Crotch Depth & The Back Crotch Curve

Posture and/or age can affect the contours of the body. One of the common fitting issues that can occur is the soft tissue of buttocks becomes less firm causing the body to become lower in back. We have discovered in previous pants classes that this lowering may show up during the measurement taking process.

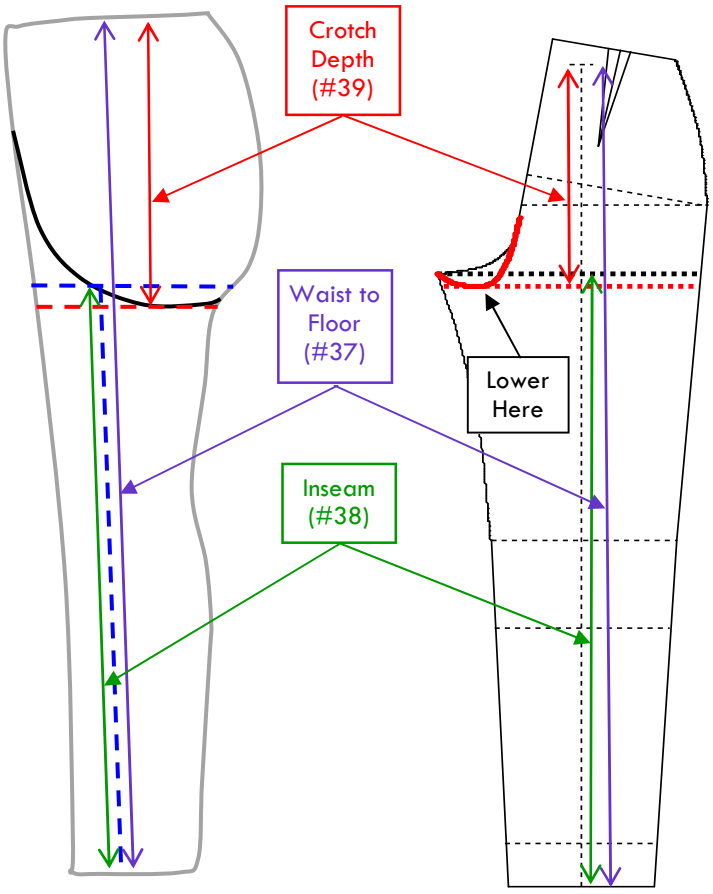
For buttocks that are not low if you subtract the Inseam measurement (#38) from the Waist-to-Floor measurement (#37), the results will equal the Crotch Depth measurement (#39).

When the buttocks has become less firm, the Crotch Depth will be longer than the difference between the Waist-to-Floor and Inseam measurements. When you draft the front pattern as described on page 34 the "Optional" comment in Step 3 may not apply.

When you create the back pattern, add the lower Crotch Depth line using the Crotch Depth measurement and scoop the back crotch curve lower as indicated by the red line on the pattern below.

Caveat: This is dependent on the measurements being taken accurately. In my experience it is easy to get the Inseam measurement wrong. It is better to have the back crotch curve too high and adjust in the fitting than to make the back crotch curve too low.

The photo on the left indicates the stress lines that can occur when the back crotch curve needs to be scooped further.



Body in Profile

Back Pattern

This photo illustrates the kind of stress lines that occur when the back crotch curve is too flat.

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Optimizing the Pants Sloper for a Tummy

To optimize the Pants Sloper for a tummy the first thing to keep in mind is that a good fit doesn't mean tight. It means having the fabric follow the contours of the body in an attractive manner.

One of the underlying concepts of my pants sloper is to style it as a slacks cut. In other words adjust it to fit the lower torso so that the fabric will hang nicely down the leg.

These instructions will show you how to make a few alterations to the initial draft of the sloper to adjust it for a tummy.


From the Initial Pattern Draft


The Final Pants

Adjust the Back Pattern

Before you adjust the front pattern, verify the fit of the back pattern as closely as possible.

1. Extend the back crotch curve using the Leg Width measurement (#17), see page 38.
2. Adjust the back crotch curve as described on the previous page of these instructions and on page 41 of my book.

Notice in the photo how the Leg Width measurement is taken. It is the distance from the front of the body taken straight to the back of the body. In this photo Christina is using two L-Squares to take this measurement accurately. You will use this same measurement procedure for a Tummy Width measurement.

Leg Width Measurement

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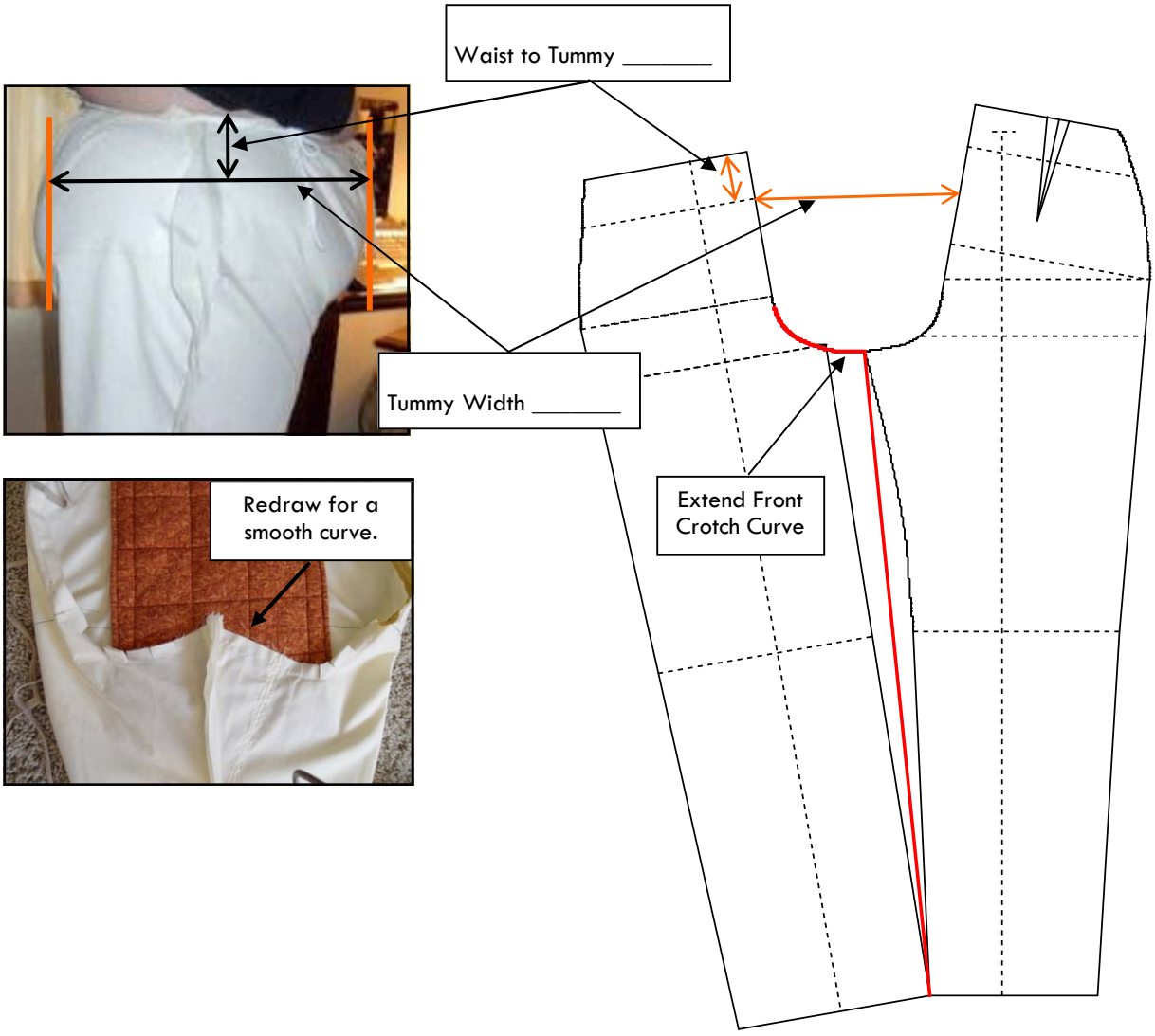
Optimizing the Pants Sloper for a Tummy, cont'd

Tummy Width Measurement

After you have adjusted the back pattern, you can adjust the front pattern.

1. Measure the Tummy Width and record the results.
2. Measure the Waist to Tummy distance and record the results.
3. Draw lines parallel to the waist at the Waist to Tummy height.
4. Place the patterns together at the cuff, then spread them for the Tummy Width measurement.
5. Extend the Front Crotch Curve to meet the back Crotch Curve.
6. Redraw the Inseam.
7. Verify that the combined crotch curves create a smooth curve particularly at the junction of the Inseam.



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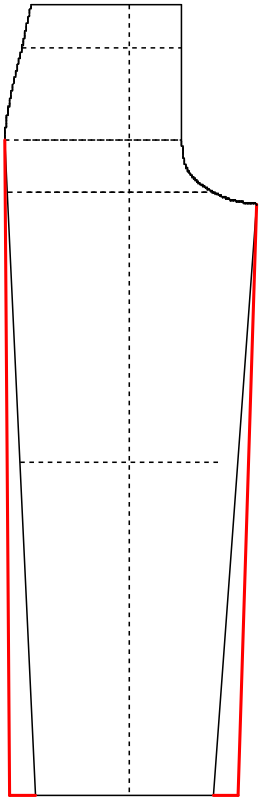
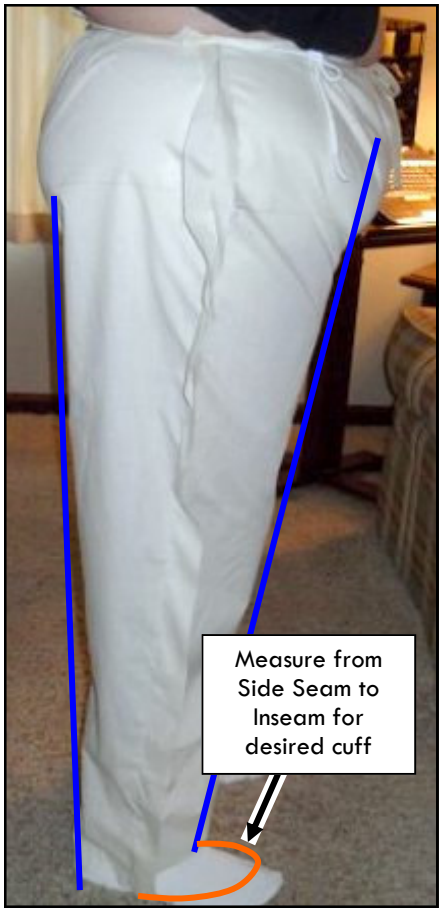
Optimizing the Pants Sloper for a Tummy, cont'd

Leg Shape

For people who don't have a tummy, my pants draft results in a pretty straight up and down leg. A tummy results in a tapered leg that draws the eye to the top of the pants. This can be adjusted by adding to the width of the cuff of the front pattern.

1. Measure from Side Seam to Inseam with the tape measure shaped to the look of the desired cuff.
2. Adjust the front leg pattern to the desired cuff width. Ideally add the same to the side seam and the Inseam. But if this does not look correct, do not hesitate to adjust as needed as this is a design issue.
3. Draw in new Side Seams and Inseams for the front pattern.





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