

YOU CAN MAKE A "FRONTIER" JACKET!

(This project takes 3-4 hours)



Kids in Portland, Oregon made jackets like this for a play called ***Columbia River Stories***, based on stories they created. In the play, kids became members of the Corps of Discovery. In Lewis and Clark's time these Jackets were often made of deerhide or "buckskin".

Frontiersmen weren't the only ones to use this kind of pattern. In many cultures, cloth was (and still is) woven into long strips and made into a one piece garment, much like this one.

READY TO START?



Gather all your Supplies.

SUPPLIES YOU'LL NEED:

- * A roll of craft paper (30" wide)
- * Weights or pins to hold paper in place
- * Sharpie markers - black & 2 colors
- * 1.5 yards heavy felt
- * Fabric Scissors
- * Yardstick & Ruler
- * Grommets (optional)

★ **NEXT :**

Make your Flat Pattern.

Use the craft paper to make your flat pattern with. →

Lay the paper on a flat surface.

Using the the dimensions given here, first measure and mark on paper the width and length of your pattern. Then add sleeve, neckhole and fringe details.

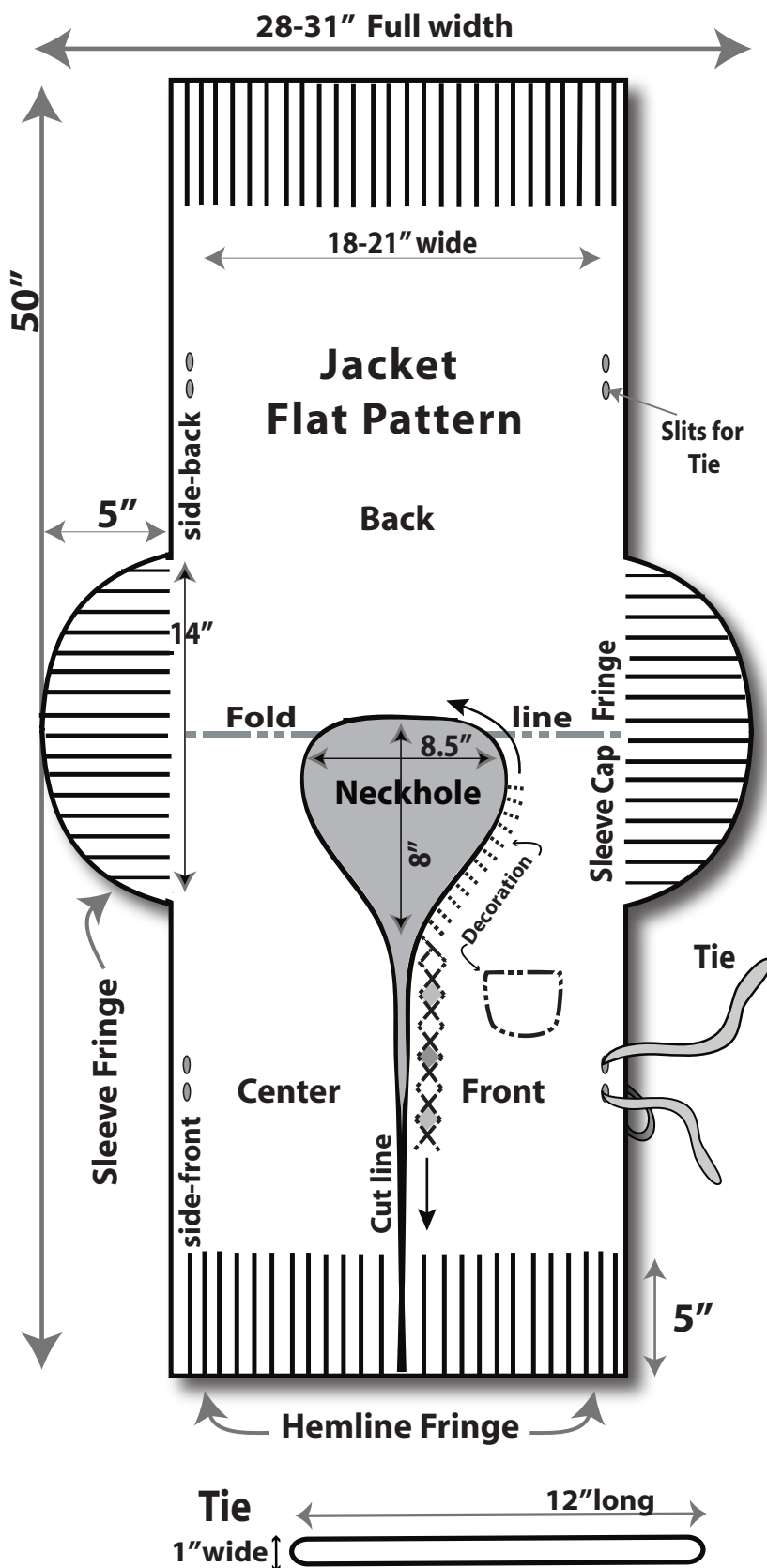
This pattern will fit an average-sized 4th grader. It's OK if you're bigger or smaller. Just adjust the pattern as needed!

All of the black lines are "cut" lines. That means you cut along the line. Make each piece of fringe about 3/4" wide.

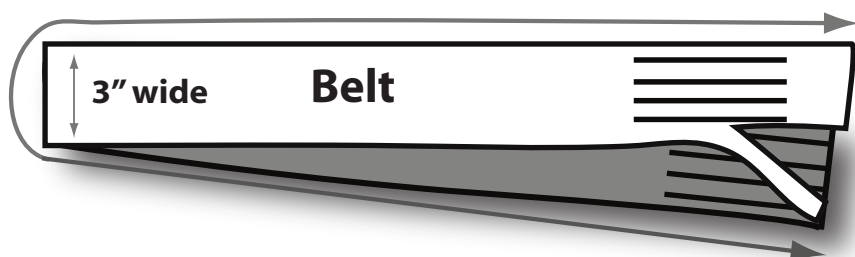
Once you've made your pattern, you can try it on to see how it fits. If it's too wide, make it narrower. If it's not long enough, lengthen it.

Plan to overlap the side-front over the side-back when you mark the slits.

Make all your adjustments in paper -
Before you cut your fabric!



Total Belt = 40" long



You'll need 1.5 yards of buckskin colored felt for each jacket.
Heavy wool felt works best.

MAKING YOUR FRONTIER JACKET IS EASY AS 1-2-3-4!



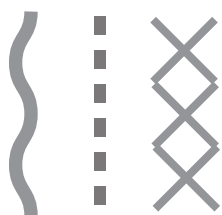
★ **1**

Trace your pattern onto the fabric with a SHARPIE - NOT a water-based pen (they smudge), using a color that is close to the color of your felt - but different enough so you can see it. Keep the pattern in place with strait pins or weights. Use your ruler to keep the fringe lines strait.

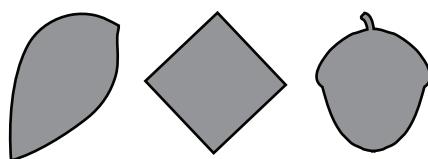
★ **2**

Cut around all the edges, cut your fringe lines and the belt and ties. Don't cut on the dotted "decoration" lines. Turn the jacket over & draw these on with Black Sharpies & fill with color. You can draw any designs you like - geometric patterns, leafs, stitch lines, pockets - it's your choice!

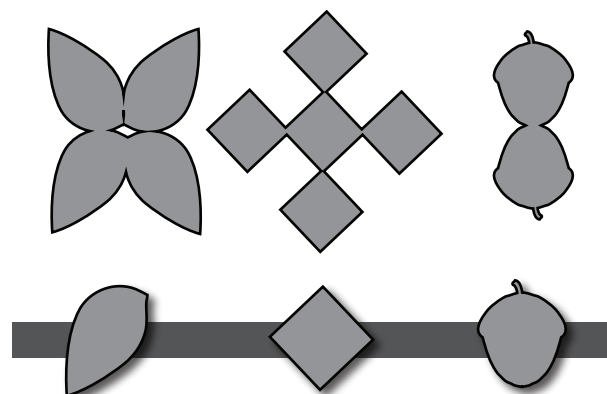
LINES



SHAPES



PATTERNS



★ **3**

Place & cut slits carefully. If they are too close together, or too close to the edge they'll rip out. Instead of cutting slits, you can make grommet holes. Grommet-making supplies are available at any fabric store. Check them out when you buy your felt.

★ **4**

Fold your vest on the fold line, with cutting lines on the inside. This means that your decorations will be on the new "outside" of the vest, and the cut lines will be on the underside. Overlap the front and back, tie them together & try on your jacket. Then add the belt and you're done!

HAVE FUN AND IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, YOU CAN E-MAIL ME!