

# WOMEN'S ALTERATIONS

---

Shoulder Armscye | Tapering

Stacey Sansom

1 October 2022

## Women's Ready to Wear Alterations

These alterations are to adjust a blouse to give a better fit. These adjustments include moving the sleeve cap to improve the armhole and shoulder fit. The side seams of the blouse will be tapered to fit, removing excess while allowing for the fuller belly.

### Women's Blouse Alterations

#### Before | Blouse Front



Outside



Inside

## Before | Blouse Back



Outside



Inside

## After | Blouse Front



Outside



Inside

## After | Blouse Back



Outside



Inside

# Women's Shoulder Armscye Alterations

## Before | Right Shoulder



Front Outside



Front Inside

## Before | Right Shoulder



Back Outside



Back Inside

## Before | Right Shoulder



Sleeve Cap | Armscye Shoulder Seam

## Before | Left Shoulder



Front Outside



Front Inside

## Before | Left Shoulder



Back Outside



Back Inside

## Adjustment Details

This adjustment will remove  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch from each shoulder at the armseye shoulder seam. The shoulder ruffle was also removed to give a narrower shoulder appearance.

Please note that this requires removing the entire sleeve to fully remove the ruffle. The topstitching will not be redone after removing the shoulder ruffle.

Sleeves will be shortened.

## After | Front Right Shoulder



Outside



Inside

## After | Front Right Shoulder



Close up details | Outside



Close up details | Inside

## After | Front Left Shoulder



Outside



Inside

## After | Front Left Shoulder



Close up details | Outside



Close up details | Inside

## After | Back Right Shoulder



Outside



Inside

## After | Back Right Shoulder



Close up details

## After | Back Left Shoulder



Outside



Inside

## After | Back Left Shoulder



Close up details

## Women's Side Seam Tapering Alterations

### Before | Side Seams



Outside | Front Left



Inside | Front Right

## Before | Side Seams



Outside | Back Left



Inside | Back Right

## Before | Side Seams



Close up details | Outside Side Slits

## Before | Side Seam



Side Seam | Before cutting. Markings based off hand basting adjustments. Portion of stitches were removed to fixing a bust dart that was folded over in the seam.



Side Seams | Amount removed from side seams for side seam tapering. Stitches removed to fix bust darts that were folded over in the side seams.

## After | Side Seams



Outside



Inside

## After | Side Seams



Inside



Close up | Inside

## After | Side Seams



Inside | Back Right



Inside | Back Left

## After | Side Seams



Close up | Inside Back Right



Close up | Inside Back Left

## After | Side Seams



Inside Right



Inside Left

## After | Side Seams



Outside Right



Outside Left

## After | Side Seams



Close up details | Outside Underarm seam alignment

## After | Side Seams



Close up details | Inside Underarm seam alignment

## After | Side Seams



Inside | Side Seam and Sleeves Alignment



Close up details | Outside Side seam blending

## After | Side Seams



Close up details | Inside Side seam blending

## Adjustment Details

This adjustment will remove approximately 5 inches total from the girth of the shirt. This is from removing 1¼-inches from both sides of each side seam. This will be removed at the armscye and taper down to existing seams above the side slits in the blouse.

The armscye is too short. This will be adjusted before replacing the sleeves. These are fully removed to remove the shoulder ruffle.

Tapering from the shortened sleeve edge is not possible because of large upper arms. Adjusting the armscye allows me to deepen the armscye scoop and take in more from the sides than would be possible without impacting the overall sleeve fit.

## After | Back Darts



Outside



Inside



Close up details | Blended topstitching after dart insertion

## After | Sleeve Hems



Inside



Close up | Outside

## After | Sleeve Hems



Close up | Inside

## After | Left Sleeve



Outside | Top



Inside | Top

## After | Left Sleeve



Outside | Bottom



Inside | Bottom

## After | Right Sleeve



Outside | Top



Inside | Top

## After | Right Sleeve

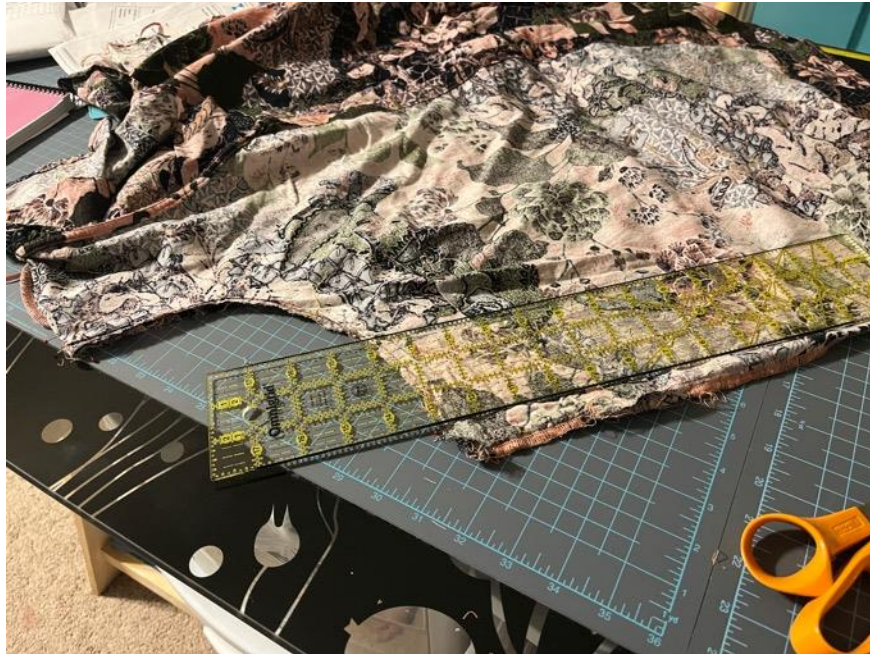


Outside | Bottom

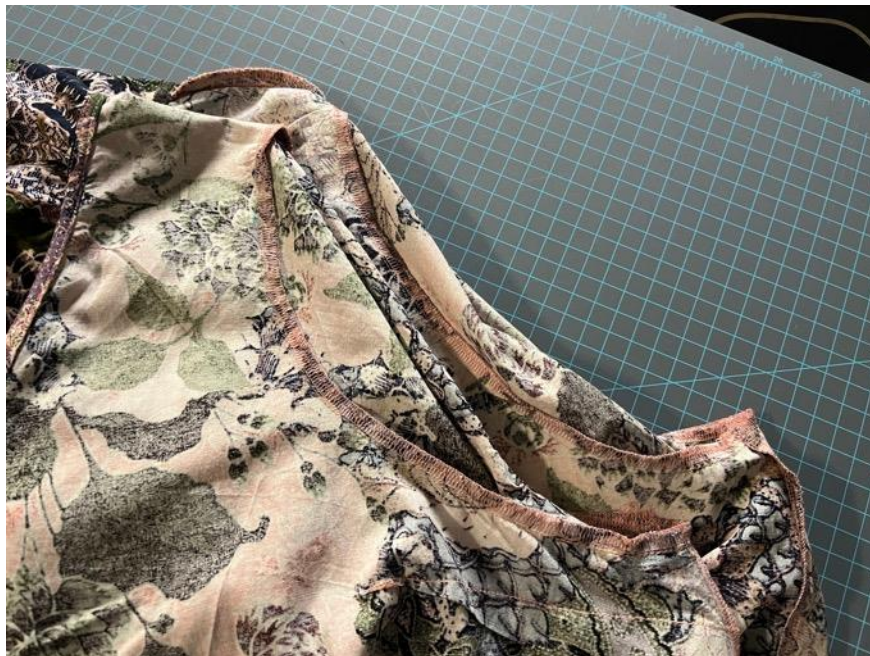


Inside | Bottom

## Full Armscye Adjustment



Before



After

## Before | Flat Lay



Front | Outside



Back | Outside

## After | Flat Lay



Front | Outside



Back | Outside

## After | Flat Lay



Front | Inside



Back | Inside

# Ready to Wear Alterations on Model

## Before | Blouse



Front



Back

## Before Notes

The blouse hangs on the body due to all the excess material and improper fit. It is hard to keep positioned properly on the shoulders. It pulls to one side or the other as well as to the back.

There is a lot of extra room in the blouse, but it feels tight around the armseye top and bottom. Some of this is because of the bulk from the shoulder ruffle.

The sleeves are too long.

## Before | Blouse



Right Side



Left Side

### Before Notes

This blouse pulls to the back a lot and I feel like I am constantly pulling it down in front and repositioning it.

The side view pictures show the poor fit with excess amounts of fullness in the back. More fullness is needed in front.

Overall, the blouse feels heavy and stuffy.

## After | Blouse



Front



Back

## After Notes

Bringing in the armhole at the shoulder gives an improved fit. The neck ruffle overhangs the shoulder seam and sleeve cap, but the ruffle's fullness is aesthetic and does not affect the fit.

The blouse is intended to be fuller and more flowing. The tapering at the side seams removes the excess amounts and the placement of back darts helps to remove the excess.

## After | Blouse



Right Side



Left Side

## After Notes

The blouse hangs more evenly front to back and is no longer pulling to the back needing constant adjustment. The shoulder seams now align properly on the shoulders. The side seams are more vertically aligned.

Shortening the sleeves improved the fit and backward pulling a little before any other alterations were made.

## Final Comments

I do not love this blouse, but it has progressed from being the most hideously stuffy and frumpy blouse at Walmart to being something that I would wear in public.

The fit is much improved. It is not perfect, but it is better. It is now wearable.

I am not 100% happy with the placement of the darts. I believe they can be further adjusted to pull more of the back fullness out. They do help reduce the back fullness successfully while allowing the fullness needed to prevent tightness across the full belly.

I am much happier with the shorter sleeves.

Additional adjustments I am considering include removing the neck ruffle. It does not lay comfortably and is too full for my liking. I also want to adjust the bust darts to better shape the front and improve the drape. I believe doing this will allow me to remove some of the excess fullness in the underarm area. I feel that the shirt is too long overall since I do not wear leggings or skinny jeans.