

# Maternity Bottoms Sew Along



Chelsea  
Celeste  
Designs

Most of the patterns and tutorials I create are mainly directed at photo prop designers and photographers, with beginner to advanced skill, however, they can also be enjoyed by any home seamstress or fashion designer.

Most of my patterns and tutorials are created as separates, so that you (the purchaser) can be the designer, mixing any patterns you choose, to come up with the perfect gown or outfit! I choose to leave room for you to come up with creative ideas, however, if you need help with mixing pattern pieces, feel free to contact me.

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- Sell swim wear made from this pattern, or one piece body suits made from this pattern.

Please respect the time and effort I put into creating patterns for your use. Just like you, I am an artist just trying to make a living! I hope you enjoy what I make, and would love for you to share your creations in my Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1545667009068783> or on Instagram, tagging @chelseacdsgns, #chelseacdsgns, or #ccdpatterns

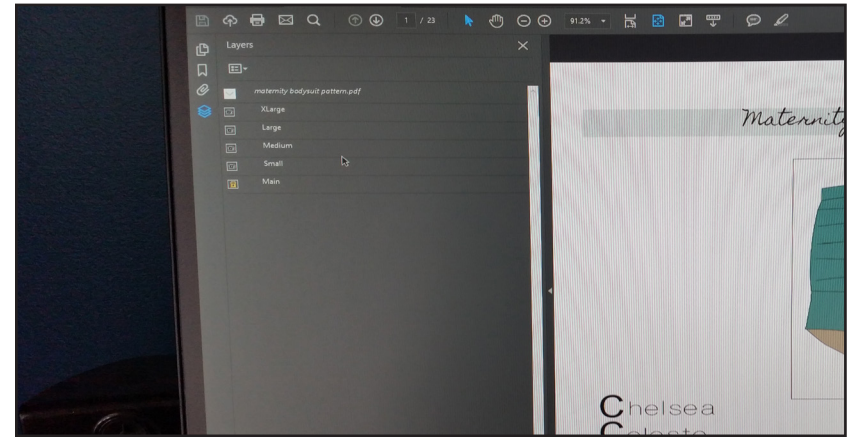
**If you have any questions,** feel free to ask in my FB group: Chelsea Celeste Designs - Photo prop patterns (link above), or message me on my FB page: <https://www.facebook.com/ChelseaCelesteDesigns/>

## PRINTING THE PATTERN

3

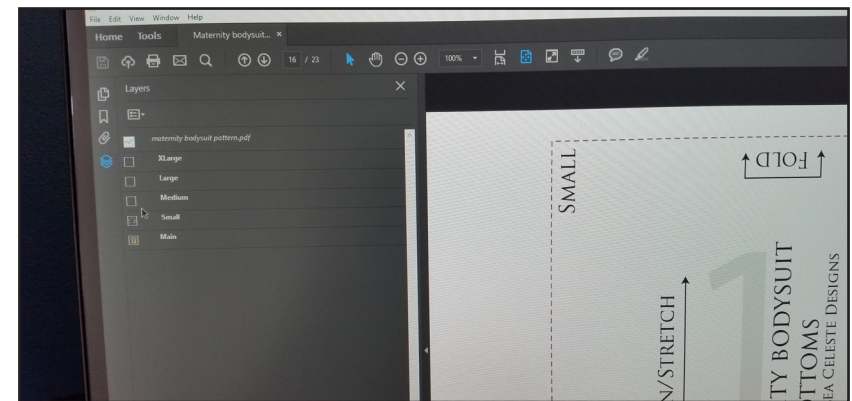
- Open the pdf file, and click on the layers icon on the side panel.

1



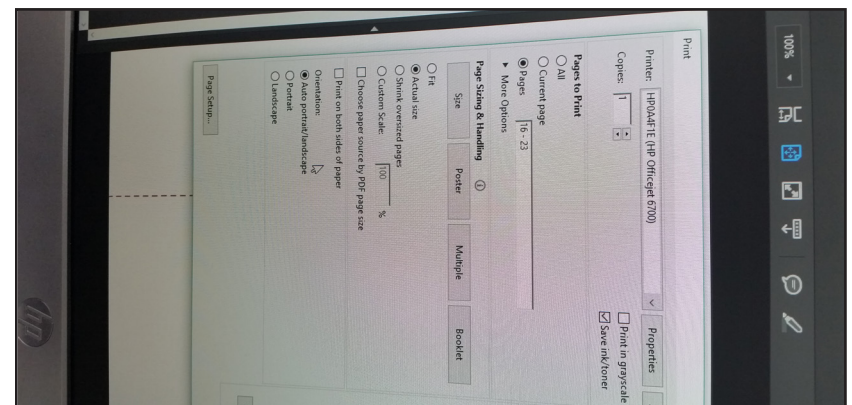
- Click off all the sizes you DON'T want to print.

2



- Click on the pages you want to print. If you only want to print the pattern pieces, find which page the pattern starts on and ends on, and punch that into the box.
- Go to the printing menu. For sizing, click on Actual size, and for orientation, click on auto, or landscape (for the pattern pages)

3

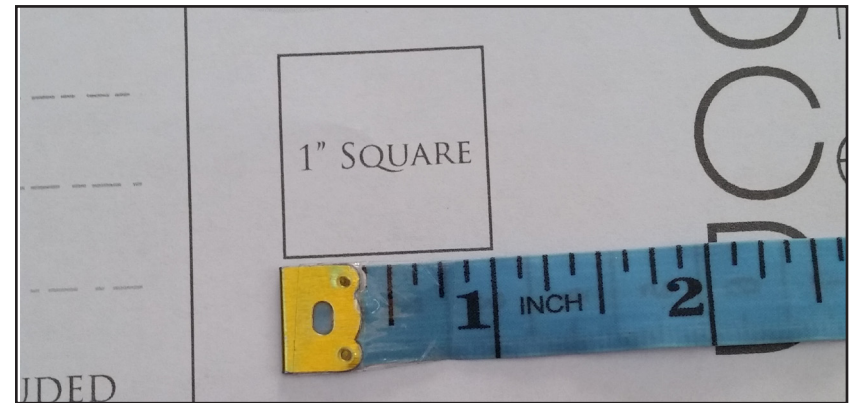


## TAPING THE PATTERN

4

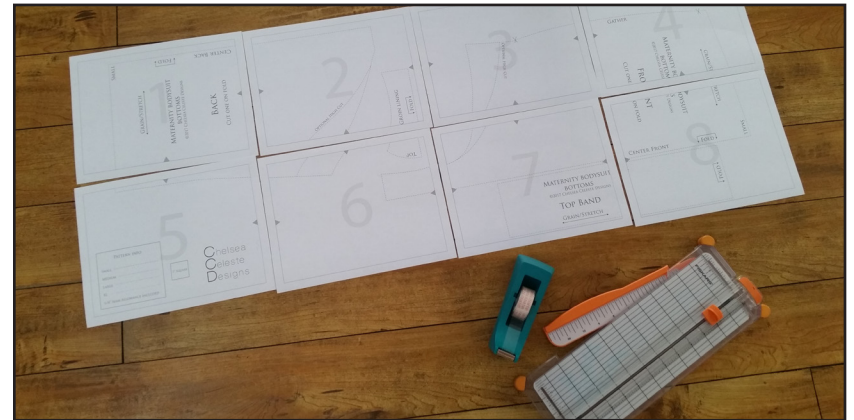
- Once the pattern is printed, measure the 1" square and make sure it's correct.

4



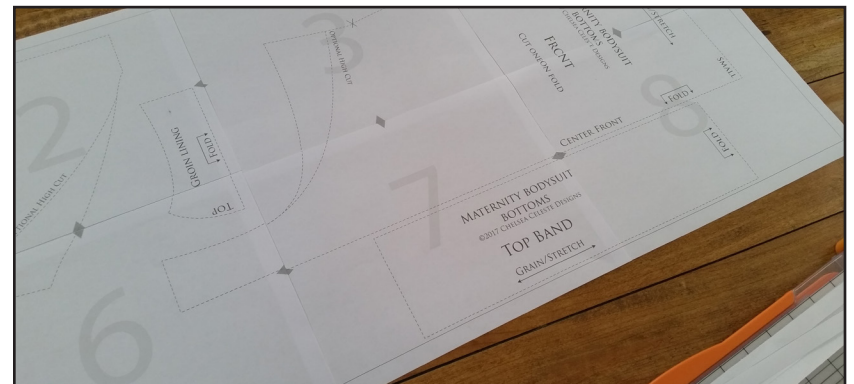
- Lay your pattern out, but number.

5



- Trim your edges, and then line up all your markings and pattern lines.

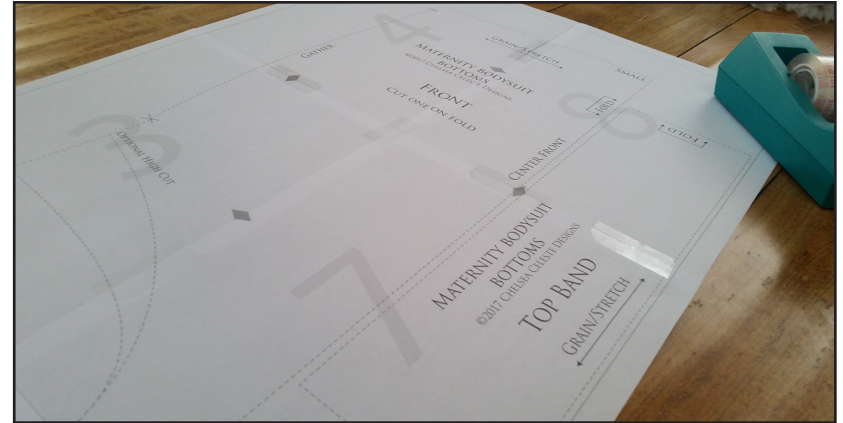
6





- Tape the pattern pieces (there's no need to waste tape by also taping outside of the pattern).

7



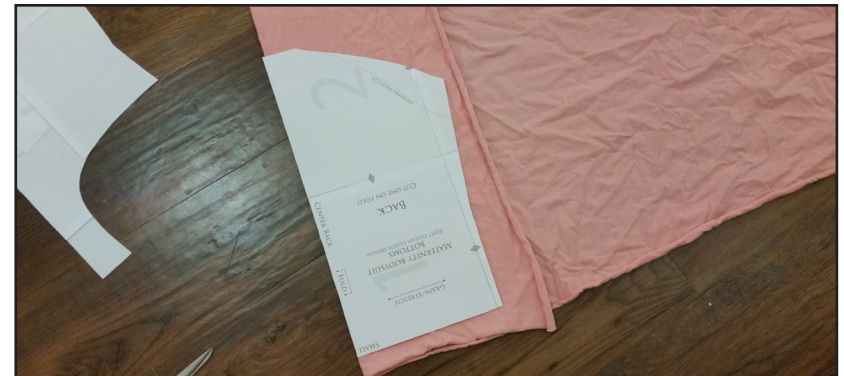
- Cut out your pattern.

8



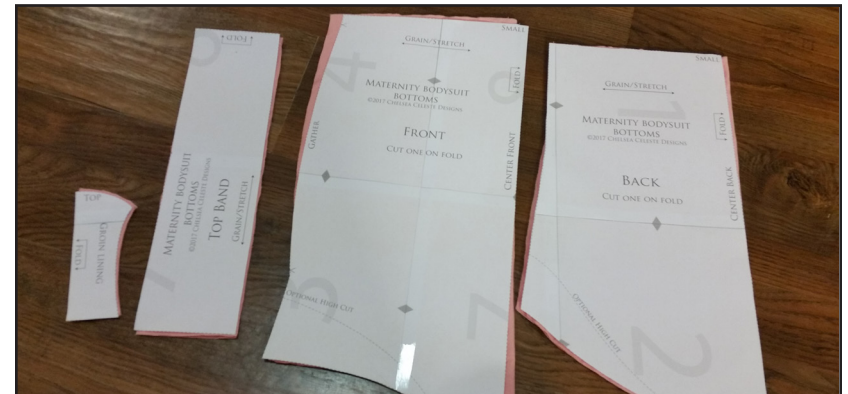
- Fold your fabric and lay your pattern on top. Cut out your first piece, then fold your fabric again and cut out the next piece.

9



- For this sew along, I choose to do the single layer bottoms with groin lining, and top band, so that they can be mix matched with various bodices

11



- Lay the back panel on the front panel, with the right sides facing each other, and the groin lining facing the back panel.
- Pin the bottoms together.

12



- Stitch or serge the bottom.

13



- Since I'm at my serger, I might as well serge the center back seam of the top band. \*This is optional, if you don't plan on attaching the bodysuit bottoms to a bodice.

14



- Fold the top band directly in half length ways, lining up the seam, with the serging on the inside.

15



- Now I press the band.

16





- Press the groin lining to the inside of the front panel.

17



- Pin the groin lining in place.

18



- Stitch the top of the lining with a zig zag or coverstitch.

19





- Here's how it should look.

20



- Stay stitch the sides of the groin lining to make it easier when it comes to finishing the leg holes.

21



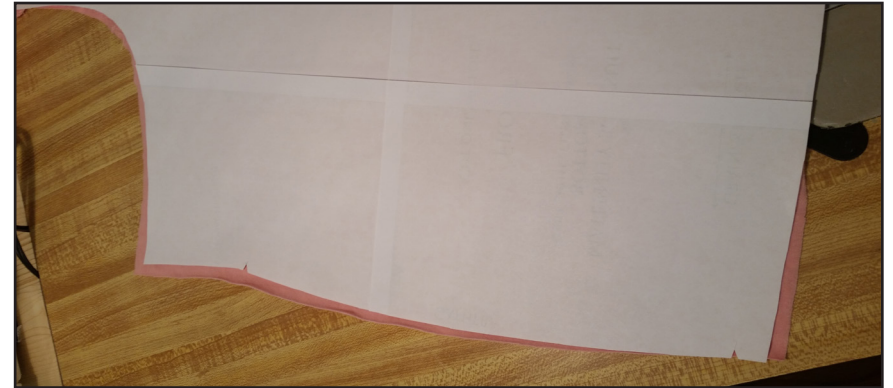
- Lay your front pattern on top of the front panel of the bottoms, and mark where the gathering stitches go.

22



Side note: Remember to press your fabric before you cut it!!!  
...Otherwise this happens :(

23



- Change your machine stitch width to the widest stitch. On my machine, it's a 5.

24



- Run your gathering stitch down both sides, from point to point, leaving long tail threads at the beginning and end.

25



- Knot off one end of the tail (either the beginning or end - doesn't really matter).

26



- Pulling on one of the threads of the other end, gather up the each side, making sure the gathers are all even.
- Then, bring the back panel up, and use the back sides as a guide for how much you need to gather.

27



- If the front sides are the same length as the back sides, then you can knot off the tail threads.

28





- With the bottoms inside out, pin the sides (front to back).

29



- Stitch or serge the sides. \*If you would like a stronger and stretchier side seam, you can stitch in some narrow elastic, pulling/stretching the elastic just slightly as you sew, just between the gathering points.

30



- Here's how it should look.

31



- Find and mark the center front and center back at the top of the maternity bottoms.

32



- Put your band (if using one) on top of the bottoms - make sure the bottoms are right side out. Line up the seam of the band, with the center back of the bottoms.
- If you plan on attaching these to a bodice, flip your bottoms inside out, and put the bodice inside the maternity bottoms, lining up the center backs, sides, and center front.

33



- The maternity bottoms may be larger at the top than your band or bodice, so what I did, was I directed most of the excess toward the front, so that I get some gathering at the front, and a smoother back. \*You can do the same if adding a bodice.

34





- Here's how the front will look after the band is attached.
- Question: Can elastic be added to the top band, and if so do you just thread it through or do you sew it with the band onto the lower pants when putting it together.
- Answer: You can certainly add elastic into the top! I often do. So first, stitch the band on, leaving about a 1" gap at the end. Thread your elastic through the gap, and stitch the ends of the elastic together. Then stitch up the gap.

35



- To finish the leg holes, you can fold the fabric under about 1/4" and zig zag or coverstitch. Or, you can add a narrow elastic into the fold, for a better fitting leg hole.
- Question: Is the elastic the same length as the leg opening? Are you stretching it a bit? Also, are you are doing the zig zag over the elastic?
- Answer: Yes, zig zag right over the elastic, and the elastic is the same length as the opening. It looks wavy in the photo, but once they're put on, the elastic remains tighter than the fabric.

36



- Another option would be to either fold the edge in 1/4" and lay elastic lace on top, then stitch it down, or if you're in a hurry and don't have time to fiddle with it, then just lay the elastic lace directly on top and stitch it down.
- Question: Do you think the zigzag or coverstitch would be best for leg holes?
- Answer: I've done both, and so it just depends on preference. I personally prefer the look of coverstitch over zig zagging, when I have a coverstitch machine to use.

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