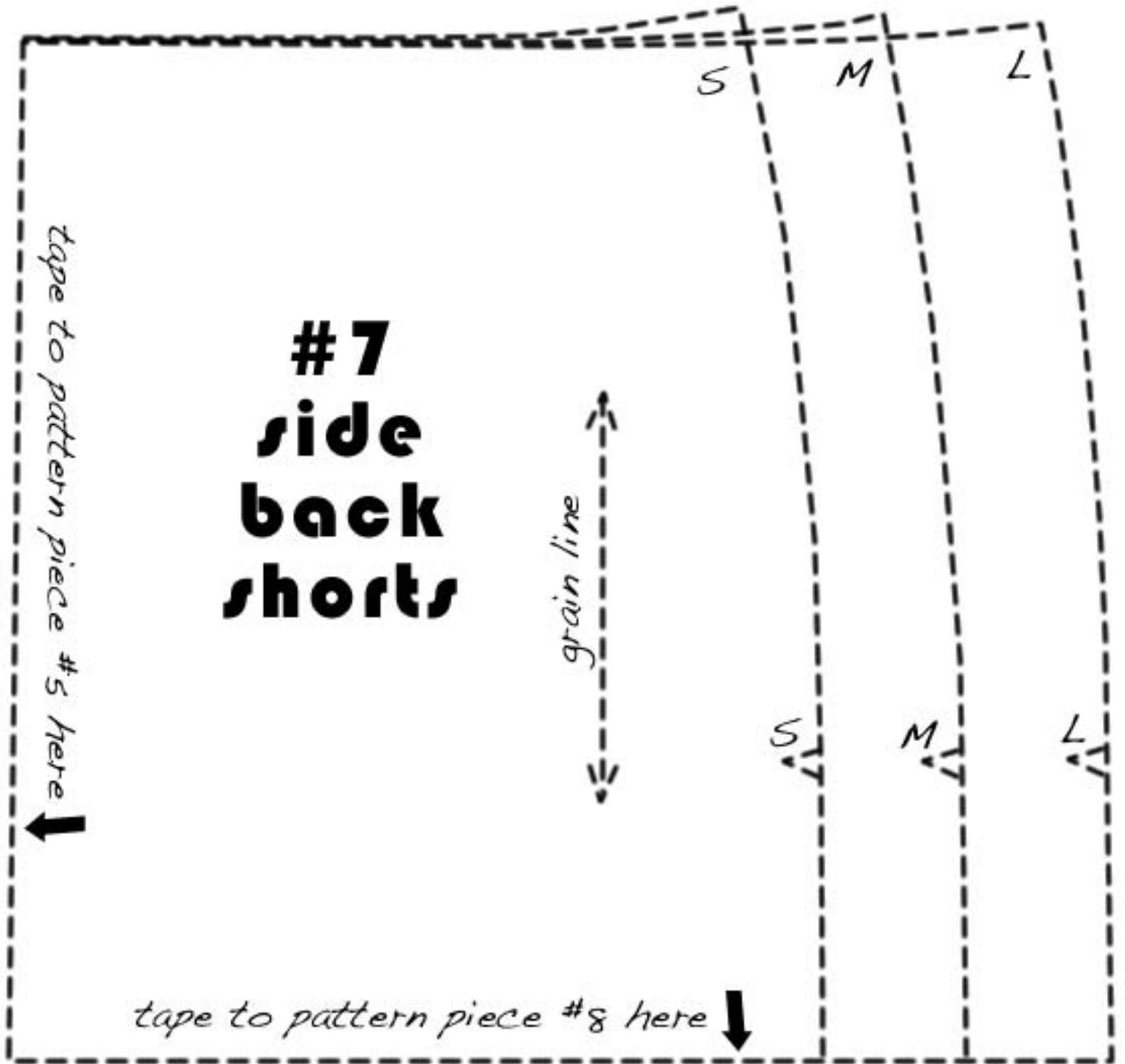
tape to pattern piece #7 here ⬆

#8
side
back
shorts

grain line

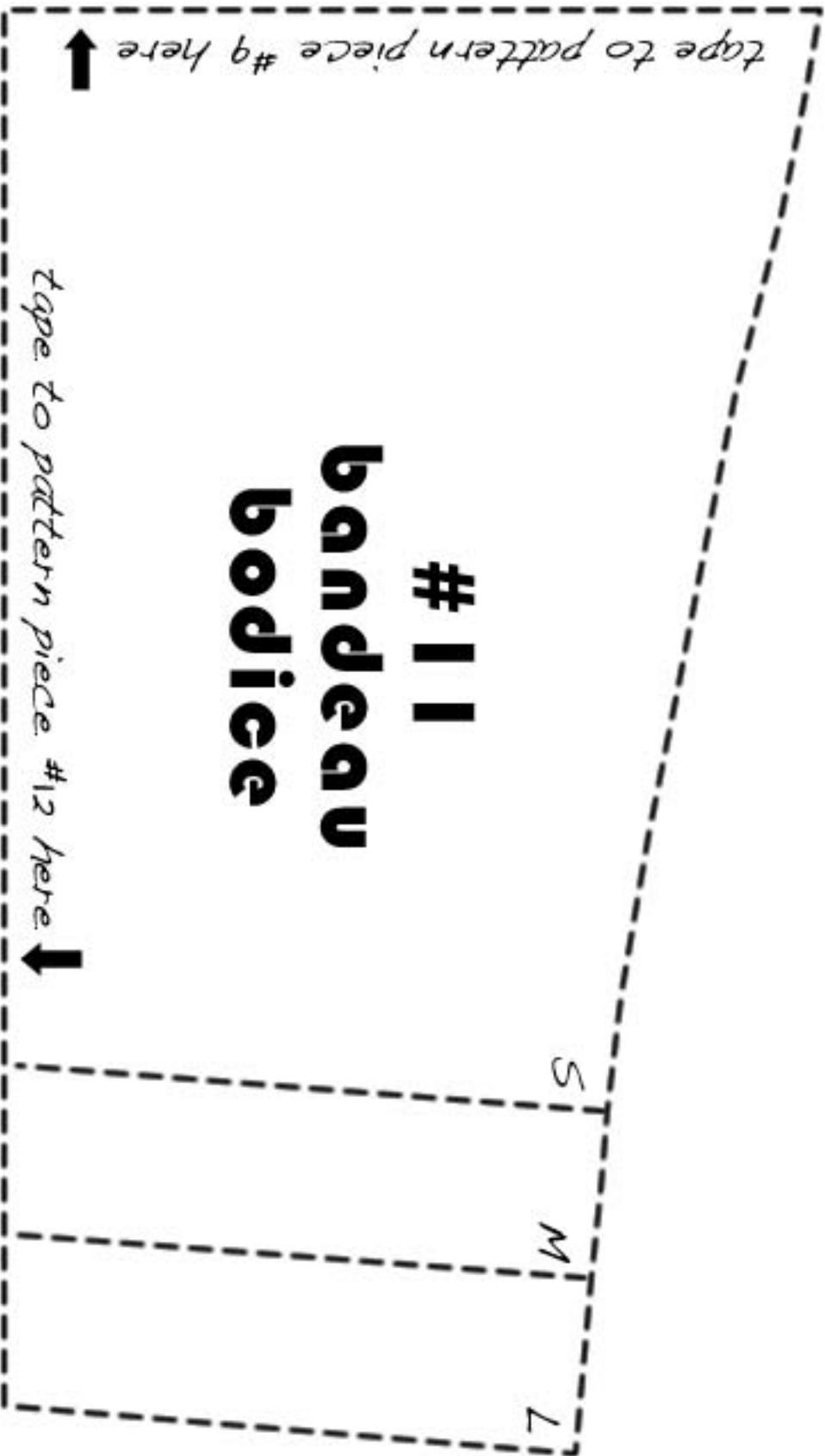tape to pattern piece #6 here ⬅

S M L

fold

notch

center front

awl punch hole

tape to pattern piece #10 here

#9
bandeau
bodice

strap notch

tape to pattern piece #11 here
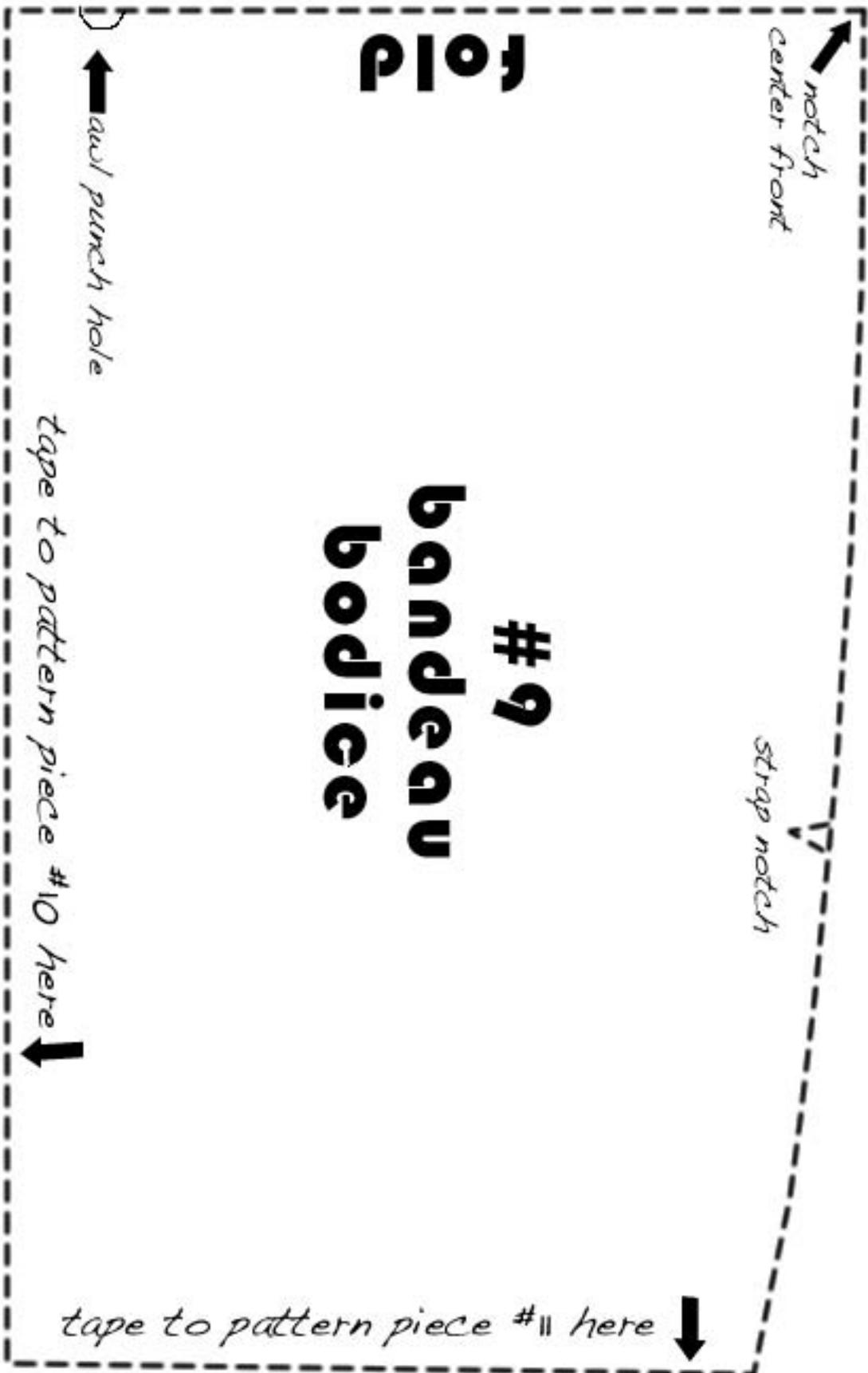
fold

#10
bandeau
bodice

tape to pattern piece #9 here

tape to pattern piece #12 here

sideseam notches

S

M

L

tape to pattern piece #9 here ↑

tape to pattern piece #12 here ←

#11
bandeau
bodice

S

M

L

tape to pattern piece #10 here ↑

tape to pattern piece #11 here →

#12
bandeau
bodice

S

M

L