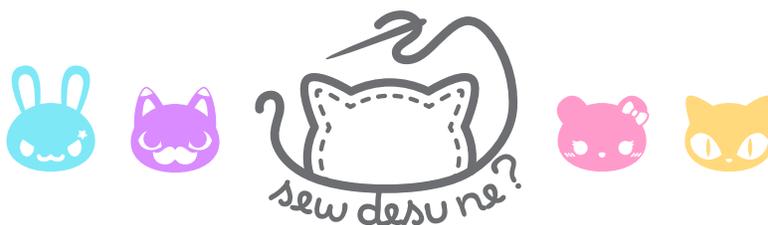


# the egg backpack



A SEWING PATTERN BY



# the egg backpack

SEWING TUTORIAL

## the egg backpack

This bag was inspired by the adorable backpack that appears in the manga and anime of Cardcaptor Sakura. It's a simple rounded backpack with zipper closure and inner pocket, topped off with golden wings on the back.

DIFFICULTY: 

There are some tricky curves and hand sewing to deal with, but if you're sure to match up all your notches and guidelines and such you'll turn out fine.

MAKES:

one 12" x 15" x 4" bag

## MATERIALS & TOOLS

- 2/3 yd. of 60" wide or 1 yd. of 45" wide medium to heavyweight white fabric for outer bag (denim or canvas would be good, I used inter-faced linen)
- 10" x 15" scrap or 1/8" yd. of light to medium weight yellow fabric for wings (fleece would be good so the wings look puffy, but cotton would also do - I used minky)
- 2/3 yd. of lightweight fabric for lining (white is preferred, so it doesn't show through the main fabric -- I used quilting cotton)
- 20" zipper (at least)
- About 3 yds. of white bias tape for binding seam allowances (handmade bias tape is fine)
- Matching sewing thread
- Basic sewing tools (sewing machine, scissors, iron, needles, pins, fabric marker, seam ripper)

### BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

1. Print out the project pattern, pages 10-18
2. Assemble the printed pattern pieces
3. Lay out the pattern pieces on your fabric and cut them out
4. Mark the fabric pieces with the guidelines from the pattern



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1

First we're attaching the zipper. Layer your zipper between one of your top panel pieces and its corresponding lining piece, lining up the unnotched edges with the zipper tape.

You'll notice that the seam allowance is  $\frac{1}{4}$ " here, that's to accommodate the width of your zipper tape. Use your zipper foot if you have one, and sew the three layers together close to the zipper teeth. Repeat this with the other side of the zipper and your other top panel pieces. Press the fabrics away from the zipper teeth.



2

Next we'll be attaching the bag bottom to the top. Layer one short end of the bag bottom on top of your zippered portion and then layer the lining portion underneath with right sides facing. Line up the edges and make sure the zipper pull is moved towards the middle of the zipper. Then sew across the entire edge. Be sure to move very slowly when sewing over the zipper to avoid breaking a needle.

Repeat this with the other end of the zippered portion and the other end of the bottom pieces. Then press the seams so the bottom folds away from the top.

3

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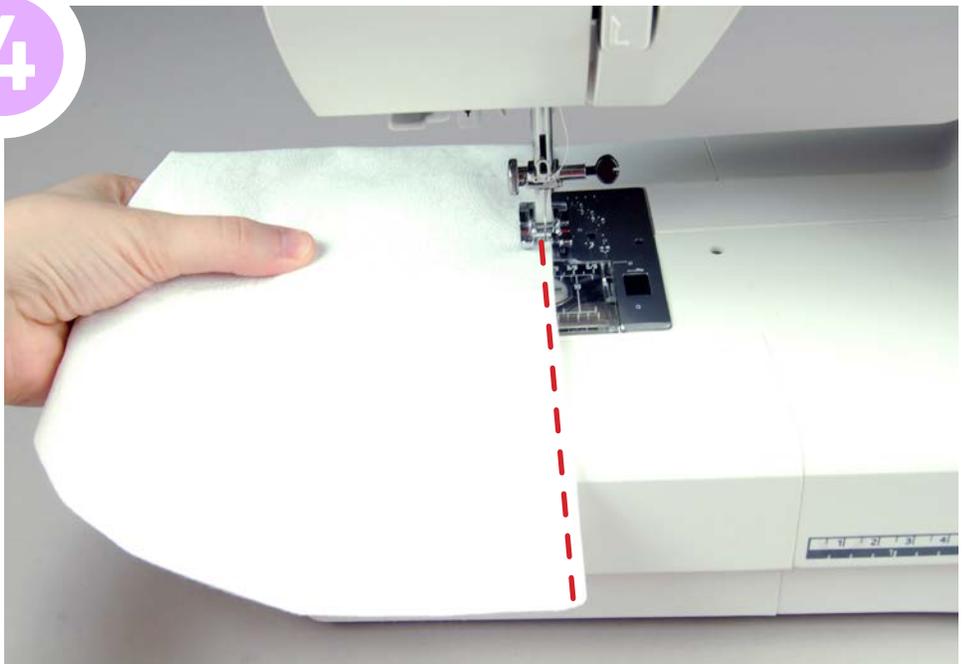
3

Now we're making the pocket for the inside of the bag. I opted to do a cute little pleated pocket, because I thought it would have a nice look. You can, of course, skip it entirely if you wouldn't like an inner pocket and just go right to step 8. In this step, I'm sewing the two pocket pieces together all the way around the perimeter, leaving the opening at the top as the pattern guidelines indicate.



4

Trim your seam allowances, turn the pocket right side out, tuck under the seam allowances in the opening, and press the pocket flat. Next you'll need to hem the top edge of the pocket. I did a quick edge stitch about 1/8" away from the top edge that also took care of sewing the previous opening closed.



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Next we're making the pleats. Fold the pocket in half and match up your pleat lines. Sew from the edge of the pocket to the circle guideline and this will create your pleat.



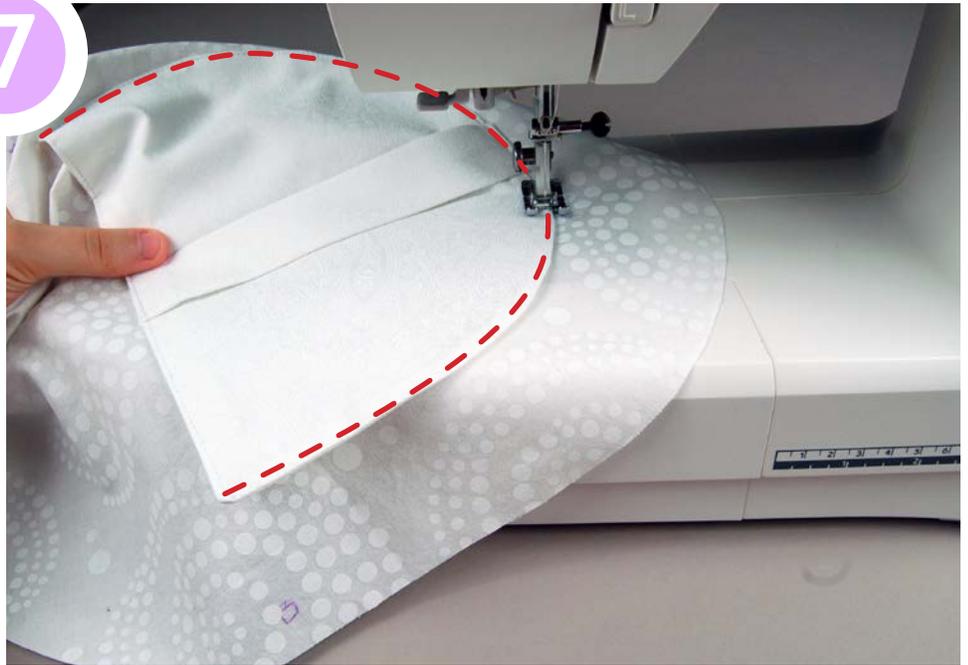
Unfold the pocket, and you'll have a nice pleat down the center, fold it flat and centered down the middle and it creates this cute look. I wanted it to show on the outside of the pocket, personally, but you might like it on the back. Either way, tack down the pleat on the top and bottom so it doesn't move when the pocket is finished.

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7

Now take one of your bag lining pieces (I used the back), and place your pocket along the pocket guidelines. Sew around the curved bottom edge and leave the top free and you've got yourself a functional pleated pocket!



8

Now to make the next few steps easier, we're going to baste the lining to our main bag pieces. Gather up your bag front and back pieces of both main fabric and lining. Layer one main bag piece with its corresponding lining piece with wrong sides together. Then baste all around the perimeter so the layers act as one piece of fabric. Repeat this with the other main fabric and lining pieces you have.



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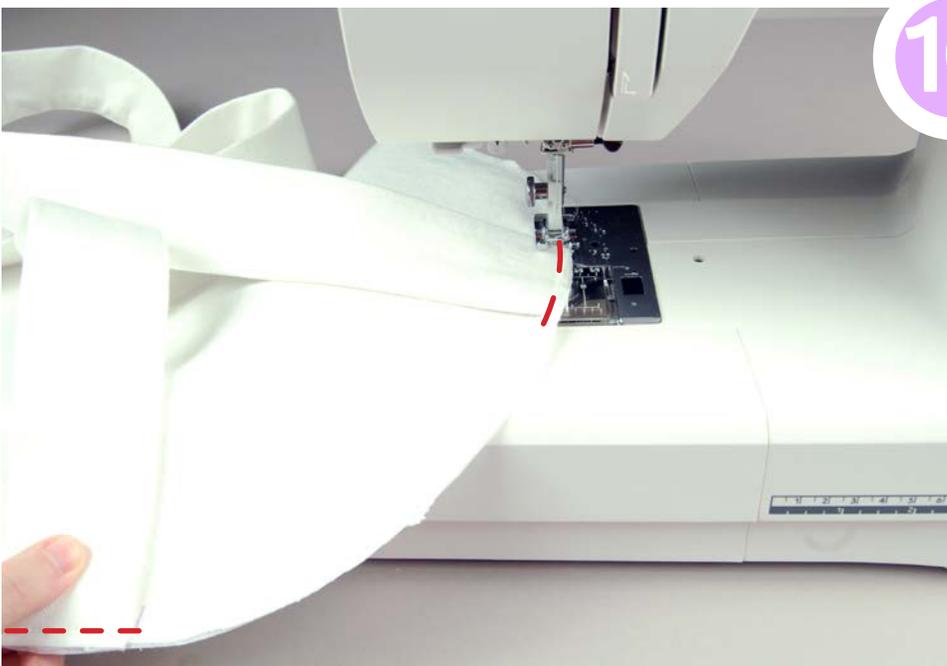


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Up next is the straps. For each of the 2 straps, fold down each long edge by 5/8" and iron the fold in place. Then fold the entire strap in half and iron it flat. While it's like this, sew the folded edges together and you've got a completed strap.



Next we're attaching the straps to the bag. Decide which of your oval-shaped bag pieces will be your back, and this is the one your straps will be attached to. Use the pattern guidelines to line up one end of your strap along the top and the other end along the bottom (make sure it doesn't get twisted along the way). Baste it in place along on the outside of your bag back (on the main fabric, not the lining). Repeat this with the other strap and your backpack straps are now in place!

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11

Next we're going to sew up the sides to the back and front of the bag.

Line up your bag sides around the perimeter of the bag back. You should be able to match up the notches at the top and the bottom, and the side seams should match up with the square markings.

Next, be sure your zipper is open a little, then repeat this with the other side of your bag sides and the bag front piece.



**TIP:** If you have a hard time stretching your bag sides around the bag back so it matches the markings, clip into the seam allowances by  $\frac{5}{8}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$ " or so to make it stretch open and fit.

12

Now to make your bag look it's prettiest, we're going to bind those raw edges we just made with some bias tape. I used some commercial bias tape I had lying around (whoo! destashing!) that folded over the raw edges and curved all the way around the whole seam. You could skip this step or do it with hand-made bias tape. It's completely up to you.



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13

Your bag is technically all done! You should be super proud! But we still want to add the decorative wings to the outside. Start by taking two of your wing pieces and sewing them together with right sides facing all the way around the perimeter. Repeat this with your other two wing pieces.



14

Clip the seam allowances from your wing piece so it turns nicely. To get it right side out, we're going to cut a small slit in the back of the wing.

Put both wings in front of you and have them facing in opposite directions. Clip a small line towards the bottom center of each wing, about 1" or so. Then use that hole to turn your wing right side out.

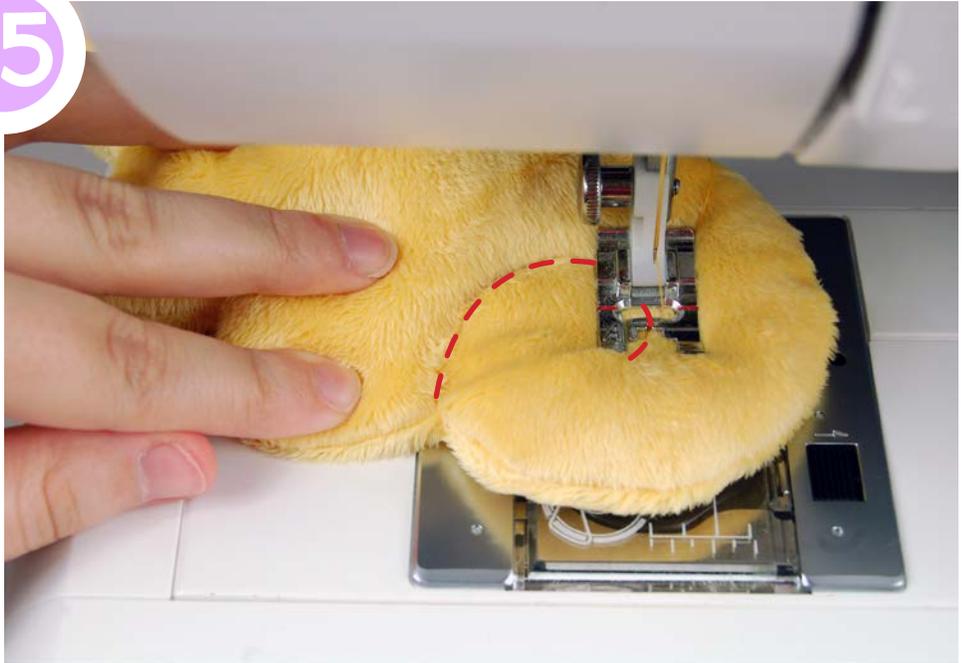
Use a chopstick or similar tool to help define the shape. Then stuff it lightly with batting so it looks puffy, but still a little flat (this will make step 15 easier). Whip stitch the opening you cut closed.

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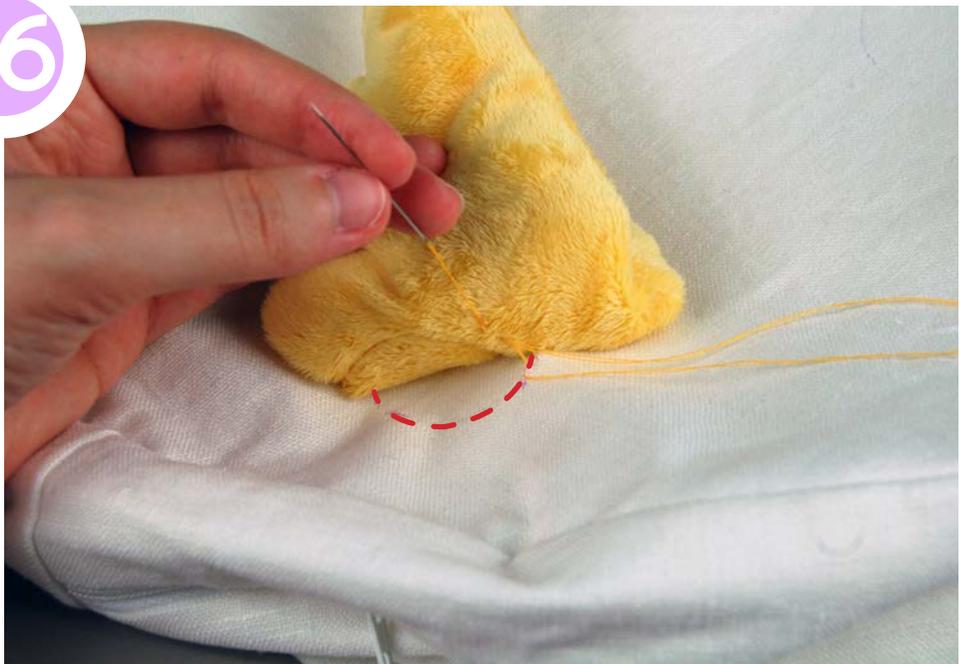
15

To give your wing that adorable little curlicue, put the whole wing under the machine and sew along the pattern guidelines to make the little curved shape. Now your wings are all complete!



16

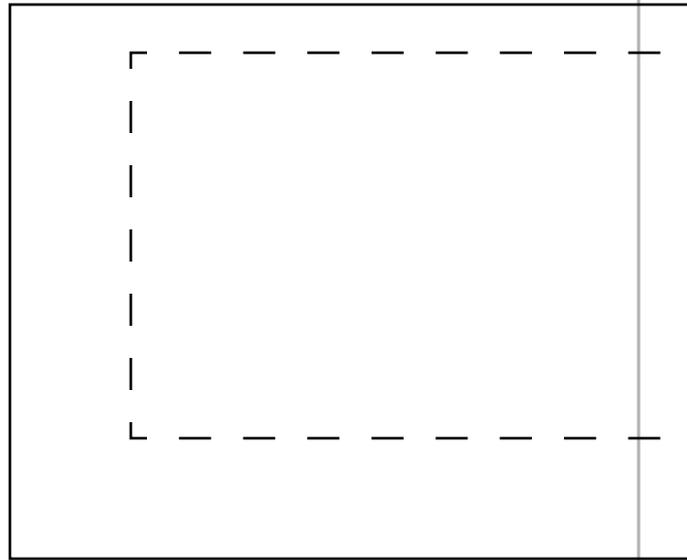
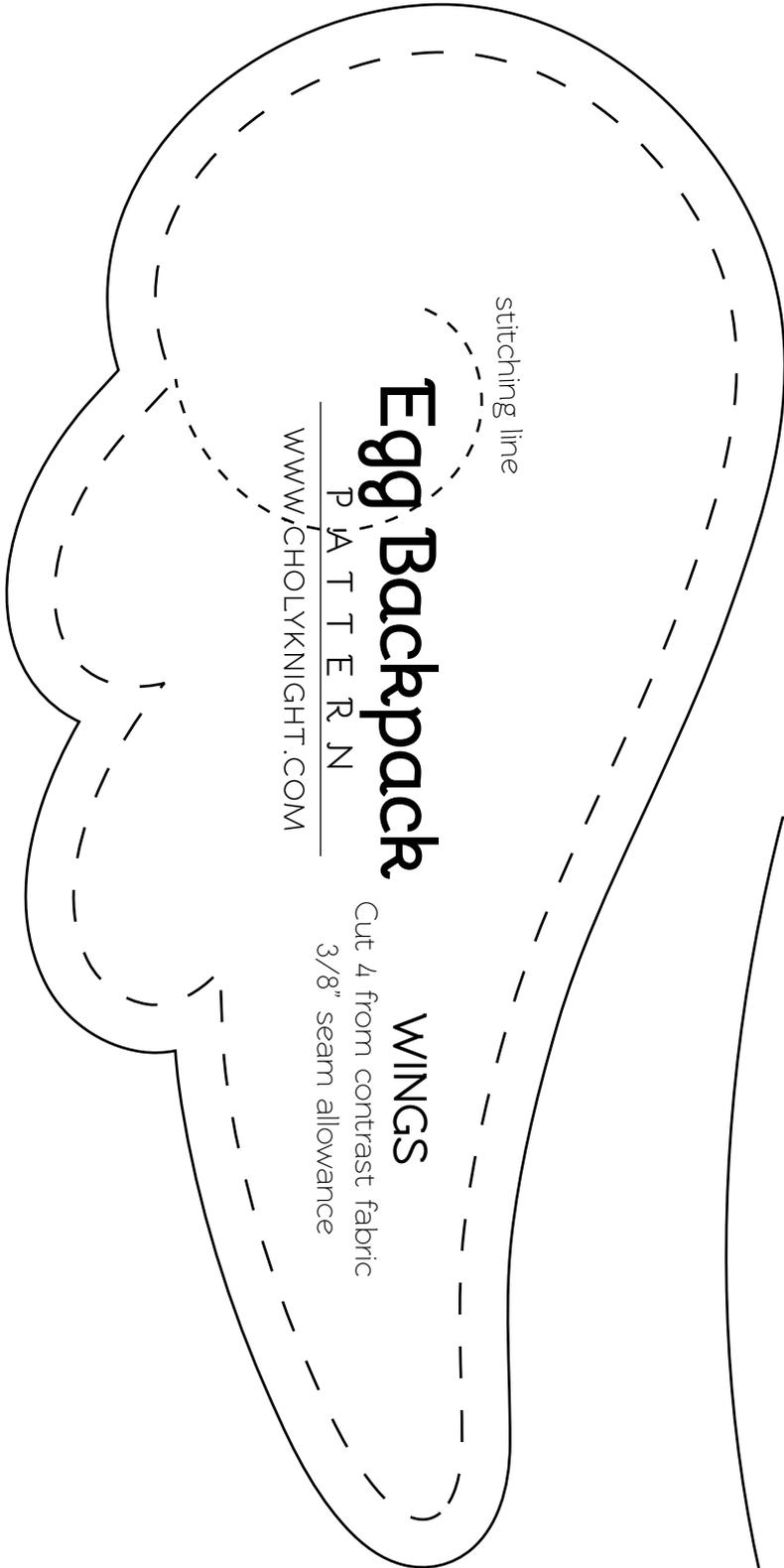
To get your wings onto the bag, place them on the bag front with the whip-stitched side against the circular pattern guidelines. Sew them in place by hand with a ladder stitch all the way around the circle. Repeat this with the other wing and you've got yourself one adorable completed bag!



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A1 A2



**Egg Backpack**  
PATTERN

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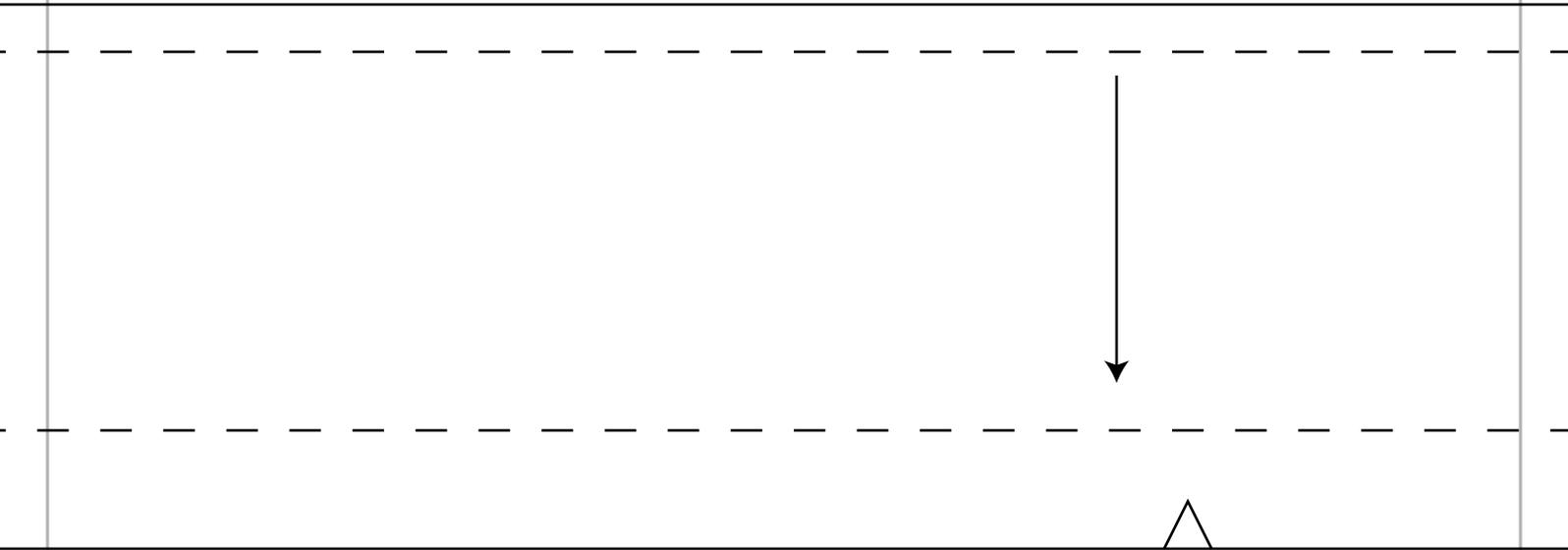
**INNER POCKET**

Cut 2 from lining fabric  
5/8" seam allowance

B1 B2

A1 A2

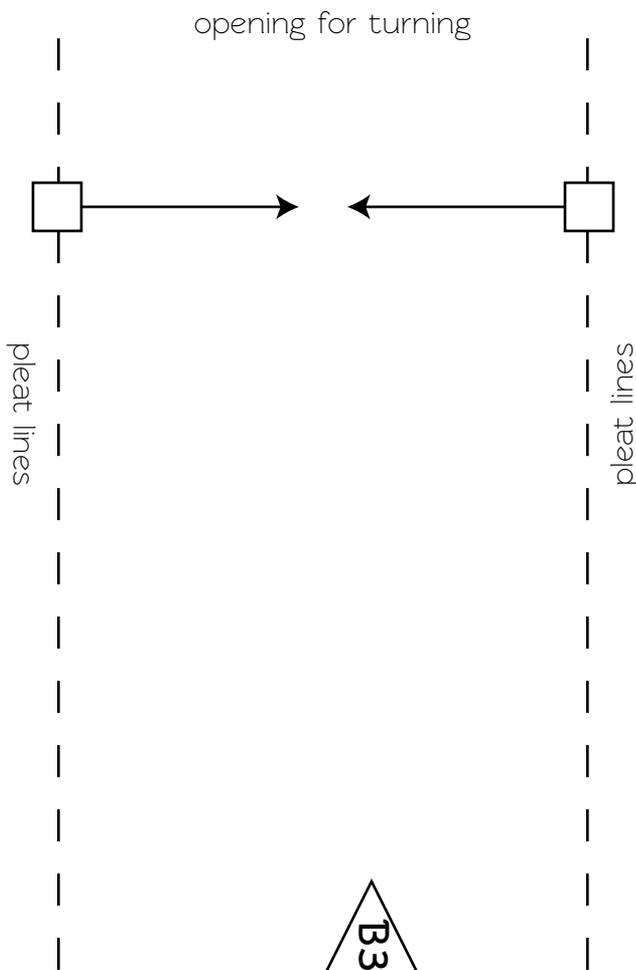
A3 A4



back

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B3 B4

# Egg Backpack TOP ZIPPER PANELS

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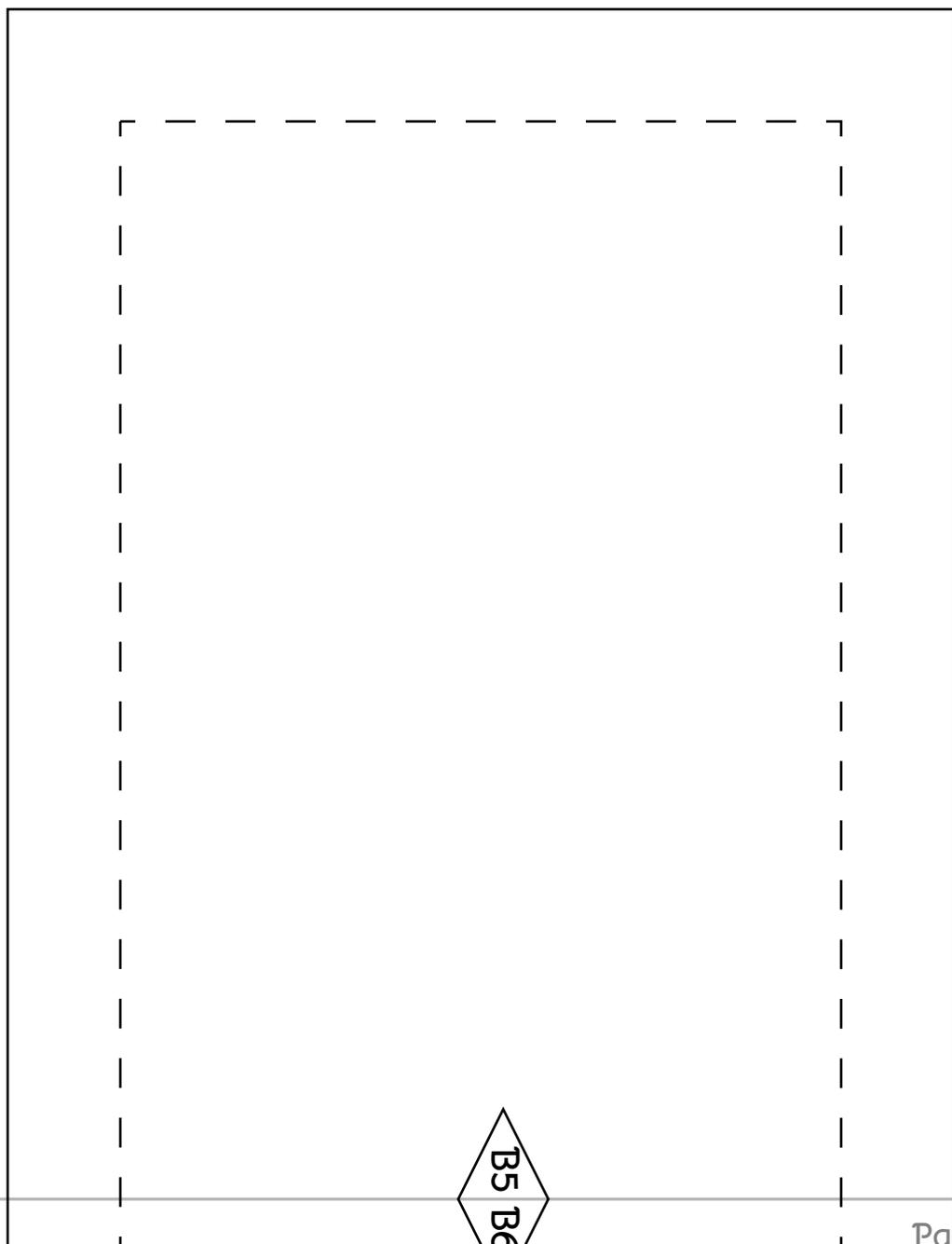
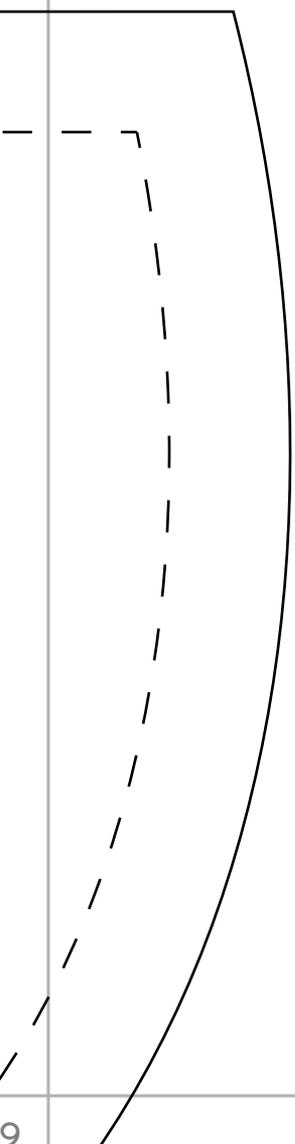
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Cut 2 of main fabric

Cut 2 of lining fabric

5/8" seam allowance

A3 A4



B5 B6

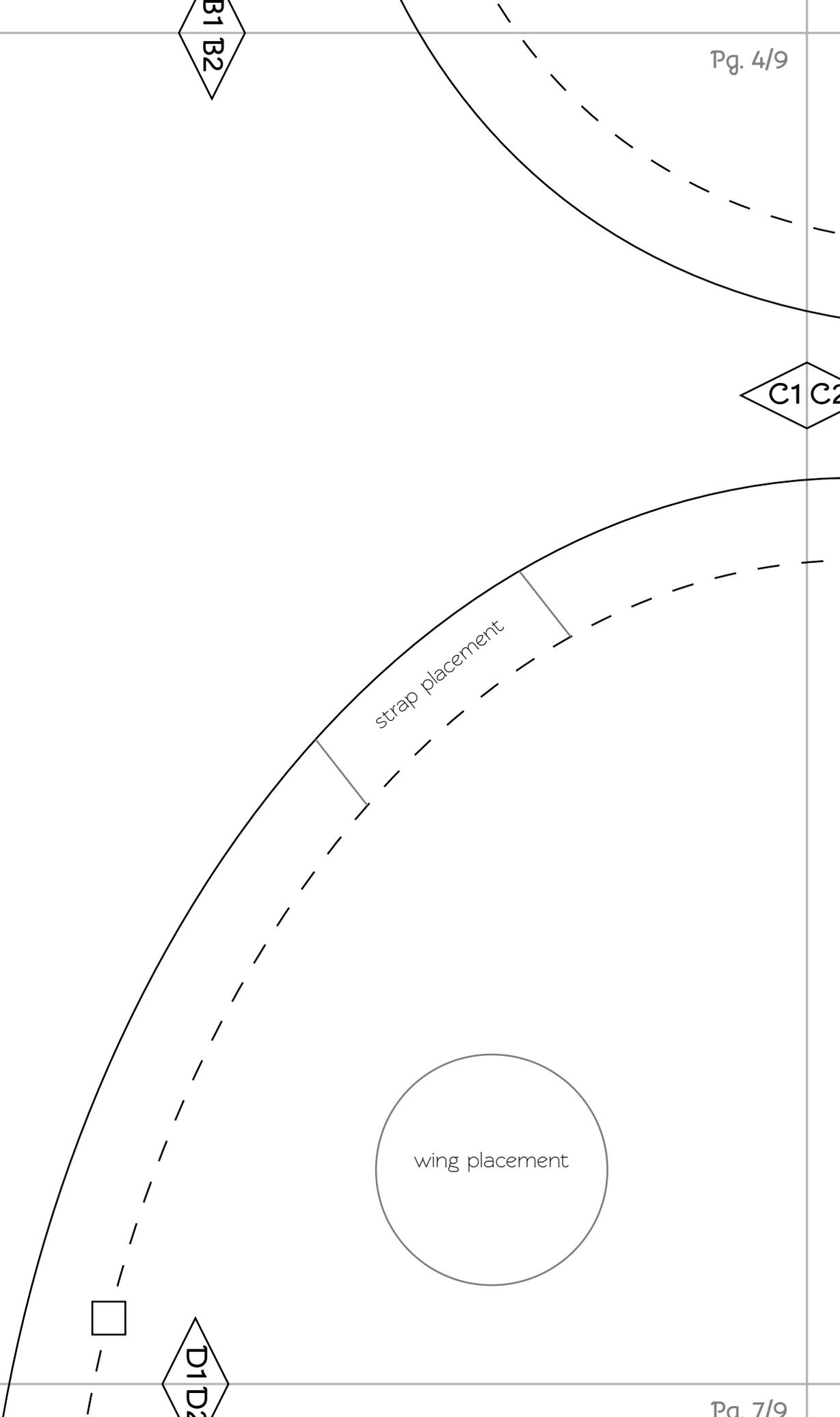
B1 B2

C1 C2

strap placement

wing placement

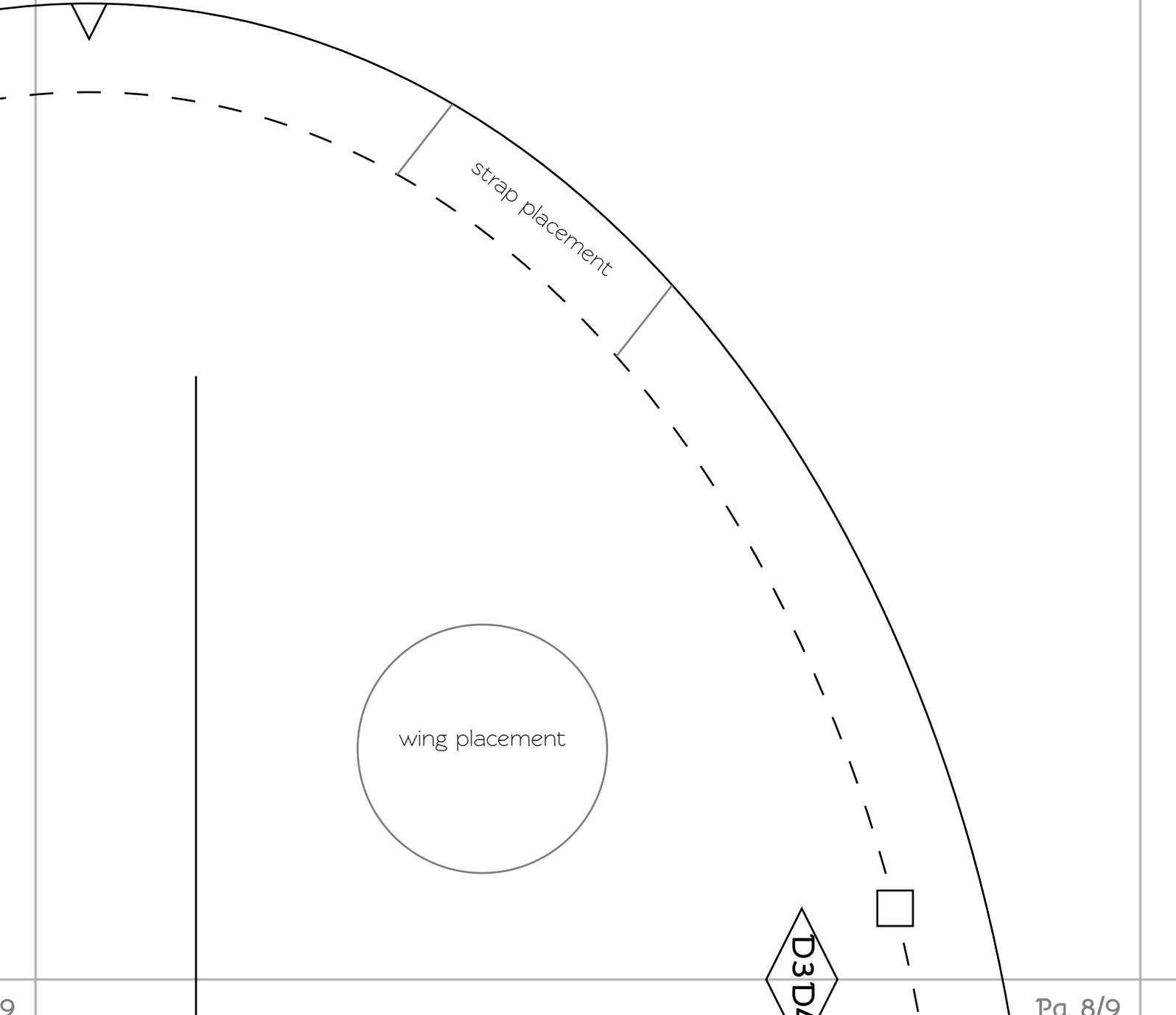
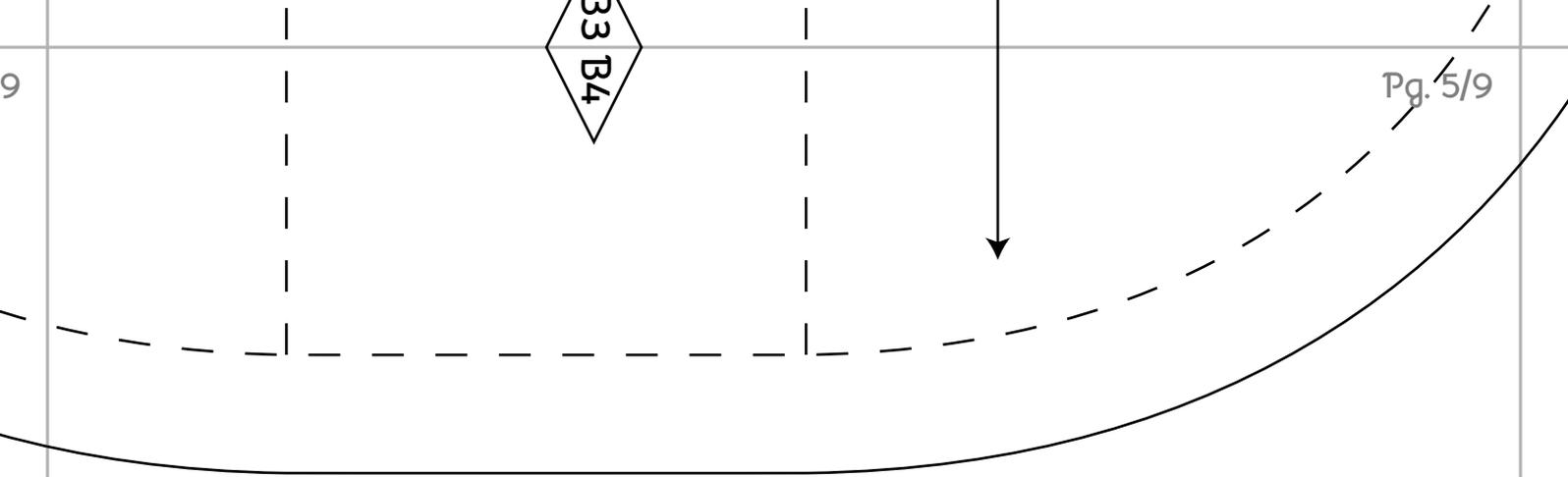
D1 D2



B3 B4

C1 C2

C3 C4



D3 D4

B5 B6

C3 C4



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## BOTTOM PANEL & STRAPS

Cut 3 of main fabric

Cut 1 of lining fabric

5/8" seam allowance

D5 D6

D1 D2

pocket placement



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## FRONT & BACK

- Cut 2 of main fabric
- Cut 2 of lining fabric
- 5/8" seam allowance

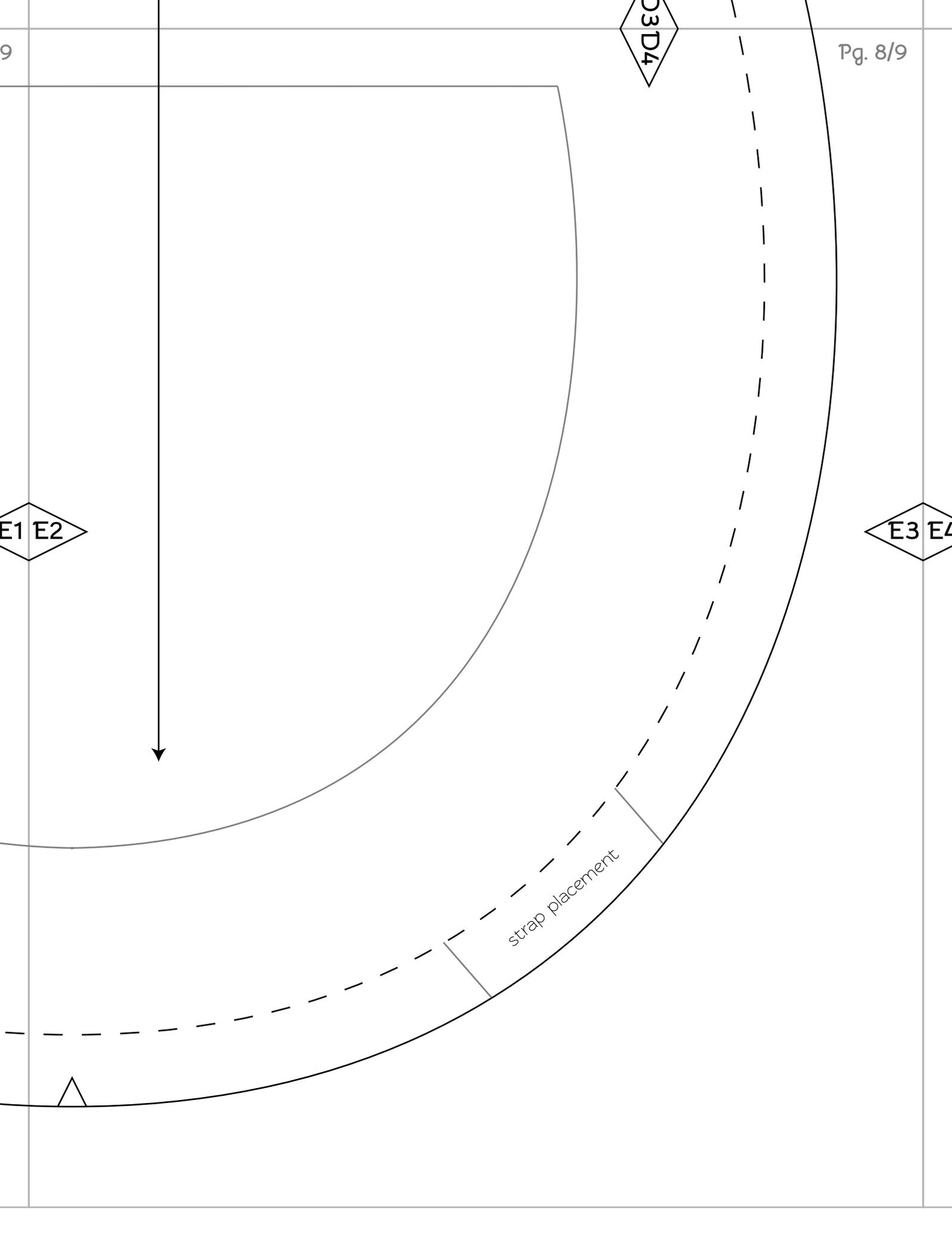
E1 E2

strap placement

E1 E2

E3 E4

D3 D4



strap placement

E3 E4

D5 D6

