

Front Zip Trouser

Sewing instructions · Newbury · SOHO · Saint Germain — front fly closure · task by task, with video links

About This Pattern

These instructions cover the Couture Craft trousers with the **front fly closure** — the Newbury (straight leg), the SOHO (flare), and the Saint Germain (wide leg). Construction is identical across the three styles; only the leg shape differs. The fly laps **right over left as worn**: the right front carries a **grown-on fly facing** (cut in one with the leg — no separate facing piece), and the left front is the **underlap**, cut with a narrow clean-finished extension past center front that carries the zipper.

Your pattern's INFO section includes the **Fly Architecture page** — a worn cross-section of the whole closure and the zip-placement mirror rule. It is part of these instructions: keep it open beside Task 5. The work below is organized as **tasks**, each with steps and a few video tutorials for visual company; the videos show general methods on their own patterns (many lap the opposite way), so where they differ, **your printed pattern, its architecture page, and these steps are the authority**.

Note — *Your pattern is drafted to your measurements with your chosen seam allowance already included — cut on the black solid line and stitch at your chosen allowance throughout. Every piece is labeled with its name and cut count, inside the piece; **the printed labels are the final word**.*

Reading the pattern — the color grammar

- **Black solid** — cutting line.
- **Blue** — stitching line.
- **Green long-dash** — fold line. On the right front it marks the fly fold at exact center front, covering the opening from the waist to just below the zip stop, with a notch at each end.
- **Burgundy dash-dot** — topstitching (the fly's J-curve).
- **Red solid** — the left front's cutting line at the fly: the underlap edge, cut clean 1.2 cm past center front. Cut on red for the left front only, exactly as its label says.
- **Violet** — lining lines (Liner option): each front's lining cut line and stitching line are printed in violet on the piece.
- **Notches** — single ticks mark FRONT edges, double ticks BACK edges; side seams carry hip and knee notches, inseams the knee, center front the zip stop.
- Every label sits inside its piece; the engine number is printed on the cover and each sheet. Measure the printed check box before cutting anything.

Notions & supplies

- One 18 cm (7 in) trouser zipper (metal or nylon coil).
- Waistband closure of your choice: a trouser **hook-and-bar** or a flat **button** (buttonhole worked in the band).
- Fusible interfacing — the pattern includes a printed **Fly Interfacing** piece for the grown-on facing, plus interfacing for the waist pieces per their labels.
- If you chose the **Liner**: lining fabric (Bemberg/cupro or similar).
- Optional for the facing finish: rayon seam binding or bias tape.
- Matching thread, machine needle for your fabric, chalk or marking pen, pins, pressing tools.

Task 1 — Cut & Mark

Goal: every piece cut on grain — the fly version prints **three separate leg pieces** — with every notch snipped and every colored line's marks transferred.

1. Pre-wash or steam the fabric as you'll launder the trousers; press flat and true the grain.
2. Cut per the printed labels: **Back — cut 2** (mirrored pair); **Right Front — cut 1**, with its grown-on fly facing extension; **Left Front — cut 1**, cutting the fly edge on the **red** line (the clean 1.2 cm underlap past center front). The two fronts are different pieces on purpose — don't mirror one to make the other.
3. Cut the waist pieces per their labels — note the inner/facing side is drafted about 1 cm deeper than the outer: that's the fold-over room, not an error. Cut the fly shield, the belt loop strip, and your pocket pieces if a pocket was chosen.
4. **If you chose the Liner:** cut the lining on the printed **violet** lines — the left front lining ends at the green center-front fold line (no extension), the right front lining at its own violet line, the backs in a mirrored pair — all ending at the printed **LINER line**, 5 cm (2 in) above the finished hem.
5. Snip every notch — hip and knee on the sides, knee on the inseams, the **zip stop** on center front, and both ends of the green fold line — and transfer darts, pleats or crease lines, pocket placement, the burgundy topstitch line, and the hem fold lines to the wrong side.

► **Watch it done:** [How to Cut Out a Sewing Pattern](#) · [Transferring Pattern Markings onto Fabric](#)

Task 2 — Interface & Prep

1. Fuse the printed **Fly Interfacing** piece to the wrong side of the right front's grown-on facing extension, and interface the waist pieces per their labels. Test on a scrap first.
2. **Serge the left front's red-cut fly edge as it is** — it's drafted net, with no turn-under (the printed note says so in as many words). A clean serge or zigzag is its finish.
3. Staystitch the waist edges. Finish the raw edges of side seams, inseams, crotch seams, and the fly shield's long edge (skip whatever will be enclosed, or all of it if you plan flat-felled seams).

► **Watch it done:** [Fusible Interfacing Step-by-Step](#) · [How to Apply Fusible Interfacing](#)

Task 3 — Darts & Pleats

1. Sew the back darts: fold on center, stitch waist edge to point, taper to nothing, tie off. Press toward center back over a ham.

2. Fold, press, and baste any front pleats; press the front crease if your style carries one.

► **Watch it done:** [How to Sew Darts](#) · [Darts for Garment Sewing & Contour](#)

Task 4 — Front Pocket (if chosen)

Patch pocket (lined — the Couture Craft way)

1. With right sides together, sew the pocket to its liner all the way around, leaving a small gap along one lower edge for turning. Trim the corners and grade the curves.
2. Turn the pocket out through the gap and press it beautifully, rolling the liner just to the underside; press the gap's allowances in, level with the edge.
3. Position the pocket on its printed placement — straddling the crease line, top edge 2.5 cm (1 in) below the waist seam line — and edgestitch it to the pant around sides and bottom. **The topstitching closes the turning gap as it goes.** Reinforce both top corners with a small triangle or backstitch.

► **Watch it done:** [Perfect Lined Patch Pocket — Pocket 101](#) · [Lined Patch Pocket, Properly \(tailored\)](#) · [Patch Pockets — Placement & Topstitching](#)

Italian (slant) pocket

1. With right sides together, sew the pocket facing to the slanted front opening. Trim, understitch the facing close to the seam, turn it to the inside, and press.
2. Place the pocket bag against the facing, sew the bag's curved edge closed, and finish that edge.
3. Pull the pocket mouth up toward the waist until it meets the **landing notch (cran)** printed on the front waistline. This pull is deliberate: it adds the bit of tension across the opening — the necessary tightness — that keeps the pocket lying flat and quietly closed on the body.
4. Holding that position, baste the pocket within the waist and side seam allowances so the tension is locked into the later seams.

► **Watch it done:** [How to Sew Front Hip Pockets](#) · [The Slanted Pocket Sewing Tutorial](#)

Task 5 — The Front Fly

Note — Open your pattern's **Fly Architecture page** and keep it beside you — the worn cross-section shows exactly where every layer lands, and the mirror rule shows the zip stitching lines on both fronts laid flat. Read all steps before sewing; the fly makes sense as a whole.

1. With right sides together, sew the center front crotch seam from the inseam end up to the **zip stop notch**; backstitch well. The facing's J return is drafted to land exactly where these seams meet — that junction is your anchor point below the fly.
2. **Right front (the overlap):** press the interfaced grown-on facing to the inside along the **green fold line** — the fold is exact center front. The extension is now your fly facing, already attached because it was never separate.
3. **Left front (the underlap):** place the folded fly shield behind the left front's serged red edge. Lay the closed zipper face up beneath, and bring the serged edge along the **left** zipper tape so the edge runs right at the teeth — the printed note on the piece says it plainly: *stitch edge along zip tape at the teeth*. Stitch through underlap edge, tape, and shield in one pass, waist to stop. (Worn, the teeth sit just right of center front, hidden behind the overlap's fold.)
4. Close the fly: lap **right over left** so the green fold covers the underlap and the center fronts match; pin from the outside and check the lie.
5. From the inside, swing the shield clear and sew the free **right** zipper tape to the grown-on **facing only** — two rows, within the printed tape zone on the extension. No stitching reaches the right front itself yet.
6. From the right side, topstitch the **burgundy J-curve** through the right front and its facing along the printed line, ending on center front at the junction. This is the only stitching that shows — sew it once, slowly.
7. Bar-tack twice: at the base of the J through all layers, and at the zip stop catching the fly shield's lower end.

► **Watch it done:** [How to Sew a Fly Front Zipper \(Closet Core\)](#) · [Fly Front Zip — the Ultimate Tutorial](#)

Task 6 — Assemble the Legs

1. Sew both side seams from waist to hem, matching hip and knee notches. Press open.
2. **Ease, don't stretch.** Wherever the notches give one edge slightly more length than its partner (the pattern drafts this on purpose — shape lives in that extra), run a long machine stitch just inside the seam line of the longer edge, draw it up a whisper, pin at every notch, and sew with the longer side down against the feed dogs. The fullness should vanish into the seam — no puckers, no tucks.
3. Sew both inseams, matching the knee notches. Press open.

4. Turn one leg right side out and slip it inside the other, right sides together. Sew the back crotch seam from the waist down through the curve to meet your front stitching at the junction, in one continuous line; sew a second row inside the first through the lower curve. Trim the curve; press the upper seam open.

► **Watch it done:** [Understanding Pant Seams](#) · [How to Ease in Seams](#) · [How to Ease Fabric — 3 Ways](#)

Task 7 — The Liner (if chosen)

Goal: a smooth half-lining hanging free inside, finishing about 5 cm (2 in) above the hem — with the fly handled per the violet lines. The Fly Architecture page's cross-section shows the lining's path; trust it.

1. Assemble the lining as the trousers but with no pockets: darts (or ease the intake), side seams, inseams, and the crotch seam **below the zip stop** — above the stop the linings stay open at the fly.
2. Hem the lining first: a 6 mm + 6 mm (1/4 in) double fold at the LINER line.
3. Slip the lining in, wrong sides together, matching seams; baste around the waist.
4. At the fly: sew the **right** lining's violet edge to the facing's straight inner edge (the printed violet stitching line — never into the J curve); turn the **left** lining's edge under along the green line and slipstitch it over the underlap stitching, clear of the coils. Below the stop the linings lie together along the crotch seam.

► **Watch it done:** [How to Line Trousers](#) · [How to Line Pants \(Spencer Sew Along\)](#)

Task 8 — Belt Loops

1. Press the belt loop strip in thirds lengthwise (or seam and turn) and edgestitch both long edges.
2. Cut into 5 equal loops and baste each at its printed mark on the trouser waist, raw end up, loop hanging down, within the seam allowance.

► **Watch it done:** [How to Make Belt Loops](#) · [Belt Loops for Beginners](#)

Task 9 — The Waistband

Goal: the shaped waist assembled and attached on the printed waist stitching line, and the facing — drafted a touch deeper than the outer band on purpose — finished one of two ways and secured with one final line of stitching along the waistband seam. The extra depth is your fold-over room; use it.

1. Assemble the waist pieces exactly as their printed labels direct: join the outer pieces at their seams, join the facing pieces at theirs, right sides together, matching notches; press the seams open. Note the printed **waist stitching line** on the band — the outer band sews to the trousers on that line, and the facing's lower edge is drafted about 1 cm (3/8 in) deeper so that, folded over, it reaches past that seam inside.
2. **Choose the facing's lower-edge finish now, while it's flat.** Option one — **seam binding**: enclose the facing's raw lower edge in rayon seam binding or bias tape, edgestitched through binding and facing; it stays flat, no bulk, and the bound edge will overlap the waist seam inside. Option two — **turned edge**: press the raw edge under; the extra drafted depth means the fold still overlaps the waist seam by a little. Either finish works — binding is flatter on thick fabric, the turned edge needs no notions.

3. Sew the outer band to the trouser waist, right sides together, exactly on the printed waist stitching line — matching the band's seams and notches to the trouser's side seams and marks, catching the belt loop ends (and the basted liner, if you sewed one).
4. Press the seam up into the band, fold the band over along its top, and sew the short ends per your closure (the right end forms the underlap over the fly shield as drafted). Trim the corners, turn, and press — the facing's finished edge (bound or folded) now overlaps the waist seam on the inside.
5. **Secure the facing:** from the right side, stitch one clean line exactly along the waistband seam — in the ditch — through all layers. That single line of stitching catches the facing's edge beneath and locks the band closed. Press.
6. Bring each belt loop up over the band, turn its raw end under, and bar-tack it at the top edge.

► **Watch it done:** [Curved Waistband with Facing, for Any Pants](#) · [Cut & Sew a Contoured Waistband](#) · [Bias / Seam-Binding Edge Finish](#)

Closure — button or hook & bar (your choice)

1. **Hook and bar:** sew (or clamp, for the no-sew type) the hook on the underside of the overlapping band end and the bar on the underlap, so the closed band lies flat with no strain. Hand stitches stay invisible outside — catch only the facing layers.
2. **Button:** work a buttonhole in the overlapping band end and sew a flat button on the underlap at the marked spot, with a short thread shank so it sits proud of the band's thickness.

► **Watch it done:** [4-Part Hook & Bar in a Waistband](#) · [How to Sew a Hook and Bar](#) · [Sew a Button with a Thread Shank](#)

Task 10 — Hem & Final Press

1. Try the trousers on with the shoes you plan to wear; confirm the printed finished hem line falls where you want it.
2. Turn up along the printed fold lines — the stitching line stops at the hem fold by design, so the allowance folds clean — and press.
3. Stitch the hem: machine blind hem or hand catch-stitch for an invisible finish, or a straight topstitch for a casual one. Final press throughout: seams flat, creases sharp, the fly pressed once more under a cloth.

► **Watch it done:** [Hemming Pants with a Blind Hem Stitch](#) · [Hand-Sewn Blind Catch-Stitch Hem](#)