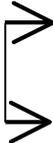


Soft Structured Carrier



Symbol Key

Place Pattern on Fold	
Add/Subtract Length	
Grain line for Patterned fabric	
Reinforced X-Box Stitching	
Strap Placement	
Top-stitching	
Line up to Sew Darts	
Line up Pattern pieces	A
Line up Shoulder Strap Placement	
D-ring Placement	
Top-stitching	
Lines of note, but which are not sewn	

Safety Considerations!

You will be using this to carry precious cargo, so be sure to use only good quality materials. Fabrics should all be bottom-weight (like one would use for pants). If you hold them up to the light, you should not see very much light through them. Canvas, denim, heavy twill, some hemp fabrics, etc., of at least 8 oz are safe. Corduroy should be reinforced with another heavy fabric at all weight bearing connections because it has been known to tear under stress. Make sure all weight-bearing seams have at least 3 rows of stitching; in this case more is more. When using the carrier always keep an eye out for strain in the fabric and seams. Check your carrier before every use for loose threads, worn fabric, broken buckles, etc.

Listen for 'popping' sounds when you put your carrier on, and check the stitching if you hear any such sounds. Buy your buckles and webbing carefully and make sure they have a sufficient weight rating. Buy only buckles from specialized camping stores, or similar places, which are meant to carry heavy loads. Be aware that sewing on a home machine will never be as strong or dependable as sewing on an industrial machine, and so don't expect your carrier to be as durable or long-lasting as many professionally made SSCs.

The creators of this pattern and instructions are cannot be held responsible for inappropriate use of the finished carrier. Nor are they responsible for bad choices in materials, faulty sewing, or failure of the carrier in any way due to construction techniques. These directions are just suggested, and it is up to every sewer's discretion to follow them and sew the carrier in a safe fashion.

Supplies

Fabric:

- Waist belt: You need a piece of fabric about 24" x 36"
- Shoulder straps you need a 16" x 26" piece
- Body: each piece (as shown in pattern) will fit on a fat quarter. 18" x 22" so for three layers you will need 3 fat quarters or one yard of fabric

Webbing:

- 2' of 2" polypropylene webbing for waist,
- 4' of 1.5" polypropylene webbing for the shoulder straps.
- One 2" single adjust clip for the waist
- Two 1.5" single adjust clips for the shoulders.
- Optional is 1' of 3/4" and one 3/4" clip for a chest strap
- Two 1" D-rings

Padding:

- two pieces of 16x13" fleece plus some small pieces for the shoulder straps
- high density foam about 1/2" thick for the waist you will need a piece at least 24"x33"x1/4". Some people use a cheap camping pad or a double layer of yoga mat

Fabric recommendations:

Straps:

- Canvas or twill also make good straps, especially if they are brushed or laundered.
- Both layers should be a sturdy fabric

Body:

- Either a hidden panel of 10+ oz. fabric with lining and decorative panel.
- Or two layers of bottom weight fabric such as twill, cord, denim or canvas with an optional inner lining or outer decorative panel.

Directions

Use 1/2" seams unless otherwise indicated.

Use a larger/heavyweight needle, at least 90/12.

Use good quality thread

Use a fairly small straight stitch (2-2.5 on most machines).

Go slowly over thick layers using hand wheel if necessary to help the machine along and allow the machine to feed for itself, do not pull/push, to avoid broken needles.

For extra durability you can, zig zag stitch, or serge, the edges around all of your pattern pieces to prevent fraying inside the finished SSC but it isn't necessary.

Assembly

Assemble the **Straight** Shoulder straps:

1. Assemble shoulder strap pattern and place on fold as indicated. Cut two pieces.
2. Cut two 13" by 16" pieces of fleece and fold into four layers lengthwise, final size about 3.5" x 16"
 - a. If you are adding a hood attach the D-ring to one layer of the shoulder strap using either a short piece of webbing or a length of hemmed fabric (see pattern)
3. Fold over 1/2" and sew the tapered end (hem).
4. Cut two 2" pieces of 1.5" webbing and use them to attach the female half of the 1.5" buckles to one layer of the tapered end with a single line of stitching.
5. Fold over the strap pieces lengthwise, right sides together and sew lengthwise stopping at the tapered end.
6. Turn right side out.
7. Insert the fleece into the tube of the shoulder strap, leaving 5-6" unpadded at the top.
8. Make sure the fleece is laying flat and top stitch down the middle lengthwise start/stopping about 1" into the fleece
9. Top stitch the tapered ends closed and finish attaching the webbing, using re-enforced (x-box) stitching to secure the webbing.

OR

Assemble the **Curved** Shoulder straps:

1. Assemble shoulder strap pattern and cut four pieces.
 - a. If you are adding a hood attach the D-ring to one layer of the shoulder strap using either a short piece of webbing or a length of hemmed fabric (see pattern)
2. Cut four layers of fleece padding. Use the inner outline (sewing dotted line) as the pattern piece for the fleece.
3. Sew the tapered end (hem).
4. Cut two 2" pieces of 1.5" webbing and use them to attach the female half of the 1.5" buckles to one layer of the tapered end with a single line of stitching.

5. Pin together the strap pieces lengthwise, right sides together and sew lengthwise stopping at the tapered end.
6. Turn right side out.
7. Insert the fleece into the tube of the shoulder strap, leaving 5-6" unpadded at the top.
8. Make sure the fleece is laying flat and top stitch down the middle lengthwise start/stopping about 1" into the fleece
9. Top stitch the tapered ends closed and finish attaching the webbing, using re-enforced (x-box) stitching to secure the webbing.

Assemble the Hood:

1. Assemble hood pattern, and cut two pieces.
2. Create hood ties by sewing bias tape closed, or creating your own bias tape cord.
3. Lay out one hood piece, right side up. Lay hood ties over hood, with one end at the bottom of each side of the hood. The hood ties should be laid out over top of the hood piece. Place the other hood piece, right side down, over top.
4. Pin edges together, and sew around outside (make sure you 'catch' the ends of the hood ties), leaving the top un-sewn.
5. Turn the hood right side out, through the portion you left open at the top.

Assemble the Body:

1. Assemble body pattern and cut out 3 body pieces laying the pattern along the fold as indicated.
2. Sew the darts on each piece
3. Attach the shoulder straps and hood, as illustrated, on the center layer.
4. Cut the remaining 1.5" webbing in half, melt ends and attach as illustrated
5. Place the outside layer on top of the middle layer right side up
6. Place the inner lay on top of that right side down.
7. Pin the three layers together
8. Sew around the edge of the three layers, do not sew the bottom or over the four straps
9. Turn right side out and pull the straps through.
10. Topstitch around the edge, turning under the edges around the straps.

Assemble the waist belt:

1. Assemble the waist belt pattern and cut out the padding and fabric according to instructions.
2. Cut one 6" piece of 2" webbing, melt the ends and use it to attach the female end of the buckle on one end of one waist piece where indicated on the "right" side
3. Attach the remaining 18" of 2" webbing to the other end of the same piece where indicated on the "right" side.
4. Attach the body, inner lining to the wrong side of the other waist piece overlapping 2" as indicated, with two lines of stitching, 1/4" from the bottom edge of the body and an x-box on each end
5. sew the two waist pieces right sides together except where the body is
6. Turn right side out
7. Insert the padding, if using batting or fleece place on the inner side.
8. Tuck in the edges and topstitch along the waist strap where the body overlaps the body.

Buckles:

1. Clip the male portion of the buckles into the female
2. Thread the webbing through the male end. You are done.

Optional chest belt:

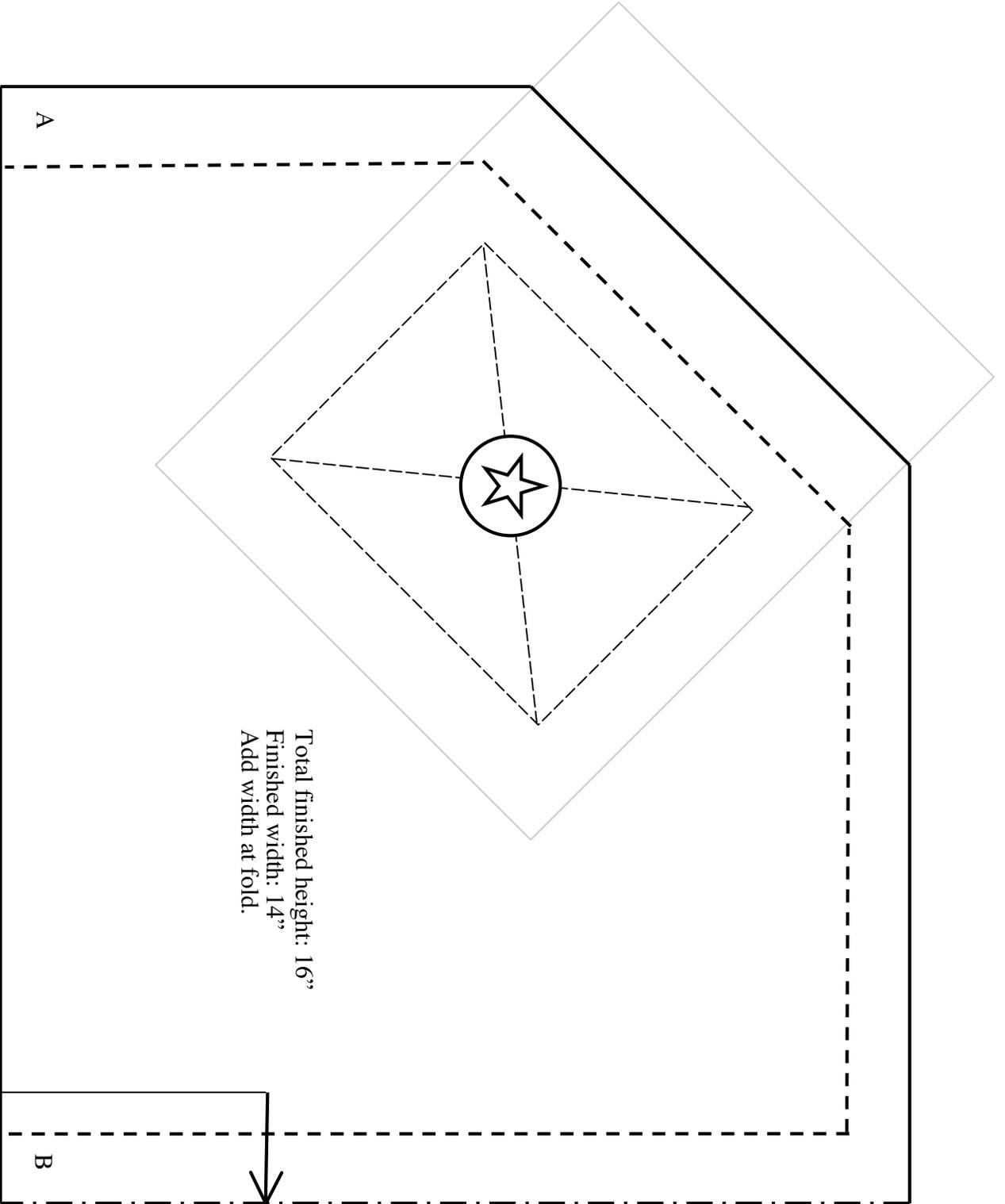
1. Make sure both ends of the 3/4" webbing are melted.

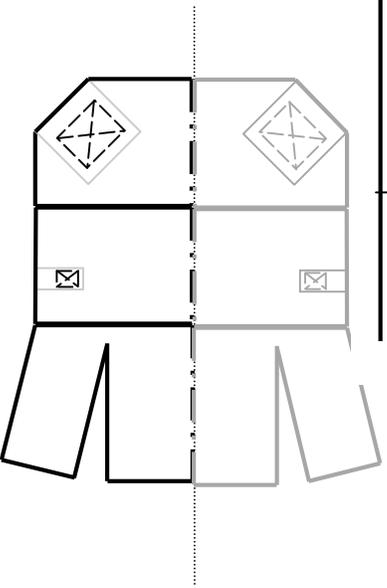
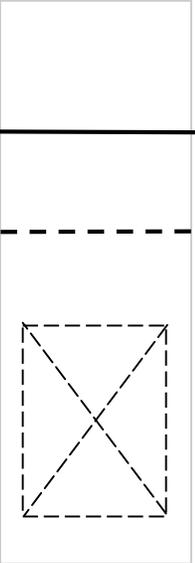
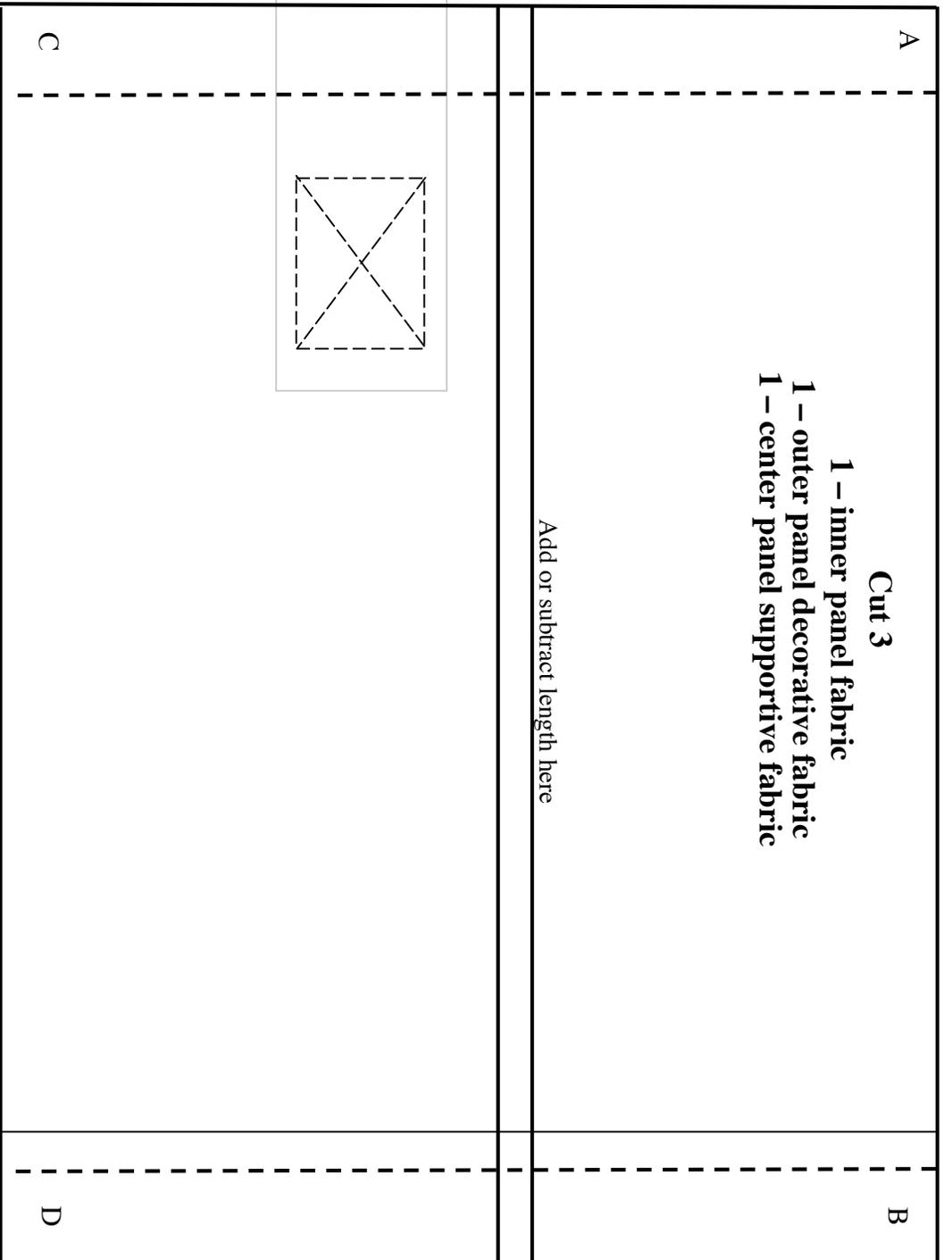
2. Sew the female half to one end overlapping about 1”
3. Clip the male half in and thread.

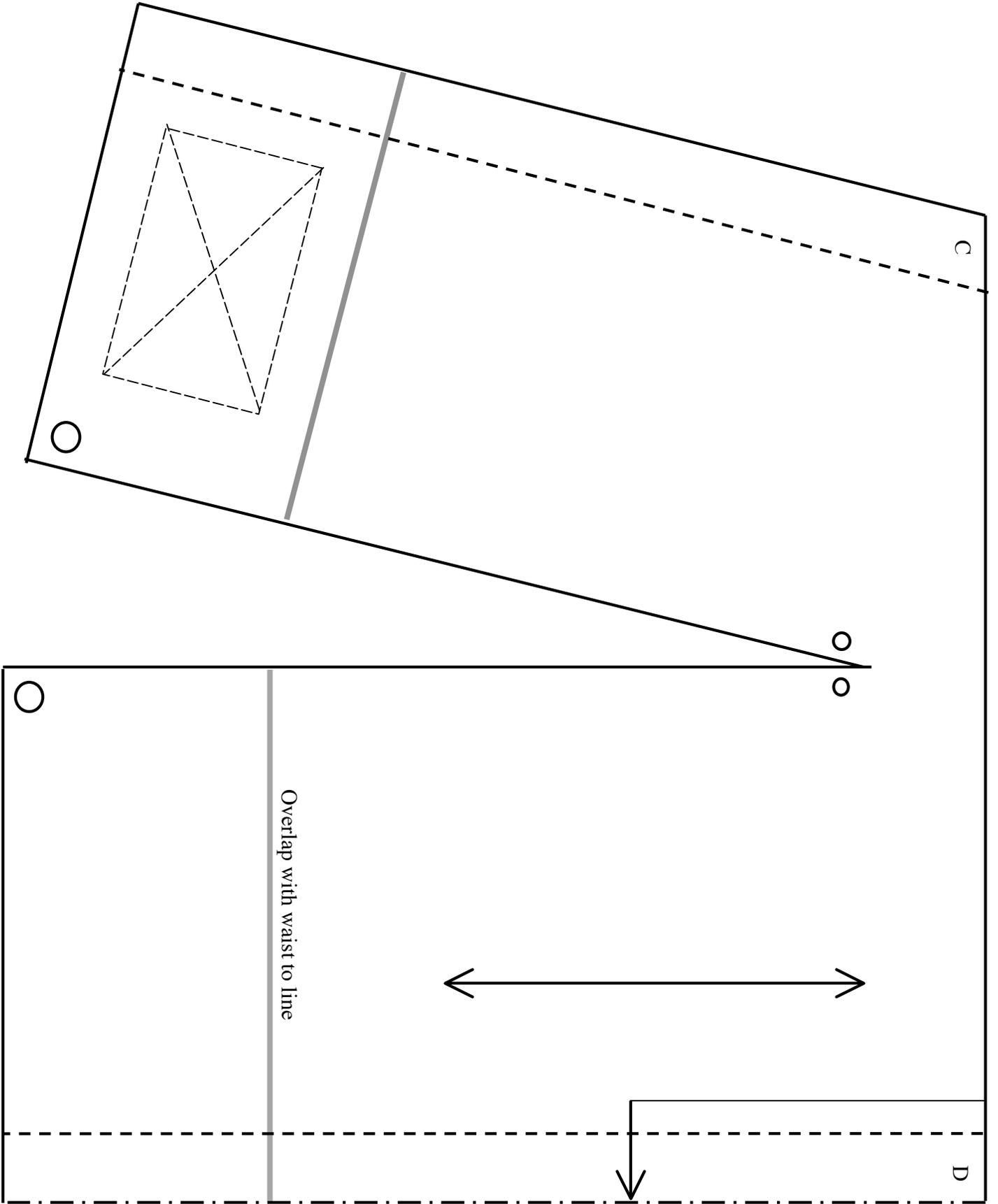
Go try it out!

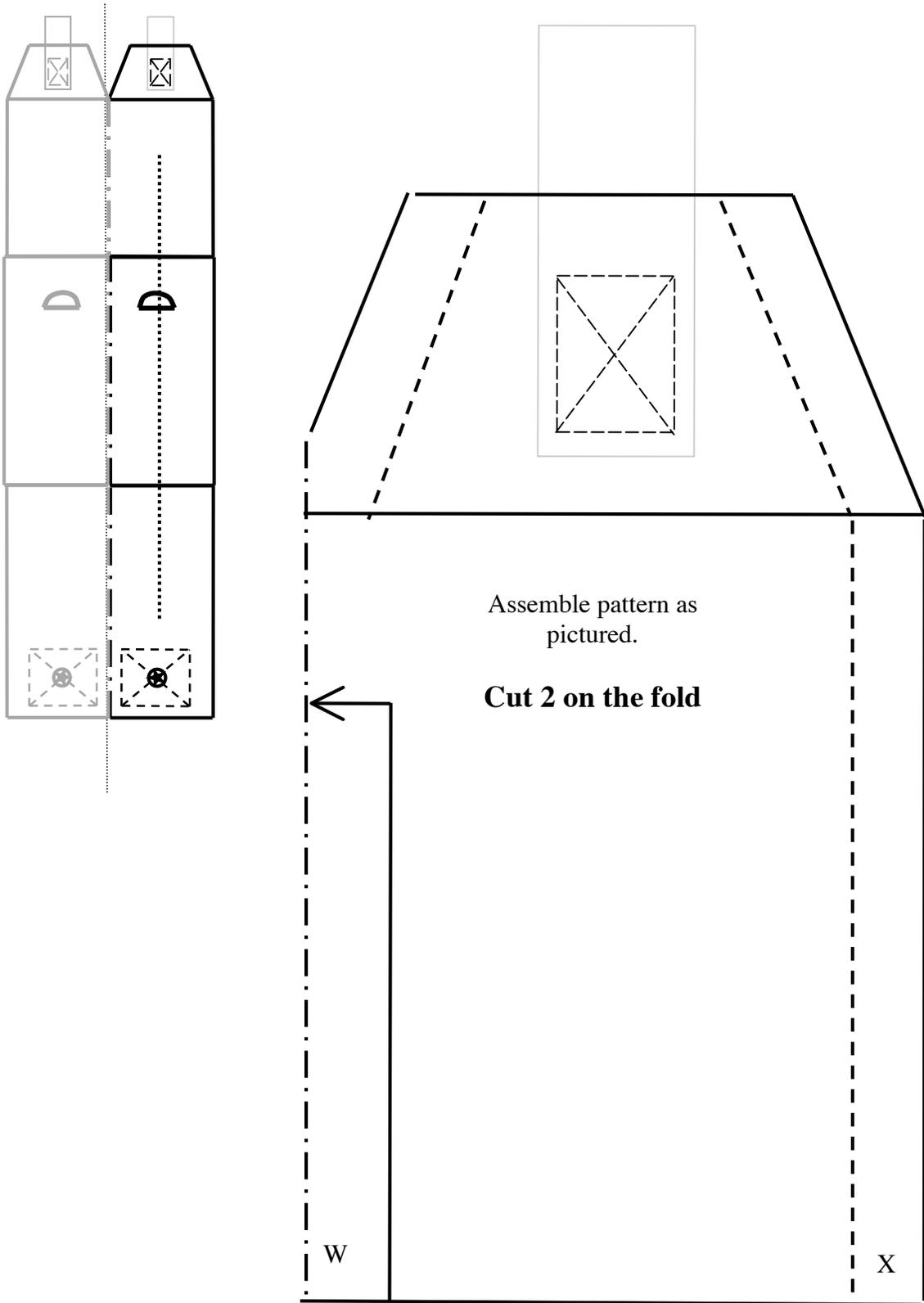
If you find any inconsistencies or errors in the suggested construction techniques, or the pattern pieces, please send us an email @ so we can update the pattern.

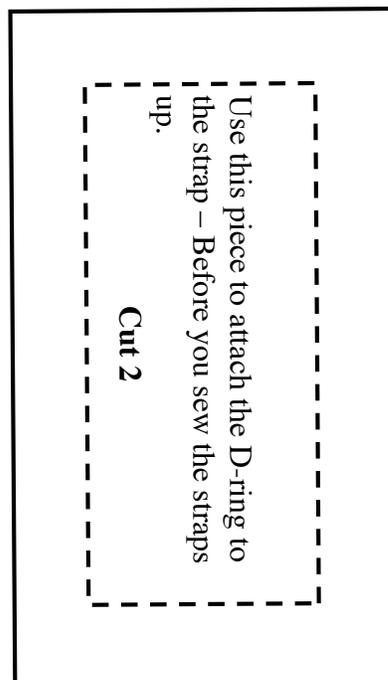
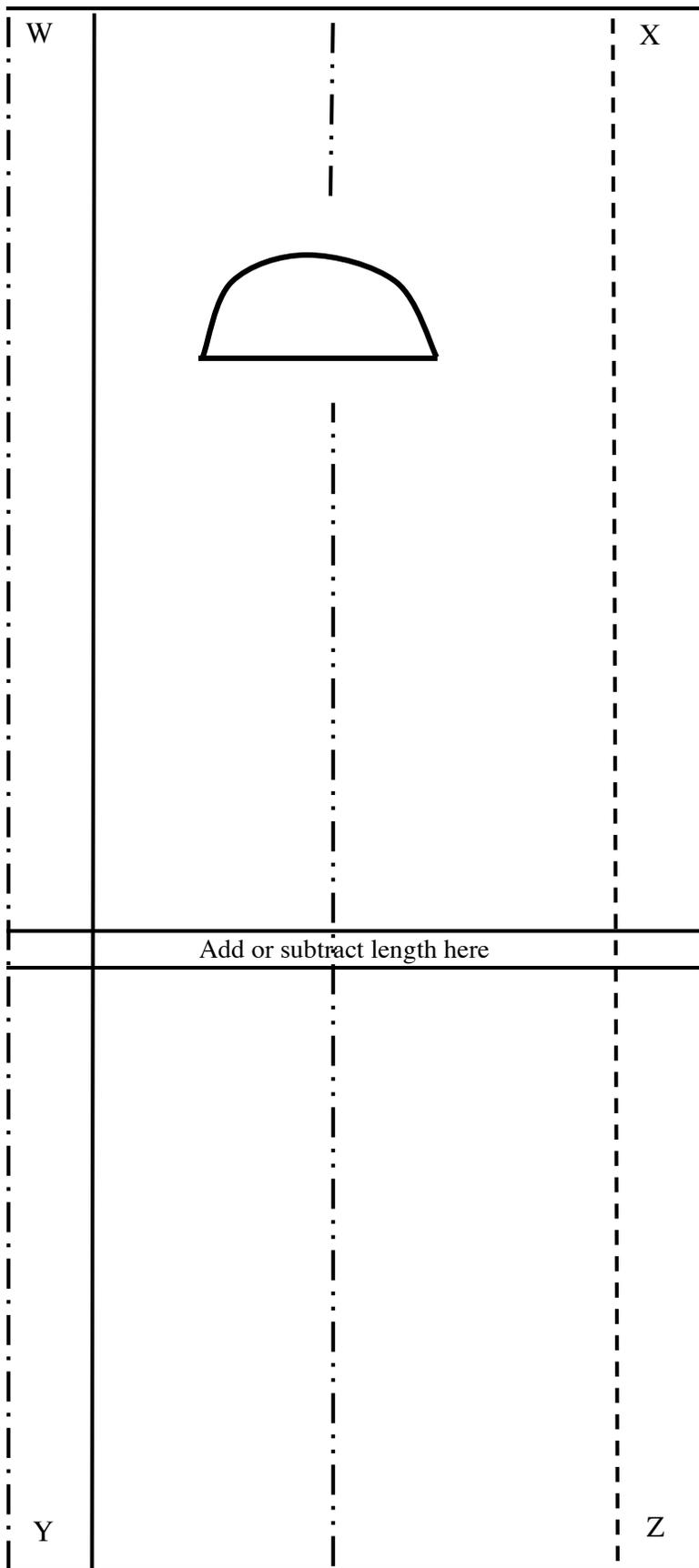
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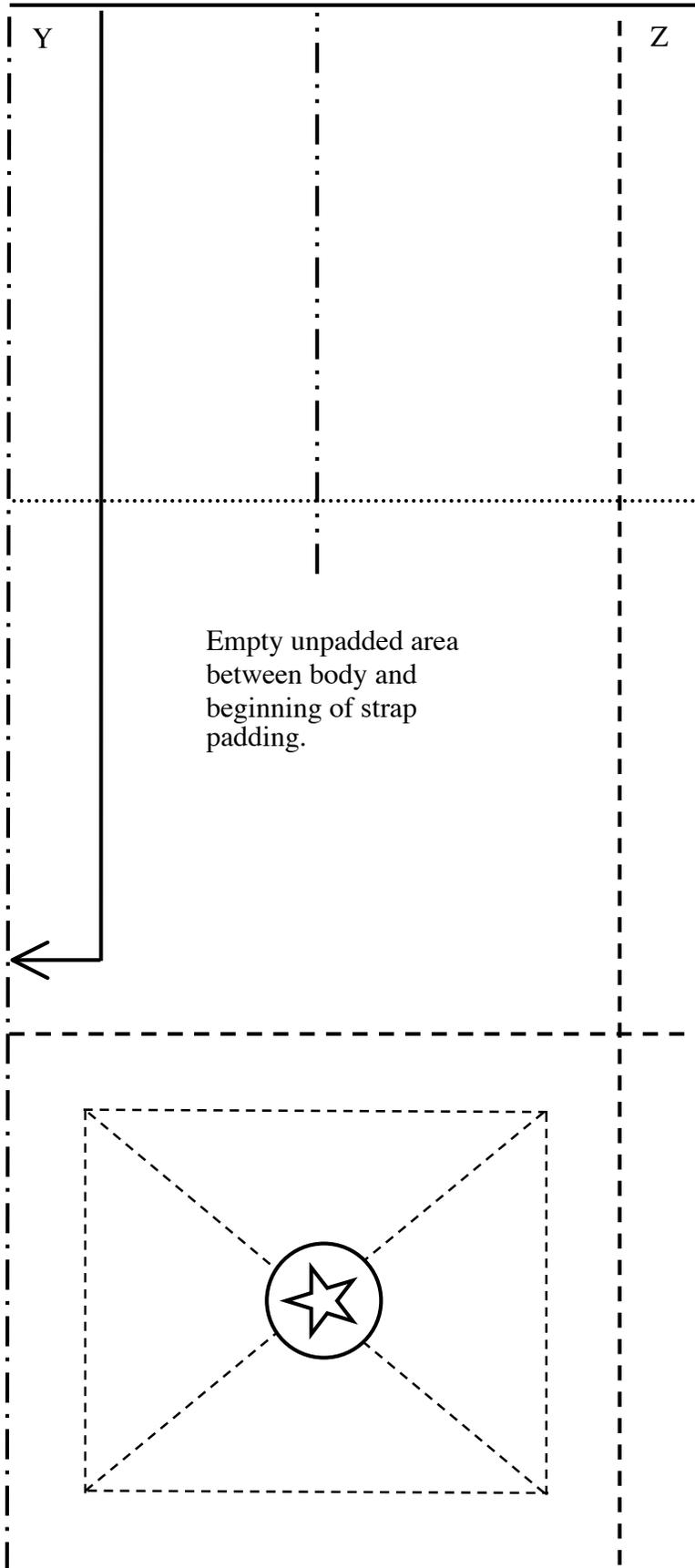


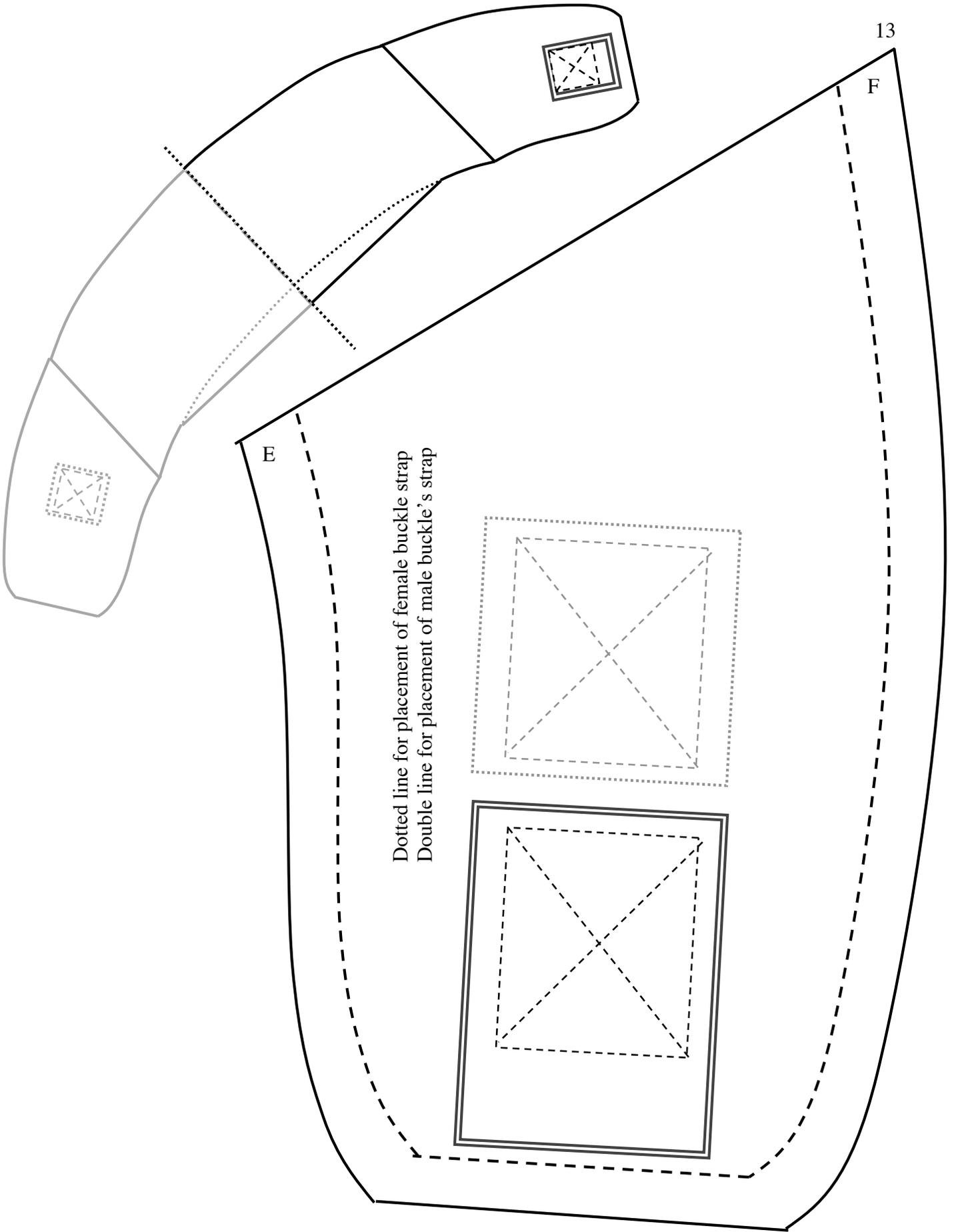












Dotted line for placement of female buckle strap
Double line for placement of male buckle's strap

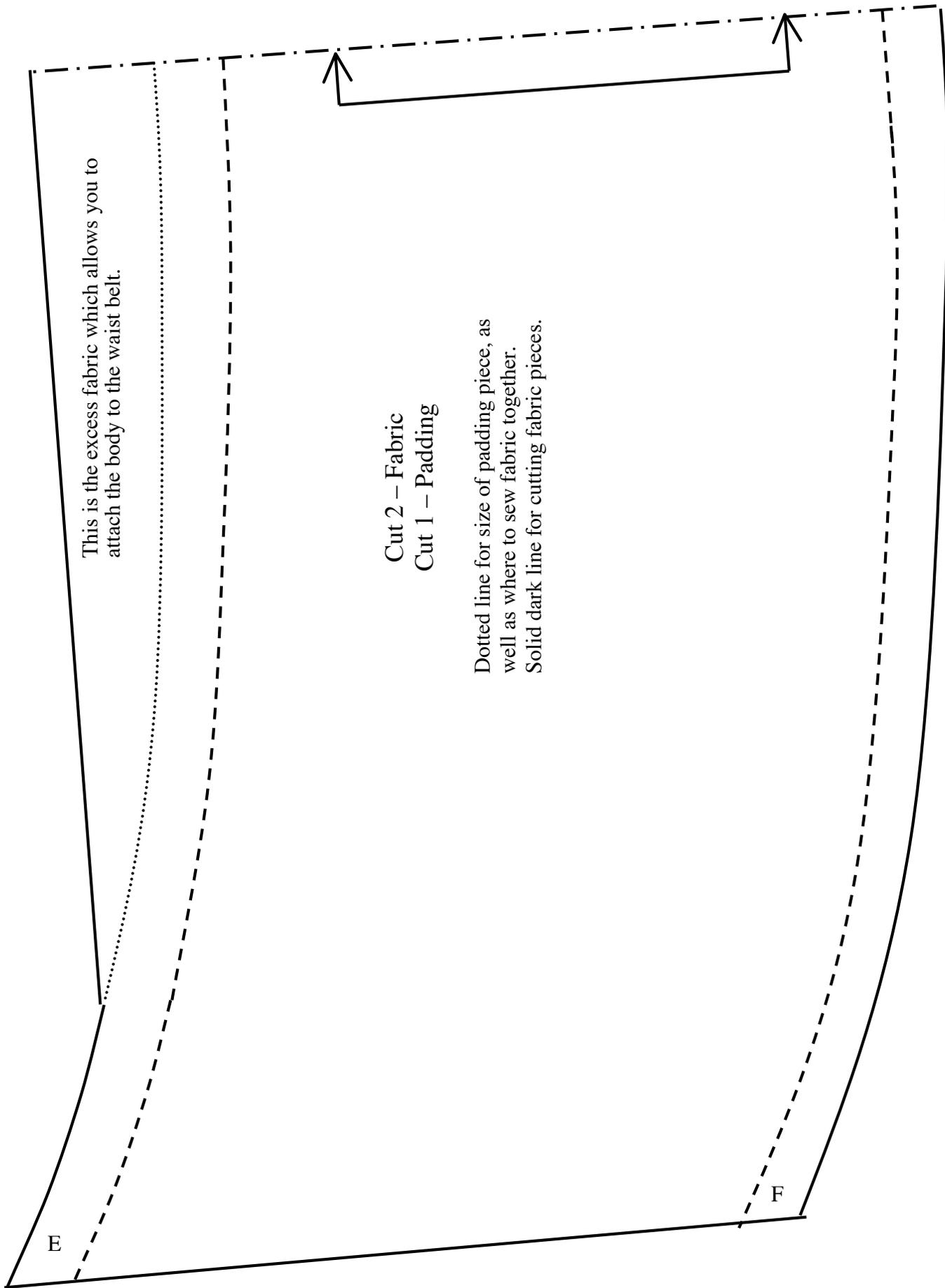
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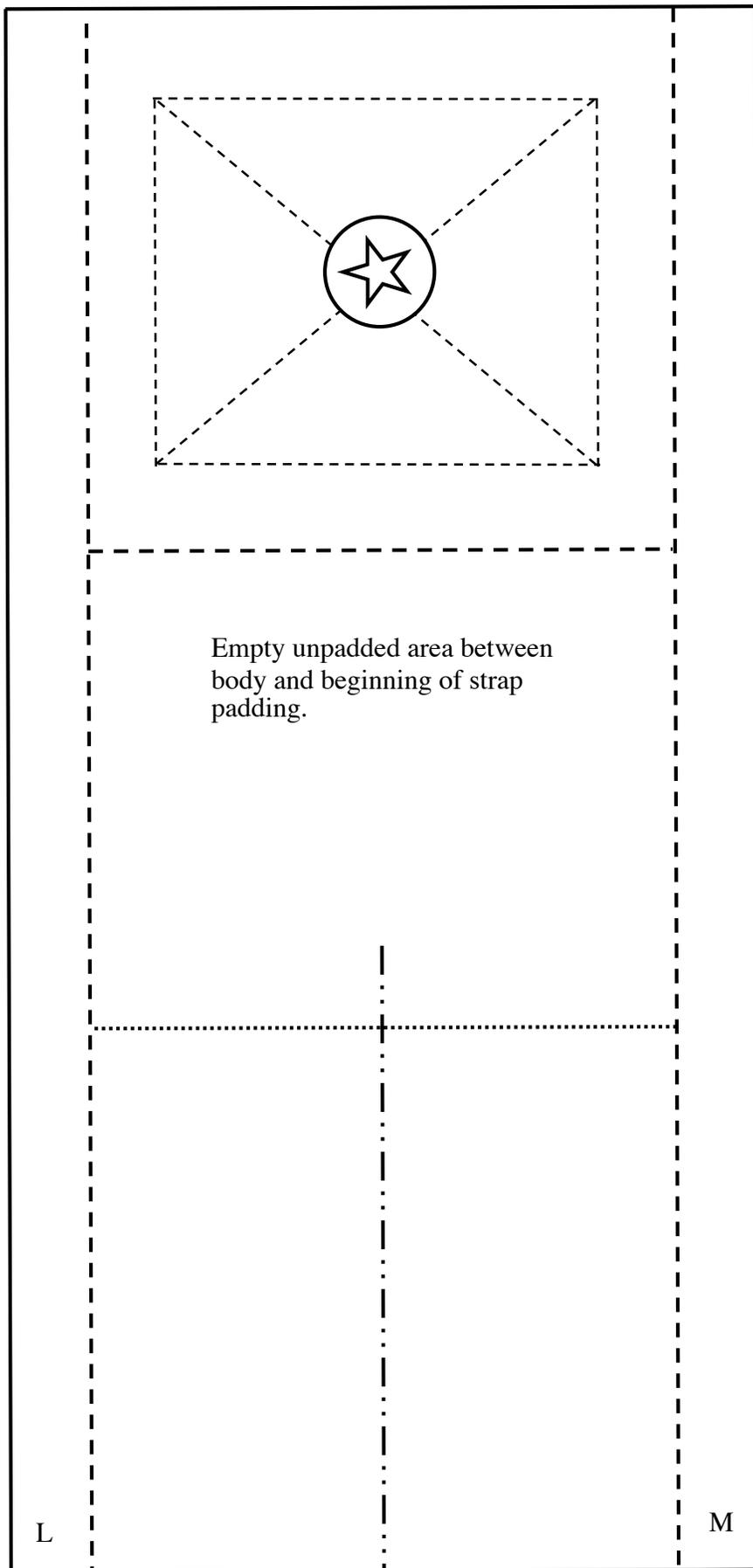
F

This is the excess fabric which allows you to attach the body to the waist belt.

Cut 2 – Fabric
Cut 1 – Padding

Dotted line for size of padding piece, as well as where to sew fabric together.
Solid dark line for cutting fabric pieces.





Empty unpadded area between
body and beginning of strap
padding.

