

Technique	Explanation	Visual Example
Gather	Drawing fabric together along one or more lines of stitching to create fullness, ruffles, or to fit a larger piece of fabric into a smaller one (like a skirt to a waistband).	
Dart	A V-shaped fold stitched into the fabric that tapers to a point. It is used to shape flat fabric to the curves of the body (typically at the bust, waist, or hips).	
Pleat	A fold in the fabric created by doubling the material back on itself and securing it in place. Common types include knife pleats, box pleats, and accordion pleats.	
Tuck	A small, narrow fold of fabric stitched in place, usually along its entire length. Tucks are often used for decoration (pin-tucks) or to manage small amounts of excess fabric.	
Shirring	Multiple parallel rows of gathers, often created using elastic thread in the bobbin. This creates a stretchy, textured, and form-fitting area on a garment.	
Smocking	A decorative technique where fabric is gathered into tight, even pleats and then secured with ornamental embroidery stitches. It allows the fabric to stretch.	
Godet	A triangular piece of fabric inserted into a seam (often at the hem of a skirt or sleeve) to add extra flare, volume, and movement.	