

## SIERRA

A SIMPLE, WRAP AROUND BRALETTE



# 01: ABOUT MADALYNNE INTIMATES

Madalynne Intimates is the manifestation of Maddie Flanigan's passion for sewing and teaching lingerie. She is the founder and owner, and her budding brand offers ready made bras, bralettes, underwear, and bodysuits, as well as DIY lingerie kits, lingerie sewing patterns, and bra making workshops. Every piece is designed at Madalynne Studios and either assembled in Philadelphia or sewn in Brooklyn; made in the USA being important to the brand. Overall, Madalynne's overarching vision is to provide women with well fitting intimates that support more than just your shape. From a floral lace halter bralette to a cheeky underwear, intimates that lift your personal style. At the same time, intimates worth baring.



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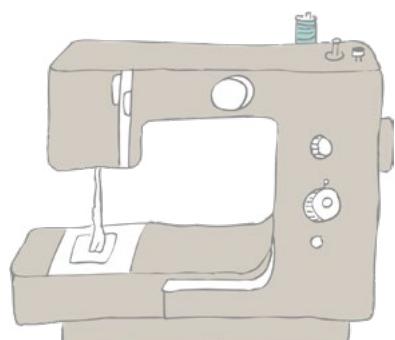
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Included in this packet is the Sierra Bralette pattern as well as a sew along. If you're like me, then you're a visual learner and need pictures. I will walk you the step so that your sewing experience is enjoyable. My goal is to set you up for success. This packet will also include additional tips and tricks for sewing lingerie. Ready? Let's get started!



# SIERRA: A SIMPLE, WRAP-AROUND BRALETTE



**OVERVIEW:** Sierra is a wrap around bralette that features a plunge neckline, adjustable straps and a hook and eye closure. It has a forgiving fit, and lends itself to being layered underneath scoop arm and oversized tops and dresses.

**INTENDED BRA MAKERS:** The bottom of the bra is finished with a zigzag stitch that outlines the scallop edge of the lace. With no underbust elastic, the support comes from compression, so this bra is intended for small chests - cup sizes AA-B.

**SUGGESTED FABRICS:** The pattern was designed for stretch lace with one side having a scalloped edge. Galloon lace at least 7" wide (8" for size LARGE) is an ideal choice.

**RECOMMEND LININGS:** Stretch mesh, micro mesh or powernet.

## GETTING STARTED:

**PRINT PATTERN:** Be sure that your print settings are not set to scale or zoom, and that you are printing at 100%. To ensure you're printing at the right size, print out the page with the test square first and measure to ensure it is 3" x 3". If it doesn't, you will need to adjust your printer or your computers settings.

**FIND YOUR SIZE:** Determine your size using the size chart diagram. If you are between sizes, I suggest sizing UP.

## SUPPLIES:

3 YDS galloon lace at least 7" wide (8" if a LARGE)  
1/2 YD lining fabric  
2.5 YDS 1/4" or 3/8" plush/picot elastic  
.75 YDS 1/4" or 3/8" shoulder strap elastic  
1 hook and eye closure 2x3 wide  
1 silver sliders 1/2" or 5/8" wide  
1 pair silver rings 3/8" wide

## SIZE CHART - FULL BUST MEASUREMENT

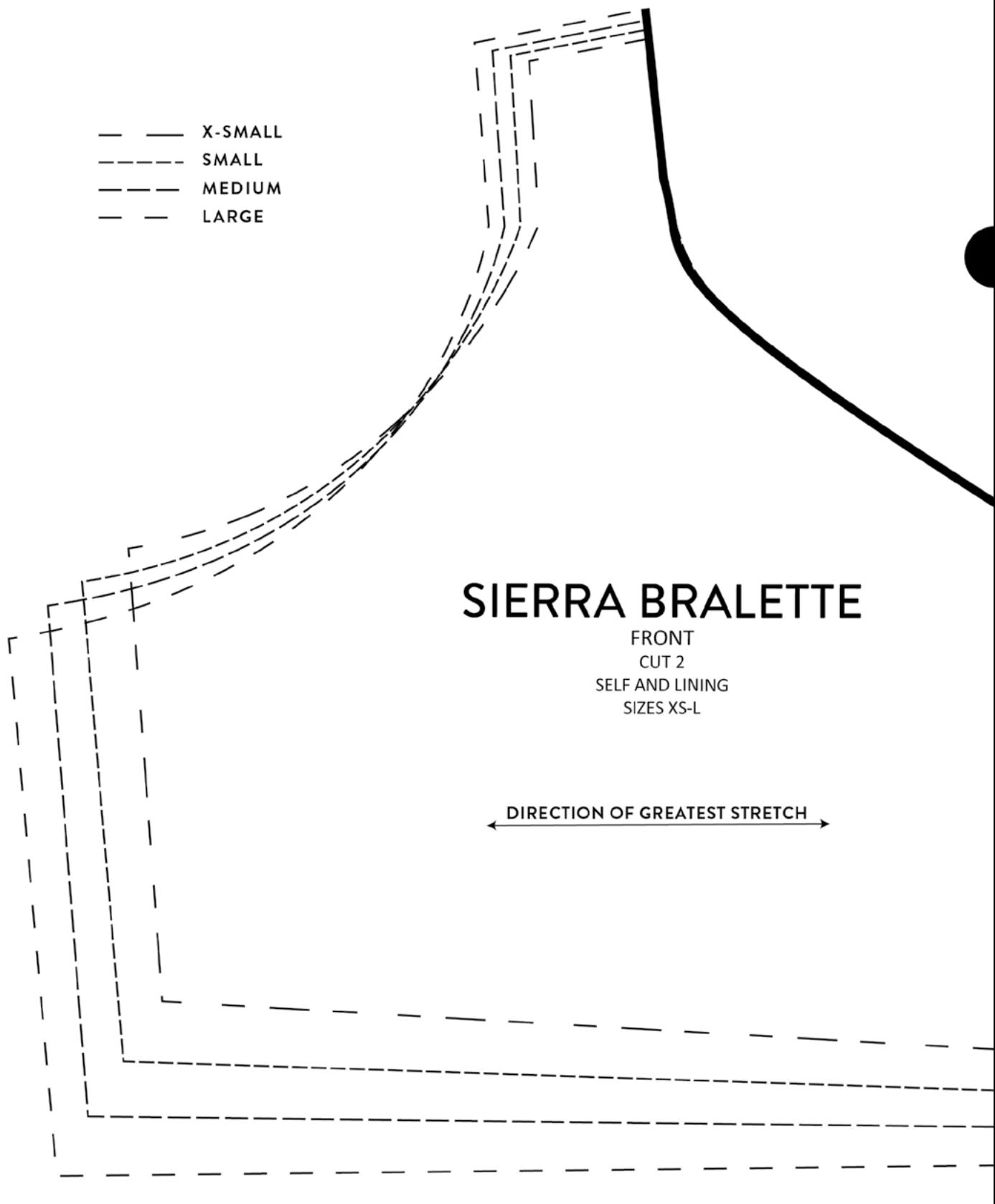
	X-SMALL	SMALL	MEDIUM	LARGE
FULL BUST	28.5-30.5 in 72.5-77.5 cm	30.5-32.5 in 77.5-82.5 cm	32.5-34.5 in 82.5-87.5 cm	34.5-36.5 in 87.5-92.5 cm

X-SMALL  
 SMALL  
 MEDIUM  
 LARGE

# SIERRA BRALETTE

FRONT  
CUT 2  
SELF AND LINING  
SIZES XS-L

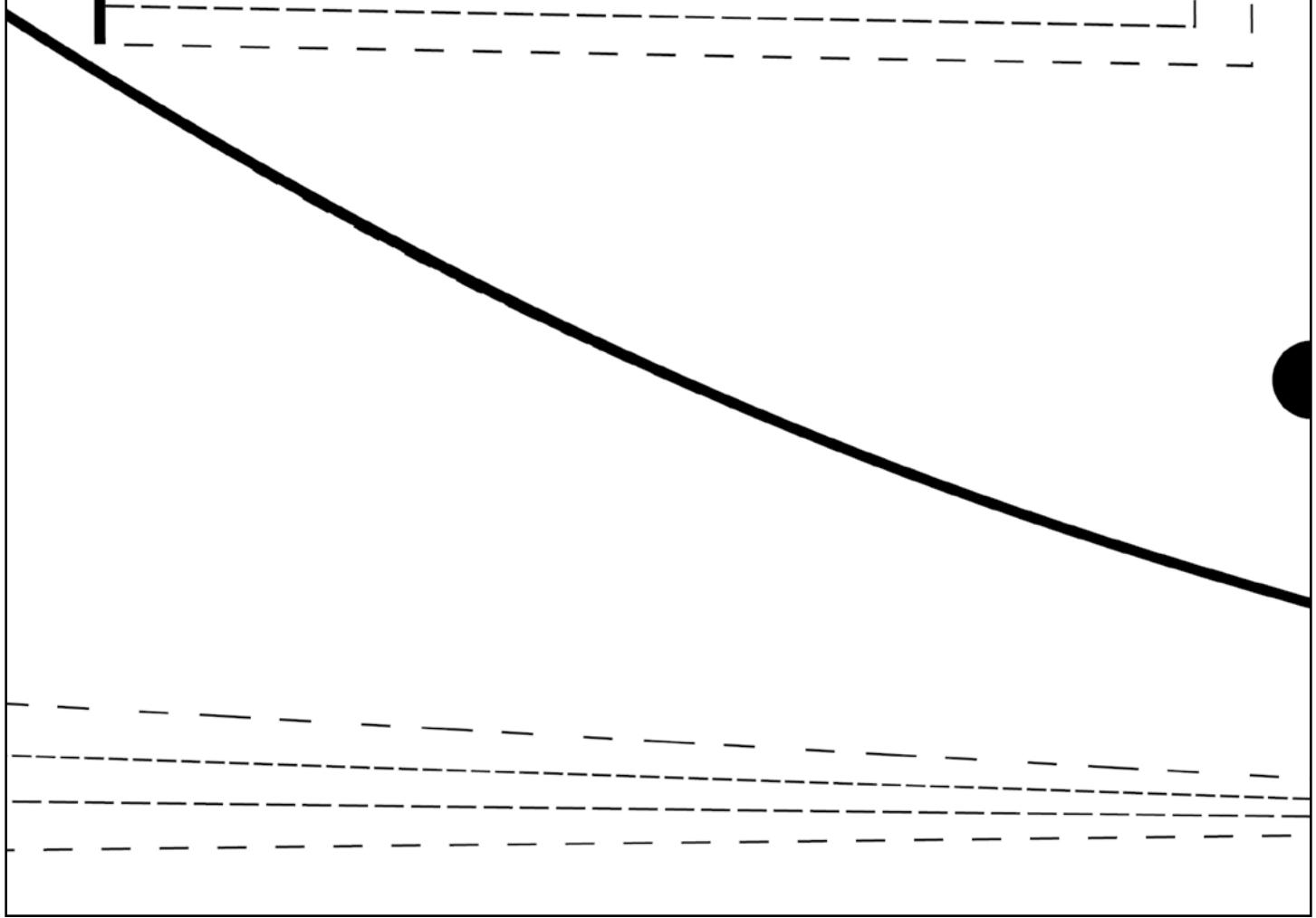
DIRECTION OF GREATEST STRETCH

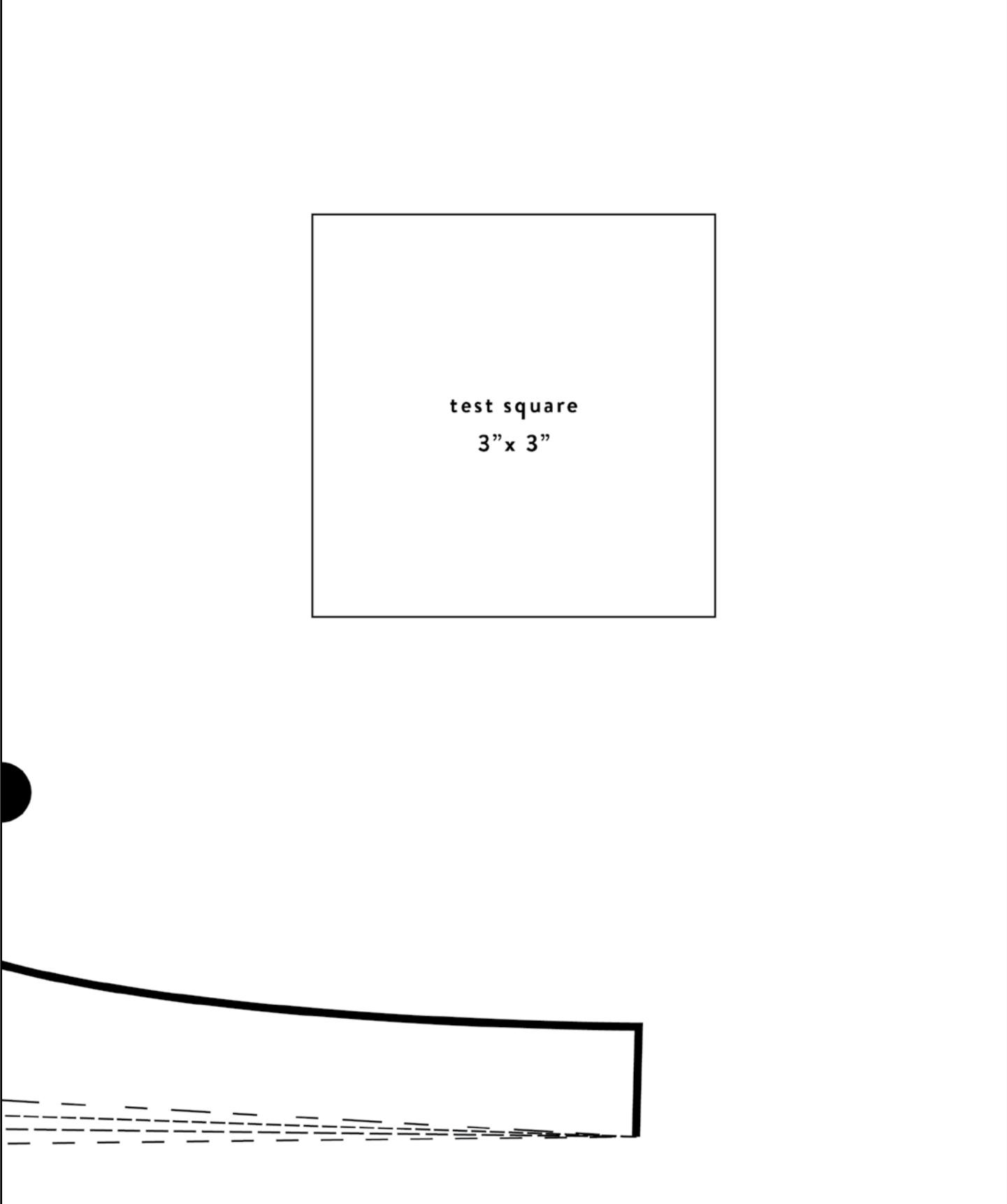


# SIERRA BRALETTE

BACK BAND  
CUT 1 ON FOLD  
SELF AND LINING  
SIZES XS-L

DIRECTION OF GREATEST STRETCH →





**test square**  
3" x 3"



# READY TO START SEWING YOUR SIERRA? LET'S GO!

Follow the instructions to print your pattern. Even though the directions state it, be sure that your test square measures 3" x 3". After, use a pair of paper scissors or a rotary cutter to cut off the right edges along the black line. Then, overlap the sheets so that the dots align and tape together. Next, find and cut out your size using the size chart.

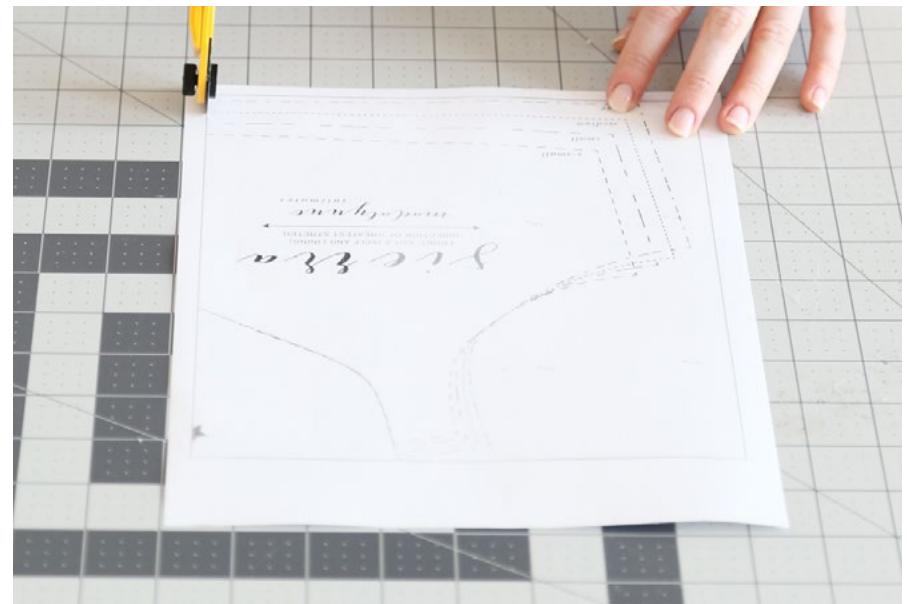
Cutting fine lace and lining can be really difficult. It's like cutting chiffon – lots of shifting! To make it easier, use a temporary spray adhesive such as Odif's to spray baste self and lining fabric together prior to cutting. You won't permanently adhere them – the glue will wear off in a short amount of time and/or during washing. If you spray baste, I suggest cutting and sewing within a day because

if not, the glue will wear off and what you did was just a waste of time. For Sierra, spray baste enough for the two fronts to be cut out, but leave a small space to cut the back, which won't be glued together. You'll see why later.

In a woven fabric, grainline indicates the direction that has the least amount of stretch, and in most cases, patterns are aligned with this line. In bra making, patterns are cut according to the direction of greatest stretch (DOGS). So, when you're looking at a bra pattern, lines with arrows indicate the DOGS, not the grainline. To find the DOGS on your fabric, pull on the lengthwise and crosswise. What has more stretch? On stretch fabrics, there is either a stretch in one direction, called a 2-way stretch, or a stretch in all directions, called a 4-way stretch.

Even though the Sierra pattern has a DOGS line, you can ignore. Regardless of the DOGS, the bottom edge of the pattern should align with the scallop edge of lace.

CUT OFF THE  
RIGHT EDGES  
ALONG THE



LEAVE A SMALL SPACE TO CUT THE BACK, WHICH  
WON'T BE GLUED TOGETHER



USE A TEMPORARY SPRAY ADHESIVE  
TO SPRAY BASTE SELF AND LINING  
FABRIC TOGETHER

## ONCE YOUR PATTERN IS PLACED CORRECTLY, USE A ROTARY CUTTER TO CUT OUT THE FRONT PIECES.

For the bottom, cut a straight line from the front edge of the bra wing to the side seam. I prefer to cut a straight line rather than cutting around the scallops because it's quicker and easier to sew. You will trim to shape later. Depending on the width of your lace, the strap point may extend past the lace's top edge. Totally fine - no big deal! Just cut the lining in the shape of the pattern. Because the strap gets turned back  $\frac{1}{2}$ " at this point when the ring is sewn, you'll be fine. You could also turn it slightly more if you have to. I won't tell!

When cutting the back, try as best as you can to have the scallops hit at the same point on the front and back at the seam lines. The width of your scallops may not allow it, but try!

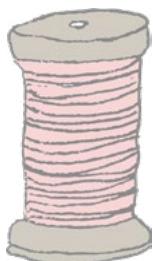








# SEW IN G



The first step of sewing is to attach the two front pieces to the back. We are going to clean finish this seam, which means we are going to sew the seam in such a way that the seam allowance is encased in the lining. To do this, sandwich the front (which are glued together) between the self and lining of the back. This is why we didn't

glue those two pieces together – because they have to be separate at this step.

Sew with 1/4" seam allowance and turn to the right side. For the opposite side, it will be a little difficult to sandwich the front between the back lining and the self, but you can do it!

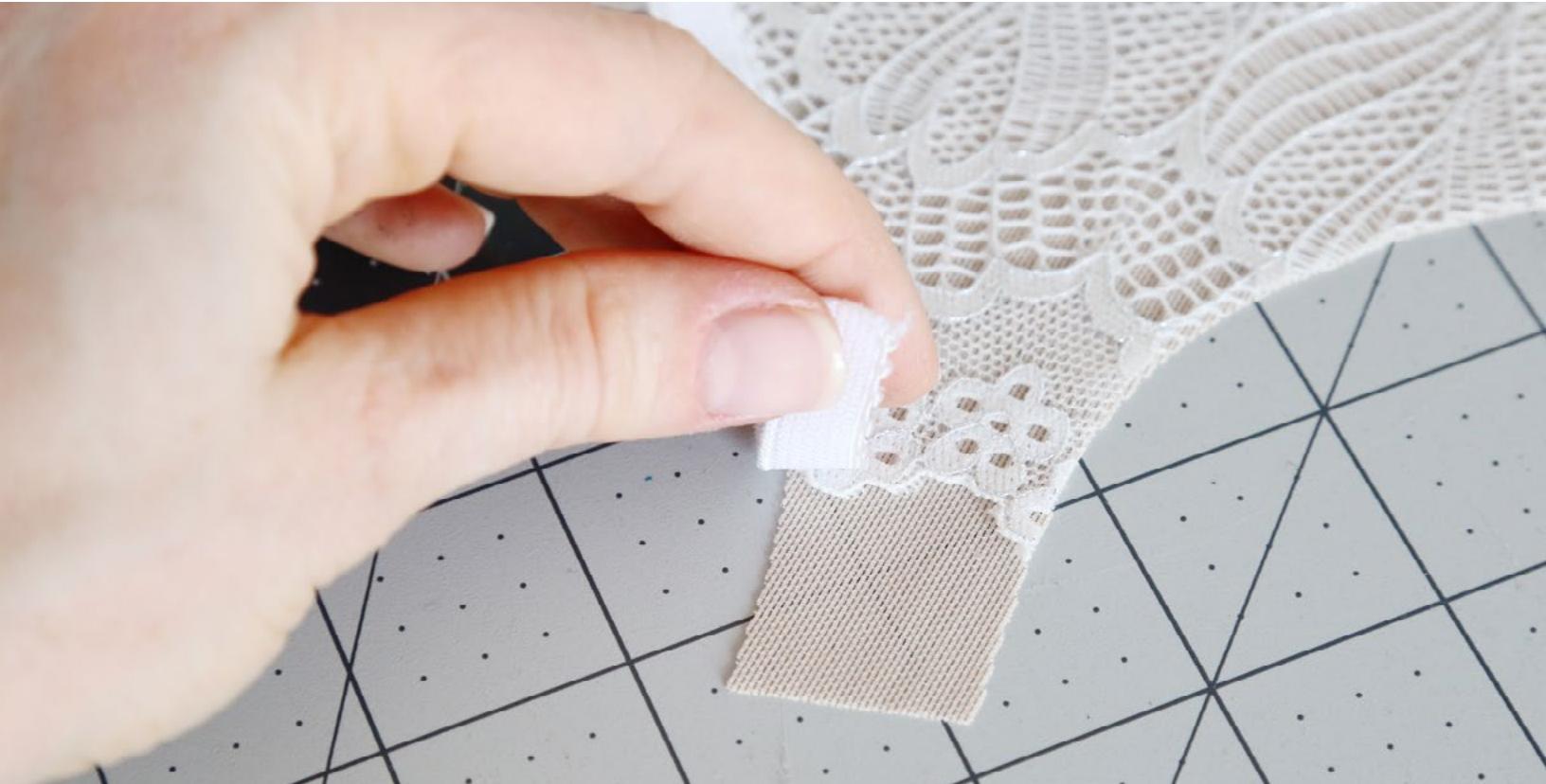


Next is to attach the picot/plush elastic to the front neckline, armhole and back. With right side of bra facing up, place elastic on top, The pattern has  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance throughout, so if you're using  $\frac{1}{4}$ " elastic, you will align the flat edge of the elastic with the edge of the fabric. If you're using  $\frac{3}{8}$ " elastic like I am, the elastic should extend  $\frac{1}{8}$ " beyond the fabric edge. See photo below. In both cases, the picot should face inward towards the fabric. Then, sew along the picot edge with a zigzag stitch. Stitch width and length will vary from machine to machine, but a good rule of thumb is stitch width should not exceed half the width

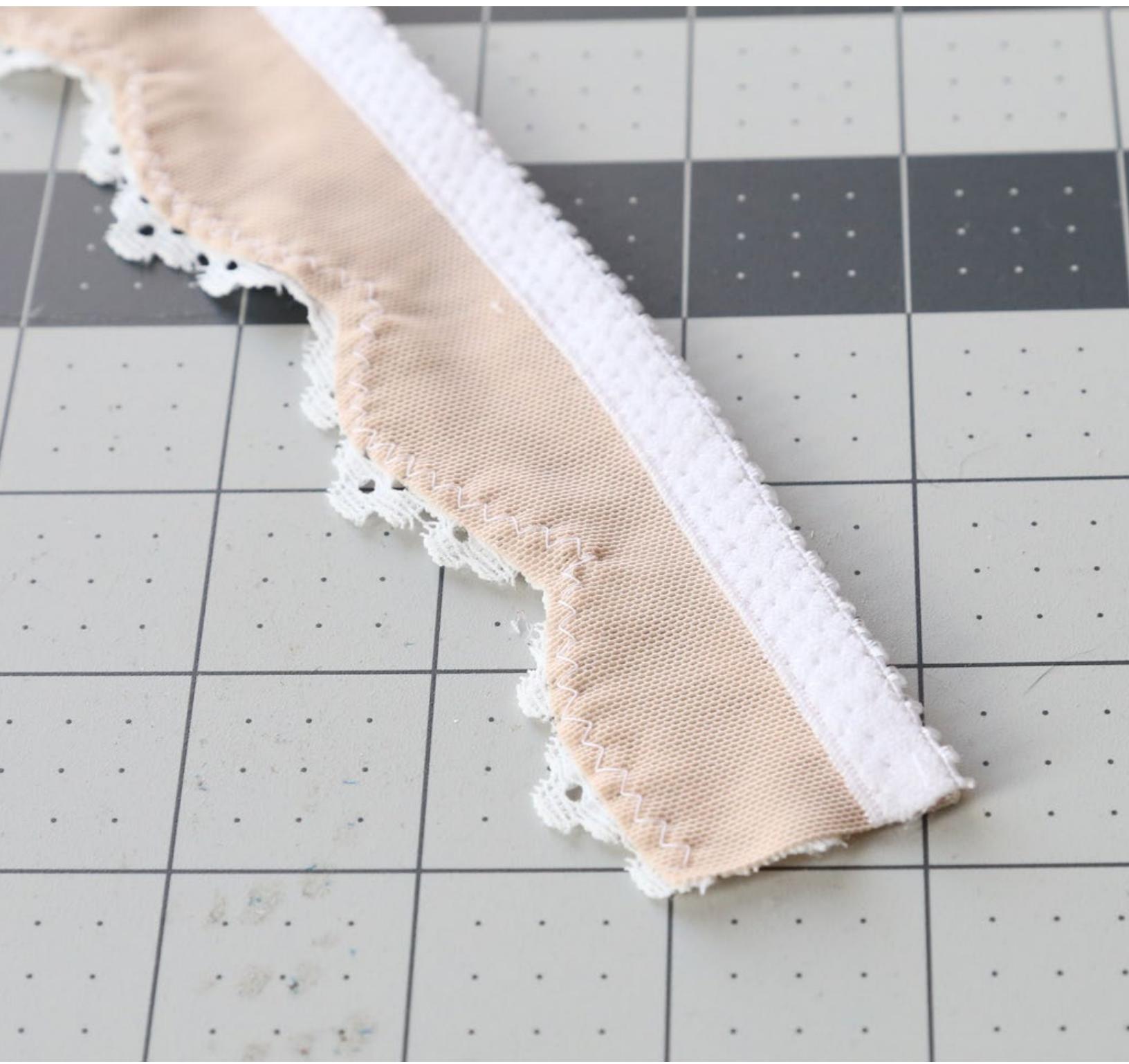
of the elastic. Also, try to stitch as close to the picot as possible without going off the edge of the main elastic.

Once you sew the first pass, flip the elastic to the wrong side of the bra and sew along the edge opposite to the one you just sewed. Repeat until underarm, back and front necklines are sewn.

*Tip when sewing elastic: Elastic comes in different widths, quality and amounts of stretch, but in general, I sew my elastics flat (with no tension). For this bra, all elastics are set flat as well.*

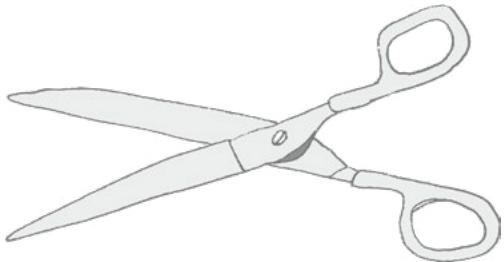


**TRIM CLOSE TO THE  
STITCHING, JUST INSIDE  
FROM THE LACE'S EDGE**

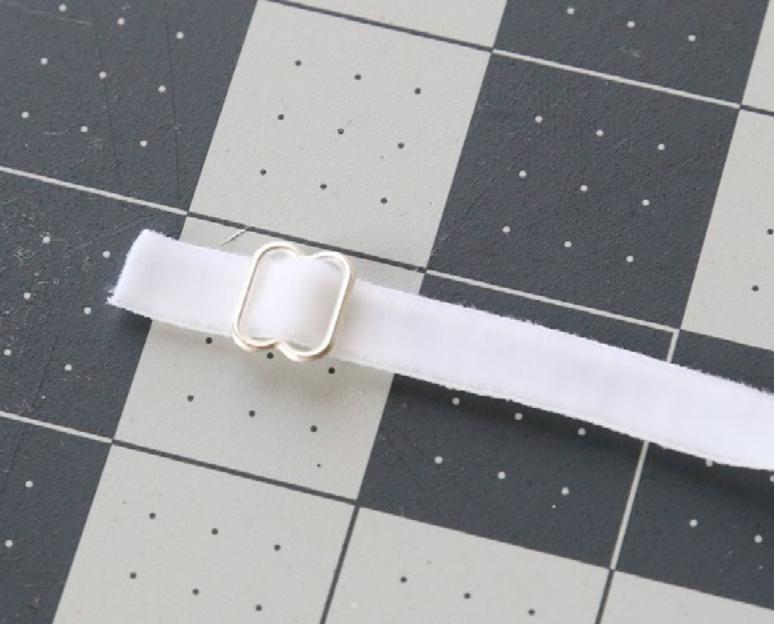


Now it's time to finish the bottom edge of the bralette. This is a super easy step and all you have to do is outline the shape of the scallop lace with a zig zag stitch. Width and length of zigzag is up to you. The only problem I ran into at this step was the fabric tunneling in between the zig zags. If this happens to you, try reducing the zig zag width, pulling taught on either side of the zig zag stitches or using a water soluble stabilizer in between the lace and the lining. Also, I suggest stitching 1/8-1/4" in from the scallop edge to avoid the lace being sucked in to the black hole called the feed dogs/bobbin. After, trim close to the stitching, just inside from the lace's edge.

If you're worried about underbust support, an option is to finish the bottom edge with elastic instead. I won't be demonstrating, and if you take this route, be sure that the front edge of the bra wing still matches a 2x3 hook and eye closure.







We are almost finished! The last steps are making the straps and attaching the hook and eye. The straps for this bra are different from straps for most other bras in that there are two rings, but only one slider.

First, wrap each strap point around a ring and sew a bartack  $\frac{1}{4}$ " away. See photo on previous page. Next, feed one end of the strap elastic up and through the bottom of one slider, over the center bar, and then down through the other side. It should look like a belt buckle, with one short end and one long end. Fold the short side down and stitch and sew a bartack. Trim close to stitching. See photos on left and right above.

Turn elastic over and pull the long side of strap through one ring. Then weave up and over center bar again just like step 1. See photos on left and right below.

After, feed the elastic up and through the other slider just as you did before. Then, pull the end through the ring of the other

strap point. To finish, you're going to have to work backwards, and it will be a little tricky. The only way I can get it is to visualize it, pin in place, and then sew. See photo on top of following page.

Now to the hooks and eyes. You can attach either the left or the right side first – it doesn't matter – but the eyes always go on the left side. An easy way to remember this is the word eyes has 4 letters, and the word left has 4 letters.

Open tape of the eyes or the hooks and spray adhesive such as Odif's to the inside. Next, wrap the eye over the raw edge and press in place. Sew using a straight stitch or a zigzag stitch  $1/8$ " from the tape's edge.

For the hook side, you're going to attach the same way as the eyes, except that when you sew, the hooks MUST face up. Also, you might have to adjust the position of your needle so that I can get sew the topstitching  $1/8$ " away from the edge.

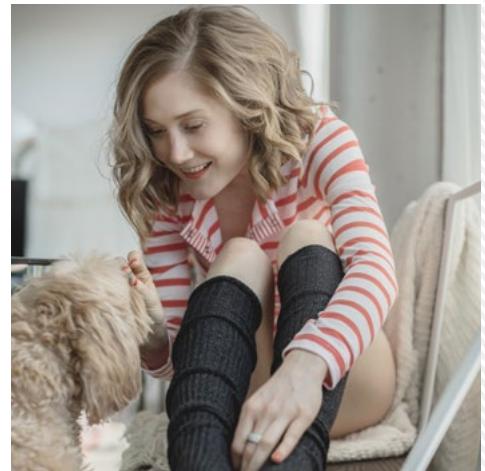
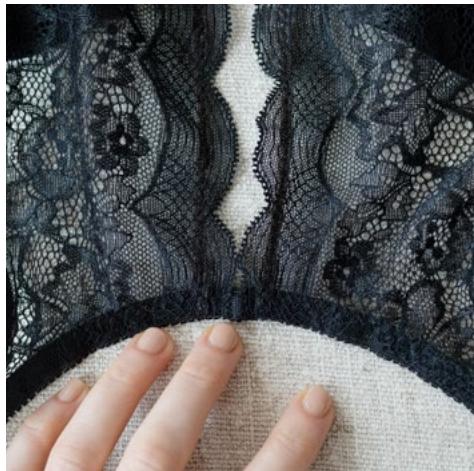
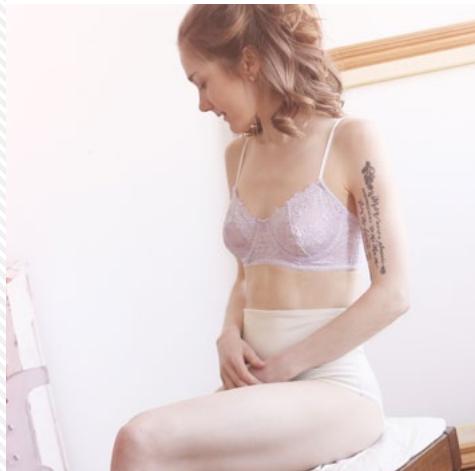






# MORE MADALYNNE

Did you know? Madalynne has 6 other lingerie patterns + 1 bodysuit pattern with Simplicity. Visit [www.madalynne.com](http://www.madalynne.com) for more information and to shop the patterns and sewing kits.



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