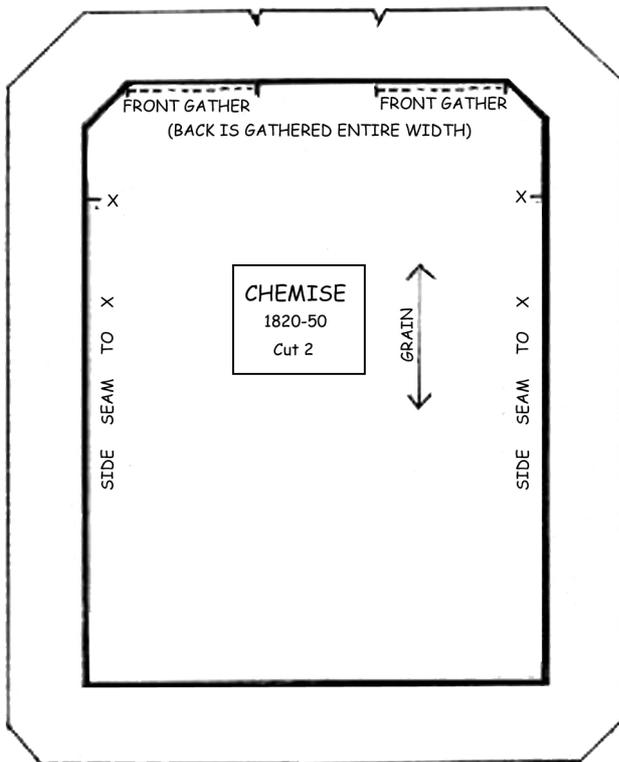




A basic chemise 1820-50



Fine white lawn is best for our scale. Decoration was embroidered or lace added to edges. Throughout all periods up to the later Victorian, no special attention or detailing was added to underwear, except where it might show; e.g. the neckline. To be authentic, it should be white.



You will need:

- normal sewing supplies (pins, needle, thread, scissors etc)
- copier paper or similar paper for patterns
- fabric at least 6" (15cm) by 4" (10cm)
- 4" (10cm) silk ribbon for the shoulder straps

1. Trace the pattern twice (Back and front) **along the heavy line** -the seam allowances are only shown for guidance. Transfer markings to the patterns and cut out.
2. Place the patterns on the wrong side of the fabric on the straight grain and leaving seam allowances all round, and pin. Cut out the fabric about 1/4" – 3/8" (about 1cm) outside the pattern, which gives you your seam/hem allowances.
3. Fold the allowances over the paper all round, starting with the sides, then the top and bottom edges, and press. You may like to tack the allowances before pressing, both to ensure accuracy and prevent you burning your fingers.
4. Remove the paper (and tacking if used). With right sides together, place one on top of the other and match the seams. Sew up from the point marked X. Use a small running stitch, with a backstitch at either end. Repeat with the other side. Hemming the garment is optional.
5. With a small running stitch, run a gathering thread across the top of the back, leaving the end hanging to pull up later. Do the same to the two edges indicated on the front. Press.
6. Try on the doll, and pull up the gathering threads so that it all sits nicely. When you are satisfied with the fit, end off the gathering threads and clip.
7. Try on the doll again and pin mark where the ribbons will go over the shoulder. Sew the ribbons onto the inside where you have marked. Add lace to front neck if desired. There is no waistline as such – the fullness is gathered in under a petticoat or skirt.