

THIS MONTH'S MERIT BADGE:  
**MENSWEAR**



In  
menswear  
sizes XS-4X.  
Flexible fit  
for unisex  
looks!



# Presley Shirt

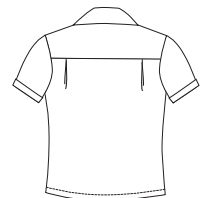
By Collin Riley for Charm Patterns

**A PATREON EXCLUSIVE PATTERN**



Get out your blue suede shoes, and get ready to do the Jailhouse Rock! Sew a midcentury-inspired open-collar sport shirt with this new pattern, inspired by the king himself, Elvis Presley. You can't help falling in love with a shirt that features design elements such as a contrast yoke or a front pocket, a dramatic collar and lapel, optional piping, and our signature cuffed "bicep-hugging" sleeve. The Presley Shirt is a swank staple for the Atomic Age wardrobe and the perfect companion to your favorite Charm Patterns!

xoxo, *Collin*



**This month:** If you're in a merit badge tier, your Menswear badge is on its way! Congrats on building up your skills. In this month's video, you'll learn:

- Menswear skills like sewing a shirt collar and facing
- How to jazz up your shirts with contrast yokes and piping
- Creating a bias-sleeve band



*Try the Presley Shirt with the Charm Scout Capelet epaulets for a scouting look. For a womenswear adaptation, choose a size large enough for your bust measurement and create a feminine silhouette by tying your shirt at the waist or tucking it into high-waisted shorts.*



## SIZE CHART

Measure your chest, waist, bicep, and neck and compare to the measurements on the chart to find your size. We've given a range for each size, as there is some flexibility in the fit depending on how much ease you desire. If you like a slim fit, size down. If you prefer more ease, size up.

	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
Chest	34-38 in	36-40 in	38-42 in	40-42 in	42-46 in	44-48 in	46-50 in	48-52 in
	86.4-96.5 cm	91.4-101.6 cm	96.5-106.7 cm	101.6-106.7 cm	106.7-116.8 cm	111.8-121.9 cm	116.8-127 cm	121.9-132 cm
Waist	30-32 in	32-34 in	34-36 in	36-38 in	38-40 in	40-42 in	42-44 in	44-46 in
	76.2-81.3 cm	81.3-86.4 cm	86.4-91.4 cm	91.4-96.5 cm	96.5-101.6 cm	101.6-106.7 cm	106.7-111.8 cm	111.8-116.8 cm
Bicep	14.5-15 in	15.5-16 in	16.5-17 in	17.5-18 in	18.5-19 in	19.5-20 in	20.5-21 in	21.5-22 in
	36.8-38.1 cm	39.4-40.6 cm	41.9-43.2 cm	44.5-45.7 cm	47-48.3 cm	49.5-50.8 cm	52.1-53.3 cm	54.6-55.9 cm
Neck	14 in	15 in	16 in	17 in	18 in	19 in	20 in	21 in
	35.6 cm	38.1 cm	40.6 cm	43.2 cm	45.7 cm	48.3 cm	50.8 cm	53.3 cm

## FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

The Presley Shirt is designed to be a slim-fitting shirt to give you that dapper vintage look. Choose a size that will give you between 2 to 6 inches (in) of ease around the chest, 6 to 8 in of ease around the waist, and 2 in of ease around the neck.

	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
Chest	40 in	42 in	44 in	46 in	48 in	50 in	52 in	54 in
	101.6 cm	106.7 cm	111.8 cm	116.8 cm	121.9 cm	127 cm	132.1 cm	137.2 cm
Waist	38 in	40 in	42 in	44 in	46 in	48 in	50 in	52 in
	96.5 cm	101.6 cm	106.7 cm	111.8 cm	116.8 cm	121.9 cm	127 cm	132.1 cm
Bicep	15.5 in	16.5 in	17.5 in	18.5 in	19.5 in	20.5 in	21.5 in	22.5 in
	39.4 cm	41.9 cm	44.5 cm	47 cm	49.5 cm	52.1 cm	54.6 cm	57.2 cm
Neck	16 in	17 in	18 in	19 in	20 in	21 in	22 in	23 in
	40.6 cm	43.2 cm	45.7 cm	48.3 cm	50.8 cm	53.3 cm	55.9 cm	58.4 cm

## TIPS AND TRICKS

When choosing elements of the shirt to sew in a contrast fabric, keep in mind which pieces are next to each other. For example, the front facing forms the lapel of the open collar, so you may want to cut this piece from the same fabric as your collar. Another great design choice is to use your contrast fabric in at least two elements of the shirt, such as the front yoke and the sleeve cuff.

Mixing solids with patterns makes for a stylish and swanky finished garment. Try cutting the yokes and sleeves in a solid and the rest of the pieces in a check, plaid, or gingham for a more sporty shirt. Cutting the front yoke diagonally on striped or plaid fabric creates an eye-catching chevron pattern.

Piping can add a really dynamic element to your shirt. Pre-made piping is widely available in many colors, and it is very easy to make your own matching piping. Cut a 1/2-in-wide strip of bias (two strips about 30 in long is enough for front and back piping), to create a piping with a 5/8-in seam allowance, or flange.

## MATERIALS & NOTIONS

- Fabric for shirt
- Lightweight weft or tricot interfacing
- 5 buttons, 1/2 in – 5/8 in
- 1 1/2 yards of piping (optional)
- Topstitching thread (optional)

## RESOURCES

I made the Presley Shirt in cotton and other natural-fiber fabrics, as these breathe and are easy to care for. This pattern is sized for woven fabrics only, however, blended fabrics with less than 10% stretch (such as stretch cotton and fabrics with 2% spandex) are a great choice as well! Presley can be sewn in cool, casual shirtings, or in more luxurious fabrics such as polished cotton for a dressier look. Crisp fabrics with a bit of body are best for the contrast front yoke options, but you could choose fabrics with a bit of drape such as viscose/ rayon challis or twill for the front-pocket version (making this the perfect warm-weather shirt).

## FABRIC NOTES

I recommend lightweight cotton shirtings such as poplin, broadcloth, lawn, or madras; rayon shirtings; silk shirtings; flannel; and lightweight blended fabrics with minimal crossgrain stretch. Mercerized cotton and wrinkle-guard fabrics are also great options.

Fold the strip in half lengthwise, wrong sides (WS) together. Center a length of ¼-in cording along the fold between the layers. Using a machine basting stitch, sew close to the cord on the right side (RS) of the fabric, keeping raw edges aligned. Using a piping/cording foot or zipper foot will allow you to sew close to the cording. Use the same foot to sew piping onto the shirt.

The sleeve cuff is cut on the bias and is designed to be slightly smaller than the bottom edge of the sleeve. When interfacing, use a fusible knit such as weft, or if using a woven interfacing, be sure to cut the interfacing on the bias, as well. Gently stretch the sleeve cuff when sewing to the sleeve, easing them together to create the fitted “bicep-hugging” effect.

## REQUIRED YARDAGE & CUTTING LAYOUTS

**Note:** All pattern pieces are shown in a “without nap” layout. You may need additional yardage for directional prints, stripes, plaids, and other prints that need to be matched across seamlines.

**Main Fabric** (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8)

	Sizes XS-L	Sizes XL-4XL
45 in	2 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>8</sub> yds 2.4 m	3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub> yds 2.8 m
60 in	1 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> yds 1.7 m	3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub> yds 2.8 m

45 in, sizes XS-L

45 in, sizes XL-4XL

In this layout, the full width of the fabric is opened out flat.

60 in, sizes XS-L

60 in, sizes XL-4XL

**Pocket**  
(9, 10)

All sizes		
45 in	¼ yd	
60 in	0.2 m	

FOLD

**Contrast Yoke** (2)

	Sizes XS-L	Sizes XL-4XL
45 in	½ yd	5/8 yd
60 in	0.4 m	0.6 m

FOLD

**Interfacing** (6, 7, 8, 10)

	Sizes XS-L	Sizes XL-4XL
60 in	¾ yds 0.7 m	1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub> yds 1 m

FOLD

## PATTERN PIECES

### 1. Shirt Front

Cut 2 fabric

### 2. Front Contrast Yoke

Cut 2 fabric (optional)

### 3. Back Yoke

Cut 2 fabric on fold

### 4. Lower Shirt Back

Cut 1 fabric on fold

### 5. Sleeve

Cut 2 fabric

### 6. Collar

Cut 2 fabric on fold, cut 1 interfacing on fold

### 7. Front Facing

Cut 2 fabric, cut 2 interfacing

### 8. Sleeve Cuff

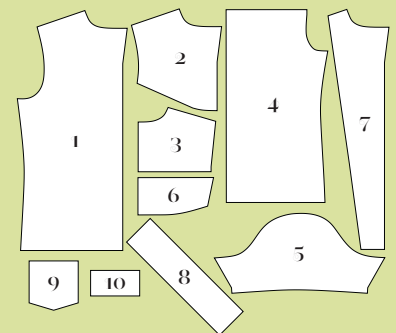
Cut 2 fabric, cut 2 interfacing

### 9. Pocket

Cut 1 fabric (optional)

### 10. Pocket Band

Cut 1 fabric, cut 1 interfacing (optional)



## KEY TO CUTTING LAYOUTS

- Right side of pattern piece
- Wrong side of pattern piece

Be sure to note whether the pieces are cut on a double or single layer of fabric. For a double layer, there will be a note indicating FOLD on the layout.



# SEWING INSTRUCTIONS

## BEFORE SEWING

**Seam Finishing:** If finishing seams with a serger, serge the following seam allowances (without trimming the edges) before construction.

- Side seams of Shirt Front
- Side seams of Lower Shirt Back
- Inside edge of Front Facing (without notches)
- Underarm seams of Sleeve

**Interfacing:** Apply fusible interfacing to all indicated pieces prior to sewing.

## NOTES

- 5/8-inch (in) (1.5 cm) seam allowances are included on all pattern pieces, except where otherwise noted

## SEW THE PRESLEY SHIRT

### Staystitching

1. Staystitch the Shirt Front (1) neckline: using a short stitch, sew 3/8 in (1 cm) from raw edge along the neckline from shoulder to center front.

*For a shirt with a contrast yoke, proceed to the next step. For a shirt with a pocket, skip to Pocket and Pocket Band, at right.*

### Front Contrast Yoke (optional)

*For a shirt with piping along the front yoke, skip to step 3.*

**1. Ease the front yoke's bottom edge:** using a long stitch length, sew between small dots on bottom curved edge of the Front Contrast Yoke (2) 3/8 in (1 cm) from the raw edge. Turn under bottom curved edge of yoke 5/8 in (1.5 cm), pulling up bobbin threads to ease the fabric and create a smooth curve, and press. Trim seam allowance of the pressed edge to 3/8 in.

**2. Apply the yoke to shirt front:** lay one yoke on top of the other, RS together, and check that the pieces are pressed symmetrically. Place yoke RS up on Shirt Front (1), aligning pressed edge with placement line and matching shoulder notches and other edges. Topstitch close to pressed yoke edge through all layers. Baste remaining edges of yoke to Shirt Front, treating this as one piece moving forward.

*Proceed to Shirt Back, page 6.*

**3. Finish yoke with decorative piping (optional):** pin the piping to the yoke, positioning the flange of the piping (that's the seam allowance part of the piping) within the seam allowance and the corded part of the piping just outside of the seam allowance, where it will show after the seam is sewn. Using a zipper foot, baste the piping in place close to the stitching on the piping. Press seam allowance 5/8 in (1.5 cm) to WS, leaving piping exposed. Grade piping flange's seam allowance to 1/8 in (3 mm) and yoke's bottom edge seam allowance to 1/4 in (6 mm). Follow step 4.

**4. Place piped yoke RS up on Shirt Front (1),** aligning piped edge with placement line and matching shoulder notches and raw edges of shirt. Either topstitch close to piping along the yoke or stitch in the ditch between piping and yoke, through all layers. Baste remaining edges of yoke to shirt front, treating this as one piece moving forward.

*For a shirt with a pocket, proceed to Pocket and Pocket Band, below. For a shirt without a pocket, proceed to Shirt Back, page 6.*

### Pocket and Pocket Band (Optional)

**1. Prepare and apply the Pocket Band (10):** fold interfaced Pocket Band WS together along foldline and press. Align long notched edge of folded Pocket Band with top notched edge of Pocket (9), RS together. Stitch.

**2. Reinforce the band:** sew a second row of stitches next to the first and trim the seam allowance close to the stitching (alternatively, serge the seam allowance). Press seam allowance toward pocket. Topstitch close to seamline on pocket from RS.

**3. Miter pocket point:** at bottom point of pocket, clip 3/8 in (1 cm) to small dot. Fold under pocket edges 5/8 in (1.5 cm), treating pocket and pocket band as one. Press.

**4. Apply the pocket to the shirt:** align pocket with placement lines on left shirt front. Edgestitch through all layers of pocket and shirt, leaving top banded edge open.

**5. Reinforce the pocket:** using a narrow, short zigzag stitch (0.2 mm long and 3–3.5 mm wide), bartack the upper edges of the pocket band to reinforce. Position the

bartack so that it is vertical, centered over the edge of the pocket at the top, and roughly 1/4 in (6 mm) long.

## Shirt Back

**1. Form back pleats:** on Lower Shirt Back (4), bring pleat lines together, pressing pleat folds toward side seam. Baste across top edge of pleats. For a shirt with piping, continue to step 2; for a shirt without piping, skip to step 3.

**2. Pipe the outer back yoke:** pin piping on RS of one Back Yoke (3) bottom edge, positioning the flange of the piping (the seam allowance part of the piping) within the seam allowance and the corded part of the piping just outside the seam allowance, where it will show after the seam is sewn. Using a zipper foot, baste the piping in place close to the stitching on the piping. Proceed to step 3.

**3. Join yoke to shirt back:** with RS together, pin pleated top edge of lower shirt back to bottom edge of piped back yoke, matching centers and notches. Baste the shirt back unit together.

**4. Apply inner back yoke:** pin remaining back yoke (without piping) to basted shirt back unit, with RS of back yoke facing WS of lower shirt back. There are three layers: the two back yoke sections sandwich the lower shirt back. Stitch through all layers. Grade seam allowances so that inner back yoke's is narrowest and outer back yoke's is widest.

**5. Finish the yoke:** flip both yoke sections away from the shirt back and match shoulders, neck, and armhole edges. Press yoke seam. Baste yoke edges together at neckline, shoulder, and armhole. Treat this piece as the shirt back unit moving forward. Optional topstitching may be added above the yoke seamline.

## Shoulder And Side Seams

**1. Sew shoulder seams:** with RS together, pin shirt front units to shirt back unit at shoulder seams, aligning notches. Stitch. Check shoulder seam on RS to ensure it is smooth. Sew a second row of stitching about 1/8 in (3 mm) from first row within seam allowance. Trim close to second row of stitching or finish raw edge with serger. Press seam allowance as

one toward back. Optional: Topstitch shoulder seam allowance to back yoke, 1/4 in (6 mm) from seamline.

**2. Sew side seams:** with RS together, pin shirt fronts to shirt back at side seams, aligning notches. Stitch. Press seam allowances open.

## Sleeve

**1. Sew sleeve underarm seam:** pin underarm seam on Sleeve (5), RS together, and stitch. Press seam allowances open.

**2. Ease sleeve cap:** using a long gathering stitch (4 mm to 5 mm), sew a line of stitches along each sleeve cap between front and back notches. Sew the first line using a 1/2-in-wide (1.3 cm) seam allowance. Repeat with a 1/4-in-wide (6 mm) seam allowance. Pull up bobbin threads and distribute ease evenly to avoid any visible gathers or tucks on seamline.

**3. Set sleeve into shirt armhole:** pin sleeve to armhole, RS together, matching notches and underarm seams and evenly distributing the gathers. Stitch. Sew a second row of stitches about 1/4 in (6 mm) from first row of stitches within seam allowance. Trim close to second row of stitches or finish with a serger. Press sleeve over seam allowance.

## Sleeve Cuff

**1. Assemble cuff:** align short ends of interfaced Sleeve Cuff (8) RS together, forming a ring. Stitch. Press seam allowances open. Fold cuff in half lengthwise, WS together. Press the fold to create a crisp edge. Baste raw edges together.

**2. Sew cuff to sleeve:** pin cuff to sleeve WS, matching seams and notches. Note: Cuff is slightly smaller than sleeve circumference. Gently stretching cuff to fit sleeve, stitch. Sew a second row of stitching close to the first, then trim close to the stitching (alternatively, finish the seam allowance by serging). With sleeve still WS out, flip cuff over seam allowances and understitch cuff (making sure seam allowances are caught in the stitches), holding cuff taut to reduce any puckers or wrinkles. Turn sleeve RS out, fold cuff to RS of sleeve, and press the cuff bottom fold.

## Collar and Front Facing

**1. Assemble collar:** pin interfaced Collar (6) RS together with uninterfaced Collar, matching notches. Stitch around straight edge and sides, leaving bottom curved edge unsewn. Pivot at corners and backstitch once or twice to reinforce corner points. Grade seam allowances, trimming the interfaced collar seam allowance to  $\frac{1}{8}$  in (3 mm) and uninterfaced collar seam allowance to  $\frac{1}{4}$  in (6 mm). Trim across corners to reduce bulk.

**2. Finish collar:** turn collar RS out, press seam allowances open, and press collar flat. Use a point turner or a pin to get crisp corners. Machine-baste bottom edges together from each outer edge to each notch, leaving opening between notches. Clip into seam allowance at notches on uninterfaced collar section only. Lightly press the clipped seam allowance under  $\frac{5}{8}$  in (1.5 cm). Optional: Topstitch collar  $\frac{1}{4}$  in (6 mm) from finished edges.

**3. Attach collar to shirt:** pin collar to shirt neckline, with the interfaced collar and shirt RS together. Align collar center to shirt center back, and match dots and clips to shoulder seamlines, clipping back neckline of shirt to ease, if needed. Baste collar to shirt, taking care not to catch the pressed-under collar seam allowance in stitches.

**4. Attach front facing to shirt:** press Front Facing (7) shoulder edge under  $\frac{5}{8}$  in (1.5 cm). Pin front facing to shirt, RS together, aligning notches and sandwiching the collar edge between facing and shirt. Match pressed shoulder edge of facing to shirt shoulder seamline. Stitch from one bottom edge of facing, around collar, and down to opposite bottom edge of

facing, through all layers, pivoting at corners. Take care not to catch pressed-under section of collar.

**5. Finish the facing and collar:** trim across facing/ shirt lapel corners diagonally and clip into neck seam allowances. Grade seam allowances of notched facing/ shirt front edge, trimming shirt's seam allowance to  $\frac{1}{4}$  in (6 mm) and facing's to  $\frac{1}{8}$  in (3 mm). Open out facing from shirt, with seam allowances underneath, and understitch facing from bottom to dot, catching the seam allowances. Press facing to WS. Slipstitch facing's fold at shoulder seam. Press collar and neckline seam allowances up, clipping to notch through all layers. Slipstitch pressed-under collar edge to seamline.

## Hem and button placket

**1. Prepare the hem:** turn under  $\frac{1}{4}$  in (6 mm) along shirt's bottom edge, or serge the raw edge, trimming away  $\frac{1}{4}$  in as you serge.

**2. Finish facing at hem:** fold front facing to shirt's RS and pin. Stitch facing to shirt bottom edge using a 1-in-wide (2.5 cm) seam allowance. Turn facing back to WS and press corner and bottom hem.

**3. Sew the hem:** press shirt's remaining bottom edge under 1 in (2.5 cm) and pin. From WS, edgestitch close to top folded or serged edge.

**4. Sew buttonholes and attach buttons:** on shirt's left front, machine-sew buttonholes following markings on pattern. On shirt's right front, sew buttons corresponding to each buttonhole, following markings on pattern.

*Rock out in your new Presley Shirt!*

## PATTERN PIECE LOCATION GUIDE



Here is a list to help you locate the pattern pieces on the letter-size tiled pages and AO pattern sheets. The tiled pieces and AO sheets are included as separate pdf files as part of this digital pattern.

PC#	Piece Name	Tiled	AO	PC#	Piece Name	Tiled	AO
1	Shirt Front	1-3, 10-12, 19-21, 28-30	2	6	Collar	15, 24	2
2	Front Contrast Yoke	8-9, 17-18	1	7	Front Facing	6-7, 15-16, 25, 34	2
3	Back Yoke	32-33	2	8	Sleeve Cuff	12, 21	2
4	Lower Shirt Back	4-6, 13-15, 22-24	1	9	Pocket	31	1
5	Sleeve	17-18, 26-27, 35-36	1	10	Pocket Band	30	1

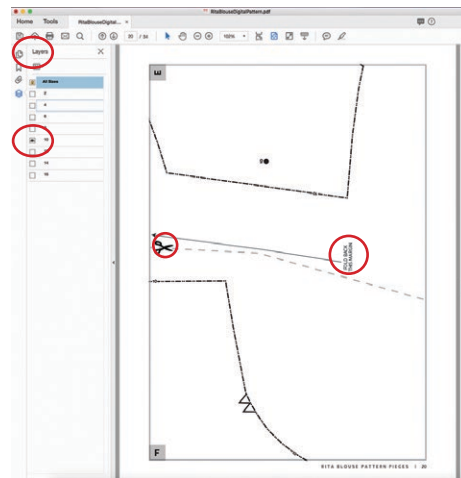
# HOW TO USE THIS PATTERN

The pattern pieces are tiled so you can print them on Letter (8 1/2" x 11") or A4 size paper. You can also send the A0 pattern sheet PDF to a local or online printer (like [www.pdfplotting.com](http://www.pdfplotting.com)) to print on large sheets (36" x 48" for U.S. or AO for international).

This pattern includes size layers. To get the best results, open either the Tiled or A0 pattern pieces PDF in Acrobat Reader.

Open the Layers Palette (View>Show/Hide>Navigation Panes>Layers) and hide all of the layer(s) except for the ones you want to print by clicking on the eye icon.

The All Sizes layer has general pattern information and will always print.



# WORKING WITH THE TILED PIECES

Go to File>Print and change the page range to the pages you need for the pieces you've chosen (see Pattern Pieces Printing Index). Make sure the Page Sizing settings to 100% or Actual Size. Test this after printing by measuring the 1" test box on the first page of the bodice pattern pieces.

Cut apart any pattern pieces that share a page by cutting on the gray long dashed lines. Then fold back the page margins on each page as directed.

Tape the pages together, butting up the folded page edges with the gray margin lines, matching up the letters in gray boxes.

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