

## **Measurement Instructions**

Your garments will be made according to the measurements **you provide.** Accurate measurements are essential for a properly fitting garment and are easily distorted when taken by oneself.

I strongly recommend asking someone to help you, and taking your measurements at least twice to ensure accuracy.

Please ask me any questions **before completing your order** to confirm you are taking measurements correctly. Alterations can be made if necessary, but they will be at **your cost.** 

There are absolutely no returns on special order items.

**Note:** The fit of clothing varies greatly from era to era and is nothing like modern clothing. With a few exceptions (such as the 1920s), most garments through the 1960s were intended to fit nearly "skin-tight," with little or no ease. Proper undergarments are critical to achieving the correct fit. If you have any questions about period fit, please contact me.

**Note:** All measurements should be taken while wearing the undergarments, stockings, shoes, etc. that you plan to wear with the finished garment.

The diagrams provided show the correct locations for each measurement. Measuring in the wrong spot can lead to false results. For example: when measuring your waist, some people measure below the belly button—but your **natural waistline** is actually above the belly button, just under the rib cage.

For additional help, I recommend watching this clear step-by-step video:

How to Take Your Body Measurements (YouTube)

This video includes many more measurements than I require. Please focus on the list below, though you are welcome to provide additional measurements if you wish.

## **Required Measurements**

- **Bust/Chest** Measure around the fullest part of your bust. Wrap the tape under your arms, across your shoulder blades, and back to the front.
- Waist Measure at your natural waistline (above your belly button, below your rib cage). Bend to the side—where the crease forms is your natural waist. Do not "suck in" your stomach. If you usually wear clothes lower than your waist, record that measurement too.
- **Hips** Measure around the widest part of your hips and buttocks. Check in a mirror to make sure the tape is level all the way around.
- **Back Waist** From the base of your neck (where it meets your shoulders) down your spine to your natural waist (mark this with a ribbon). Typical lengths: 15–17". If your number is outside that range, measure again.
- Outseam (Waist to knee/hem/floor) Very difficult to take on your own. Do not bend over while holding the tape—it will shorten the measurement. Hold the "0" at your waist, let the tape drop to the floor, and step on it to mark the end point. Check the number at your waist. Use this method only in emergencies.
- **Inseam** (not generally needed for women/children) Distance from the inner thigh to the ankle.
  - o With help: While wearing pants, have someone measure from crotch to ankle.
  - Without help: Measure a pair of pants that fit perfectly, from crotch seam to hem.
    Adjust for shoe heel height.
- Upper Arm Measure around the widest part of your upper arm.
- Sleeve Length (straight arm) With your arm at your side, measure from the shoulder seam point down to the wrist.
- Sleeve Length (bent from center back) Place your hand at your waist with elbow bent at 90°. Measure from the middle of the back of your neck, across your shoulder, down your arm to wrist.



