

# ⚡ PIKACHU ⚡

## HOODIE HACK



A FREE SEWING PATTERN BY



# PIKACHU HOODIE HACK

It would be impossible to have a collection of Pokemon hoodie hacks without the classic Pikachu! These add-on pieces work best with any project that has a hood, like a hooded jacket, shrug, or scodie -- either pre-purchased or made from scratch. Though it was originally intended for use with the **COSPLAY HOODIE PATTERN** from Sew Desu Ne?

These instructions will go over how to add back stripes, ears, tail, and a cute Pikachu face to your garment. There are also different options including a female style Pikachu tail and a funny shocked Pikachu face!

## MAKES:

Ears, stripes, tail, and face to add onto one hooded garment.

## DIFFICULTY:



If you're making your garment from scratch, that will bump up the difficulty. But for just the add-on pieces, they're very basic to put together.

## SKILLS USED:

- Zigzag stitch
- Ladder stitch
- Sewing curves
- Gathering; gathering stitch



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## materials & tools:

- basic sewing tools (sewing machine, scissors, iron, needles, pins, fabric marker, seam ripper)
- a pre-purchased hooded garment OR sewing pattern for said garment
- 1/3 yd. of yellow fabric for ears and tail
- 1/4 yd. of brown fabric for back stripes and tail base
- 1/8 yd. of black fabric for ear tips
- 3" x 3" of black applique fabric (such as felt, flannel, fleece, or cotton) for eyes and mouth
- 3" x 3" of red applique fabric for blush
- 2" x 2" of white applique fabric for eye shines
- **FOR SHOCKED MOUTH:** 2" x 2" of dark red and pink applique fabric
- 6" x 6" of light or heavy duty fusible web adhesive
- **OPTIONAL, BUT HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:** 8" x 16" of one-sided fusible foam interfacing to support ears
- poly-fil stuffing
- sewing thread to match fabrics



## FOAM INTERFACING:

A sheet of 1/4" foam that can be sewn into projects for extra stability. Fusible varieties with adhesive on one or both sides are available. It comes in pre-packaged bags and by the yard. Brands include **PELLON FLEX FOAM**, **ANNIE'S SOFT & STABLE**, and **BOSAL IN-R-FORM**.

## SUGGESTED FABRICS:

### Fleece or sweatshirt fleece

Choose a fabric that most closely matches the fabric you're using to construct your hooded garment, or the garment you're altering. Fleece and sweatshirt fleece (a.k.a. cotton fleece) are the most common ones.

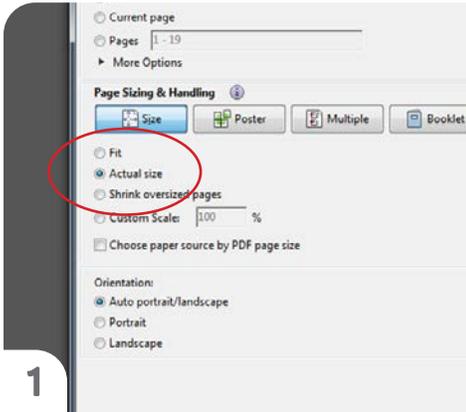


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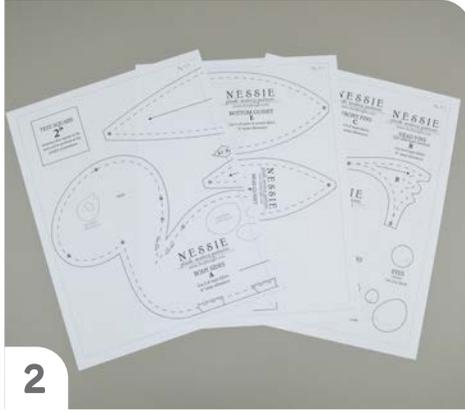
## printing the pattern:

The pattern can be found on **PAGES 13-18**. Be sure your printer is set to print at 100% scale or “Actual size” to prevent any distortion. If you’re unfamiliar with printing and assembling a .pdf pattern, read the steps below.



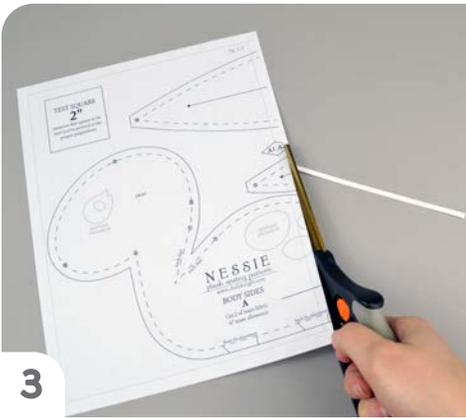
1

At the print dialog box, check the box that says print at “Actual Size” or 100%. Any other selection (such as “Fit to page”) will distort the pattern so it’s slightly larger or smaller and we don’t want that.



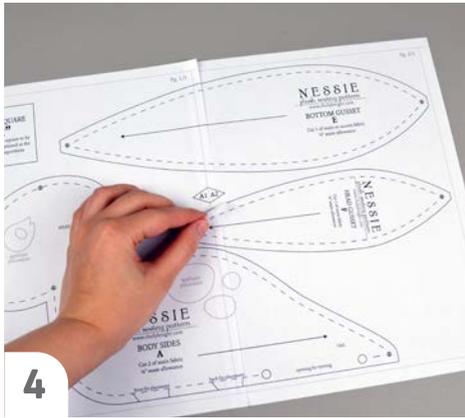
2

Print the pages needed for the file. You might have one or more. Either way, be sure you have the full collection by noting the page numbers in the corner.



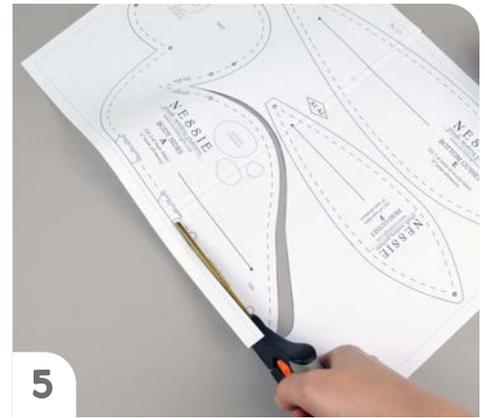
3

It’s likely your printer will have a margin that ensures your image doesn’t print to the very edge. Assembly will be easier if you trim off this blank margin edge. This will give you pages that overlap slightly during assembly. If you trim across the gray outline boxes, this will give you pages that don’t overlap but rather butt against each other.



4

To line up the pattern pages, match up the corresponding diamond shapes. Each diamond will have a letter, so A1 should match to A2, B3 to B4 and so on. The faint gray lines indicate the border of every page, you should be able to line those up as well. When the diamond goes together, tape it in place.



5

You can trace the patterns onto a different paper, or you can also just cut them straight from the printer paper -- be sure that each piece is fully taped together along the joins so they don’t fall apart when you cut them.

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## cutting the fabric:



1

Place pattern on fabric, and make sure the stretch line matches the stretch of the fabric.



2

Pin the pattern in place, use pattern weights, or trace the outline of the pattern with a washable marker.



3

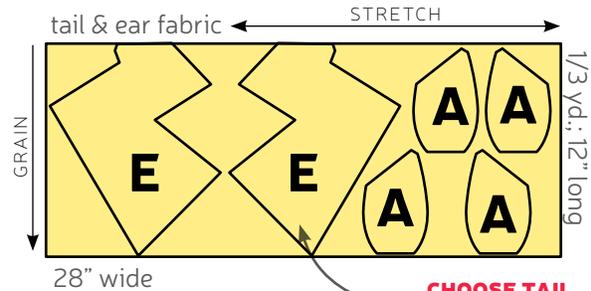
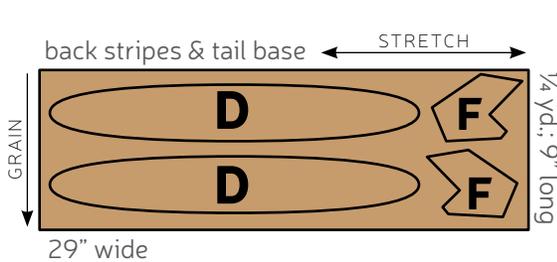
Using the paper as a template, cut out the fabric. Cut the required amount according to the pattern.



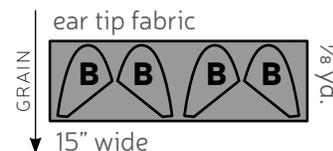
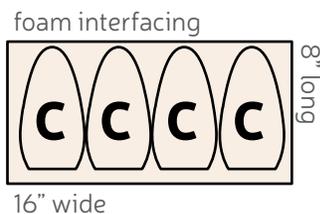
4

Look out for notches; these are found on the edge of patterns. Cut outward from the pattern to leave a small notch in your fabric.

## CUTTING LAYOUT:



**CHOOSE TAIL TIP: E1 OR E2**



## BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

- Briefly read the project instructions so you know what to expect.
- If desired, mark the cut fabric pieces with the markings and symbols from the pattern. Or wait until the applicable step before transferring.
- Note that a  $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance is used throughout the project.

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## PREP YOUR HOODIE

- Before sewing any part of your hoodie, we'll be applying Pikachu's back stripes first.

- a. Grab your **BODY BACK** and **BACK STRIPE** pieces (D). Align the stripes horizontally across the area beneath the armholes. For the sample here, the pair are placed a little above the center of the torso area and spaced a little less than one stripe width apart. The length of the stripes can vary depending on what size hoodie you're using. The sizes given in the templates are a rough estimate. Feel free to trim the ends if you don't have at least 1½" of space on each side of the stripe.



### 1. APPLY THE BACK STRIPES

- b. Secure the stripes in place with pins, cellophane tape, or a bit of glue stick around the edge of the fabric. Whichever you prefer. Sew the stripes around the edge using either a straight stitch or zigzag stitch.

**TIP:**  
If you're using a pre-purchased hoodie, spread out the back of the hoodie as flat as you can before attaching the stripes.

## CONSTRUCT YOUR HOODIE

- From here, continue with constructing the hoodie as usual.
- Stop just after the point where the **HOOD FRONT** is sewn.

- a. Take your fusible web and trace all your applique pieces onto the smooth (paper) side. You should have 2 **eyes**, 2 **eye shines**, 2 **cheeks**, 1 **nose**, and either the standard **mouth** or **shocked mouth**.
- b. Fuse the bumpy (adhesive) side onto the wrong side of your applique fabric. The **eyes** go onto black, the **eye shines** on white, the **cheeks** on red, the **nose** on black, and the **mouth** on either black or dark red & pink.

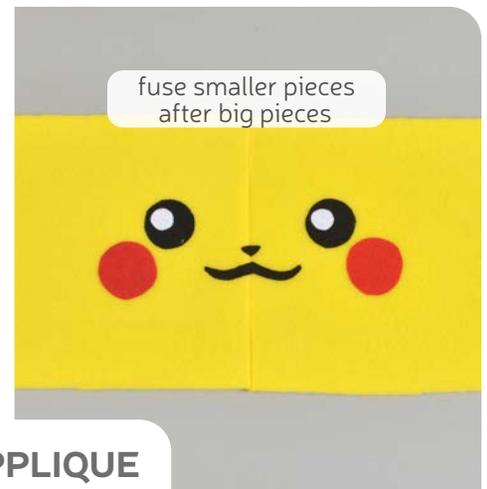


### 2. PREP THE FACE APPLIQUE

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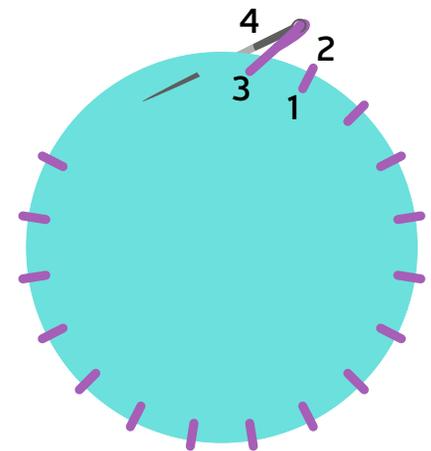
- a. Grab your sewn **HOOD FRONT** pieces. Place the applique pieces onto the hood front, right sides both facing up. The face should be centered on the hood front both vertically and horizontally. You can use the template from the paper pattern to keep the eyes, mouth, and nose spaced out properly. if you're using a **PRE-PURCHASED HOODIE:** arrange the face at least 1" above the edge of the front of the hood.



### 3. SECURE THE FACE APPLIQUE

- b. Fuse the **eye** pieces in place with your iron. Next, move onto the **eye shine** and **cheek** pieces. Fuse them much the same way as you did the eyes, using the paper pattern and photos as a guide. If you used heavy duty fusible web, you can keep the pieces fused without sewing, or you can sew them in place a number of ways. I've used a zigzag stitch.

→ Refer to the next step for some other applique options.



### 3a. OTHER APPLIQUE OPTIONS

Other good options for applique include a straight stitch, which involves sewing around the edge of the applique pieces with a straight stitch using matching thread -- about 1/8" in from the edge.

You can also applique by hand; I prefer a whipstitch. Thread a hand-sewing needle with some matching thread and knot it. Bring the thread up from the back of the project; about 1/8" in from the edge of the applique shape. Bring it down perpendicular from the curve, just outside of the applique shape. This completes one stitch.

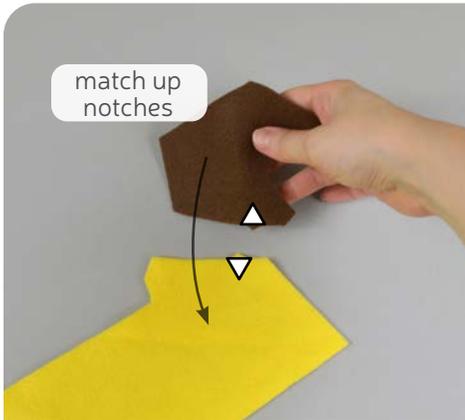
For the next stitch, bring the needle back up about 1/8" away from the previous stitch and 1/8" in from the edge just as in the first stitch. Once again, bring it down just outside the applique shape. Continue this way until you've sewn around the shape.

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## CONSTRUCT YOUR HOODIE

- From here, continue with constructing the hoodie as usual.
- Stop just before the bottom hem is sewn.



### 4. SEW THE TAIL BASE

- Grab your **TAIL TIP** (E1-2) and **TAIL BASE** (F) pieces. Take one of each and line up the edges with the **notches**. This will ensure the pieces line up in the right direction. Align the fabrics so right sides are facing each other.
- Sew the tail pieces together along the **notched edge** using the  $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance given.
- Open up the pieces when complete, and press the seams open. You should have a mirrored pair of tails as shown.



### 5. SEW THE TAIL

- Take both of your **TAIL** pieces (E/F) and align them with right sides facing and raw edges matching up.
- Regardless of tail style, each one is sewn by going around the jagged edge and leaving the short straight edge at the **TAIL BASE** (F) open for turning the piece later.

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## 6. TURN THE TAIL

- Trim the excess seam allowances at the tight corners. This will reduce bulk and increase flexibility when the pieces are turned later.
- Turn the pieces right side out through the opening at the **TAIL BASE (F)**.
- If desired, finish the raw edge of your tail opening to prevent fraying and give it a clean look.



## 7. ATTACH THE TAIL

- Fold your **HOODIE BACK** in half, matching up the side seams. This will allow you to find the bottom center of the hoodie. Mark it with a fabric marker.  
If you haven't already, fold under the bottom hem of the hoodie as usual.
- Pin the base of your **TAIL (E/F)** to the center bottom of your hoodie so the hoodie overlaps the tail.
- Sew the bottom hem of your hoodie and the tail in one go. For extra strength, you may want to sew over the tail 1-2 more times.

→ **DESIGN OPTION:** to avoid a hanging tail, you can also flip the tail upwards and attach it to the back of the hoodie with a ladder stitch.

### TIP:

If you're using a pre-purchased hoodie, you can sew right over the bottom stitching to secure the tail instead.

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## 8. SEW THE EAR TIPS

- Grab your **EAR BASES** (A) and **EAR TIPS** (B). Much like the tail, these pieces are sewn by matching up the **notched edges**. Align the edges with right sides facing and match up the **single notches**. This will ensure the pieces don't get flipped the wrong way.
- Sew the ear bases to the tips along the **notched edge**.
- When complete, open the pieces up. Repeat with your remaining ear pieces so you have two mirrored pairs as shown.



## 9. APPLY THE FUSIBLE FOAM

- Press open the seams on the **EARS** (A/B) you've just sewn.
- If you're using fusible foam, take this moment to grab your **INTERFACING PIECES** now (C). Place it adhesive side down on the wrong side of your ear fabric. Line it up along the top edge of the ear. This will leave a small space at the bottom of the ear open (for the seam allowance later in step 12).
- Fuse it to your ear following the manufacturer's directions. You may want to iron it from the right side of the fabric to make sure there is good heat distribution.

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## 10. SEW THE EARS

- Repeat step 9 with your remaining **INTERFACING** and **EAR** pieces until you have 4 total.
- Take two of your ear pieces that have opposing tips and align them with right sides facing and raw edges matching up.
- Sew them together along the curved edge. Leave the straight edge along the bottom open for turning the ear right side out.



## 11. STUFF THE EARS

- Turn the **EAR** right side out through the opening in the bottom.
- Stuff the ears very lightly with stuffing, just enough so they make a round shape. This will avoid any extra weight on the head.
- Thread a hand sewing needle and weave the thread back and forth about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " per stitch around the opening of the **EAR**. This is a hand sewn gathering stitch.

### GATHERING:

The process of shortening the length of a piece of fabric by sewing long stitches through it. When the thread is pulled, it forms small folds that ruffle the fabric.

### GATHERING STITCH:

A long version of the running stitch, which is a stitch done by weaving the needle in and out of a length of fabric going along a line. The long stitches (about  $\frac{1}{4}$ "- $\frac{1}{2}$ " long) gather the fabric when pulled later.

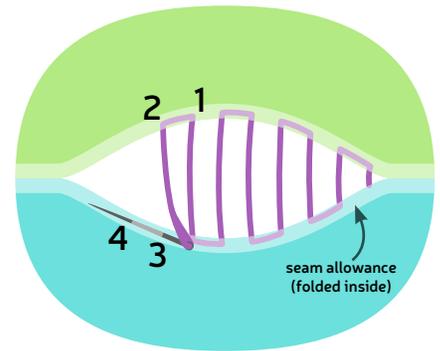
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- a. Tug at the thread to cinch up the opening so it closes. Sew a few knots across the cinched opening to hold the ear shut. If you have a lot of thread leftover, consider keeping it attached for adding to the **HOOD** later.

## 12. CINCH THE EARS CLOSED



## 13. ATTACH THE EARS

- a. Grab your hoodie so far and isolate the **HOOD**. Place your **EARS** so they're centered along the hood seam going across the face. They should be about  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " away from the center seam. Also ensure the ear tips are *slanted away from the center*.
- b. Attach your ear to the hood using a ladder stitch. Take one stitch into the base of the ear, then another into the hood. Go around the first time with big stitches (about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " long). Then try the hoodie on to check that you like the placement. If not, the stitches will be easy to take out. When you do like the placement, go around the ear again with tiny, neat stitches (about  $\frac{1}{8}$ " long) to secure the ears in place.

### TIP:

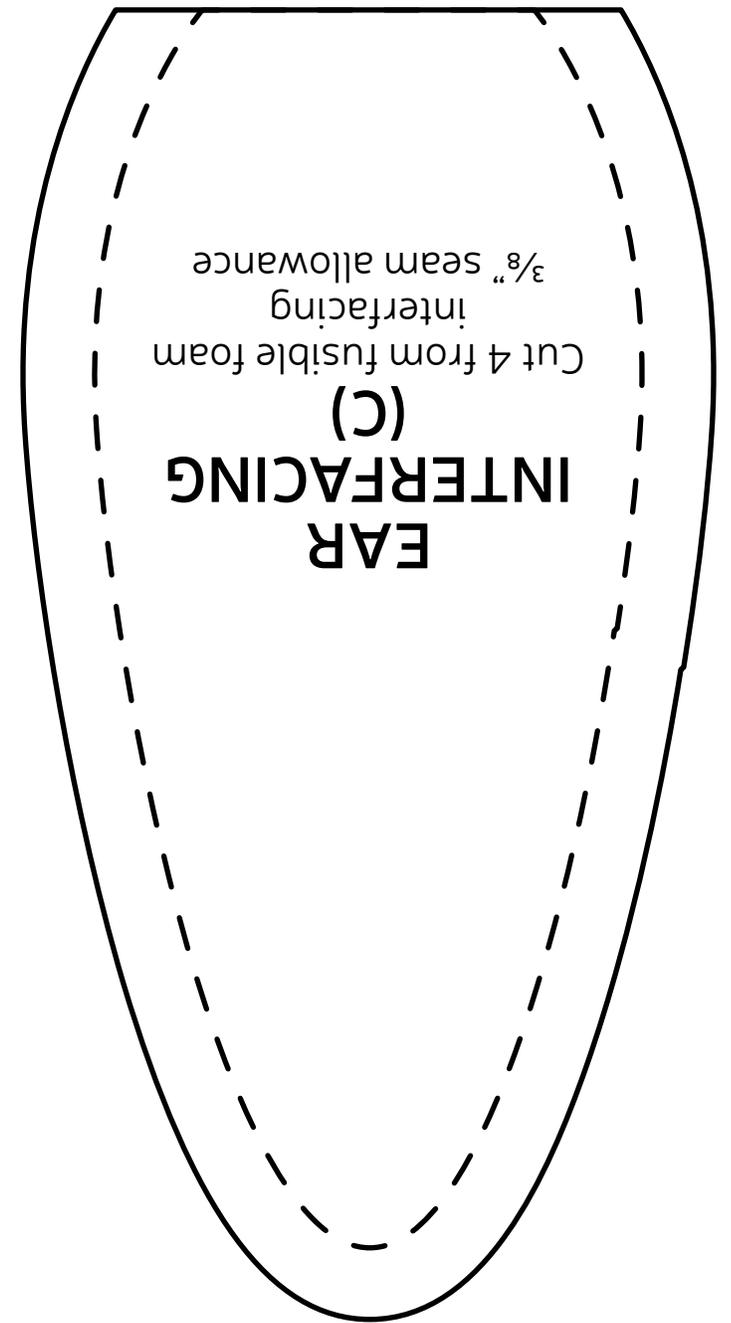
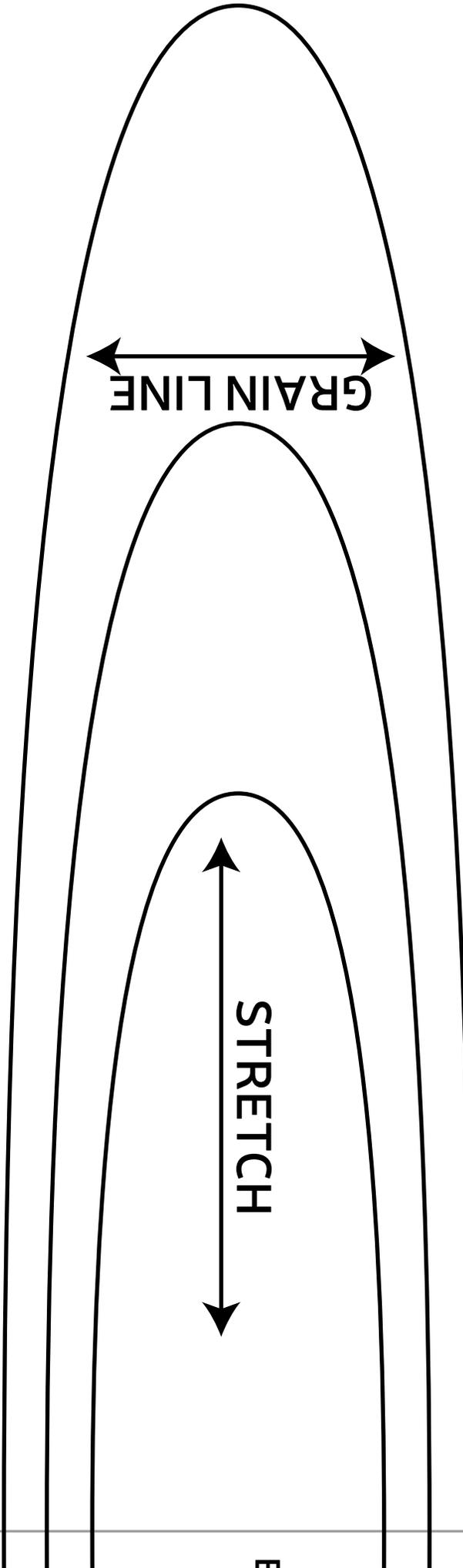
If you're using a pre-purchased hoodie, try to place your ears about halfway across the width of the hood. You can also pin the ears and do a test fit to be sure.

## CONGRATS!

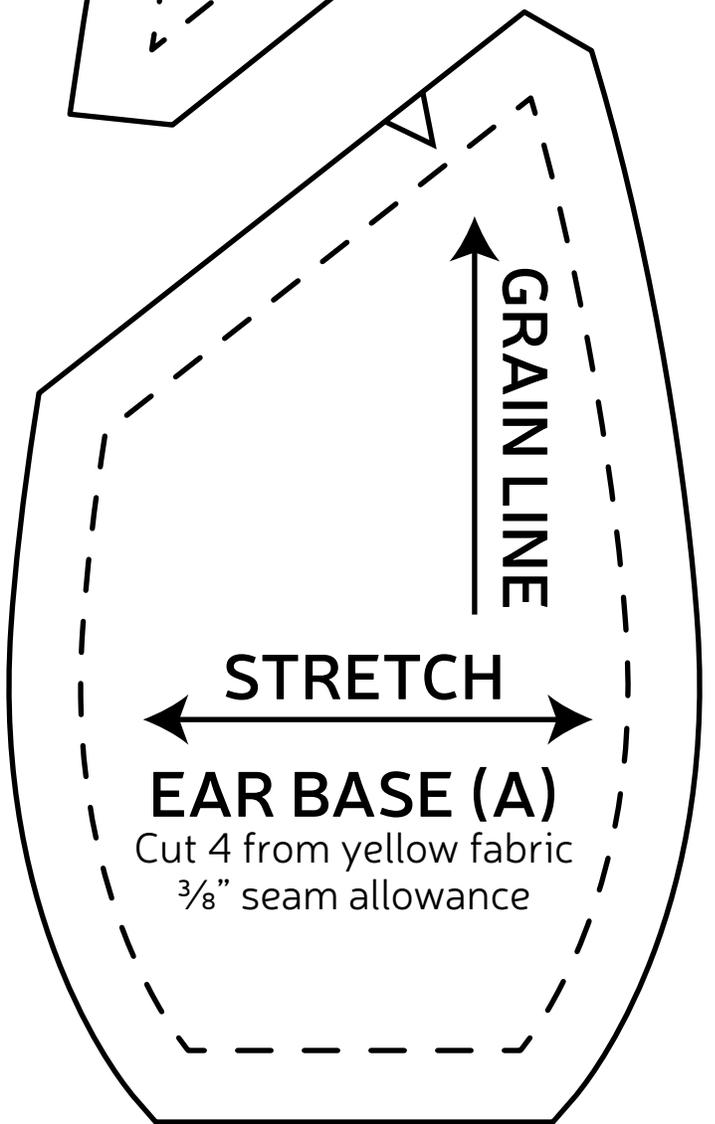
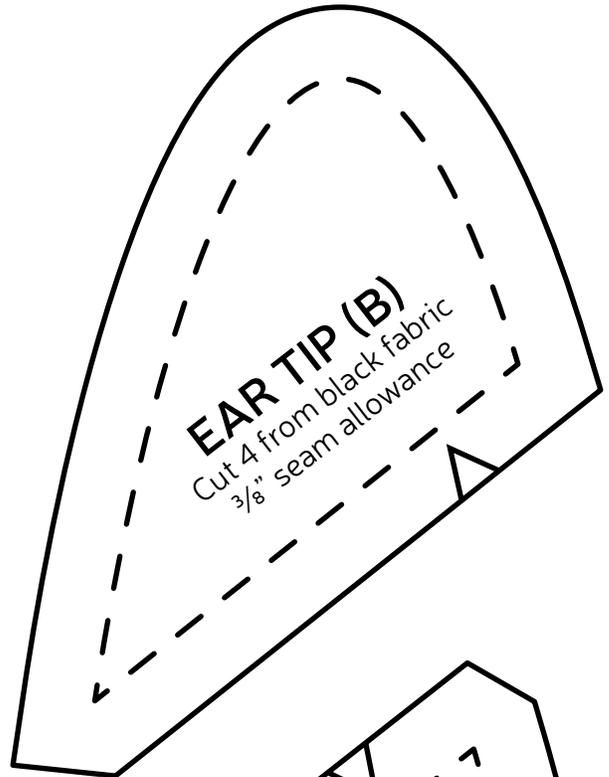
This completes your hoodie!  
Now go on a Pokemon adventure!

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A1  
A2



B1  
B2

**BACK STRIPE (D)**

*applique*

Cut 2 from brown fabric

**child size**

CUT HERE

**teen/adult size**

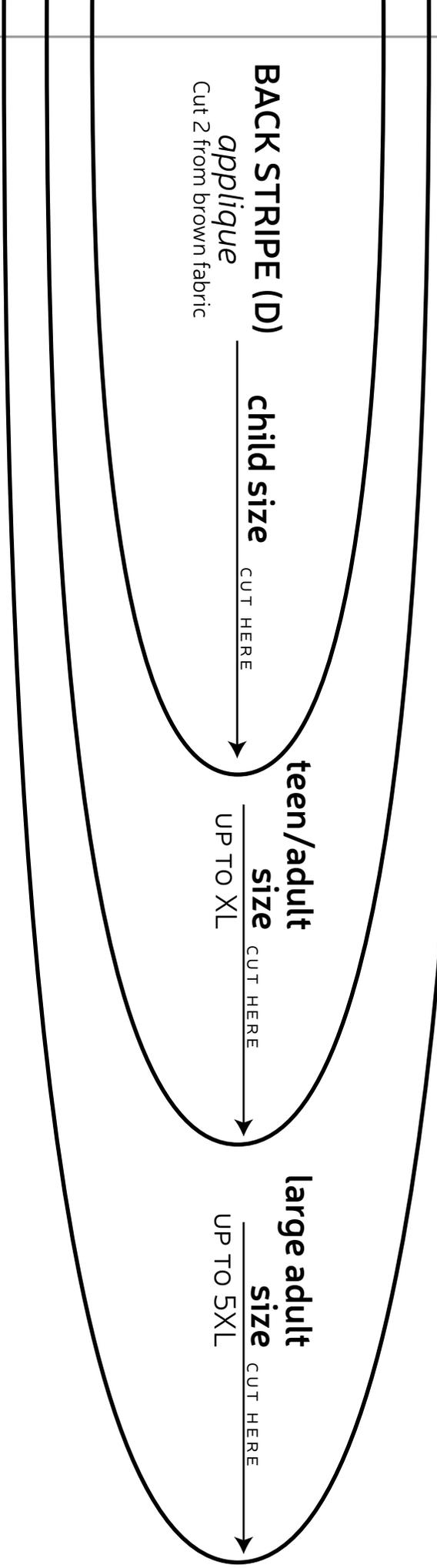
UP TO XL

CUT HERE

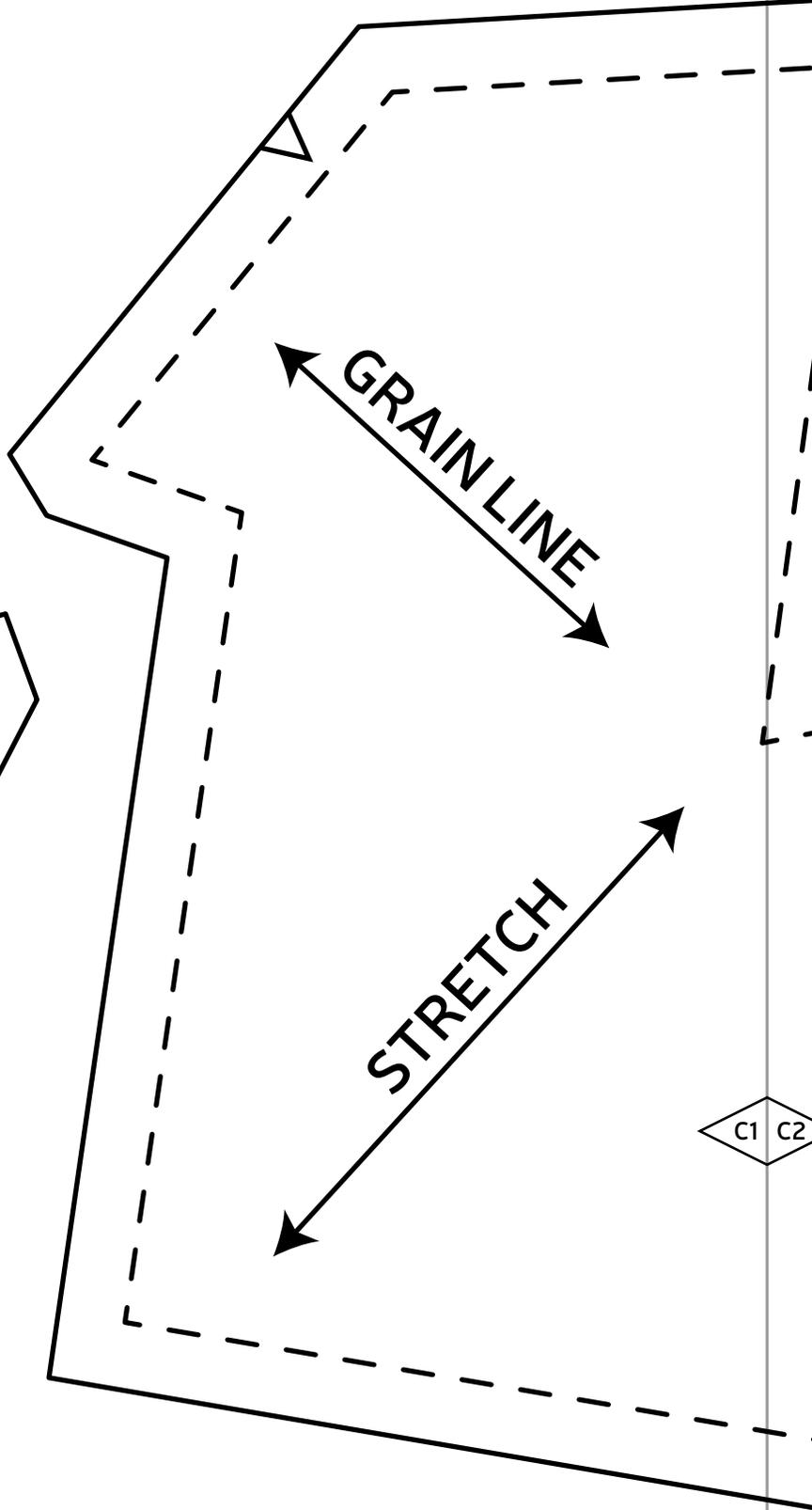
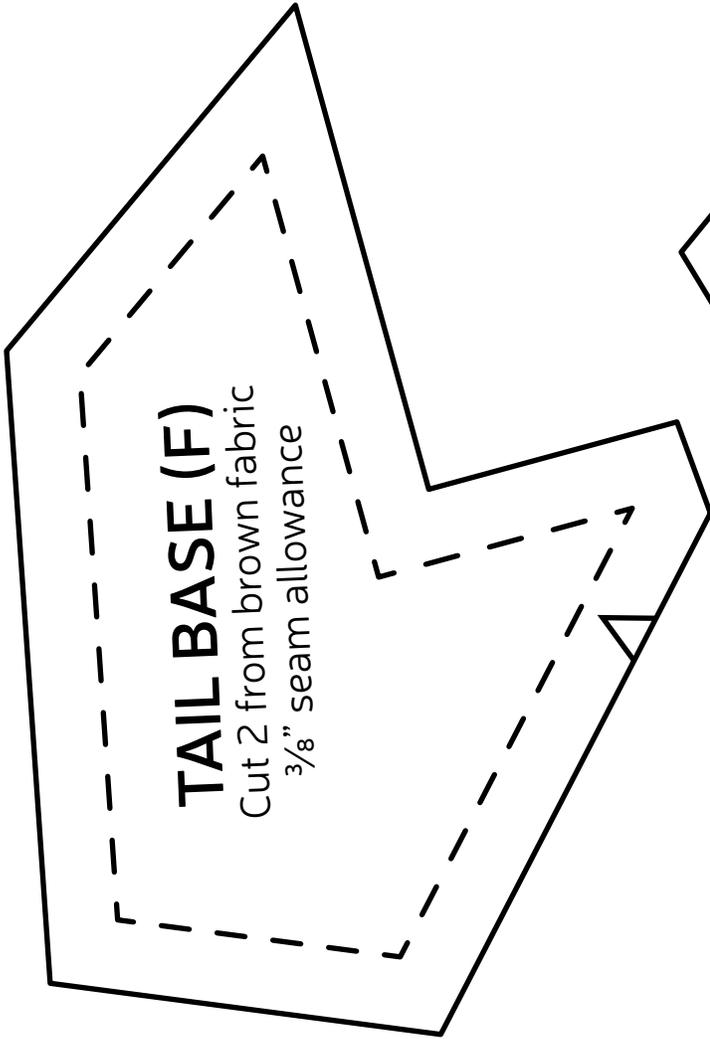
**large adult size**

UP TO 5XL

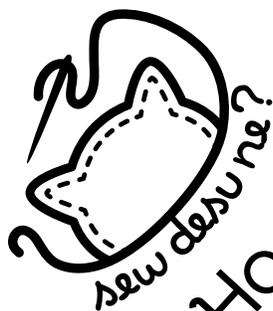
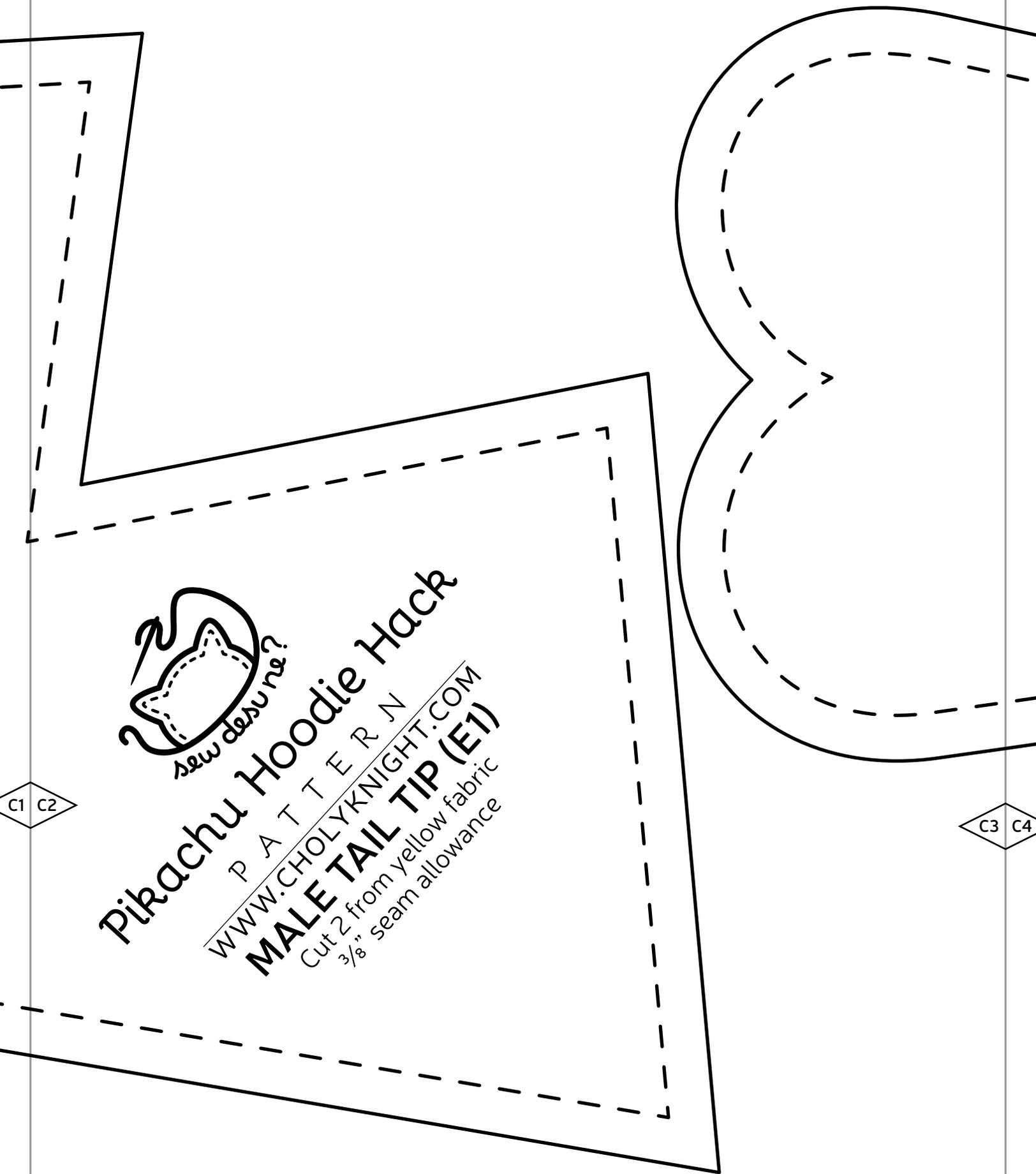
CUT HERE



B1 B2



C1 C2



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# Pikachu Hoodie Hack

P A T T E R N

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**MALE TAIL TIP (E1)**

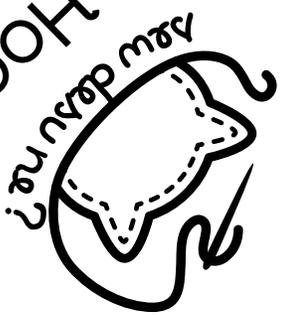
Cut 2 from yellow fabric  
 3/8" seam allowance

C1 C2

C3 C4

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 PART FURN  
 Cut 2 from yellow fabric  
 3/8" seam allowance  
**FEMALE TAIL TIP (E2)**

**Pikachu Hoodie Hack**

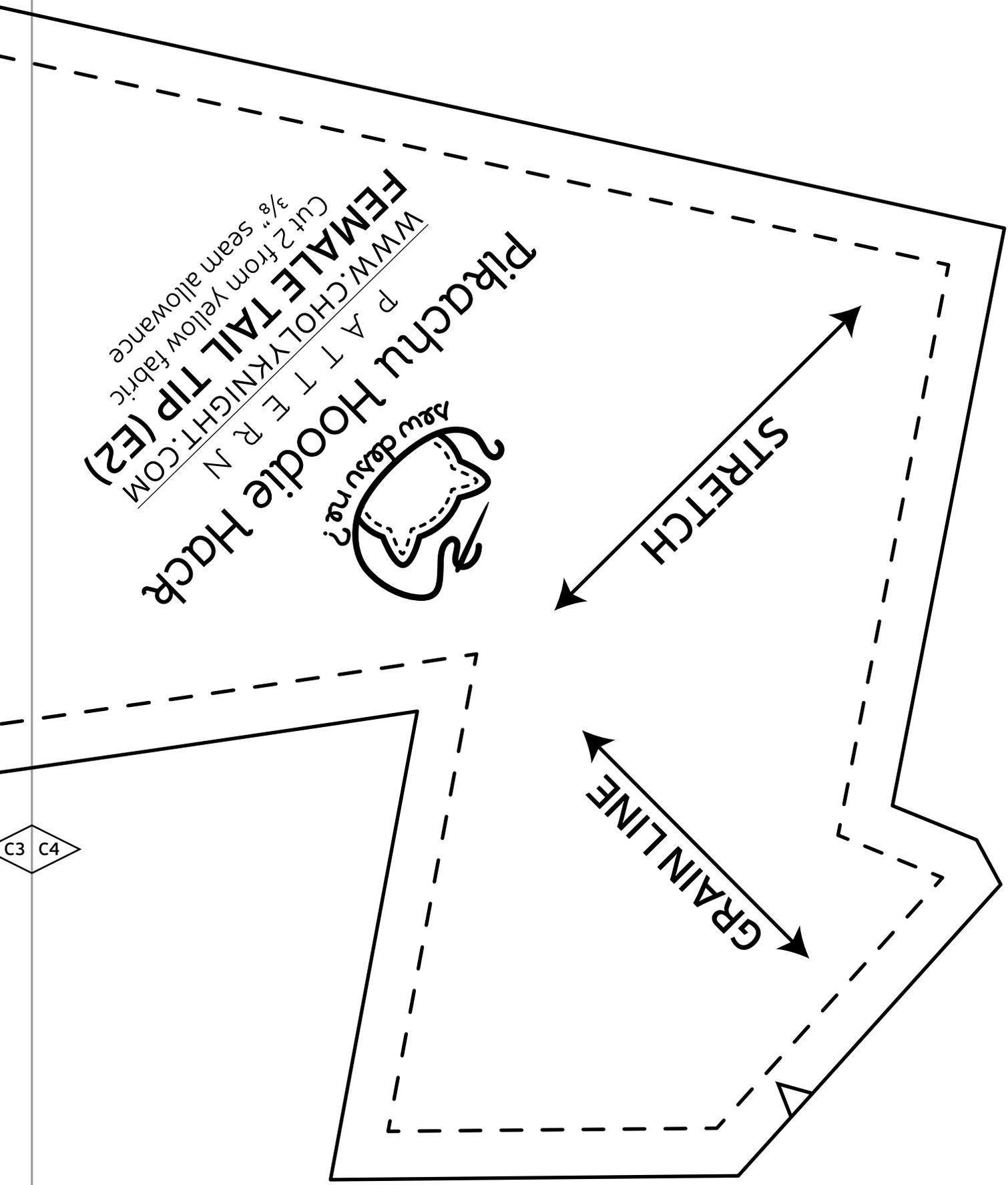


How do you measure?

**STRETCH**

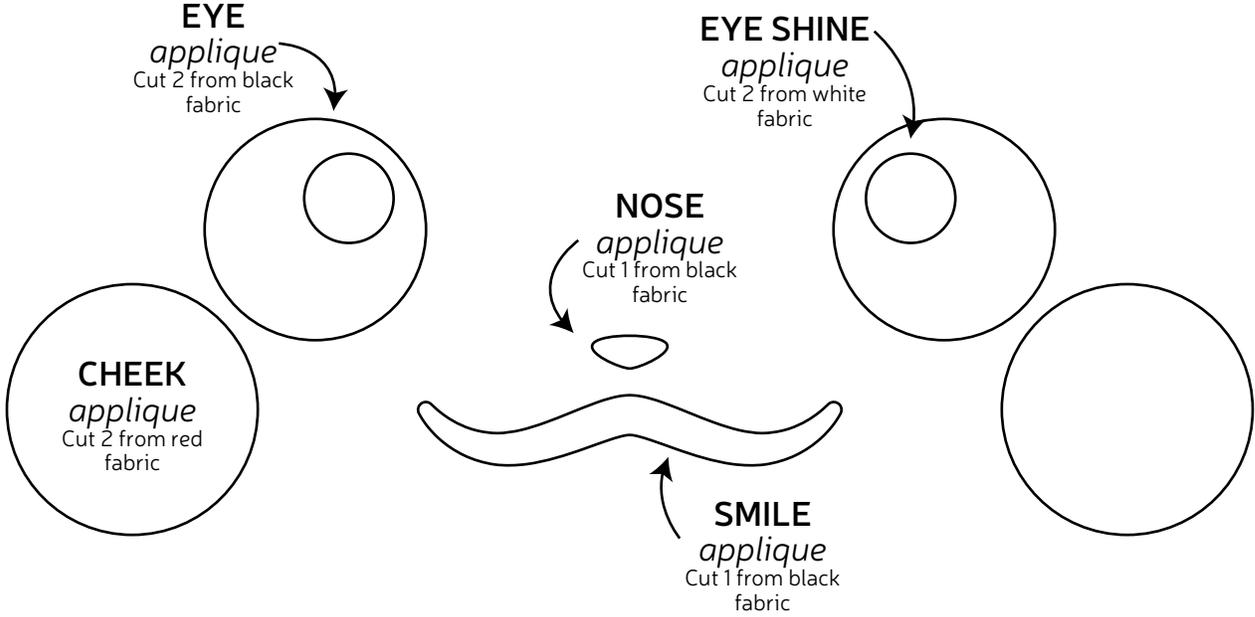
**GRAIN LINE**

C3 C4



# APPLIQUE TEMPLATES

## STANDARD FACE



## SHOCKED FACE

