A free project, compliments of...

3creative Studios

Wide-Brim Sun Visor
by Vicki Welsh

I needed a sun hat or visor for the times that I actually step outside and work in the yard. I do not like getting sun on my face. I also don't really like wearing hat because I find them to be too hot. When I saw the South Korean-style sun visors I knew I had my answer! This wide-brimmed sun visor protects your face, ears and neck from the sun and it has the ventilation benefit of a visor.

Materials

Approximately ½ yard of fabric. You can make this from several different fabrics if you want. I used quilter's cotton but you could use almost any fabric. If you use a heavier fabric, you might be able to use a lighter-weight interfacing.

Interfacing – Approximately ½ yard of a stiff interfacing like Timtex or Fast2Fuse. Fusible is not necessary.

Scrap of flannel or other absorbent fabrics for the sweat band inside the visor

2" Hook and Loop tape (both the hook and the loop)

Thread

The Pattern

The pattern is provided at the end of the document. It was drawn on paper with a 1" bold grid. When you print the pattern make sure that the bold grid lines are still 1" apart in each direction. Magnify or shrink the patterns with a photocopier until the pattern pieces are the right size.

There are three pattern pieces and each one has to be pieced. The pattern pieces are marked with "Join the Pattern Here" and hashed lines. Cut out the individual pattern pieces and join them along the lines making sure you align the hash marks.

The brim pattern has two outside lines (the large curve). The line on the outside is the cutting line for the fabric. The red line on the inside is the cutting line for the interfacing.

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Cut out the fabric and interfacing

Cut out the following pieces and note that the brim and band pattern pieces are CUT ON THE FOLD:

- 2 brims from fabric
- 1 brim from interfacing
- 2 bands from fabric, for this example I cut the band lining from a different fabric
- 1 band from interfacing
- 1 strip of fabric 23" x 2.5" for the sweat band
- 1 strip of flannel 21" x 1" for the inside of the sweatband (this piece is optional)
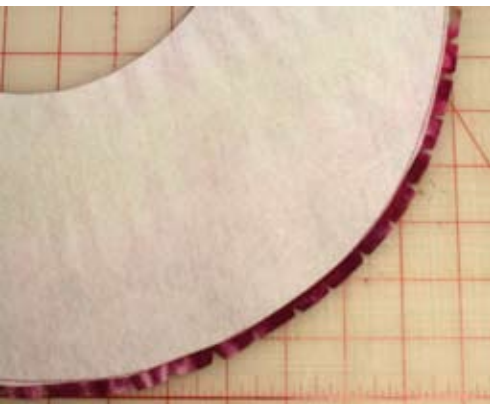- 2" pieces of hook and loop tape

Note: ALL seams are ¼"

Sew the Brim

Position the two brim fabric pieces right sides together and place the interfacing on top of one of the pieces. Align the inside curve of the interfacing to the inside curve of the brim. There should be ¼" of fabric extending beyond the interfacing on the outside curve.

Stitch the outside curve. You might catch some of the interfacing in the seam and that is fine. Clip notches into the sewn edge about 1" apart all around the curve. Be careful not to cut into the stitching.

Turn the brim right sides out and press. This will take some manhandling to get the seam on the edge but work with it a couple of inches at a time and you will get it.
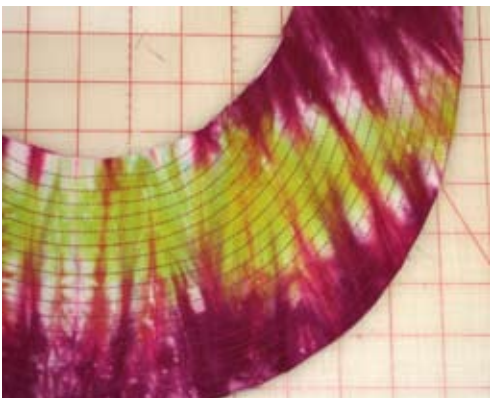
Topstitch near the outside edge of the brim and approximately every ¼" toward the inside of the brim. This channel stitching helps add stiffness to the brim. You can do as much or as little of it as you think you need.

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Add the Band

Position the interfacing on the wrong side of the outside band fabric. The outside (longest side) curve is sewn to the inside curve of the brim.


Match the center front of both pieces and pin the band to the brim right sides together. In this photo the underside of the brim is up. If both sides of your brim are the same fabric, it doesn't matter! The ends of the band extend about 2" beyond the brim.


Here's a close up of the pieces pinned together. This works best if you use lots of pins. The band needs to be eased into the brim so it will seem that you are going to have gathers. The trick to doing this right is to match the band to the brim along the sewing line, not along the edge of the fabric.
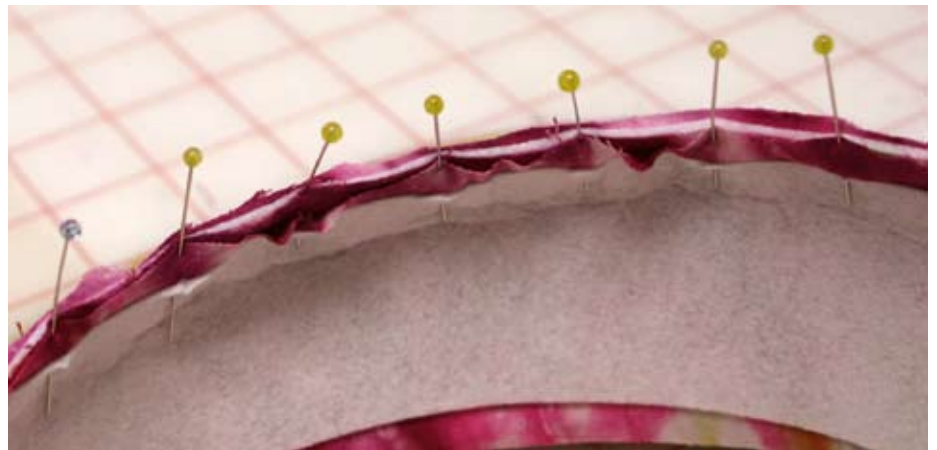
Sew the band to the brim with a ¼" seam. Let the brim curve as you sew and it will be easier.
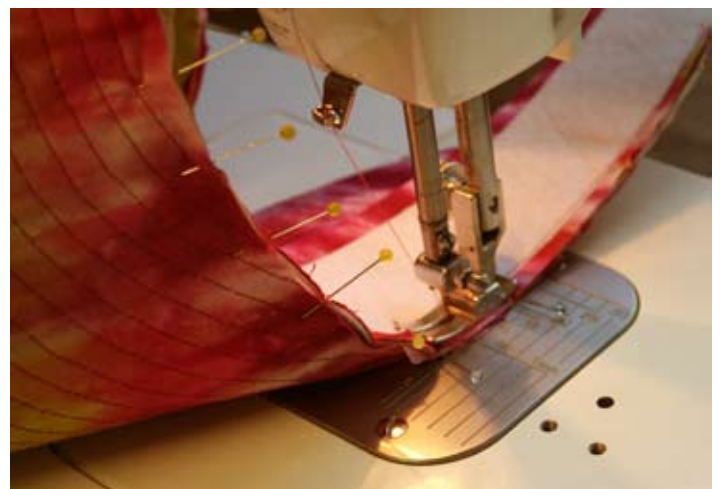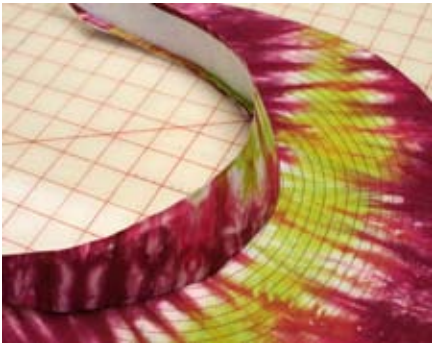
After it's sewn it should look like this.

Sew the Brim Facing

Pin the band facing to the band right sides together. Make sure the ends of the band match. It will seem like the facing is too small but it's not. It will work out fine once it's turned.

At the ends of the band, fold up the brim so that the edge of the brim is above the stitching line.

Pin the band facing through all layers. Notice that the pin is about ½" on the brim. Do this on both ends of the band.

Starting at one pinned brim end, stitch ¼" around the edges to the other band end. Clip the corners.

Carefully turn the brim ends right sides out and fold the facing to the inside of the band. Press the sewn edge.

With the brim facing pressed to the inside, pin the facing in place and either pin or glue baste the raw edge over. I used a Lapel Stick to temporarily hold the fabric in place.

From the right side, stitch in the ditch between the brim and the band through all layers.
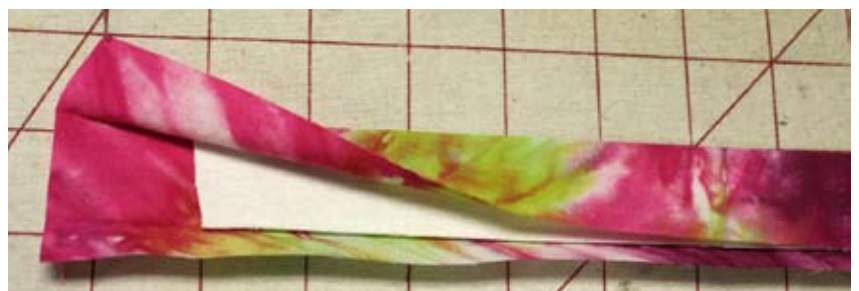
Trim the excess fabric from the inside of the visor.

Add the Sweatband

Fold the sweatband fabric around the flannel insert so that 1" folds down from the top and ½" from the bottom. The fabric will extend about 1" beyond the flannel on each side. Fold that 1" to the wrong side.

Pin the sweatband to the inside of the visor with the raw edges toward the visor. The bottom edge of the sweatband will be just a little below the band and it will be about 2" short of the edge of the band on each end.
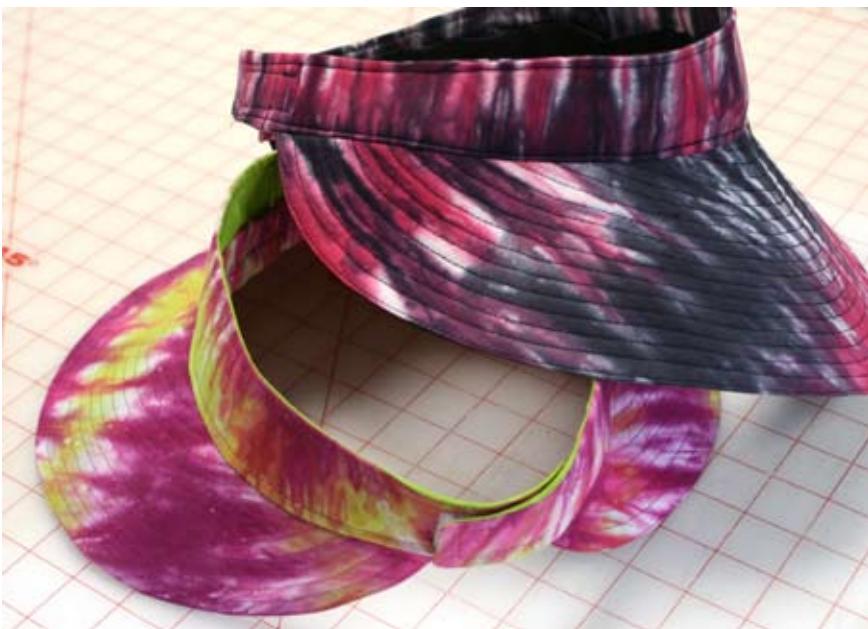
Topstitch around the band from the front about ¼" from the edge.

At each end, make sure that the sweatband fabric is out of the way when you stitch across the top edge of the band.
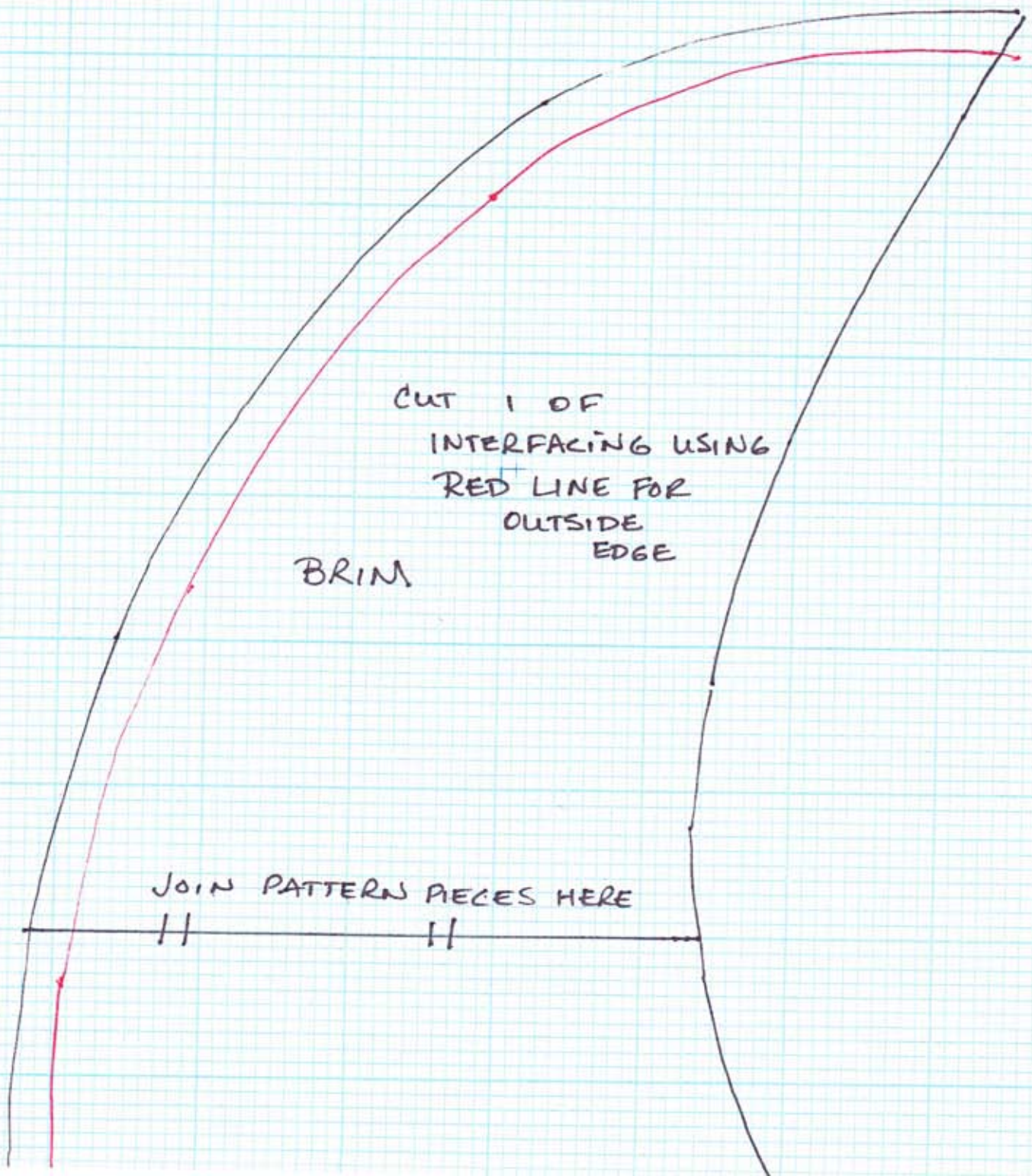

In this photo you can see how the sweatband is shorter than the visor band. Sew the loop piece of Velcro to the outside of one band end and the hook piece to the inside of the other end.

You are done!
Wear your new sun visor with pride!
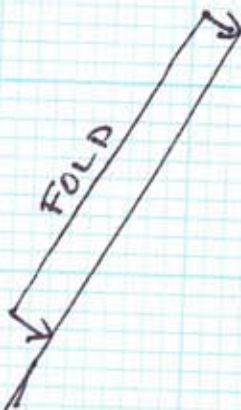
BRIM PATTERN - A

CUT 1 OF
INTERFACING USING
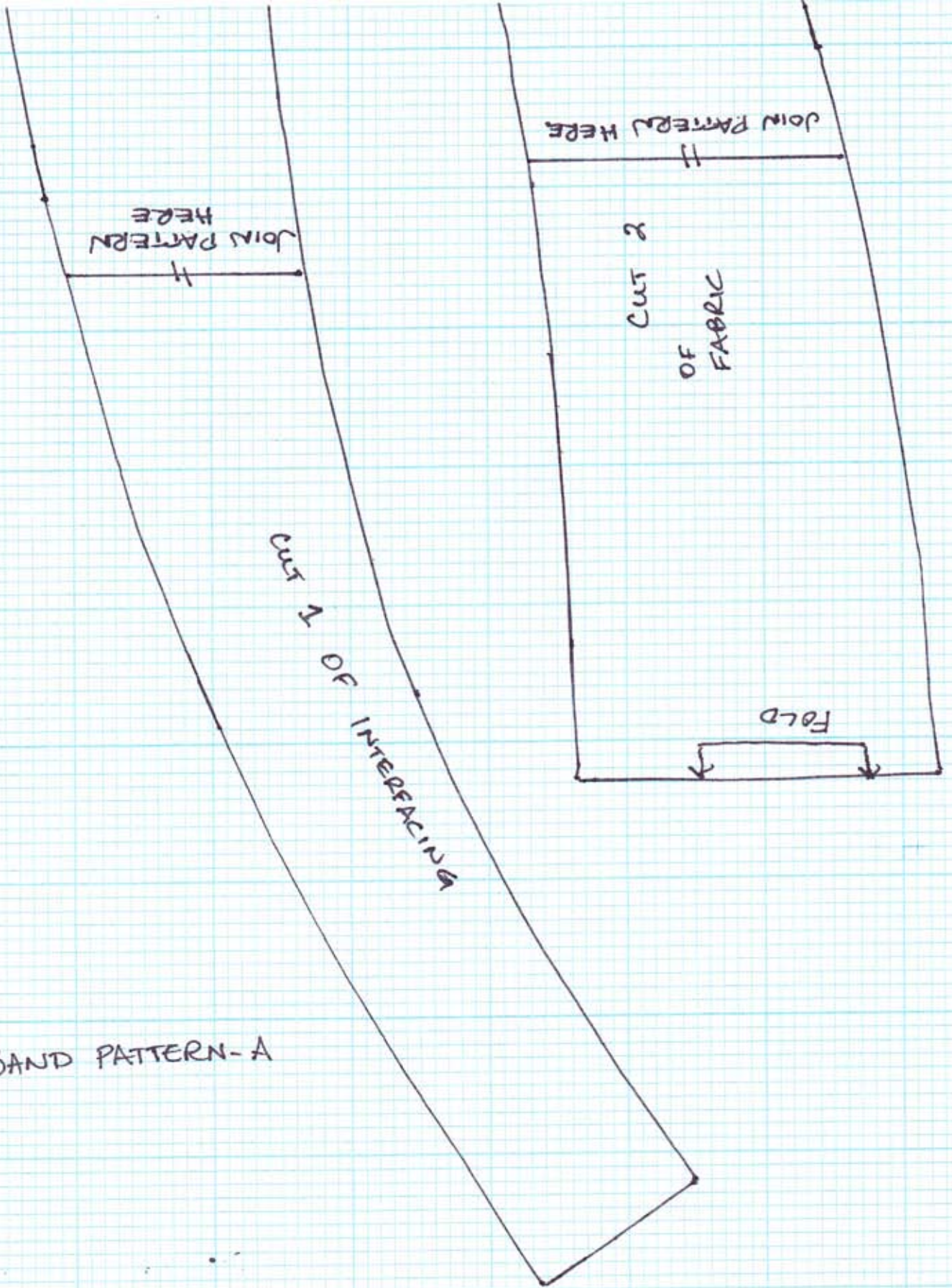RED LINE FOR
OUTSIDE
EDGE

BRIM

JOIN PATTERN PIECES HERE

JOIN PATTERN PIECES HERE

CUT 2 OF FABRIC
USING BLACK CUTTING
LINES

BRIM

FOLD

BRIM PATTERN - B

JOIN PATTERN HERE

JOIN PATTERN HERE

CUT 2 OF FABRIC

FOLD

CUT 1 OF INTERFACING

BAND PATTERN-A

JOIN PATTERN HERE

JOIN PATTERN HERE

INTERFACING

FOLD

FABRIC

BAND PATTERN - B