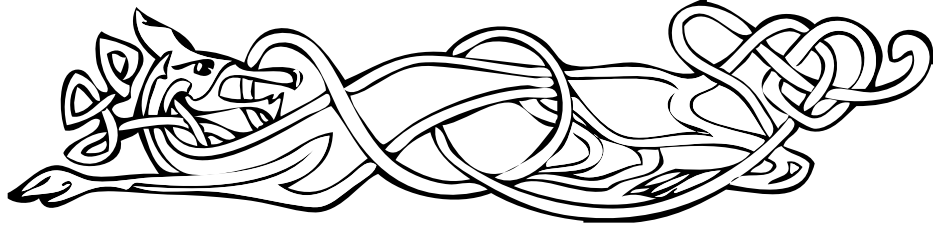


# ALONA'S SLUFF COAT PATTERN

Time: 4-5 hours      Skill Level: Easy to Moderate



This pattern is one I designed after moving to another Kingdom and finding a new overcoat, almost a surcoat that everyone seemed to wear. Generally, these are sleeveless long vests that drape to about mid calf, depending on the wants of the individual. Please take into consideration that the one I created is for Florida weather, and is very light and more for looking bad-ass than for adding another layer of warmth. Take into account the climate you will be using this in, and choose fabric accordingly. Cottons and linens and other non synthetic materials are good for hot climates, while poly fabrics are more acceptable to moderate temps, and even to fleece for those cold midwest winters. This is also able to have a lining, which would be cut at the same time as outer shell, assembled and sewn inside the outer shell. The design I created has a princess cut, which makes the coat more feminine, with slimming lines. I also added large triangles (dags) of fabric at the bottom to give the coat a wide flare, and added slightly pointed fabric to the shoulder to cover a slight amount of the arm. These can be changed however you want yours. Lots of Amtgarders put heraldry on these via applique. This how-to assumes you can sew on machine and know how to seam and hem.

## Materials:

- 4 yards of fabric for coat
- 2 yards of complimentary fabric color for dags (or same color as other fabric) This is optional, used for a wide flare.
- Bias tape for edging, also optional, it can simply be hemmed, instead of edged.

## Tools:

- Sewing machine
- Extra sewing machine needles for fabric type used
- Scissors
- Pins for bias tape
- Thread matching colors.
- Seam ripper for when you mess up
- Fabric washout pencil

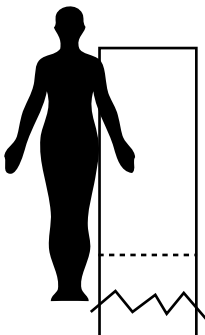
## Directions:

### Preparing the Fabric:

- Wash fabric in mild detergent, and no fabric softeners. Dry in dryer as per fabric recommendations. This allows for the fabric to shrink as much as it is going to, so there are no issues later or your coat may shrink on you.
- Cut off edges of fabric. Fabric has a finished edge, and it isn't needed. Cut it off evenly or do as I have a bad habit of doing and cut a small bit and rip the rest of the way, the fabric will rip along the threads, making a frayed, but even, rip. This trick is useful on some fabric types, but can really mess up others, check on a bit of it, if it doesn't work, just cut off the edges with scissors.
- Iron fabric if needed. Sometimes there are huge wrinkles left in the fabric after the drying. Make sure you have an even surface to work with. Otherwise the fabric will be slightly oddly shaped. Also keep in mind that if it has huge wrinkles, this fabric will have huge wrinkles if you leave it in your car or wherever in between wearings, and will probably be wrinkly when you wear it.

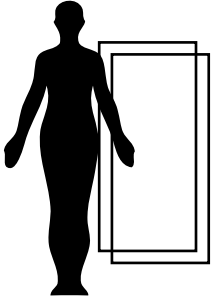
### Determining the Pattern:

- Drape the fabric from a bit above your shoulder in front of you to where you want the coat to hang, mine was about mid calf. Mark it, and add an inch for messing up, then cut horizontally along fabric.



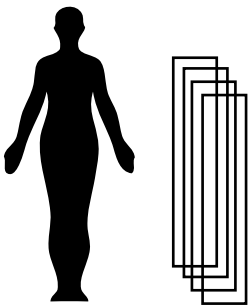
Drape Fabric, then mark line where you want to have coat end, this generally about 1.5 to 2 yards. Cut along dashed line.

- After cutting along line, bring the rest of the fabric up and cut so you have two pieces of fabric that are the same length as you want your sluff coat.



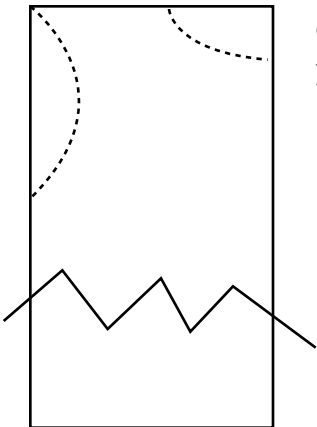
Lay the rest of the fabric on top of the rectangle you want and excess fabric so you have two pieces the same size. This will be the front of your coat and the back of it.

-Fold both pieces of fabric together on vertical center axis. Then cut along it. This creates 4 pieces of long rectangular fabric. This creates a front left, a front right, and a back left, back right panel each.

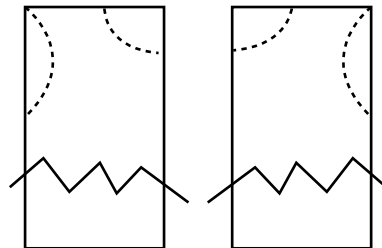


Now you have four rectangles on top of one another.

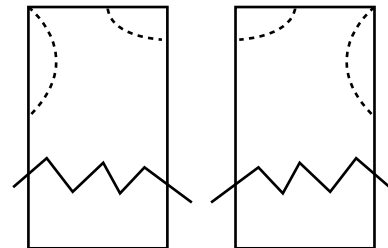
-Cut shallow arm half ovals on the upper left side of the squares. An easy way to check how long they should be is to use one of your own t-shirts, look how wide the sleeves are, and estimate how much space you want. I believe mine are about 8 inches long. Then cut a quarter oval at the upper opposite corner for a hole for your head. Again, use a t-shirt of yours that isn't stretchy to decide how deep and wide it should be. I tend to make the front scoop lower than the back, so I later simply take the two front pieces and cut the piece a deeper quarter oval evenly.



Cut along the dotted lines on all four pieces of fabric, below is what you will have if you unfolded it. Don't unfold it.

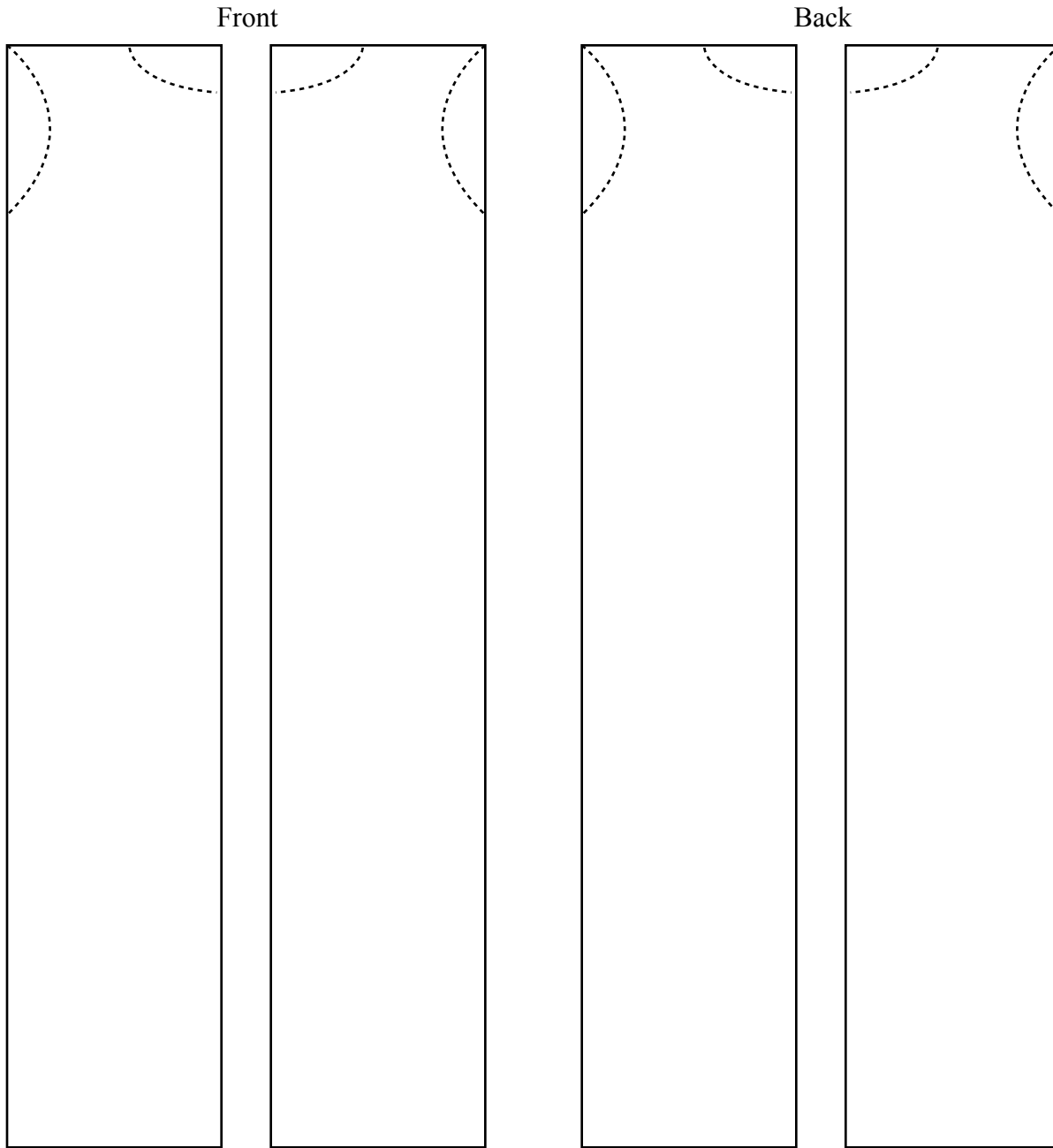


Front pieces



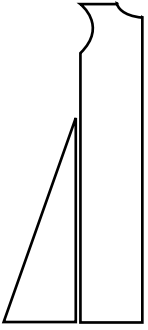
Back pieces

-Now is the time where it can get complicated. Right now you should have four pieces that look a bit like this:

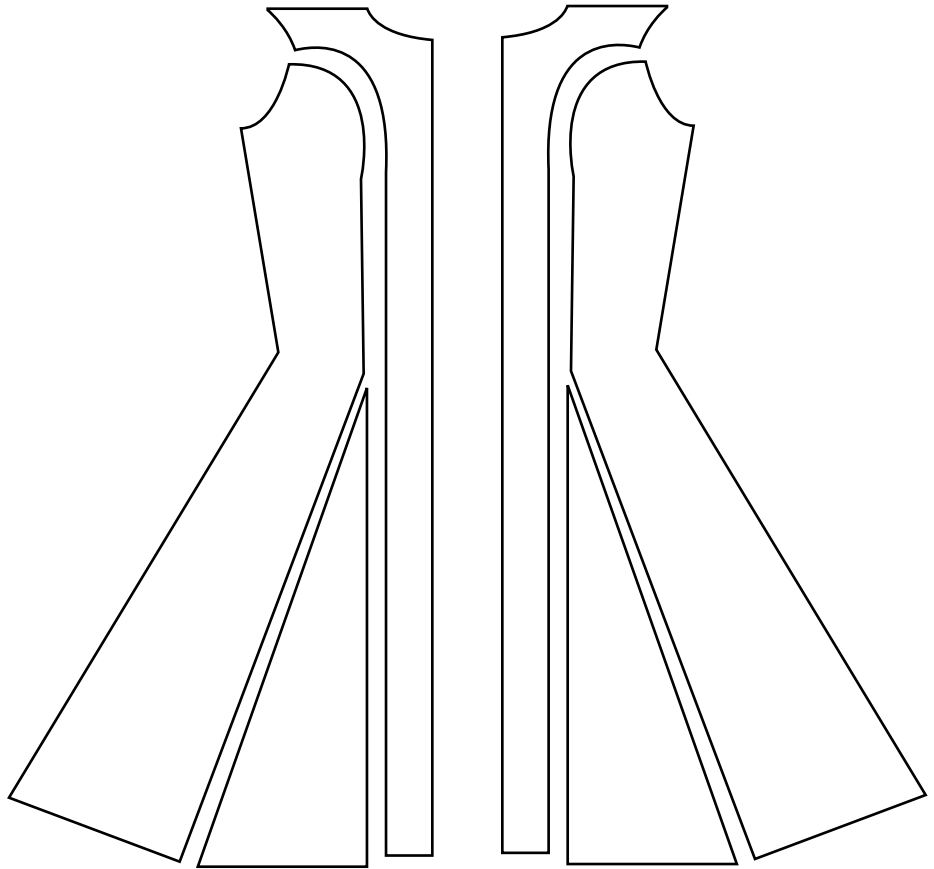
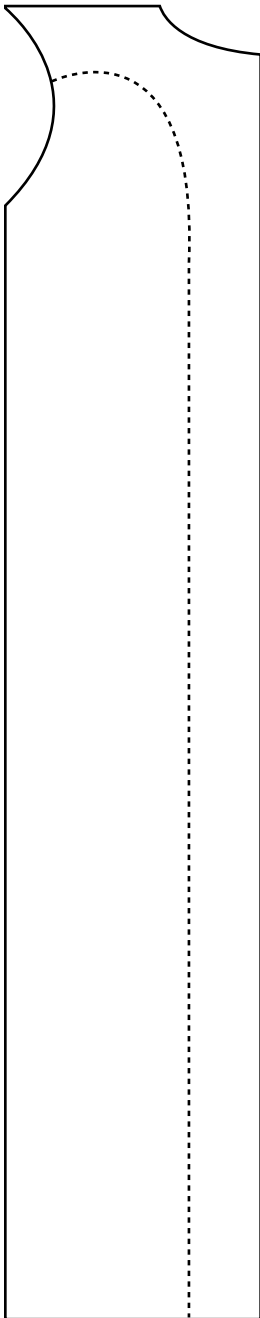


-Here is where you can decide what your sluff coat will look like exactly. You can have a simple tube, that falls straight down, or you can have one that flares. You can have a simple coat, with no complicated hemming, or you can have a more feminine curve to it using princess seams, which is a lot more work overall, but allow the fabric to curve more appealingly to a feminine form. If you just want a simple tube, then sew the two back pieces together, . If you want slits along the sides, (or back) then only sew from the armpit (neck from back) of the sides together to the hip. Hem entire piece and you are good to go.

-Dags. These create a flaring bottom. Simply cut multiple long triangles of matching size that reach up to wear you want the flare to begin. I chose to begin the flare at the waist. Sew to sides of coat. Then finish sewing coat together as per the simple tube method, and add bias tape if wanted.



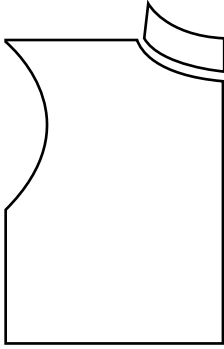
-Princess seams. This is the most complicated design of them all. I created one with princess seams and dags. Cut all four pieces so that a curving seam falls along the breast, and along the shoulderblade, and falls to the bottom of the piece. Sew together again.



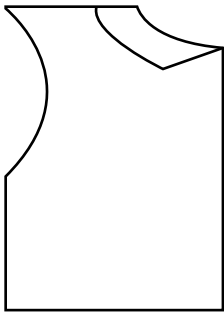
An example of princess seams and dags. Sew pieces together, minue armholes and front. Add embelishments like bias tape, applique, buttons, or whatever you want to make the coat uniquely yours (or your groups).

## -Collars

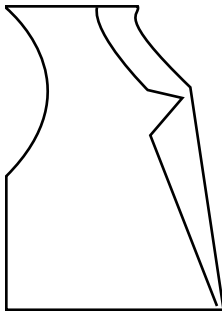
You can have a variety of collars for your coat. From simple hemming or bias tape, to a collar like on jackets. Here are some examples. These may be more complicated than you are used to, but with some thought anyone can do this.



Cut a long tube, fold it in half and insert a cut strip of stiff interfacing to hold it up, fold over and sew edges to neckhole.



Cut out a rectangle that is as wide as you want it long, attach to neckhole.



This is what I did. I simply did the above collar, and then added in a triangle of the bottom part along the inside of the coat, so it would fold over and not show the inside of the coat. Add interfacing as you want to stiffen it.