

LCD Fitting Checklist for TOPS

SET UP

- Wear the undergarments you'll wear with the finished top.
- Put the test garment on inside out (seams out). Let it settle.
- Stand naturally, take a few steps, relax.
- Take photos: front, side, back (natural light).

NON-NEGOTIABLES

- Tightness first is the only exception.
- Otherwise: **Length, then Circumference, then Depth.**
- **One change at a time:** pin, baste, re-check.

L: LENGTH (internal length first)

- Hang correctly from shoulders.
- Check landmarks (top down):
 - **Neck to bust:** is bust level in the right place?
 - **Bust to waist:** is waist level where you want it to hit?
 - **Waist to hips:** is hip level in the right place?
- Fix length, then re-check landmarks.

C: CIRCUMFERENCE (breathing room)

- Movement test: reach, lift arms, sit.
- **Need more room:** let out **vertical darts first**, then seams evenly.
- **Need less room:** take in **seams first**, then fine-tune with vertical darts.

D: DEPTH (needed here, not needed there)

- Only after L + C are set.
- Use darts to redistribute fabric where it's needed and remove it where it's not needed.
- Rules: **Vertical darts affect circumference. Horizontal darts affect length.**
- Pin one change, let settle, reassess.

COMMON CLUES (TOPS)

- **Pulling across bust/back:** circumference issue (unless bust level is too high or low).
- **Armhole feels off:** check shoulder angle and position first. Check length of shoulder seam.
- **Neckline pulls back:** May need to add fabric about 3" down from the neckline at the center back (largest at CB tapering to nothing at the armhole).
- **Diagonal drag lines to bust/shoulder blade:** check shoulder angle.
- **Pooling at lower back:** depth mismatch, take a dart at CB tapering to nothing at the side seams.

FINISH

- Baste changes. Try on again. Re-check in top-down, LCD order.