

EXTRA GUIDE · FIT

LIMFJORD

sewing it in firm, heavy fabrics – adjusting the pattern

Corduroy, denim, twill, canvas, wool
Women's EU 30–60

CORDUROY · DENIM · TWILL · CANVAS · WOOL

Limfjord in firm, heavy fabrics

Limfjord is designed for linen, linen blends and lightweight woven fabrics. If you would like to sew it in a firmer, heavier fabric, this extra guide shows you how to adjust the pattern.

FABRICS

Corduroy (needlecord, wide wale), **denim**, **cotton twill** and chino fabric, **gabardine**, **canvas** and duck, **moleskin**, **velvet** and **wool fabrics** such as flannel, tweed or loden – with or without stretch.

RULE OF THUMB

The fabric weighs around 250 g/m² or more, feels dense and firm and barely gives when you pull it across the grain.

TYPICAL SIGNS

The waistband dips at the back, the fabric pulls into the centre back seam, it feels tight over the seat and thighs, or diagonal folds run below the seat.

YOU NEED

Your Limfjord pattern, pattern paper, tape, a ruler and fabric for a toile – ideally similar in weight and firmness to your final fabric.

BASED ON

The Limfjord sewing instructions: measurements, sizes and sewing steps are explained there.

THE CHANGES AT A GLANCE

01

Understand

Why firm fabrics fit differently

02

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03

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04

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Waistband, seams, hem

01

UNDERSTAND

Why firm, heavy fabrics fit differently

A pattern is always a little larger than your body. This ease determines how loosely the trousers fit. On Limfjord it is deliberately small over the seat and thighs so that the leg tapers nicely:

SIZE 38	BODY	FINISHED	EASE
Hips	97 cm	105 cm	+8 cm
Thigh	58.5 cm	61.5 cm	+3 cm
Calf	35 cm	39 cm	+4 cm

With linen that is enough, because the fabric gives a little. With firm, heavy fabrics, two things come into play:

Fabric thickness

Thick fabric, pile (on corduroy, velvet, moleskin) and bulky seam allowances take up room on the inside. The trousers end up tighter than the pattern measurements suggest, especially over the seat and thighs.

Weight

Heavy fabric does not drape softly against the body – it stands away and pulls downwards. If length is missing at the back, the waistband therefore drops even more noticeably.

AND STRETCH?

A few per cent of elastane helps a little, but it does not make up for the room the thick fabric takes away. So make your toile in a fabric that is similar to your final fabric. A toile fabric without stretch will always fit more snugly than one with stretch.

02

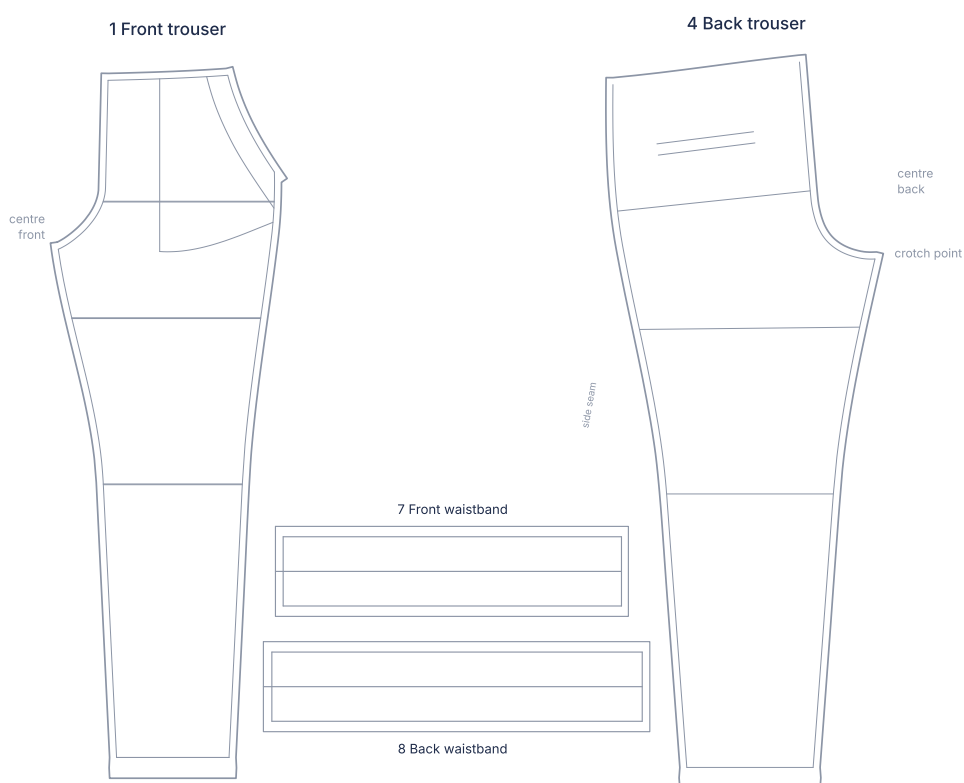
SIZE

Cut one size up

Cut the **front trouser (1)**, **back trouser (4)** and **waistband pieces (7, 8)** one size larger than you would for linen. This gives you the room the thick fabric needs over the hips and thighs.

Cut the **elastic** to your usual size according to the measurement chart. It draws the slightly wider waistband in to your waist.

Cut all other pieces – pocket bag, pocket facing, welt strip and welt facing – in the same larger size so that they match the trousers.



Cut these pieces one size up.

03

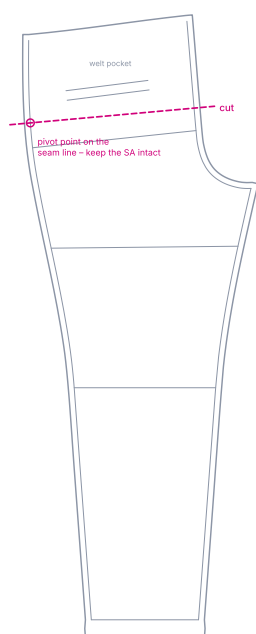
BACK TROUSER

Lengthen the back rise

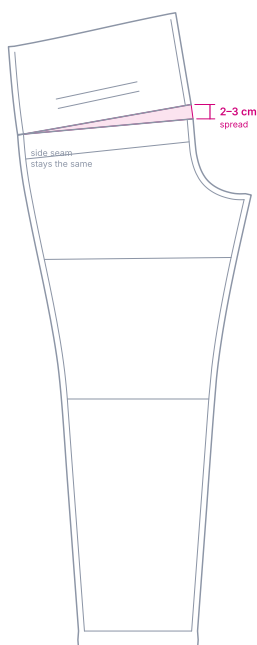
If the waistband sits too low at the back and dips towards the back in side view, the back is too short. Add this length at the centre back only. The side seam and the front trouser stay unchanged.

HOW MUCH?

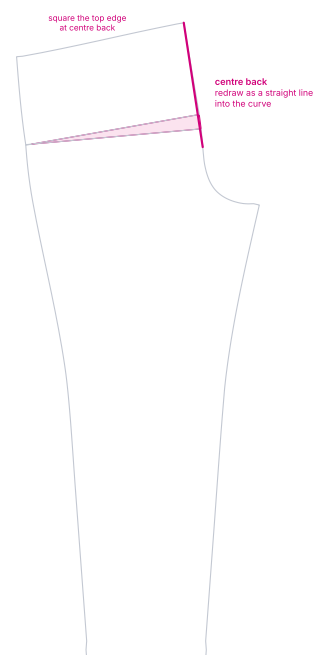
Put on your toile and measure how much length is missing at the centre back up to the correct waistband height. It is usually 2–3 cm. The larger size already adds a little length, so go for the lower value.



A Below the welt pocket, cut straight across from the centre back to the seam line of the side seam. Keep the seam allowance at the side seam intact.



B Pivot the upper part at the pivot point until the centre back opens by your amount. Tape paper underneath.



C Redraw the centre back as a straight line blending into the crotch curve. Square the top edge at the centre back.

The welt pocket marking simply moves with the upper part. You do not need to change the back waistband (8), as the length of the top edge hardly changes.

04

TOILE

Sew and check a new toile

Sew the toile with the changes from 02 and 03, ideally in a fabric similar to your final fabric. Then check:

WHAT YOU SEE

WHAT YOU DO

The waistband sits level at the back.

It fits – no further changes.

There is too much room at the front or sides.

Put the toile on inside out and pin out the excess at the side seam. Transfer the change evenly to the front and back trouser.

The waistband still dips at the back.

Lengthen the centre back again by the missing amount, see 03.

Diagonal folds run below the seat towards the inner thighs.

Lengthen the back crotch point, see 05.

05

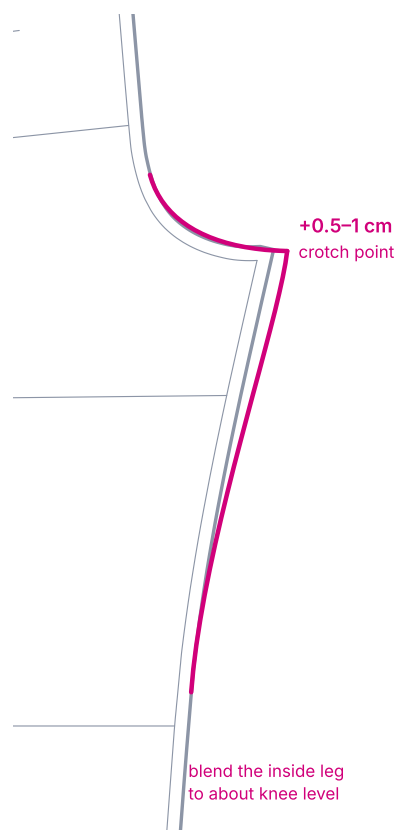
ONLY IF NEEDED

Lengthen the back crotch point

If diagonal folds remain below the seat, the seat needs more room at the back crotch.

Lengthen the crotch point of the back trouser by **0.5–1 cm**. Redraw the crotch curve smoothly to the new point and blend the inside leg seam to about knee level.

Do not change the front trouser. Below the knee, the inside leg seams are the same length again.



Detail of the back trouser, enlarged. The new line is pink.

Tips for firm, heavy fabrics

Waistband with a lightweight inner waistband

A waistband made of a double layer of heavy fabric with elastic inside becomes very bulky. Split the waistband along the fold line and add a 1.5 cm seam allowance to both halves. Cut the outer waistband from your main fabric and the inner waistband from lightweight cotton. With fabrics this heavy, do not add interfacing.



More tips

- Cut the **pocket bags** (2) from lightweight cotton or lining, not from the main fabric.
- Trim **seam allowances** where seams cross, for example at the crotch seam, to about 0.7 cm. This reduces bulk.
- **Nap direction** on corduroy, velvet and moleskin: lay all pieces in the same direction, otherwise they will look like different shades.
- **Pressing:** press pile fabrics such as corduroy and velvet from the wrong side only, with a towel underneath, so the pile is not flattened. Press wool fabrics with a damp cloth.
- **Hem:** finish the raw edge and turn it up once only, not twice.
- **Needle:** use a jeans needle (size 90–100, for canvas and denim also 100–110) and a slightly longer stitch length (3 mm).

QUESTIONS?

Write to me at mail@seamone.de. It helps if you send photos of your toile from the front, side and back, so I can give you specific advice.

The drawings are schematic and not to scale. The measurements on your toile are what count.