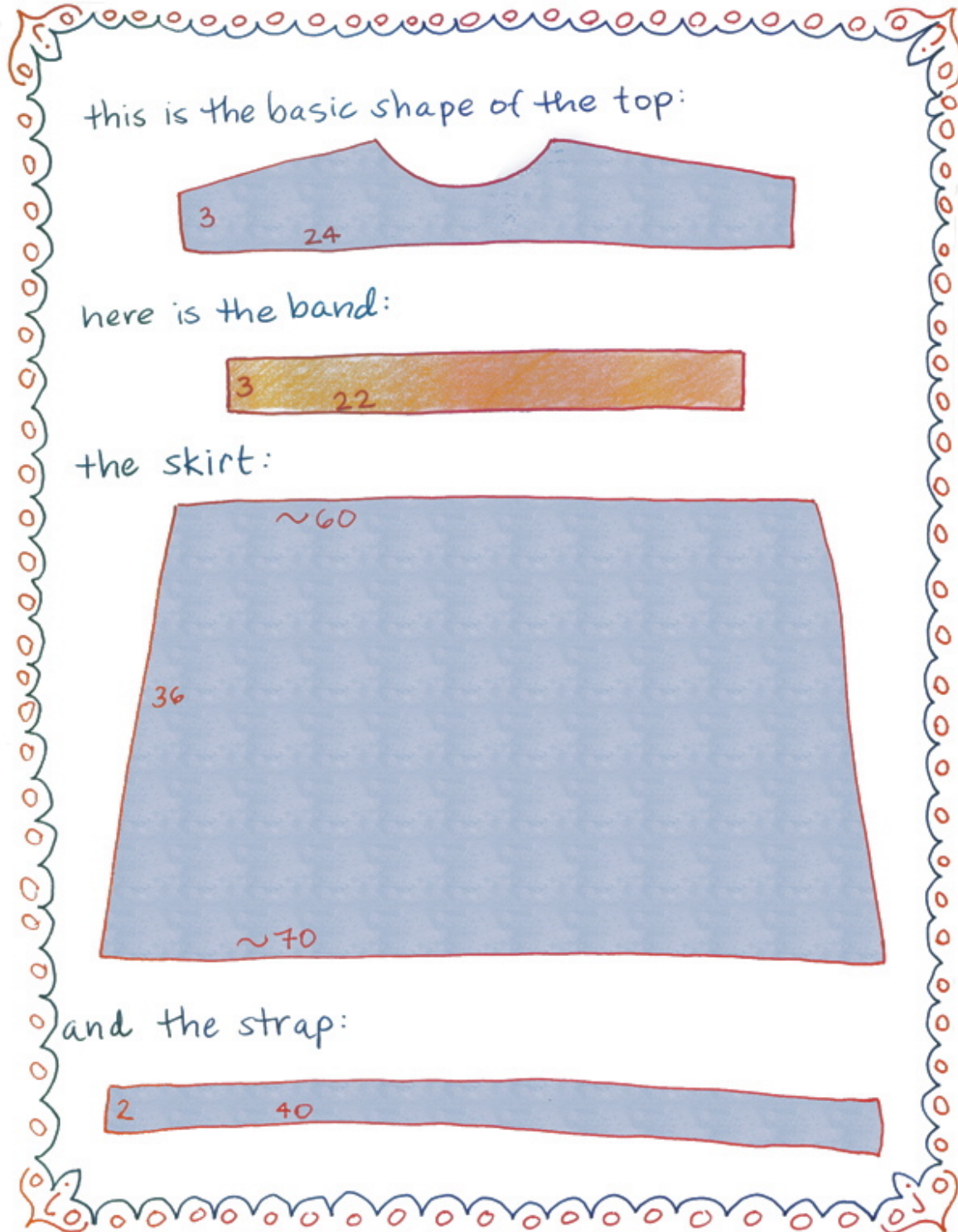


**JERSEY SUN DRESS**

Here are the basic pattern pieces for the dress:

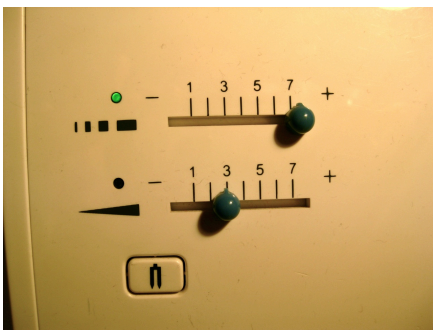


## NOTES ON THE PATTERN

- ★ I cut all of my pieces on the fold. There is one seam in the back of the dress.
- ★ The fabric is supposed to stretch over your chest, so for the bodice width subtract 2 or 3 inches from your measurement. You should cut the band even smaller to keep it from riding up over your breasts. To absolutely make sure this doesn't happen, sew about 10" elastic under your breasts at the top of the band.
- ★ Cut 2 of the bodice piece. For better support, cut the lining about 2 inches smaller and stretch it to fit the outer piece as you sew.
- ★ I used a heavier weight jersey for the band so that it will give some structure to the flowing shape of the dress.
- ★ The weight of the fabric will cause the skirt to stretch down and become longer. This is also the case for the bodice, so don't make the neckline higher unless you want to be more modest (???)
- ★ The strap could be cut in the same contrasting fabric as the band.
- ★ I wound up handstitching the strap to the top of the dress, because I wasn't satisfied with the evenness of machine stitching. This way, no stitching shows!
- ★ If you want the straps to be convertible you will need to make two small loops (about 1" long each) and sew them on the inside of the dress so that they won't show when worn as a halter.

## TIPS ON SEWING STRETCH FABRICS

I want to say a word about sewing stretch fabrics. I'd been using a 3-stitch zig zag but I recently discovered that a straight stitch at the longest stitch possible and zero tension will also make a prettier seam that can stretch with the fabric. At the beginning of the seam I backstitch to secure the stitching, and before cutting the thread at the end of the seam I pull the fabric out and stretch it to the limit, which requires several additional inches of thread to accommodate the stitching. **STRETCH YOUR FABRIC BEFORE CUTTING THE THREADS AT THE END OF A SEAM!!!** Trust me y'all, I'm right about this.



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