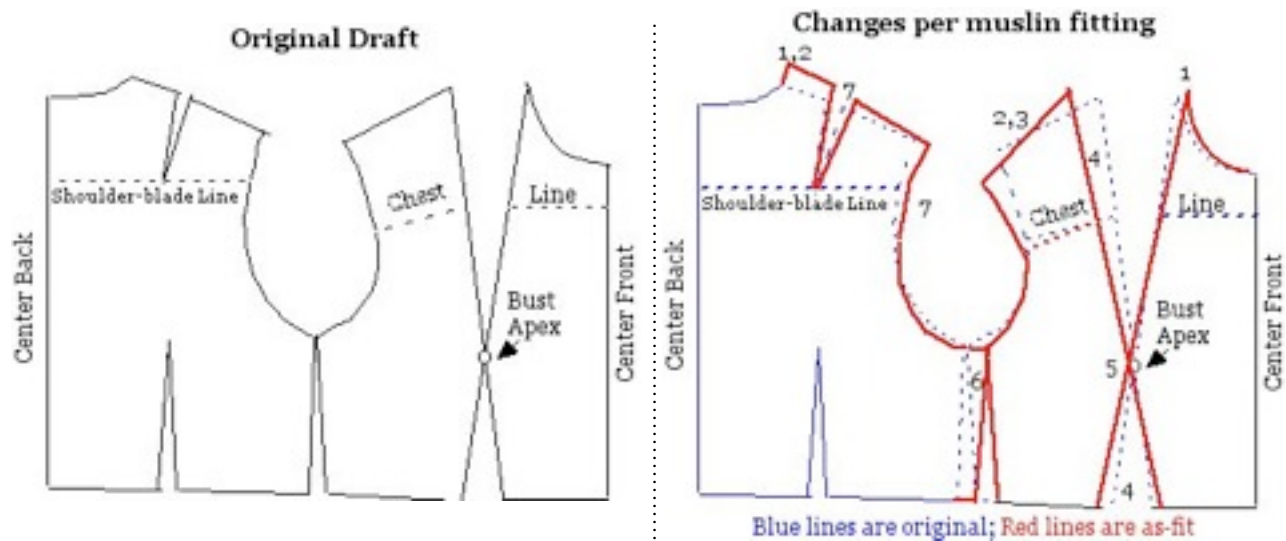


Bodice Sloper

My original sloper was drafted as per Burda Style tutorial (www.burdastyle.com/techniques/constructing-the-basic-bodice-block). [See also [Sleeve Sloper](#) below]

- **Back:** the dart at shoulder accommodates the shoulder blade, and the dart at the waist takes up extra fabric at waist relative to that at underarm.
- **Front:** the shoulder/neck dart and the waist dart together accommodate the major protrusion of the bust.

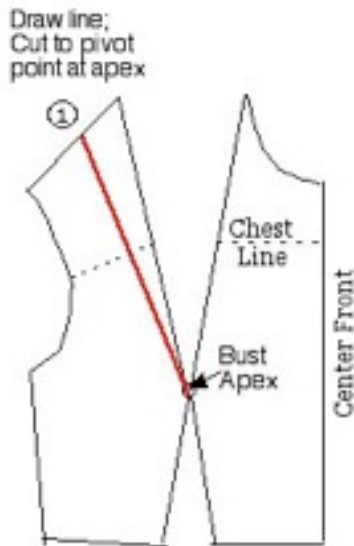


Fitting with the muslin resulted in significant changes to accommodate the affect of gravity and posture, as well as skeletal peculiarities inherited from my parents:

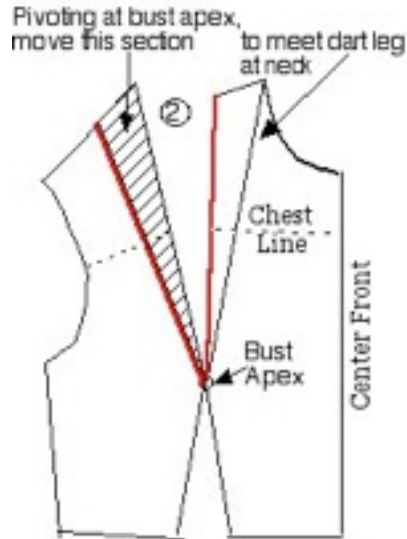
1. Gaping in the upper chest: required narrowing of the front neckline width;
2. Strongly sloping shoulder: required raising the shoulder level at the back neck and to a lesser extent, at the front neck;
3. Forward shoulder: required back and front shoulder lines to be moved forward (toward front) at armhole, about $\frac{5}{8}$ inch.
4. Larger bust: requires widening of neck/shoulder dart and waist dart to accommodate the protrusion; note that this changes the shape of the front armhole.
5. Bust apex is shifted slightly toward the side;
6. Barrel-chest: requires shift in side seam position toward the front, to match my center line when viewed from the side; this also affects back and front underarm armhole curve;
7. Wide back at shoulder level causes back shoulder dart to widen and back armhole curve to change.

I find it easier to work with the bodice front sloper when the upper dart is moved to the shoulder, to line-up with the back shoulder dart. The steps below detail this method.

Step 1: Position Shoulder Dart



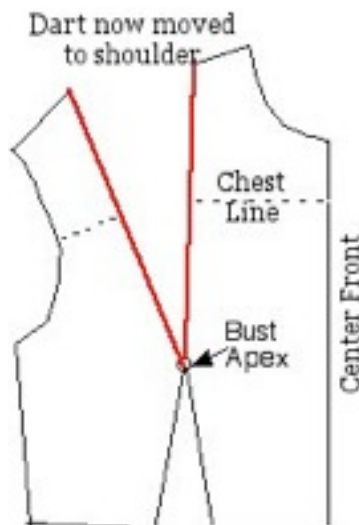
Step 2: Pivot



1. Find point on front shoulder seam (from the neck) that matches the dart leg of the back shoulder dart that is closest to the neck. Then draw a line from this point to the bust apex.
Cut along this line, from shoulder to, but not through, the bust apex, leaving a tiny bit of paper for the pivot.
2. Pivoting at the bust apex, swing the section shown as shaded in Step 2 diagram above toward the neck, so that the original dart legs meet.

The diagram below shows the completed dart move on the bodice front

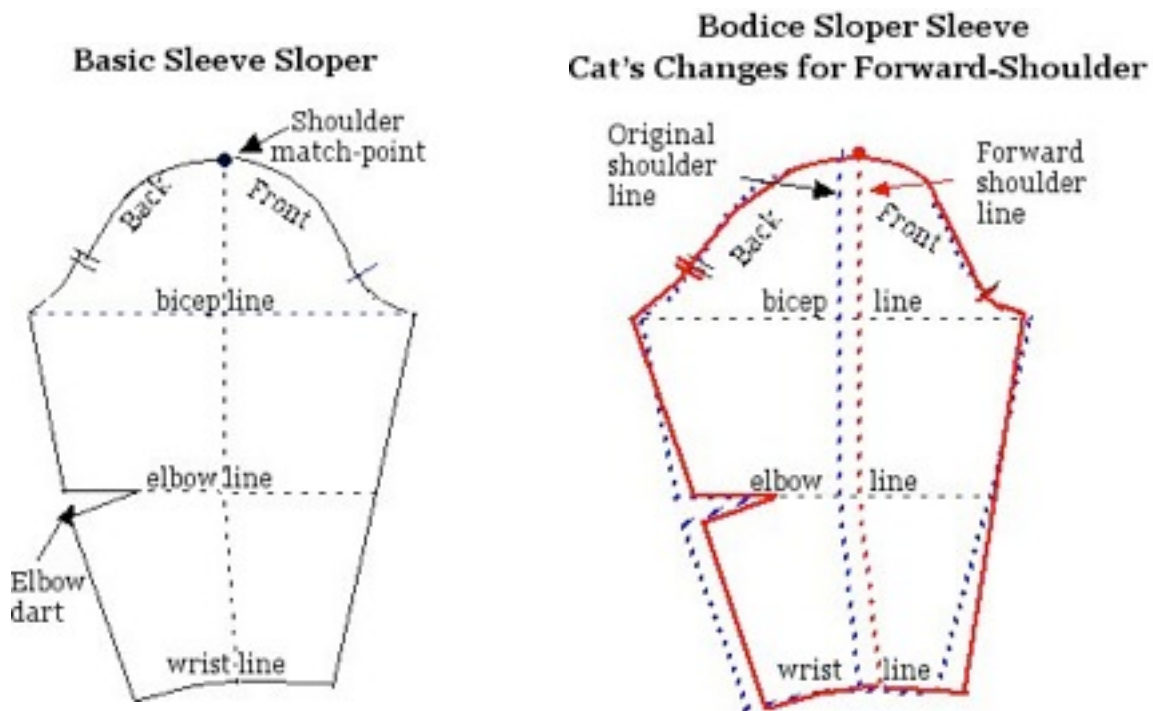
Step 3: Finished



Sleeve Sloper

The original (left) was drafted according to [BurdaStyle Sleeve](#), then modified per [Leena's Sleeve](#) to add elbow dart. Note that the shoulder line is in the center of the sleeve (although it tilts slightly to the front below the elbow line, as a result of adding the elbow dart), and the cap is fairly symmetrical. This is typical of a commercial sleeve pattern.

How do you know where the elbow line is? Bend your arm 90° at the elbow. Then measure up from your wrist to the point of the elbow (or measure down from your shoulder point - the divot at the shoulder that you can feel with your other hand, when you raise your arm - to the point of the elbow) and transfer that measurement to your pattern.



My sleeve sloper (above right, superimposed over the basic sleeve) is altered for forward shoulder, and reflects asymmetry between front and back for the cap. This is because the forward shoulder shortens the front armhole length and lengthens the back armhole length. The lower part of the sleeve also has more bulk on the back half than the front, but the wrist line is fairly symmetrical and centered on the forward shoulder line.