stitch
patterns

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fabric

FALL **2010**
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bonus
WEB PROJECT

faux fur
bolero

by **KATRINA LOVING**
Project photo on page **63**.

The animal-friendly faux fur in this sleek bolero is soft and luxurious and adds a touch of glamour to your favorite holiday dress. The faux fur adds warmth, while the cute cap sleeves and cropped length keep it light enough to wear indoors.

Faux Fur Bolero

By **KATRINA LOVING**

SIZE CHART

	BUST	LENGTH (CENTER BACK)
XS	32–33" (81.5–84 cm)	13½" (34.5 cm)
S	34–35" (86.5–89 cm)	13¾" (35 cm)
M	36–37" (91.5–94 cm)	14¼" (36 cm)
L	38–39" (96.5–99 cm)	14¾" (37.5 cm)
XL	41–42" (104–106.5 cm)	15¼" (38.5 cm)

Shown in size Small

FABRIC

—½ (½, ⅝, ⅔, ⅔) yd (46 [46, 57, 61, 61] cm) of 60" (152.5 cm) wide faux fur (Main; the width of faux fur should give you enough to allow for matching if you choose a patterned fur, but if your faux fur is patterned and narrower, you'll want to allow extra for matching; see Notes)

—¾ (¾, ¾, ⅞, ⅞) yd (68.5 [68.5, 68.5, 80, 80] cm) brocade or medium-weight satin for lining (at least 45" [114.5 cm] wide; see Notes)

OTHER SUPPLIES

—Matching all-purpose sewing threads for faux fur and lining fabrics

—1½ yd (1.4 m) of ½–⅝" (1.3–1.5 cm) wide silk or soft satin ribbon

—Fine-point permanent marker (optional; see sidebar at right)

—Fabric marking pen or tailor's chalk

—Serger (optional)

—Ballpoint needle for sewing machine

—Microtex needle for sewing machine (if using brocade) or appropriate needle for lining fabric (check your sewing machine manual)

—Press cloth

—Tailor's ham or rolled towel

—Long straight pins

—Handsewing needle

—Full-size pattern PDF on the following pages.

NOTES

—All seam allowances are ½" (1.3 cm) unless otherwise noted.

—Use the Microtex needle when sewing the lining and the ballpoint needle when sewing the fur. If sewing both together, use the ballpoint needle.

—Choose a faux fur that is pliable and relatively lightweight with a medium to low pile. If you choose a fur that is too thick or stiff, or has a high pile, it will be more difficult to work with and may not be comfortable to wear.

—When choosing a lining fabric, pick a medium-weight brocade or satin. Avoid anything too lightweight because it will be too flimsy with the bulk of the fur at the seams.

—Use a press cloth to protect the shell and lining fabrics.

TIPS FOR WORKING WITH FAUX FUR

— When transferring the pattern to the wrong side of faux fur, use a brightly colored fine-point permanent marker; the markings won't be visible on the fabric right side. It is also important to mark notches clearly with ink that won't disappear before you have completed the project. Marking the notches, rather than cutting them into the fabric, is preferable, because the pile makes small notches difficult to see.

— To cut faux fur, slip the scissors blade below the pile, close to the base fabric, and cut only the base fabric. When a pattern piece is cut, pull it gently away from the remaining fabric, separating the pile.

— Always cut faux fur in a single layer, not folded. To cut pairs of pieces (e.g., a right front and a left front), cut the pieces singly, flipping the pattern over for the second piece.

— When working with faux fur, it is much easier to keep the seam allowances even if the pile is trimmed from the edges before sewing. Trim the pile along the entire seam allowance before sewing if desired; to facilitate trimming, draw a guideline just shy of ½" (1.3 cm) from the cut edge on the fabric wrong side and staystitch along the line. Flip the fur to the right side and use sharp fabric shears to trim the pile outside the staystitching, leaving the base fabric intact. Work over a trash can to catch the trimmings. Keep the trimming a bit shy of the full ½" (1.3 cm) seam allowances to allow for inevitable slight variations in accuracy during sewing. Because the sample fur is not super-thick, trimming the pile along the edge even with the base fabric edge is sufficient (this makes the base fabric edge more visible). After pressing the seam allowances open, trim the remaining pile in the seam allowances to reduce bulk. Practice sewing on a doubled scrap of faux fur to determine which method will best suit the chosen fabric.

— When sewing on fur, increase the stitch length on your machine to about 3.0 mm and always sew with the nap.

CUT & PREPARE THE FABRIC

1 If your faux fur has a pattern, such as the stripes seen in the sample, be sure to match the pattern on the different pieces before cutting; see page 94 of the Fall 2010 issue of *Stitch*.

2 Print and assemble the pattern pieces included in this PDF. Lay the faux fur wrong side up on a flat surface. Using the provided pattern pieces, cut the following from the faux fur, being sure to clearly transfer all pattern markings and referring to the layout diagram on the following pages for assistance (make sure you place all pieces oriented in the same direction so that the nap runs toward the bottom of the pieces):

—One Back
—Two Fronts (cut 1, cut 1 reverse)
—Two Sleeves (cut 1, cut 1 reverse)
—One Collar Facing

Fold the lining fabric in half lengthwise and cut the following pieces, referring to the layout diagram on the following pages for assistance:

—One Back Lining on the fold
—Two Front Linings (cut 1, cut 1 reverse)
—Two Sleeve Linings (cut 1, cut 1 reverse) on the bias

3 Serge, zigzag, overcast, or pink all edges of each lining piece, especially if you are using brocade, because it tends to ravel.

ASSEMBLE THE SHELL & LINING

4 Prepare the seam allowances of the fur pieces with your preferred method (see Notes). Increase the stitch length on your machine to about 3.0 mm and install the ballpoint needle. Place the Back and one of the Front pieces right sides together and pin the side seam. Sew the side seam and press the seam allowances open, using a press cloth to protect the fur. Pin, stitch, and press the shoulder seam. Repeat to sew the remaining Front piece to the free side of the Back.

5 Staystitch ½" (1.3 cm) from the bottom edge of the Collar Facing. Align the top edge of the Collar Facing with the collar edge of the shell, right sides together, and pin. Sew the seam, clip the seam allowances as necessary, and then press the seam allowances open. Trim the seam allowances to ¼" (6 mm).

6 With the Collar Facing lying flat above the shell, staystitch ½" (1.3 cm) from each side edge of the facing, continuing to the notch on the shell (**figure 1**).

7 Sew the Lining Back and Front pieces together as in Step 4.

ASSEMBLE THE BOLERO

8 Cut the ribbon in half and place one short edge of each ribbon on the shell between the notches at the center front, matching the raw edges, with the bulk of the ribbon lying on the shell, and pin in place. Place the assembled lining and shell right sides together, matching the raw edges along the front and bottom
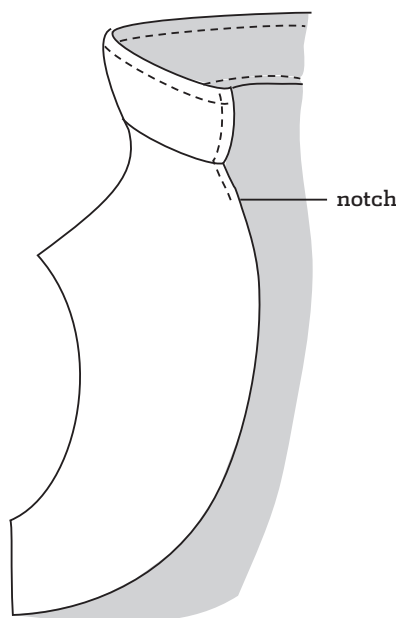

notch

figure 1

edges (the lining does not have a full collar, so it won't match the shell along the top edge). Make sure the long ribbon edges are away from the seam. Pin and then sew from the top of one Front, down and around the bottom edge, and then back up the other Front, catching the ribbon tie edges in the seam. Clip the seam allowances as necessary, press them open, and trim the fur seam allowance to ¼" (6 mm).

9 Turn the bolero right side out and run your hand along the inside of the seam to make sure the seam is completely turned out, with no pleats. The lining is slightly smaller than the shell, so when the bolero is finished, the fur will roll slightly to the inside of the bolero.

10 Match the shell and lining at the armhole and pin. Baste around the armhole, ¼" (6 mm) from the edge. Repeat to secure the other armhole.

11 Staystitch along the curved edge of each Sleeve Lining, ½" (1.3 cm) from the raw edge.

12 Place one Sleeve and Sleeve Lining right sides together and pin along the straight edge. Using the standard stitch length (2.0–2.5 mm), sew the seam, then press the seam allowances open and trim the fur allowance to ¼" (6 mm). Open out the sleeve so that the fur and lining are lying side by side. Fold the sleeve in half, right sides together, to match the underarm edges and pin (fur will lie on top of fur, lining on top of lining). Sew the seam, using a 3.0 mm stitch length on the fur and then switching to a standard stitch length to sew the lining. Press the seam allowances open and trim the fur allowances to ¼" (6 mm), tapering to about ⅛" (3 mm) at the seam intersection (where the fur and lining meet). Press ½" (1.3 cm) to the wrong side along

the curved edge of the lining only. Repeat the entire step to assemble the other sleeve. Turn the sleeves right side out.

13 Turn the bolero inside out and pin one sleeve into the armhole, right sides together, aligning the fur free edge with the armhole raw edges and matching the notches and underarm seams. Sew the armhole seam, then clip the seam allowances and press them open as well as you can using a tailor's ham or rolled towel underneath. Trim the fur seam to ¼" (6 mm), tapering to about ⅛" (3 mm) at the underarm seam intersection.

14 Pull the lining over the fur sleeve, with wrong sides together, and pin the pressed edge of the lining over the armhole seam, just covering the armhole stitches. Using a handsewing needle, blindstitch the lining to the armhole, enclosing all raw edges. The sleeve lining is a bit smaller than the sleeve, so the fur will roll slightly to the wrong side along the sleeve's outer edge.

15 Repeat Steps 13–14 to attach the remaining sleeve.

16 Finally, fold the collar facing down over the collar so that the seam lies along the top. Turn the ½" (1.3 cm) allowances under along the staystitched lines and pin in place as in Step 14, making sure that the neck edge of the lining is evenly covered by the collar facing. Remember to turn in the seam allowances at the center front edges. Using a handsewing needle, blindstitch the facing in place.

17 Leave the ribbon ties long and dramatic, cutting the edges at an angle to discourage fraying, or for a more finished look, fold the end of each ribbon under and stitch it in place. For shorter ties, tie the bow and then trim the ribbon tails to the desired length.

pattern *guide*

GETTING STARTED
Basic techniques & terms you'll need to know for the pattern you have downloaded.

ASSEMBLING FULL-SIZE PATTERN PRINTOUT

1 When preparing to print the PDF, make sure that you are printing it at 100% and that there is no scaling. Check the settings for page scaling (should be "None") and check the preview to make sure that you will be printing at full size. Make sure that the box labeled "Auto-Rotate and Center" is unchecked (instructions apply specifically to Adobe Reader; if using another PDF reader, check for similar settings).
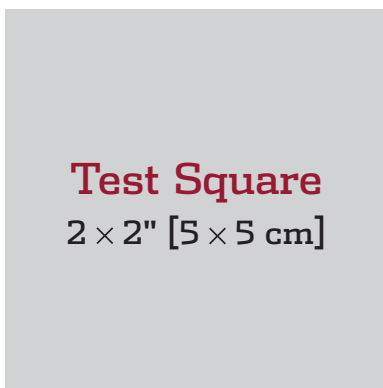
Test Square
2 × 2" [5 × 5 cm]

2 To ensure that the pattern has printed at the correct scale, check the size of the TEST SQUARE. The Test Square should be 2 × 2" (5 × 5 cm).

3 To begin assembling the pattern, cut off or fold the dotted margin around each page.

4 The pages are numbered in rows, so the first row of pages is numbered 1a, 1b, 1c, etc. Line up the rows and match the dotted lines together so they overlap. Tape the pages together. Use the illustrated guide to match each piece. Once the pattern is complete, find your size, pin the pattern to the fabric, and follow the coordinating line to cut out or trace the pattern.

LAYOUT, MARKING & CUTTING GUIDELINES

1 Find the lines that correspond to your size and trace the pattern pieces, either on tissue paper or directly onto the fabric, using tracing paper and a tracing wheel.

2 If you are cutting pattern pieces on the fold or cutting two of the same pattern piece, fold the fabric in half, selvedge to selvedge, with right sides facing.

3 Lay the pattern pieces on the fabric as close together as possible. Double-check that all pattern pieces to be cut "on the fold" are placed on the fold.

4 Make sure all pattern pieces are placed on the fabric with the grainline running parallel to the lengthwise grain.

5 Copy all pattern markings onto the wrong side of the fabric.

6 Read through all cutting instructions listed in the project instructions for directions on how many pattern pieces to cut out of your fabric and interfacing.

7 Use weights to hold the pattern pieces down and use pins to secure the corners as needed.

8 Cut the pieces slowly and carefully.

PATTERN SYMBOLS & MARKINGS
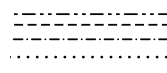
CUTTING LINES Multisize patterns have different cutting lines for each size.

⌐ place on fold ⌐ **PLACE ON FOLD BRACKET** This is a grainline marking with arrows pointing to the edge of the pattern. Place on the fold of the fabric so that your finished piece will be twice the size of the pattern piece, without adding a seam.

GRAINLINE The double-ended arrow should be parallel to the lengthwise grain or fold.

NOTCHES Notches are triangle-shaped symbols used for accurately matching seams. Pieces to be joined will have corresponding notches.
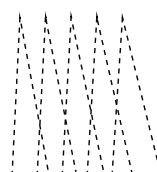
DARTS Dashed lines and dots mark darts. The dashed lines show where the stitching will be, and the dot shows the position of the dart point (signaling the point, near the end of the dart, where your stitching should taper down to the end).

DRILL HOLES Circles with crossed lines inside indicate an area where a mark needs to be made, often indicating dart points, but otherwise explained in the pattern instructions.
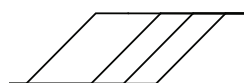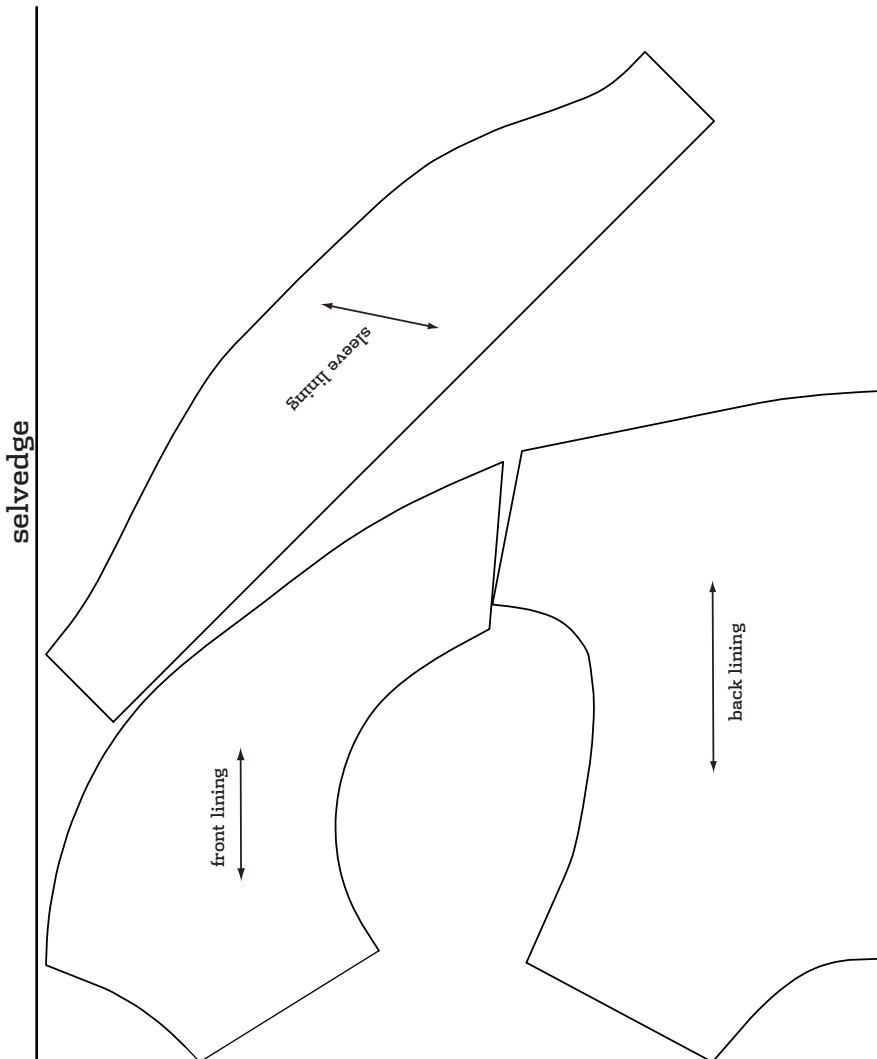
SLASH MARKS Long lines indicate an area to make a slash. Further instructions for making the slash will be included in the pattern instructions.
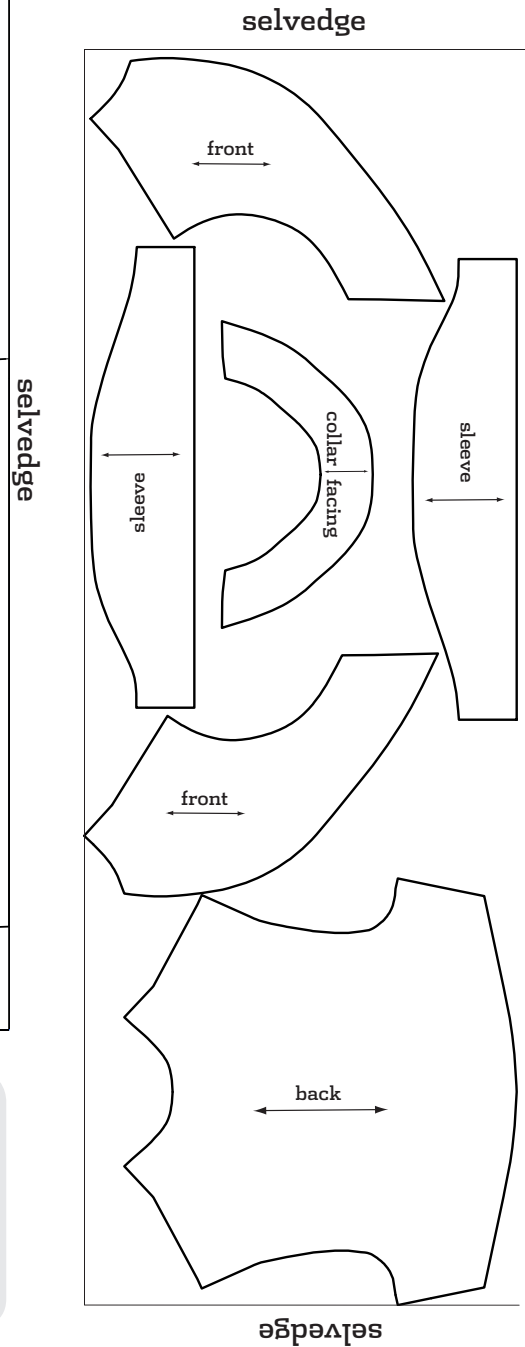
CUTTING LAYOUT

45" (114.5 cm)
lining
XS, S, M, L, XL

60" (152.5 cm)
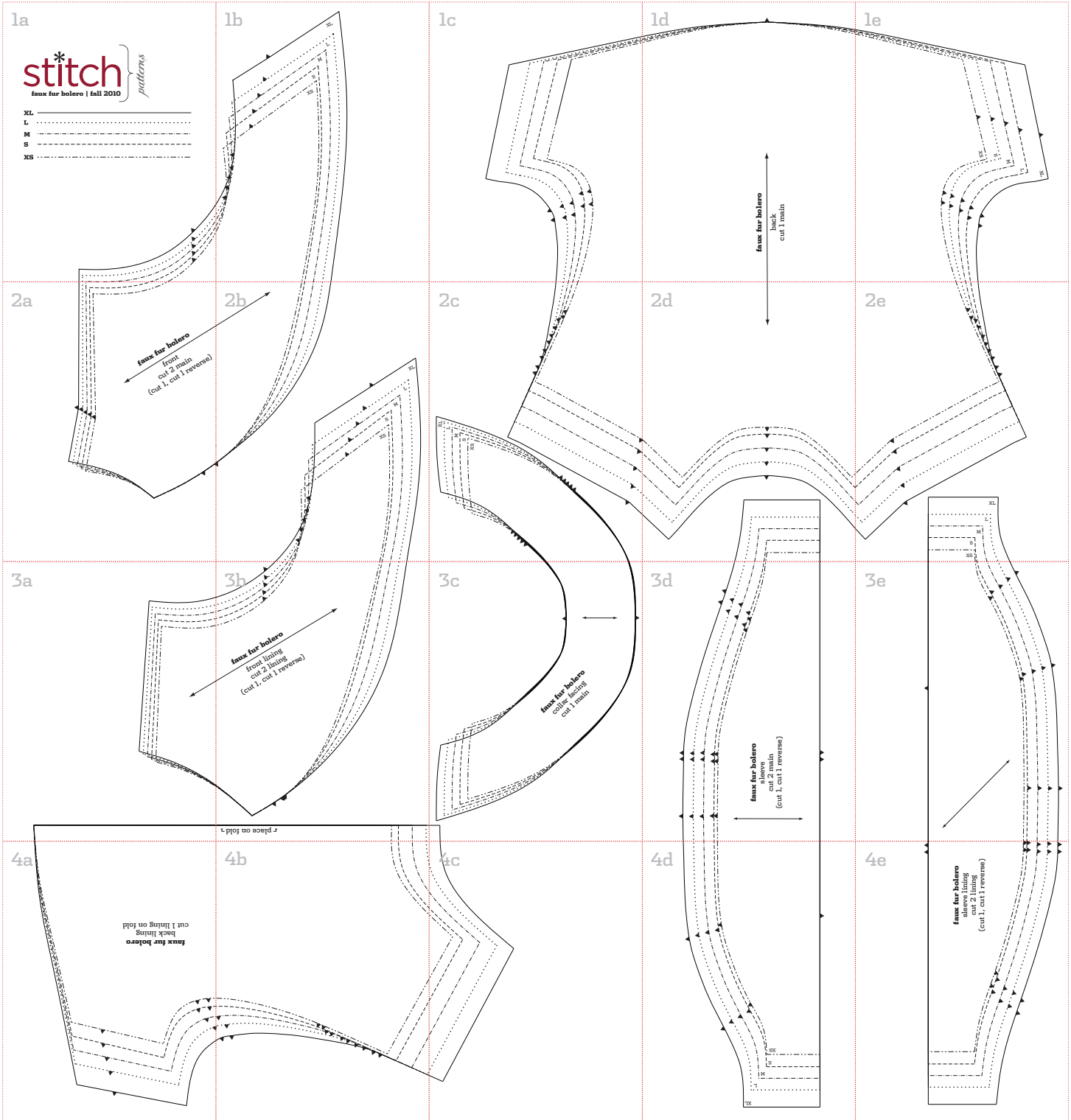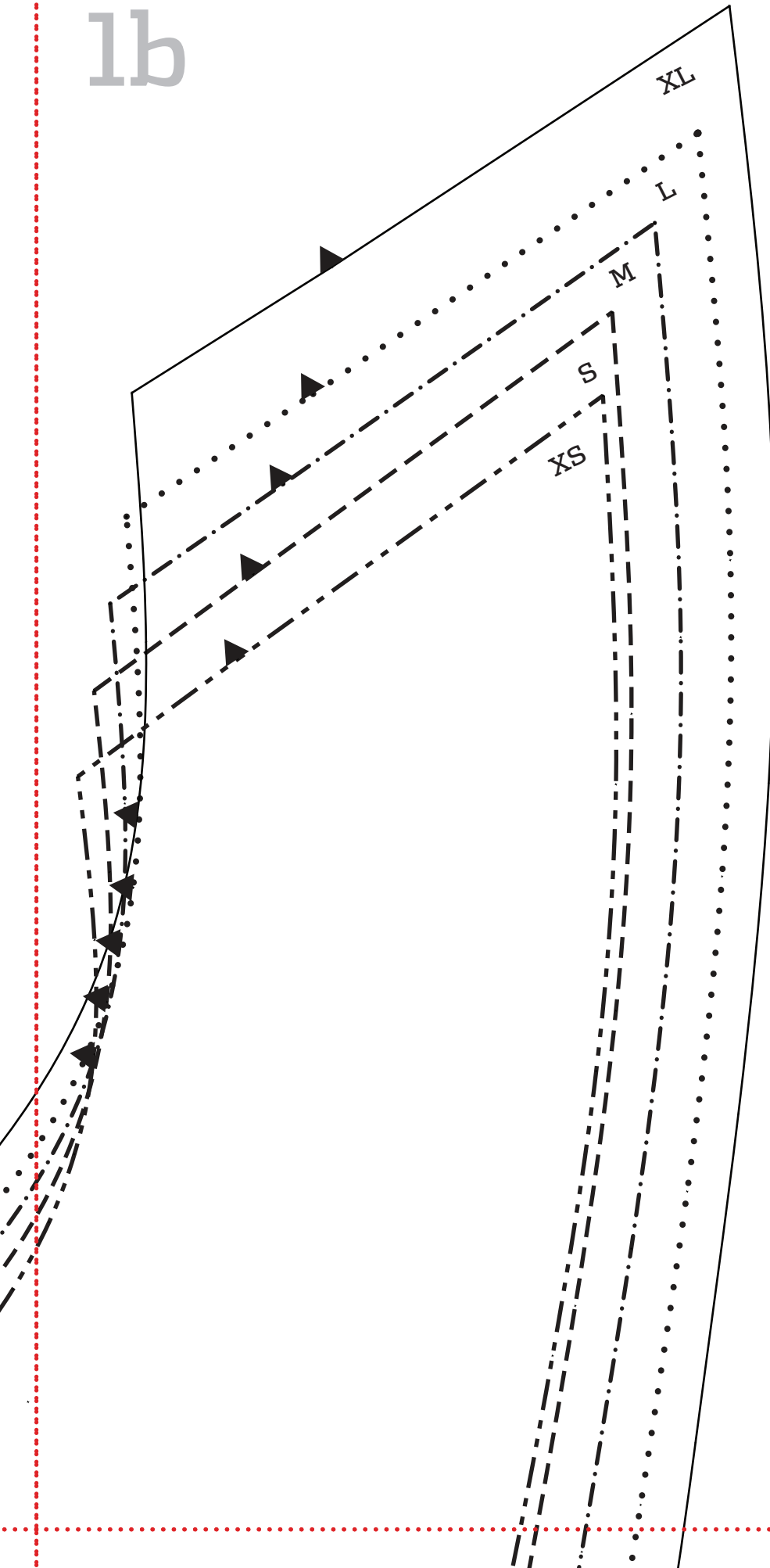**main**
XS, S, M, L, XL

selvedge

selvedge

selvedge

selvedge

sleeve lining

front lining

back lining

front

sleeve

collar facing

sleeve

front

back

SIZE CHART

	BUST	LENGTH (CENTER BACK)
XS	32–33" (81.5–84 cm)	12¼" (31 cm)
S	34–35" (86.5–89 cm)	12½" (31.5 cm)
M	36–37" (91.5–94 cm)	13" (32 cm)
L	38–39" (96.5–99 cm)	13½" (33 cm)
XL	40–41" (101.5–104 cm)	14" (33.5 cm)
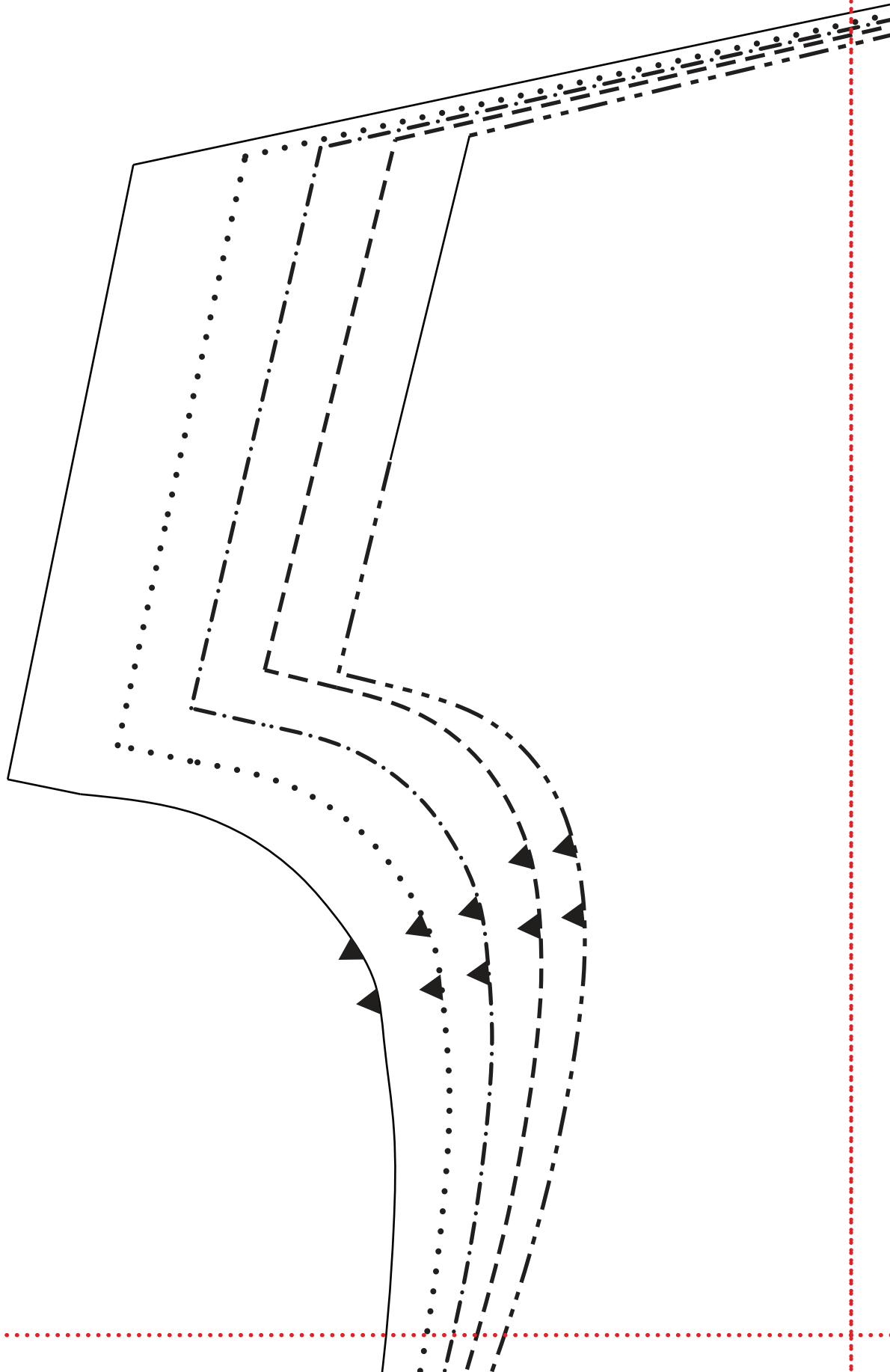
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XL — · —
L — — —
M — — —
S — · — ·
XS — · · —

1a	1b	1c	1d	1e
2a	2b	2c	2d	2e
3a	3b	3c	3d	3e
4a	4b	4c	4d	4e

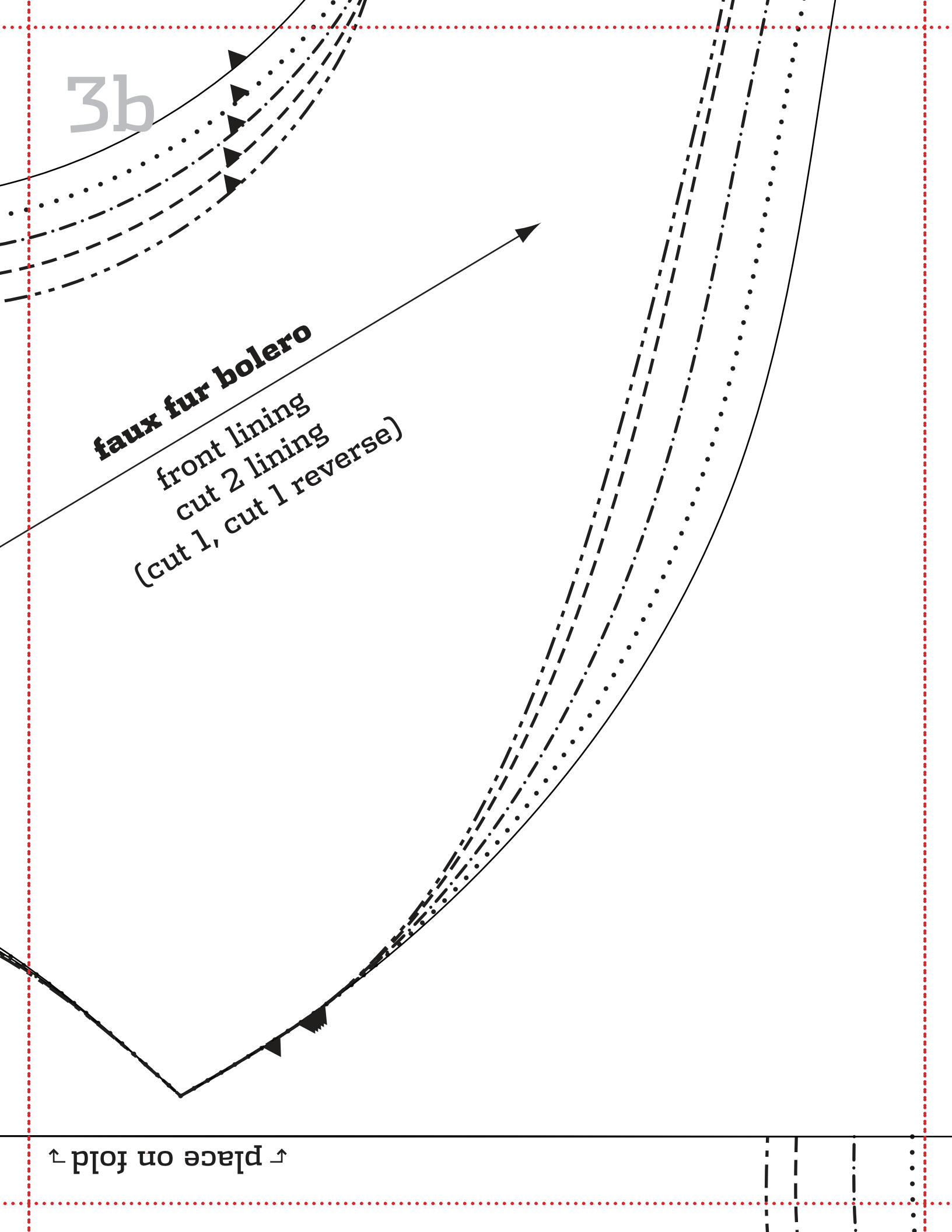faux fur bolero
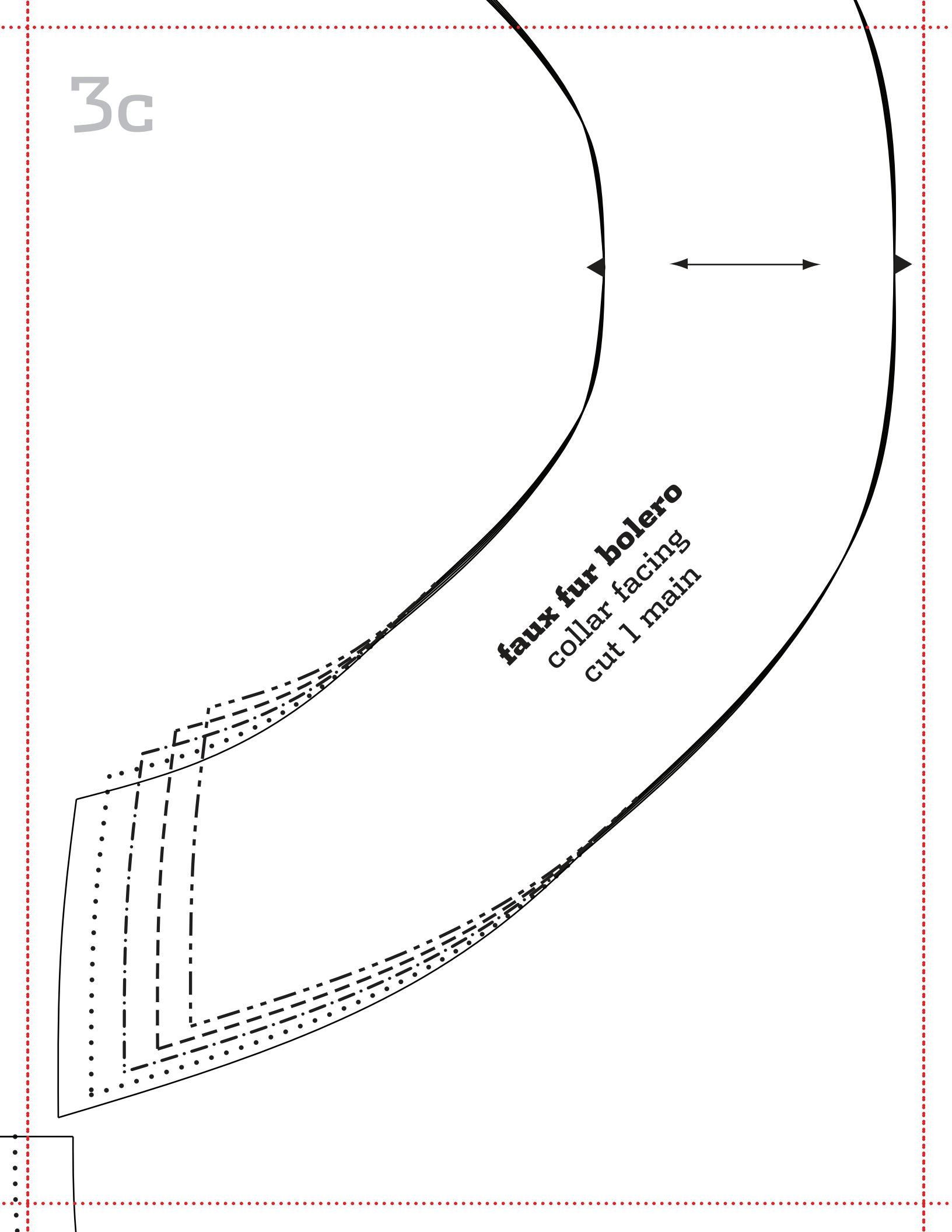front
cut 2 main
(cut 1, cut 1 reverse)

faux fur bolero
back
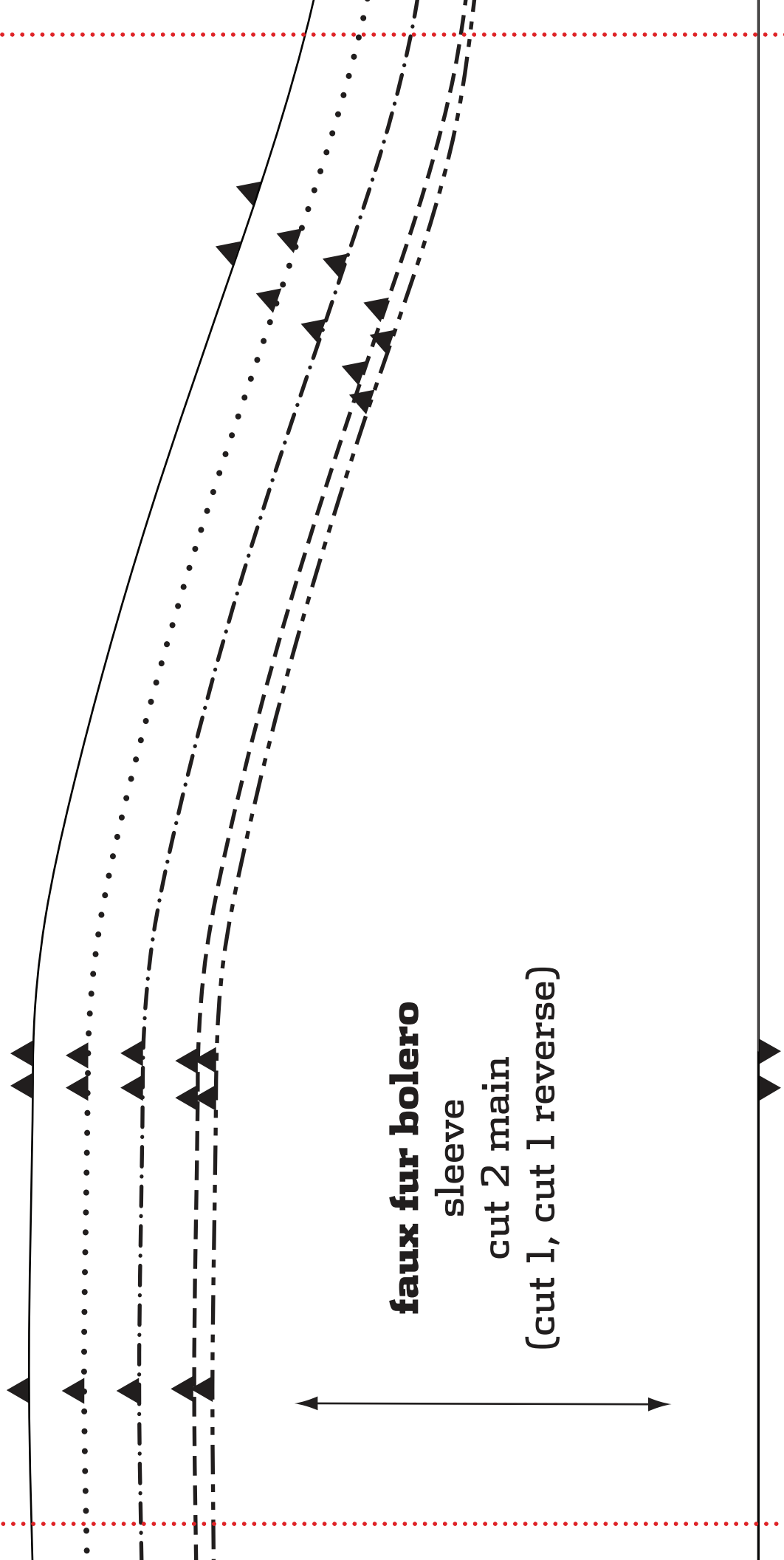cut 1 main

faux fur bolero
front lining
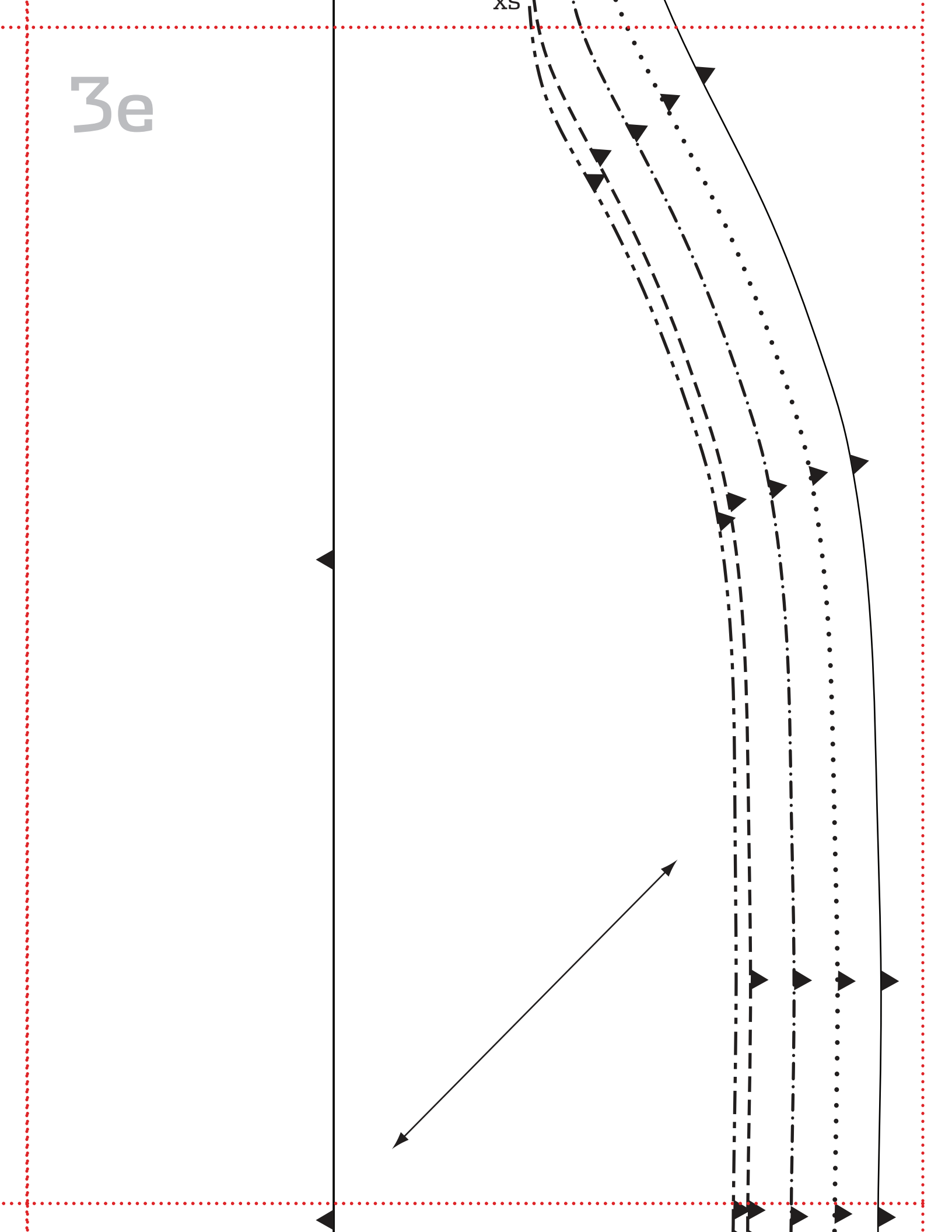cut 2 lining
(cut 1, cut 1 reverse)

faux fur bolero
collar facing
cut 1 main

faux fur bolero
sleeve
cut 2 main
(cut 1, cut 1 reverse)
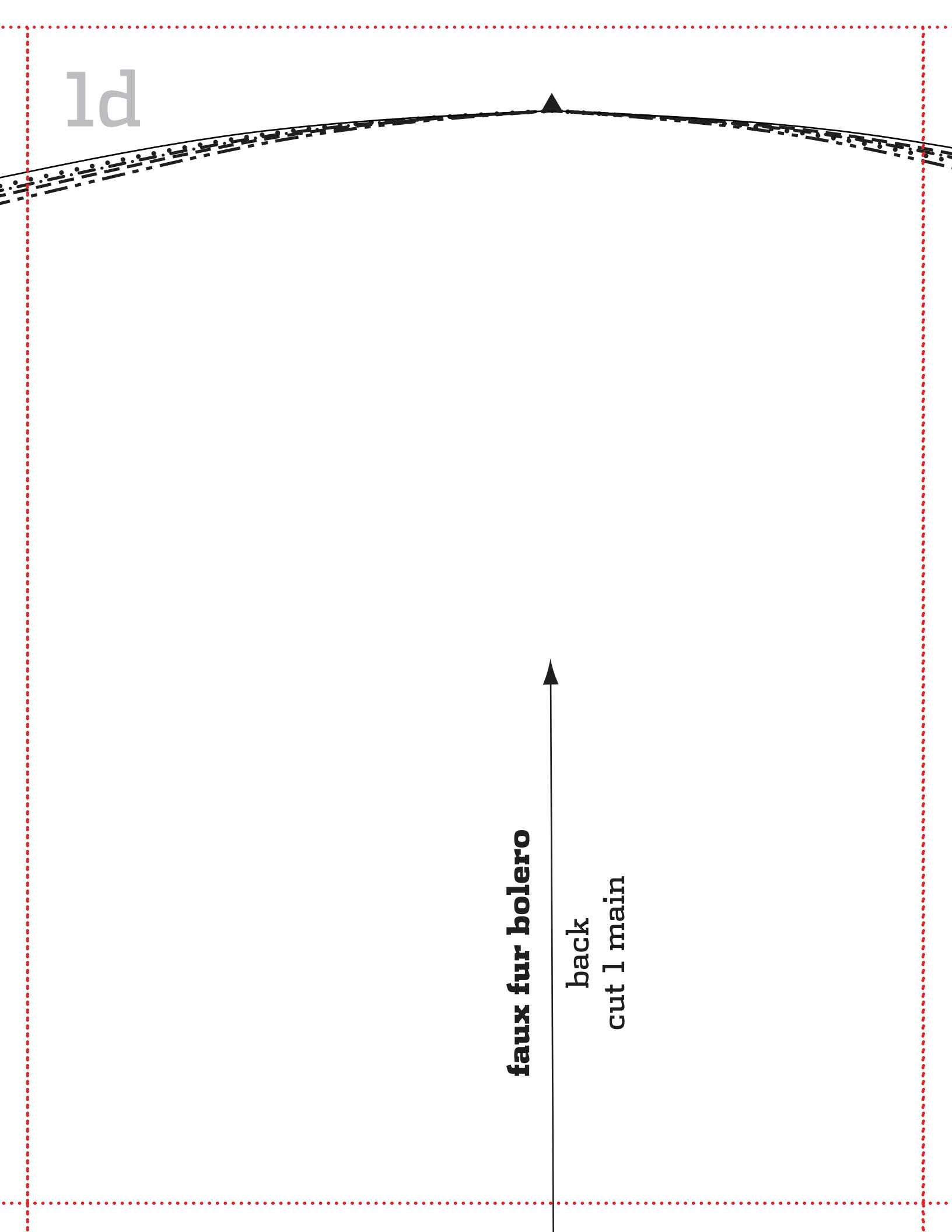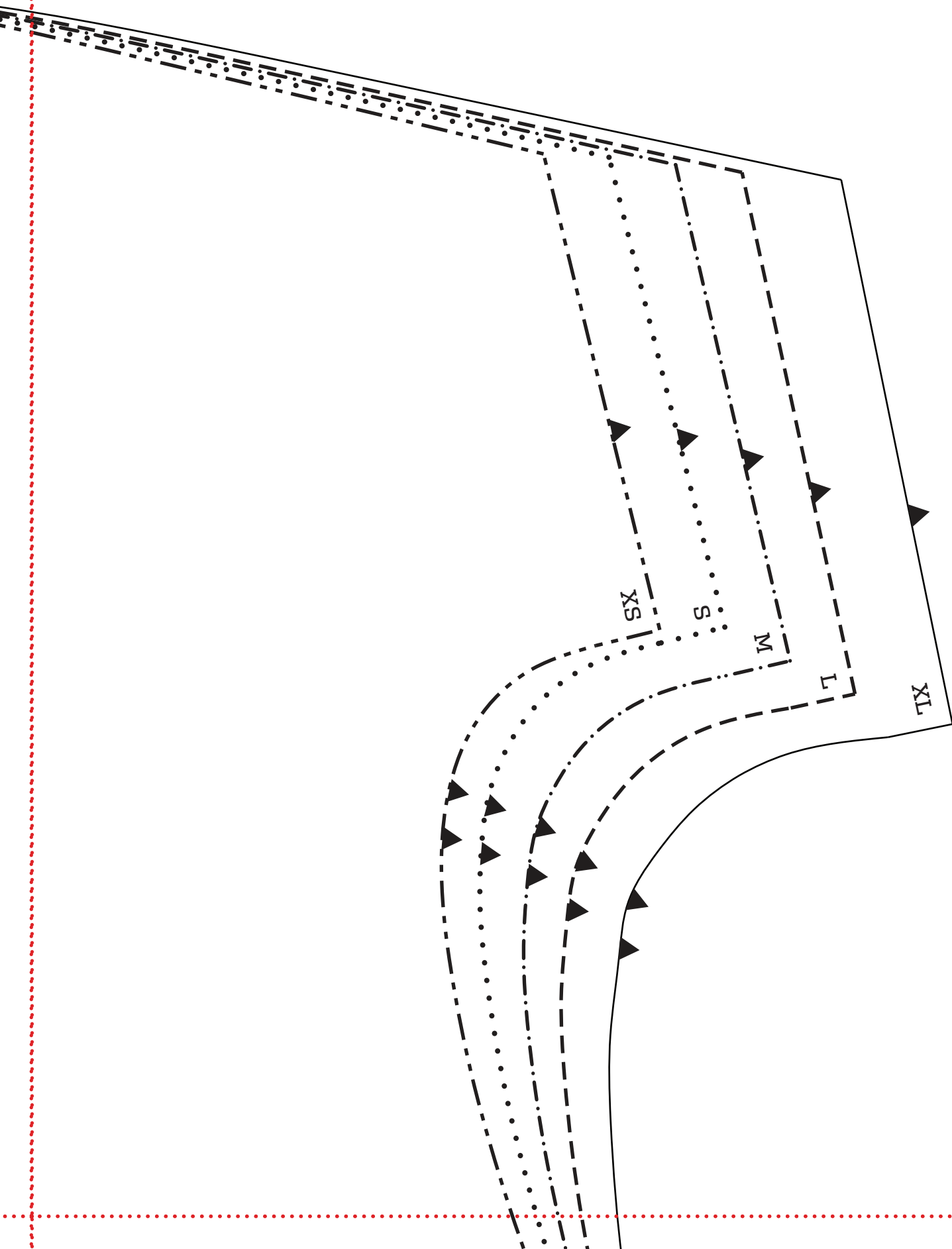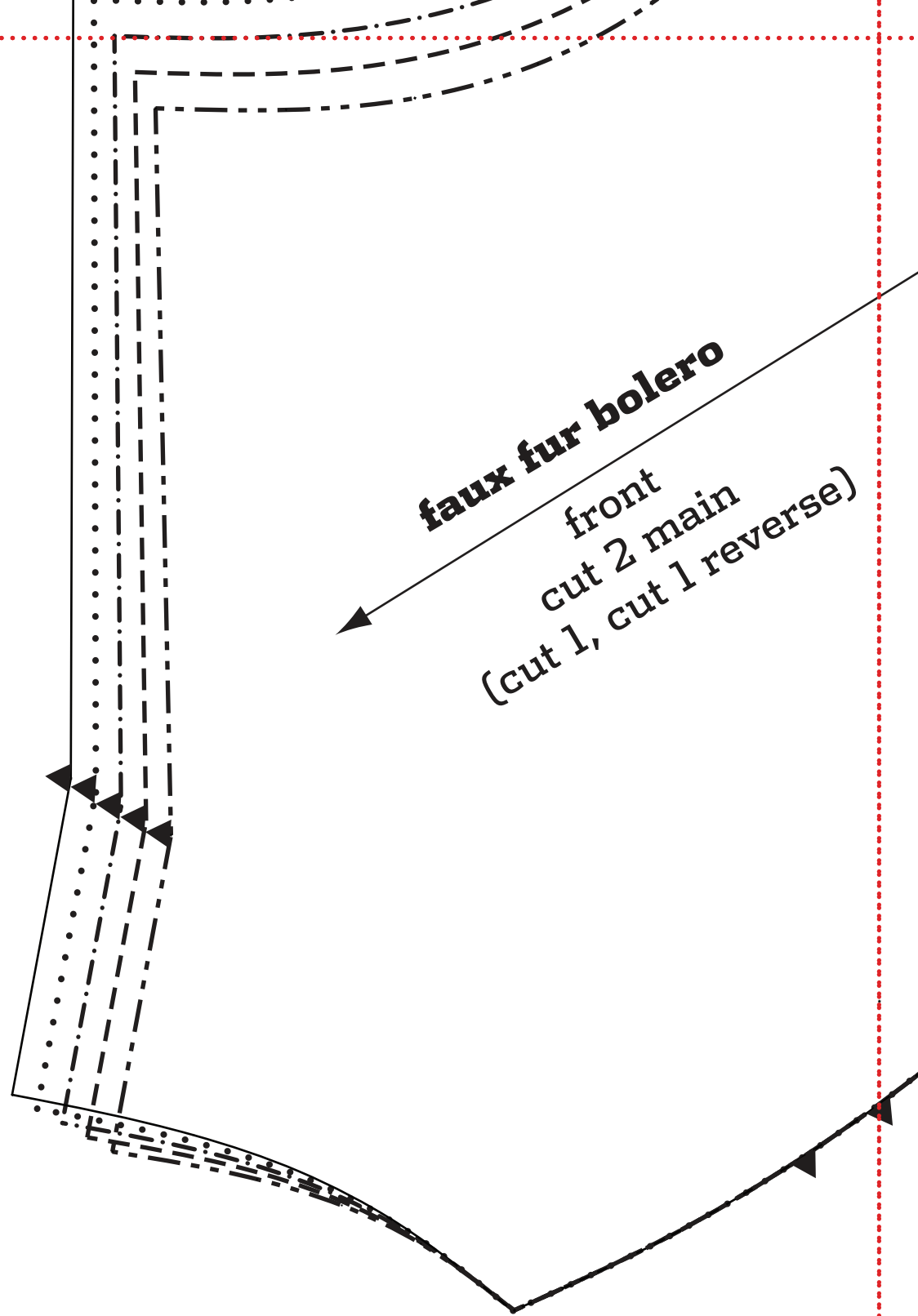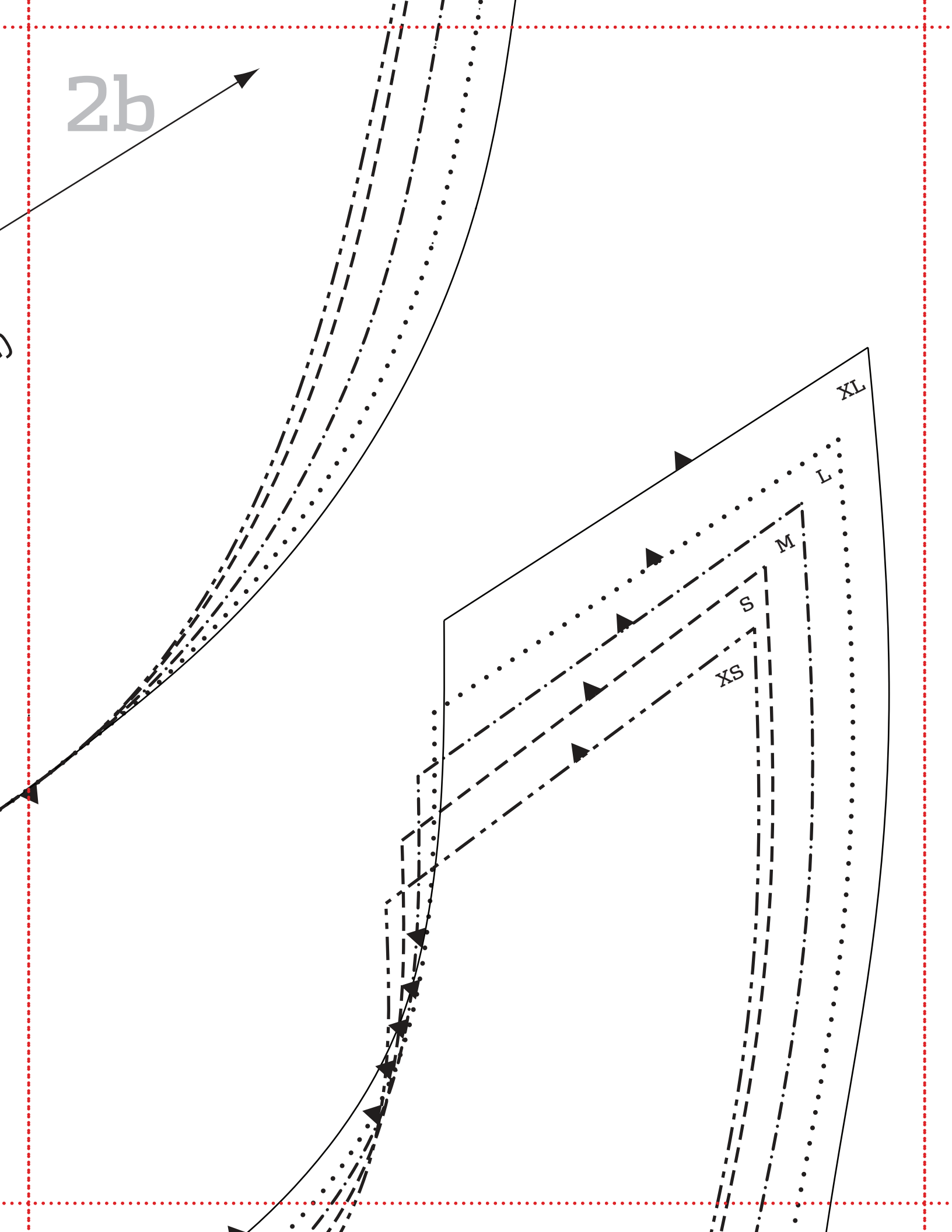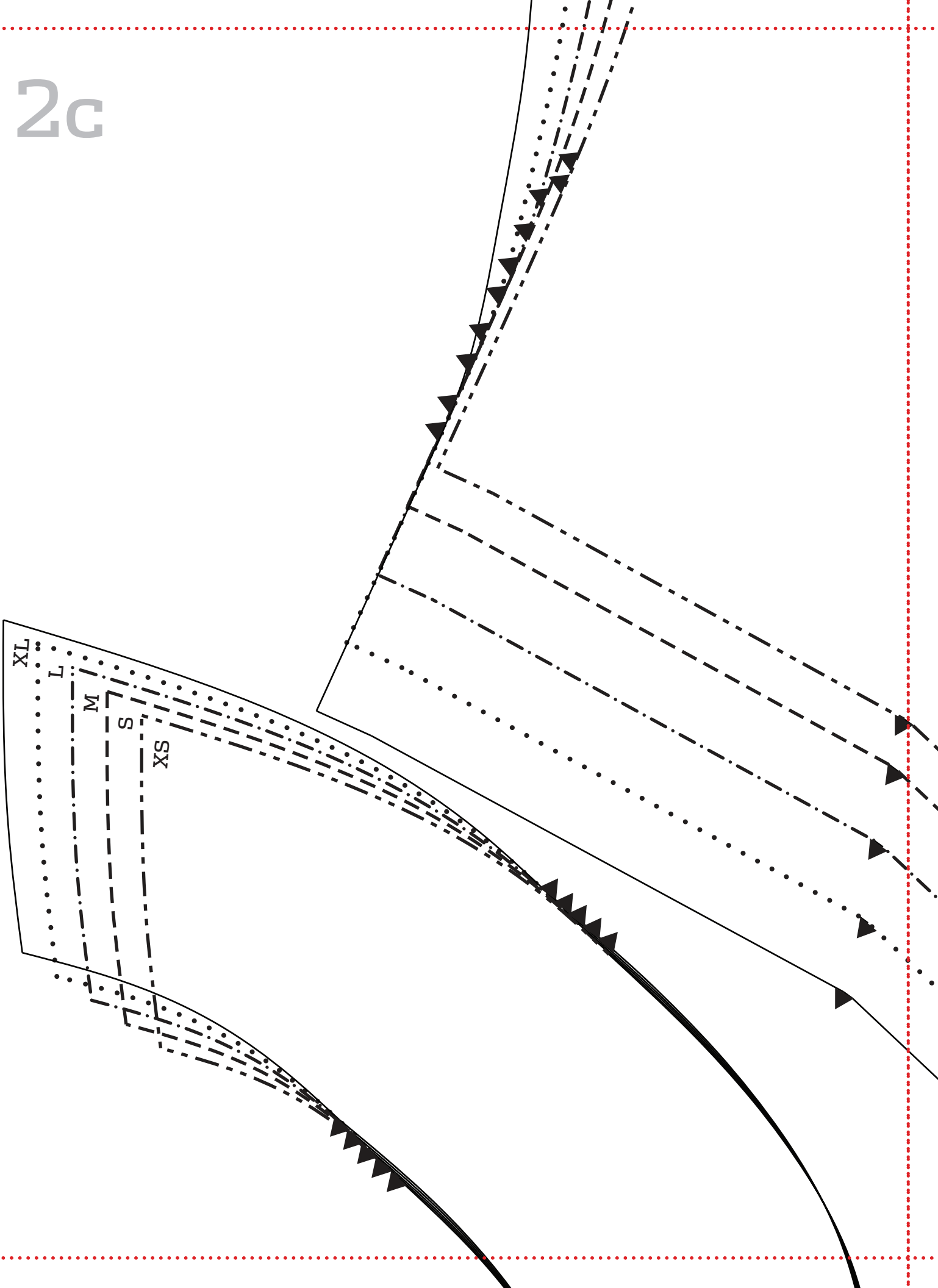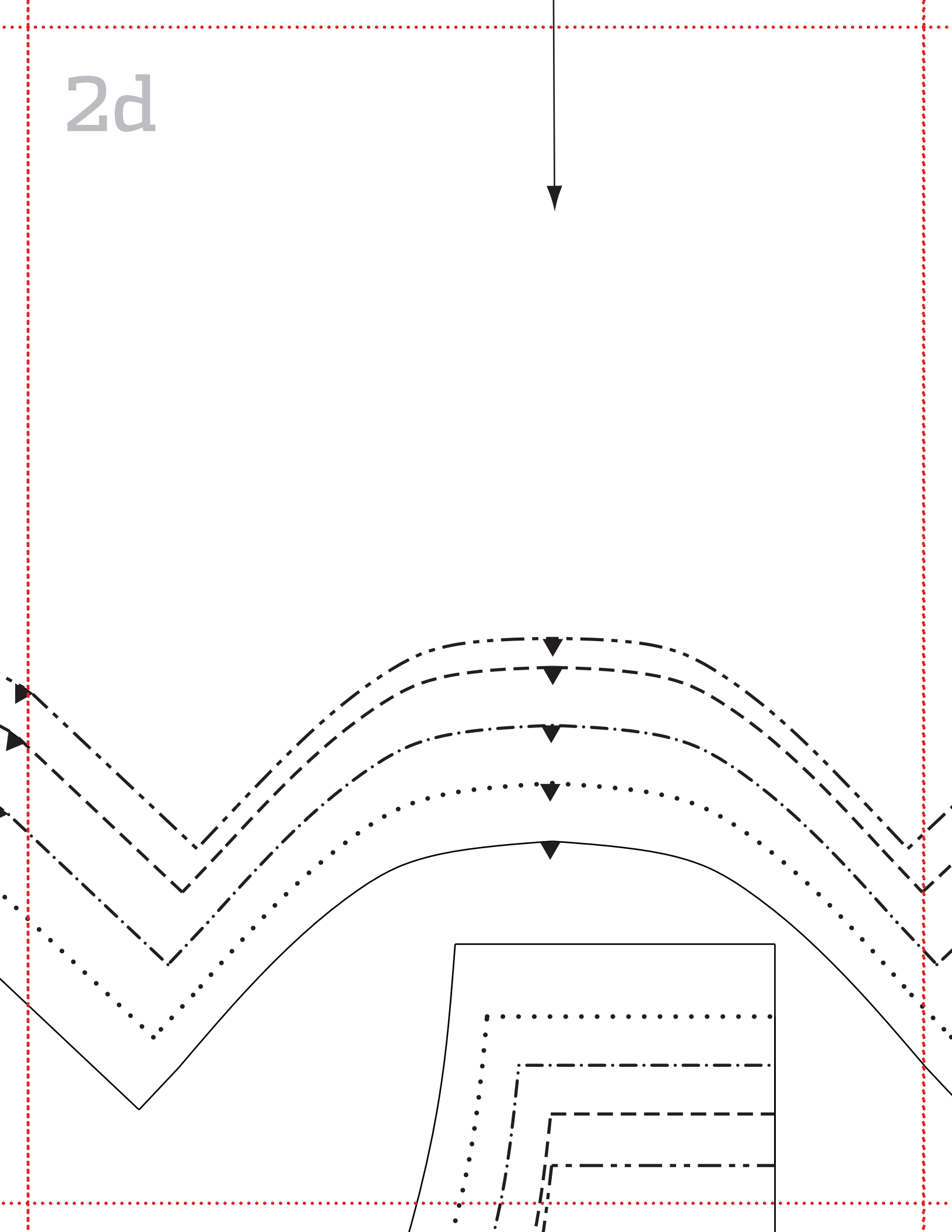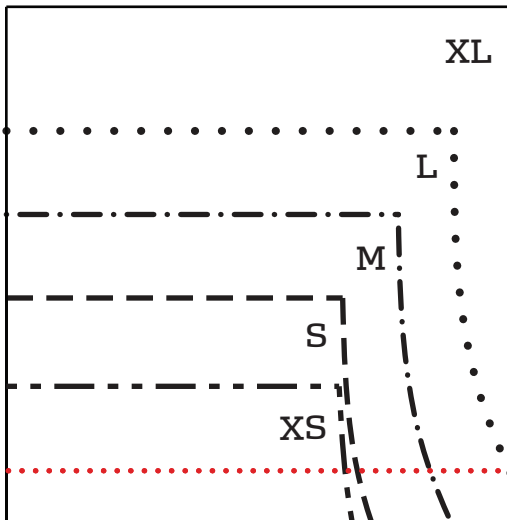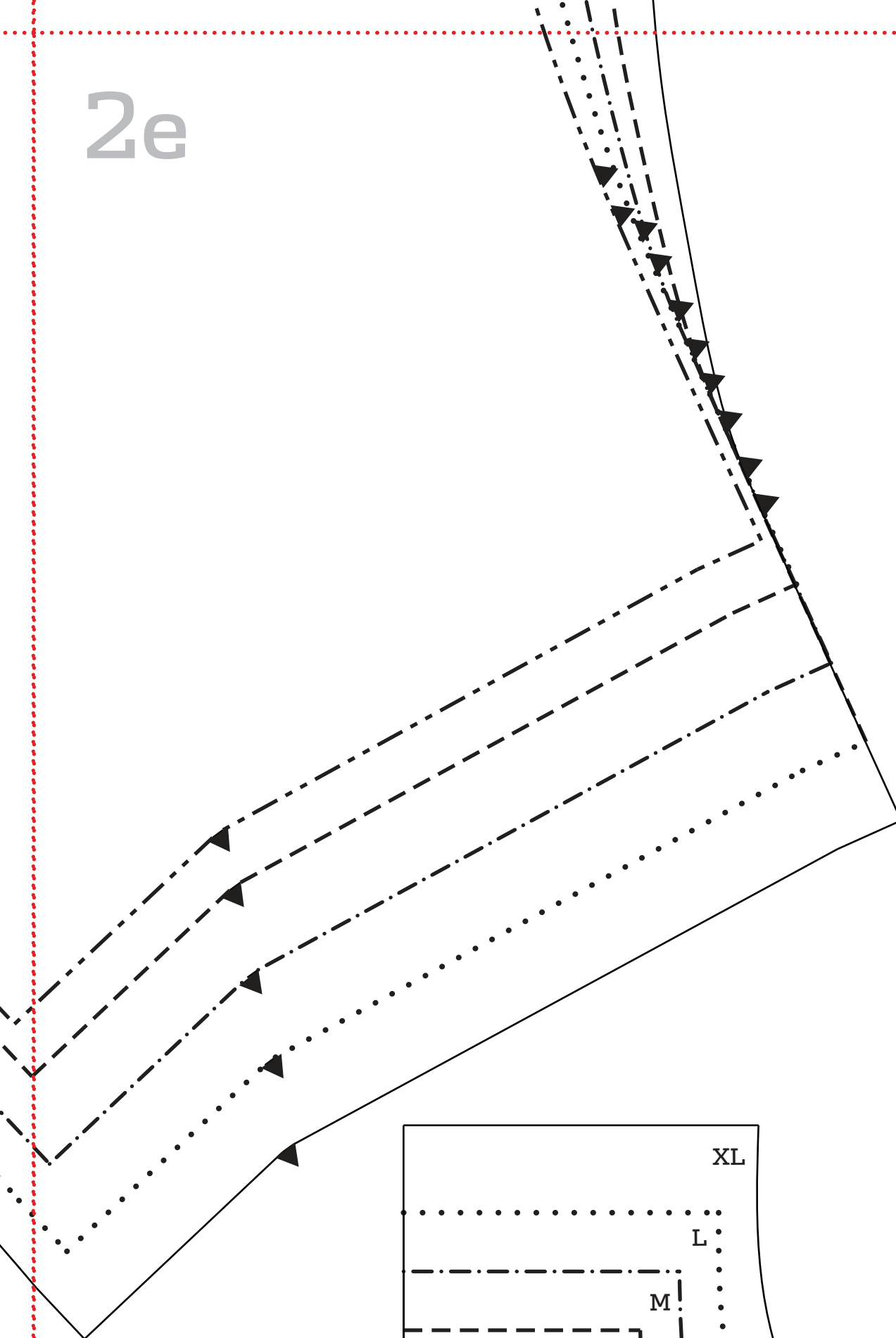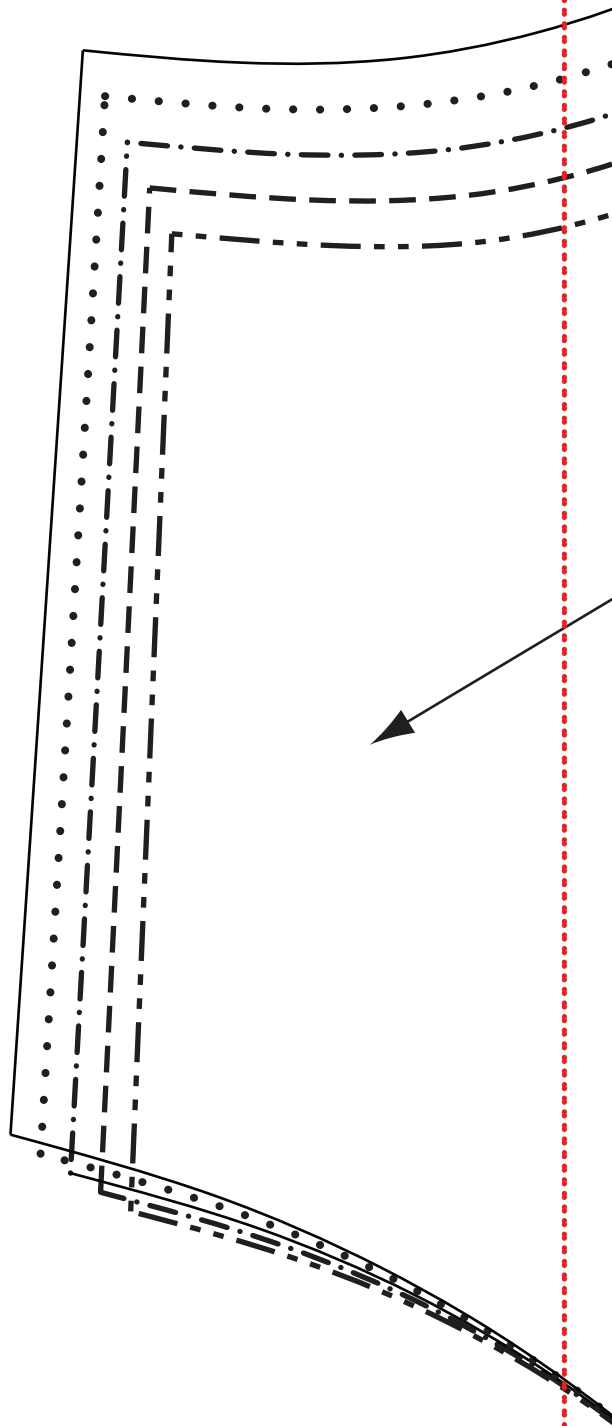
faux fur bolero
sleeve lining
cut 2 lining
(cut 1, cut 1 reverse)

place on fold

faux fur bolero
back lining
cut 1 lining on fold

la

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XL ————————————————————

L ···

M —·—·—·—·—·—·—·—·—·—·—·—·—·—·—·—·—·

S — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

XS —··—··—··—··—··—··—··—··—··—··—··—

1b

XL

L

M

S

XS

ld

faux fur bolero

back
cut 1 main

le

SX

S

M

L

XL

2a

faux fur bolero

front
cut 2 main
(cut 1, cut 1 reverse)

XL

L

M

S

XS

2c

XL
L
M
S
XS

2e

XL

L

M

S

XS

3a

faux fur bolero

front lining
cut 2 lining
(cut 1, cut 1 reverse)

3c

faux fur bolero
collar facing
cut 1 main

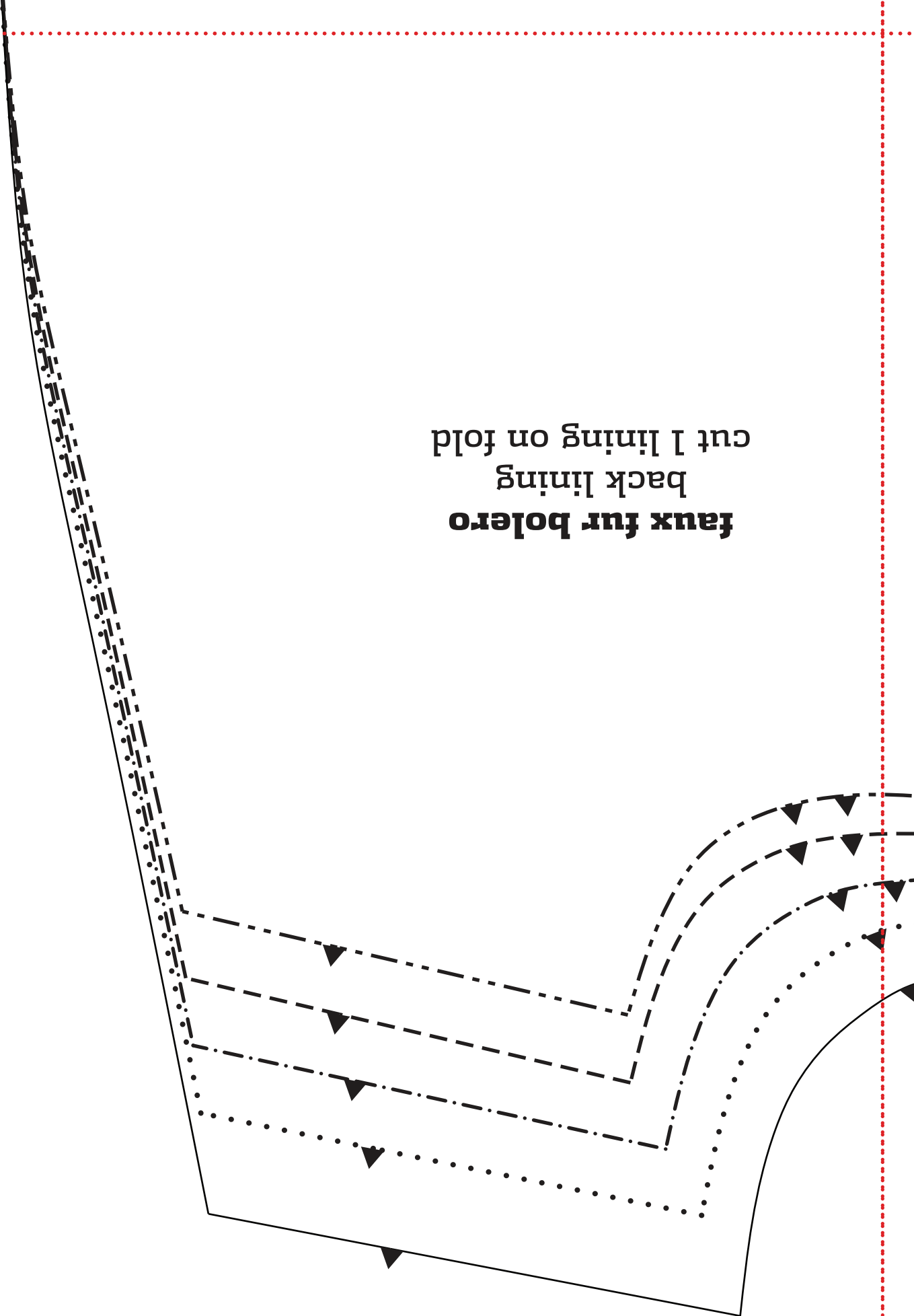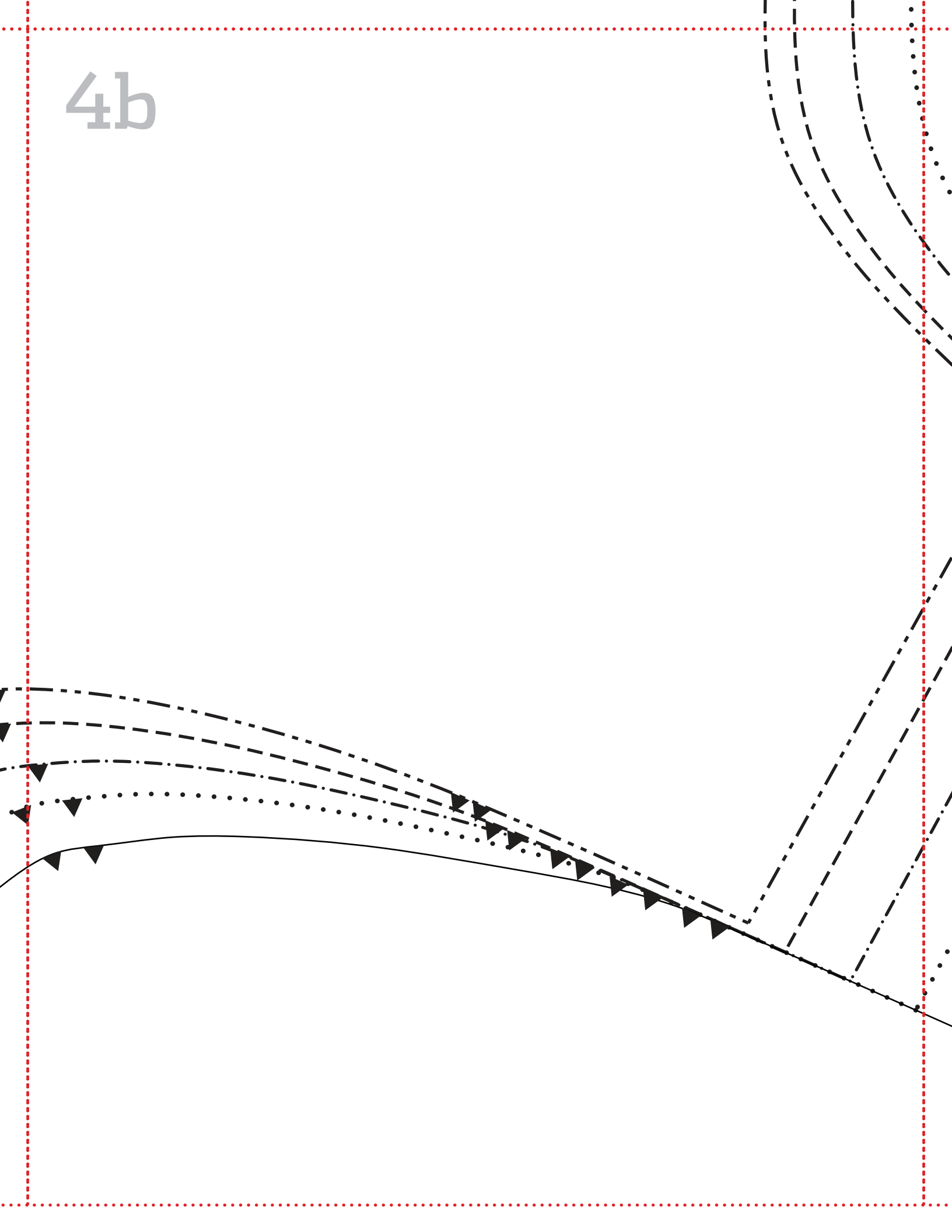**faux fur bolero**
sleeve
cut 2 main
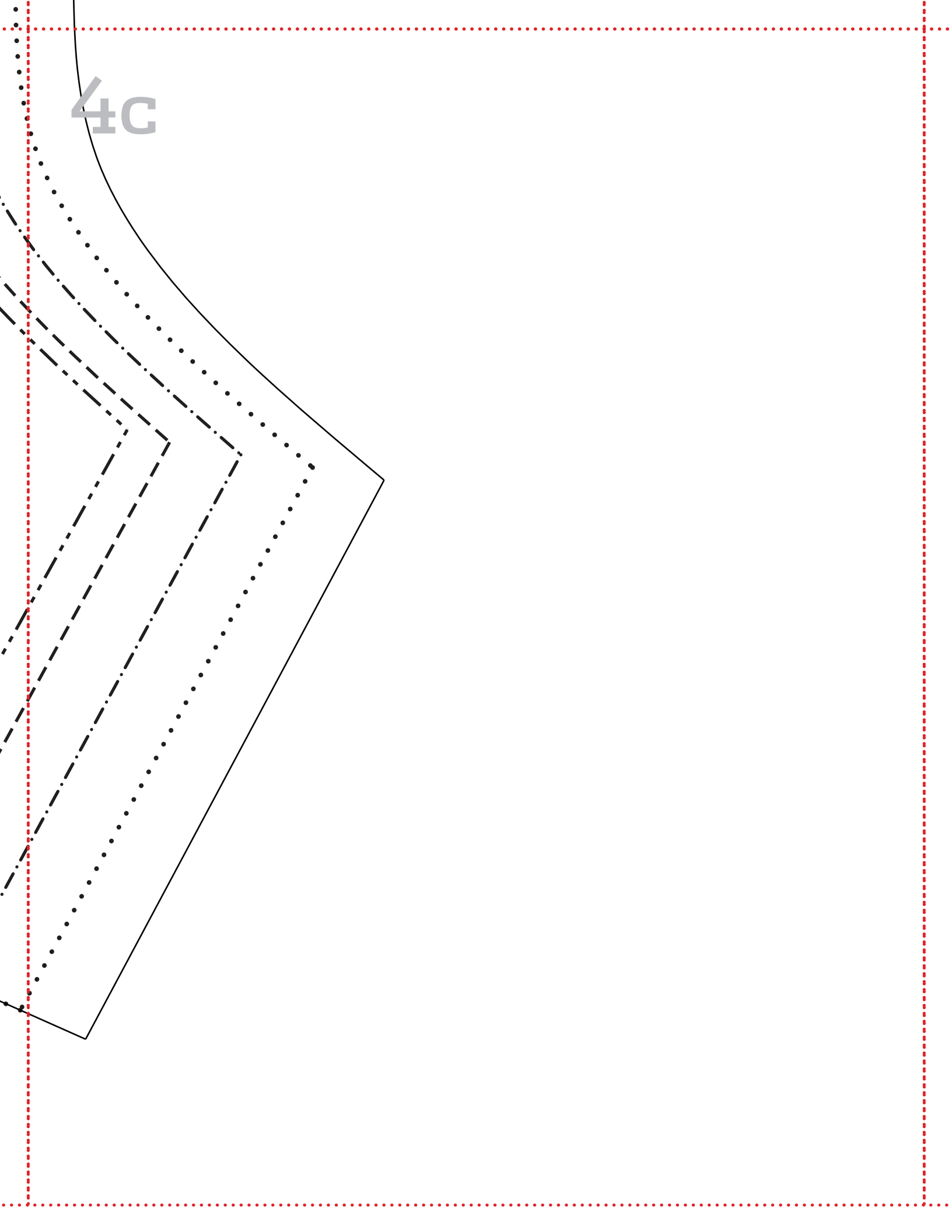(cut 1, cut 1 reverse)

xs

4a

faux fur bolero
back lining
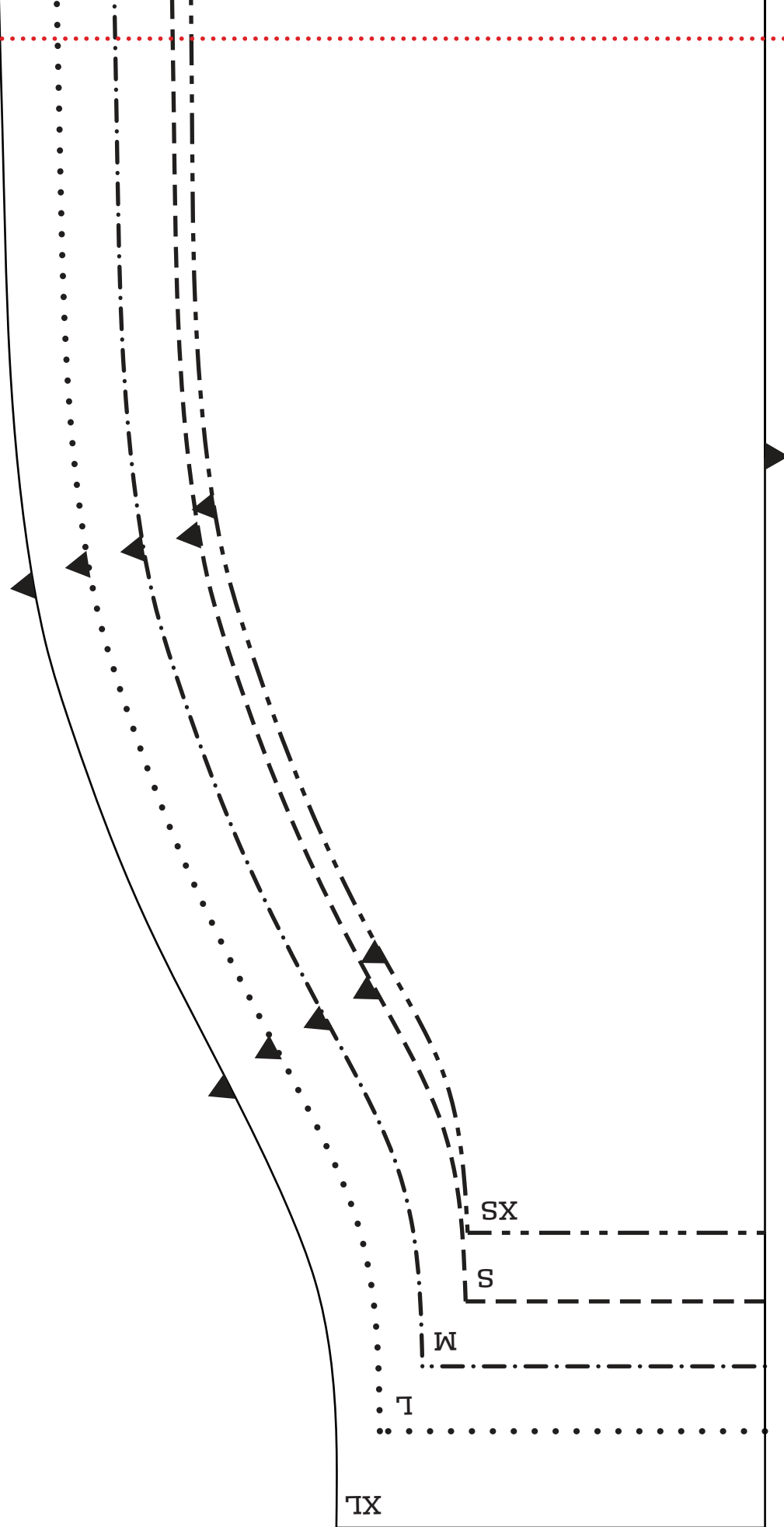cut 1 lining on fold

4b

4C

4d

XS

S

M

L

XL

faux fur bolero
sleeve lining
cut 2 lining
(cut 1, cut 1 reverse)