

1860's Little Girl's Gathered White Body Pattern

Designer: Jamie Quick



Materials

- 1 yard Cotton Voile or another white semi-sheer fabric
- Hook and Eye Type – I prefer Vogue (because it stays closed)

Sewing Instructions

Step 1: Prepare fashion fabric by washing and drying it on high heat.

Step 2: Print pattern to scale. Measure child and make necessary modification, using the sizing notes as needed.

- Sizing Notes: (Please Read)
- This bodice features a 23 inch waist.
- For a smaller waist, gather the bodice more, or move center fold line!
- For a larger waist, add additional fabric to the front panel along the fold line and to the back panel along the center back.
- To lengthen or shorten the bodice, add length or fold the bottom of the pattern upward to modify the pattern panels!

Other Notes: (Please Read)

- Cut one of the back panels larger along the back opening, to allow overlap where you attach hook and eyes or button holes for the closure.

- Custom fitting is what makes 1860s clothing look wonderful. Making a mock up before the final garment is made is worthwhile.

Step 3 (Cutting): Cut front panel, back panels, and sleeves. Use the written instructions below to cut cuffs, bias, and waistband:



Cuffs – Measure around the hand at the widest point and add 1 inch. This ensures that the child can slip their arm through the sleeve. Cut two rectangles that are 3 inches wide. Original body cuffs vary in size so feel to add additional width as desired.

Neckline Bias – Bias is cut at a 45 degree angle in relationship to the fabric grain line. I made mine 2 inches wide.

Waist Band – Cut the waistband on the grain of the fabric adding an additional 3 inches to the desired finished waist measurement. 2-3 inches wide is ideal.



Step 4 (Sleeves) – Using a larger stitch, place two rows of gather stitching at the top and bottom of the sleeves. Gather each wrist into a cuff and sew with a 1/2 inch seam allowance. Fold raw edge of cuff up 1/2 an inch and secure along the cuff seam-line with hand sewn whip stitch. Sew side seams.

Step 5 (Bodice): Sew sides and shoulders of the bodice together. Add rows of gathering stitching to areas shown on PDF pattern.

Step 6: Roll hem and press the back panels to desired size. Remember, one side must overlap the other by 1/2 – 3/4 of an inch. Stitch in place.

Step 7 (Waistband): Take waistband, leave 1/2 of an inch on each side of the bodice, for seams. Gather the shirt into the waistband. Only do a small bit of gathering on the back portion, and do most of the gathering in the front of the bodice. Sew into waistband and press and hand finish in the same way as the cuff.



Step 8 (Neckline): Pin bias onto neck. Gather slightly at the back, do most of the gathering in the front. It's good to place the body onto the child, and see how much the neckline can be gathered. Sew on the bias, press, and hand finish like cuff and waistband.

Step 9 (Sleeve Install): Gather sleeves to fit armscye. Secure with a 1/2 inch seam allowance.

Step 10 (Closure): Add hook and eye to the back, for closure.



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A

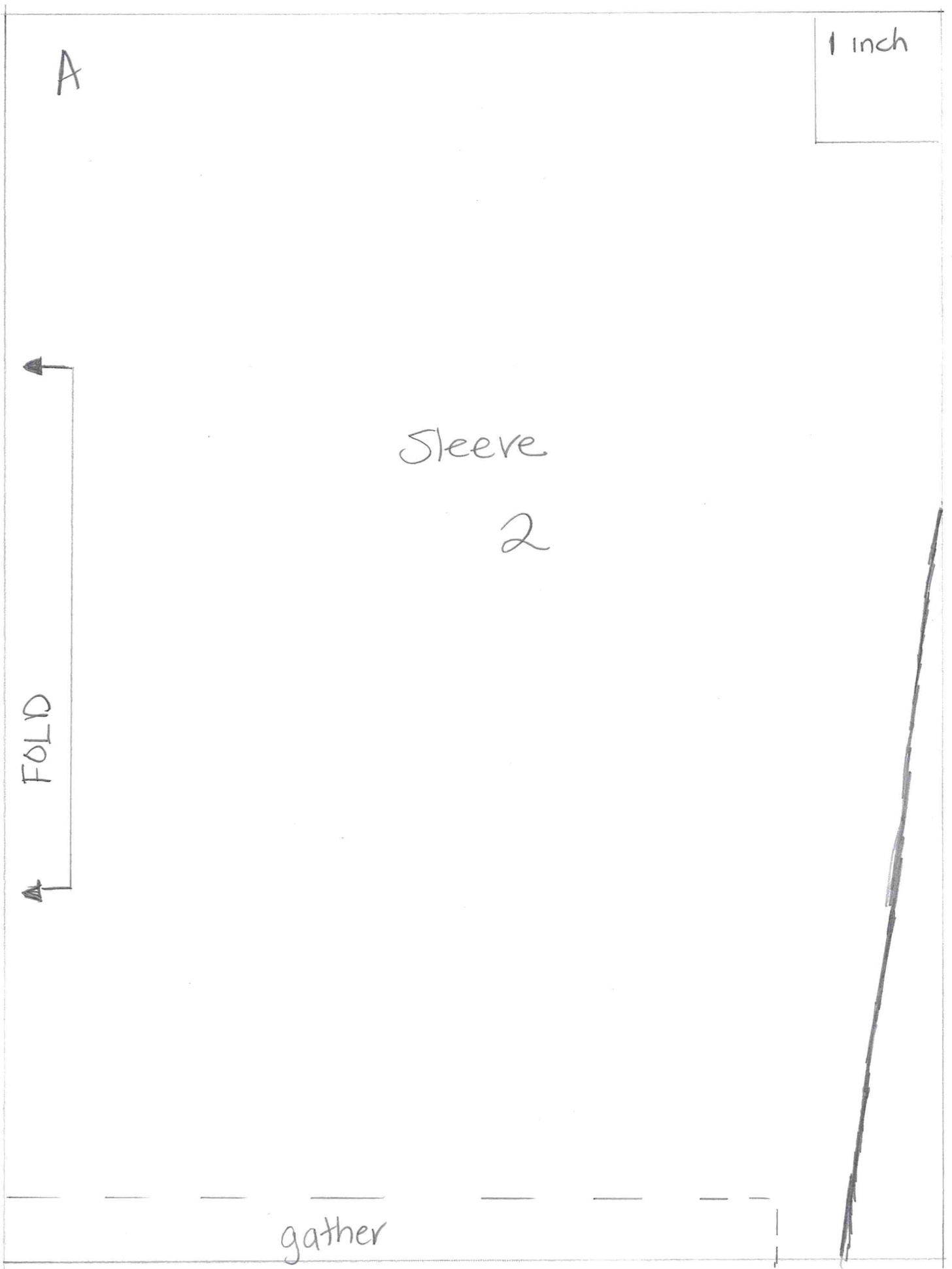
1 inch

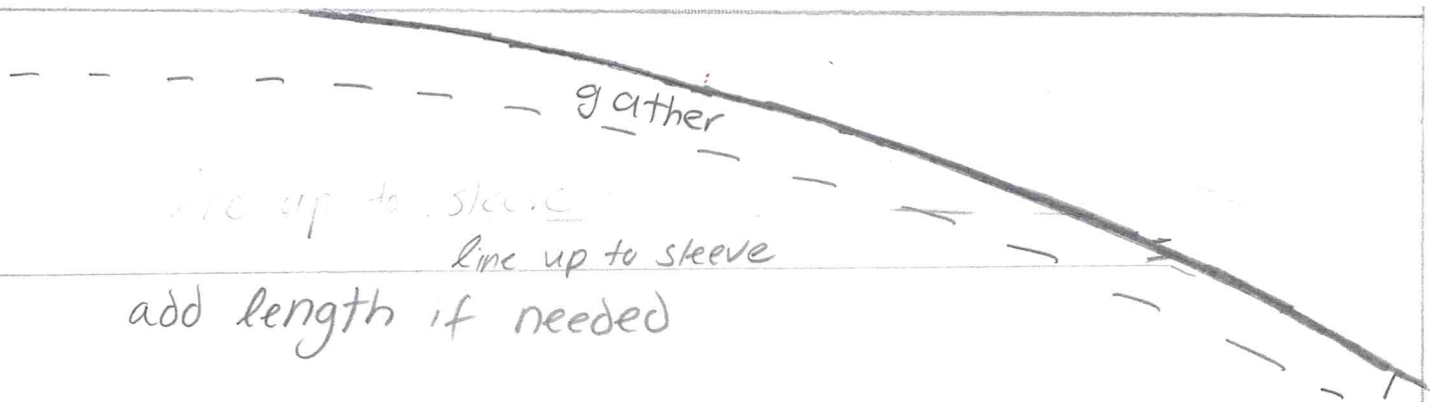
Sleeve

2

FOLD

gather





B

C

This piece only
adds the tip area

But you can make the
sleeve wider if wanted



A

Add width if needed

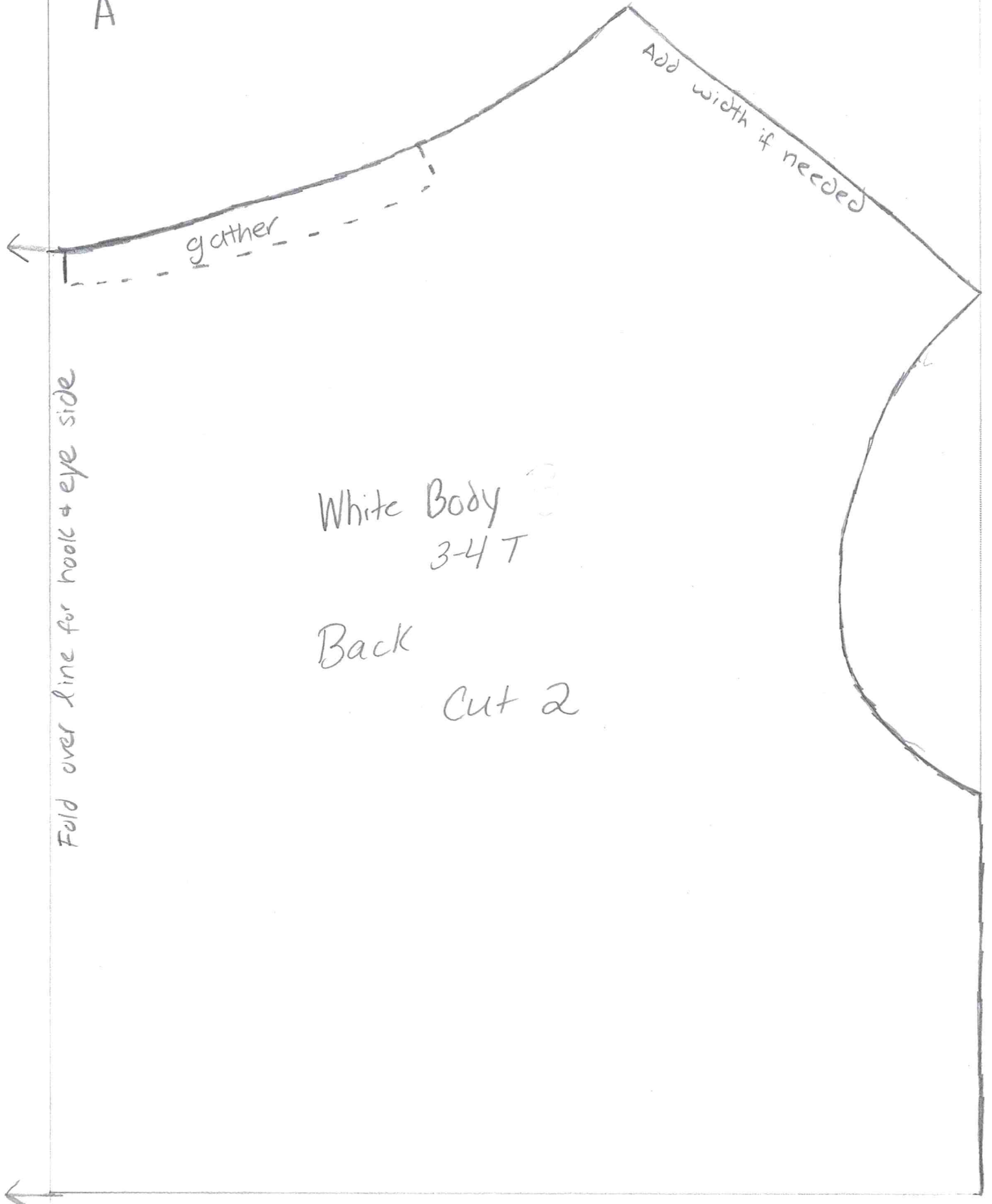
gather

Fold over line for hook + eye side

White Body
3-4 T

Back

Cut 2



B

- Why 2 cut lines?

one side must overlap
the other for hook + eye or
button closure.

- Fold where ever needed on
your child.

Cut line back side B

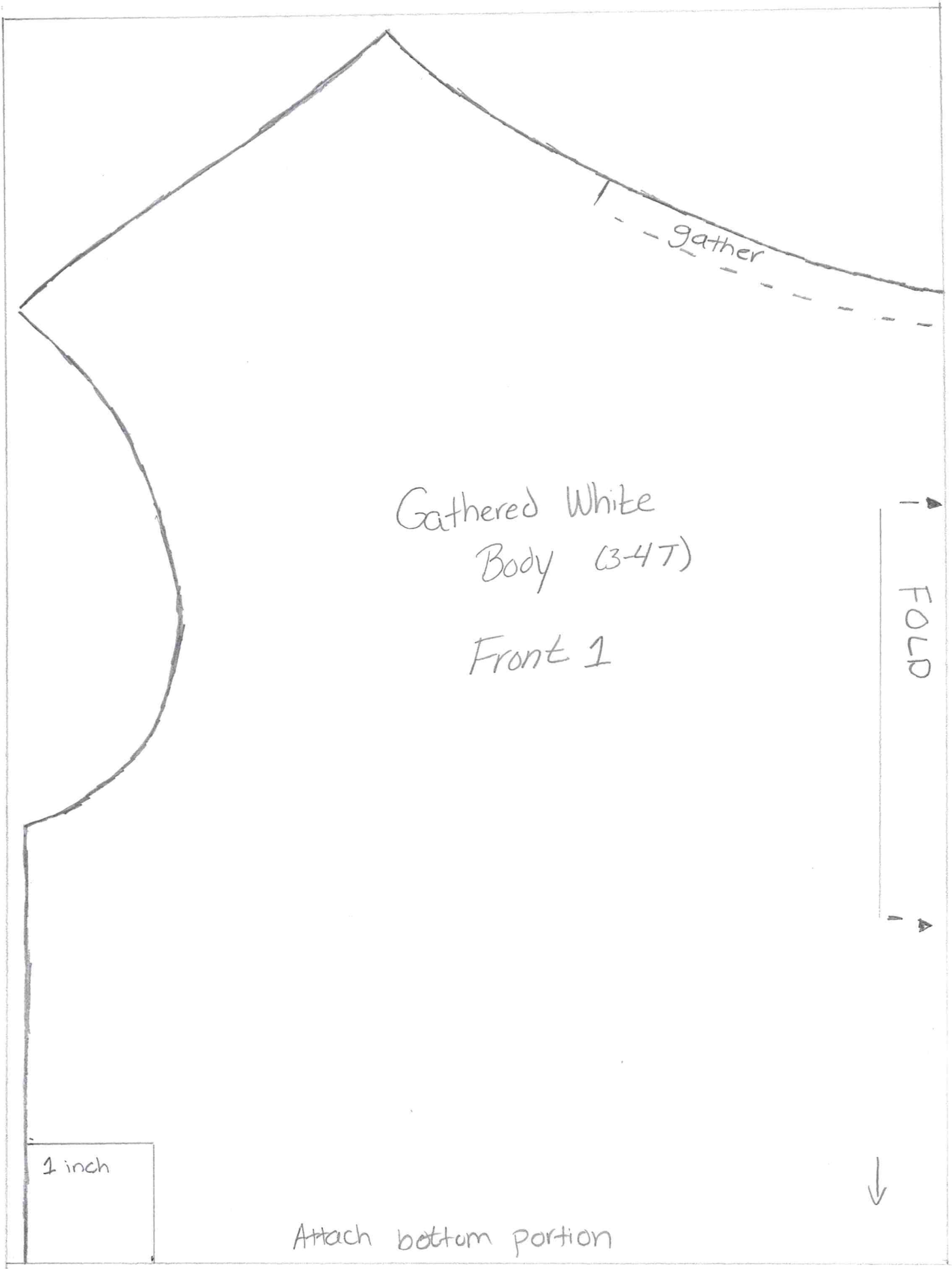
Cut line back side A

C

Bottom of Back

gather

1 Inch



Gathered White
Body (3-4T)

Front 1

FOLD

1 inch

Attach bottom portion

Bottom of Front

gather

length or shorten if needed

make smaller or larger by moving fold.

if larger add width to shoulder too.