

PREPARING THE TRIM

For the neck, cut a strip of fabric long enough for the opening. Measure along the opening with a cloth tape measure, then add about 3". You can adjust this on your 2nd shirt. My neck openings were about 32" around. Your length may vary, depending on the size of your shirt!

For the armholes, the trim is also cut from the narrow green strip. It's the same width as the neck trim. You could cut a LONG length of armhole and neck trim, and fasten it to the openings and cut to length when you need to, but you would have to control the full length!



PREPARING THE TRIM

Once you have the trim trimmed to size, iron the strips to remove wrinkles, then fold in half (good side out) and press flat. I used the steam setting on “wool” (slightly cooler than “cotton”). I pinned the strips every few inches to keep them folded. This worked out well when attaching the trim to the body of the jumper-- I removed the pin from the trim and reused it immediately to attach the trim to the jumper.



PREPARING THE TRIM

The trim for the waistband is cut from the wide green strip. The trim strip is cut 4-3/4" wide. When folded you end up with a waistband 1-7/8" wide, plus a 1/2" seam allowance. This wastes about an inch of green.

Only cut as much waistband as you need! You can get 2 strips for neck or armholes side by side from the wide green, and you may need it!



SEWING

Step 1 - Sew the front and back panels together at the shoulder seams. Place 'good' sides together, and sew. I cut my material with a 1/2" seam allowance. Many examples use 1/4", but you'll need the 1/2" because of the zig-zag stitching! I used a Sharpie and marked the base plate on the sewing machine 1/2" from the left-most needle position. This let me guide my seams without guessing how far 1/2" is!



SEWING

Step 2 - Attach the collar trim. This could be done after you sew the side seams, but doing it now gives you more opportunities to re-arrange the fabric as you sew.

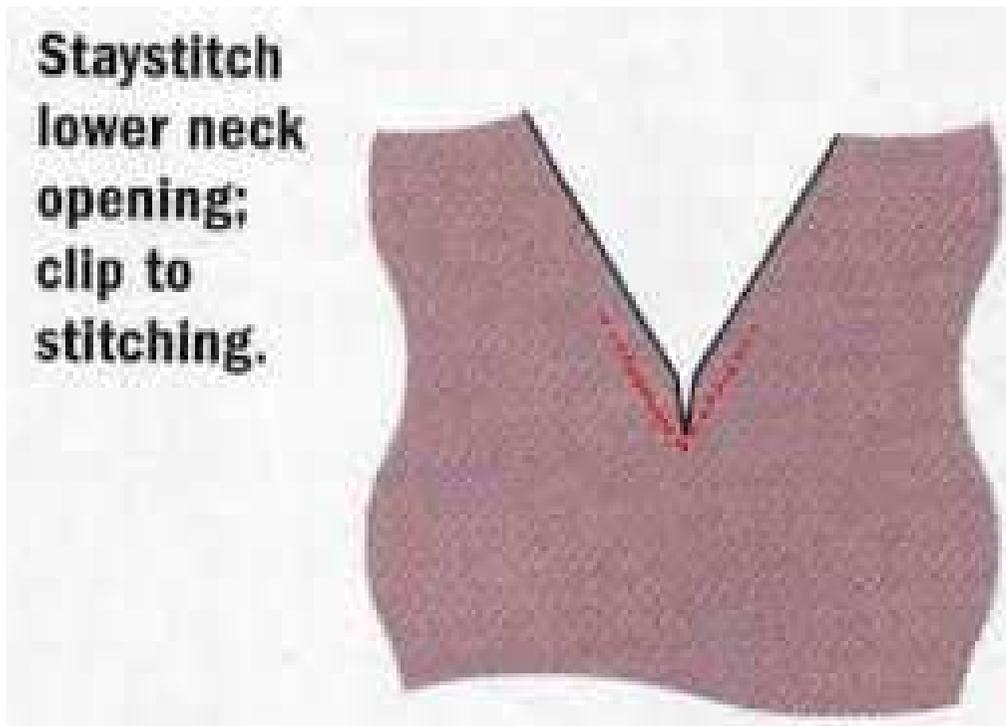
Melly's instructions for a v-neck collar 'assume' that you can get an accurate measurement of the length necessary, and that the trim will stretch in the 'around the collar' direction. In my case, the trim did not.

Melly's video has you pin and baste stitch the ends of the collar trim into their final orientation, then pin the collar into place, starting at the point of the V. While this may work for a stretchy material, in my case it did not.

SEWING – Step 2

a) Turn the shirt right-side-out.

b) You need to stay-stitch (baste) a V of stitches along the V of the collar, along the edge of the seam allowance. This should start 1 or 2" from the tip of the V, extend to the point, then back up the other side. Sew down one side, pivot on the down needle, then up the other side. These stitches will be removed later, so make them long and do not back-tack the start or stop! Do not stretch the fabric as you sew here! You want to keep the opening at the point of the collar from changing shape as you work.



c) Cut from the tip of the V to the v of the stay-stitching. If you look at the seam allowance on both sides of the V of the collar, this will let the seam allowance on each side move on its own.



The inside of the collar opening
is the 1/2" seam allowance!
It will all be sewn to the collar trim.

This is the stay (baste) stitching along
the edge of the 1/2" seam allowance.

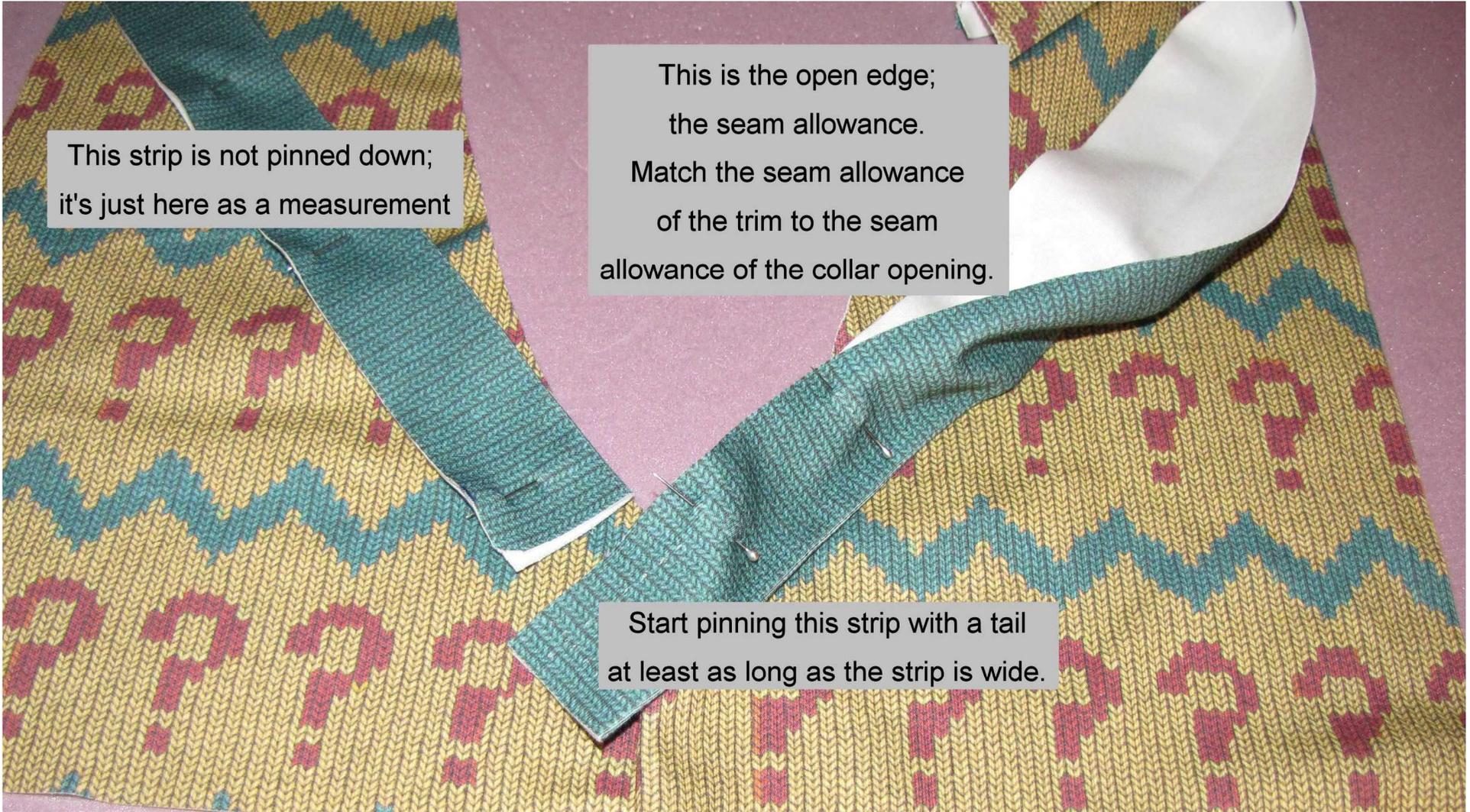
Snip from the edge of the seam
allowance to the stay stitching.

SEWING – Step 2

d) Pin the trim around the opening. Your first pin should be about 1-1/2" from the end of the trim strip (roughly = width of trim + seam allowance). Start at the V in the neckline, leaving the extra length of trim before you start pinning. You're working on the good side of the fabric, lining up the seam allowances of the trim and the collar opening. This will place the good side of the trim against the good side of the collar opening.

e) Continue pinning until you meet the starting end of the trim at the V. If you haven't trimmed the trim to length, it needs to overlap the starting end so both ends overlap each other 100%.





This strip is not pinned down;
it's just here as a measurement

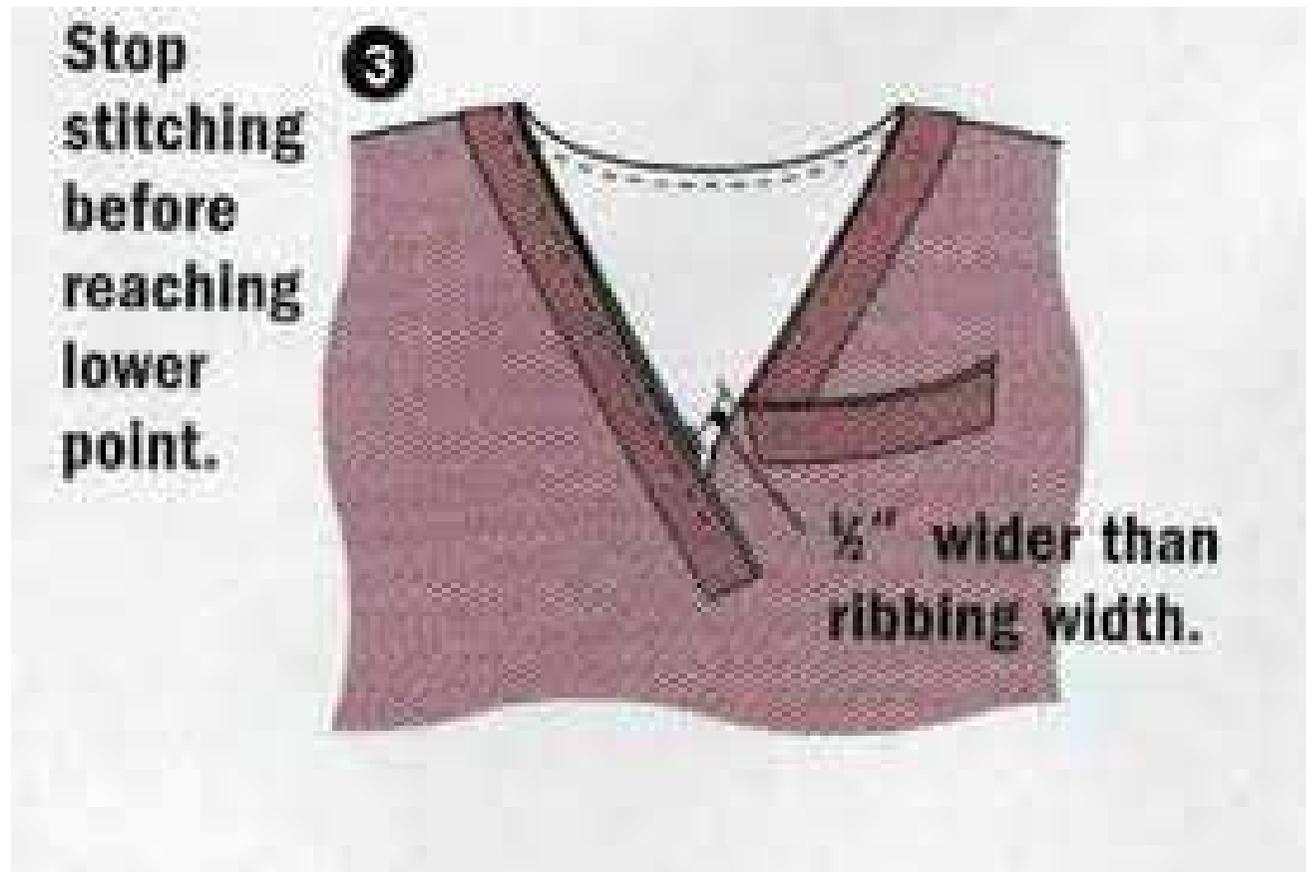
This is the open edge;
the seam allowance.
Match the seam allowance
of the trim to the seam
allowance of the collar opening.

Start pinning this strip with a tail
at least as long as the strip is wide.



SEWING – Step 2

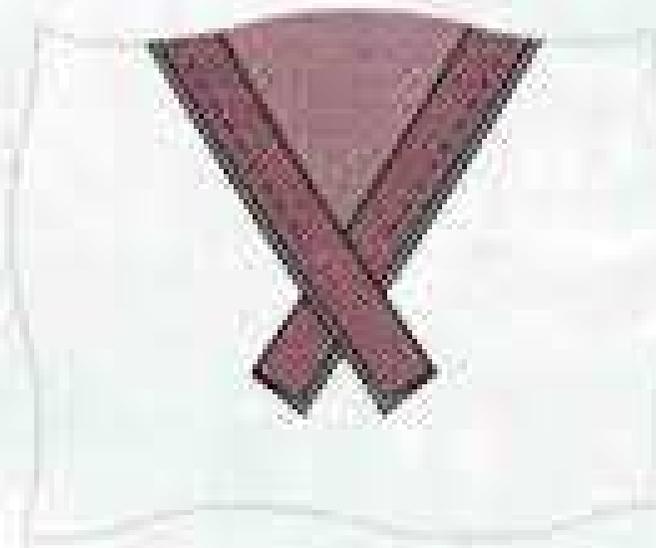
f) Sew (zig-zag or double-needle) around the collar through the seam allowance. Start on one side of the V, around the collar, returning to near the V. Stop sewing when you have about 1-1/2" to go. This is roughly equal to the width of the trim + seam allowance.





Don't sew the last bit--
at least as long as the
trim strip is wide!

Tuck ribbing in opening and pin layers together.



SEWING – Step 2

g) Remove the pins and flip the trim into position. Tuck the tails at the point of the collar into the shirt, and you should see a nicely overlapped point. This flips the seam allowance into the garment. The seam allowance from the collar folds under; the seam allowance for the trim remains flat. Iron the trim while in this position.

h) From the good side, sew (zig-zag or double-needle) along the edge of the trim, through the front of the garment into the seam allowance underneath. You can sew through the ends of the trim at this time. This holds the trim in place so it doesn't flop around, and reinforces the seam. There is also a little "pocket" at the tip of the collar that isn't sewn shut.

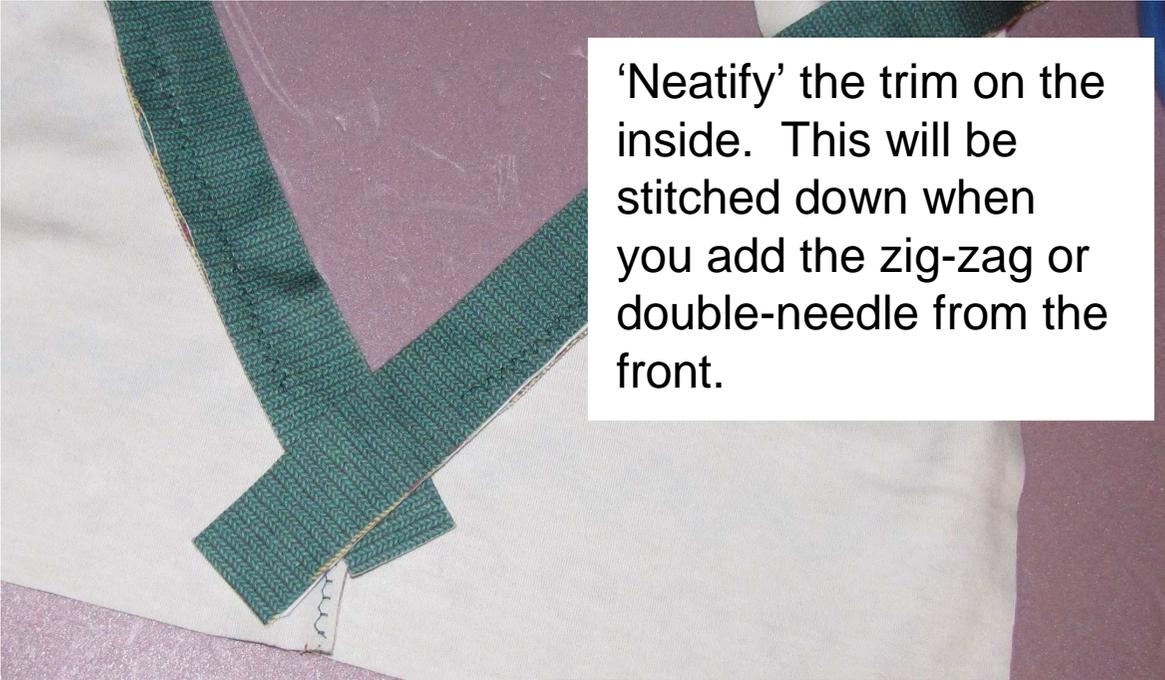
i) On the inside of the shirt, you can now snip the ends of the trim back to the overlap.



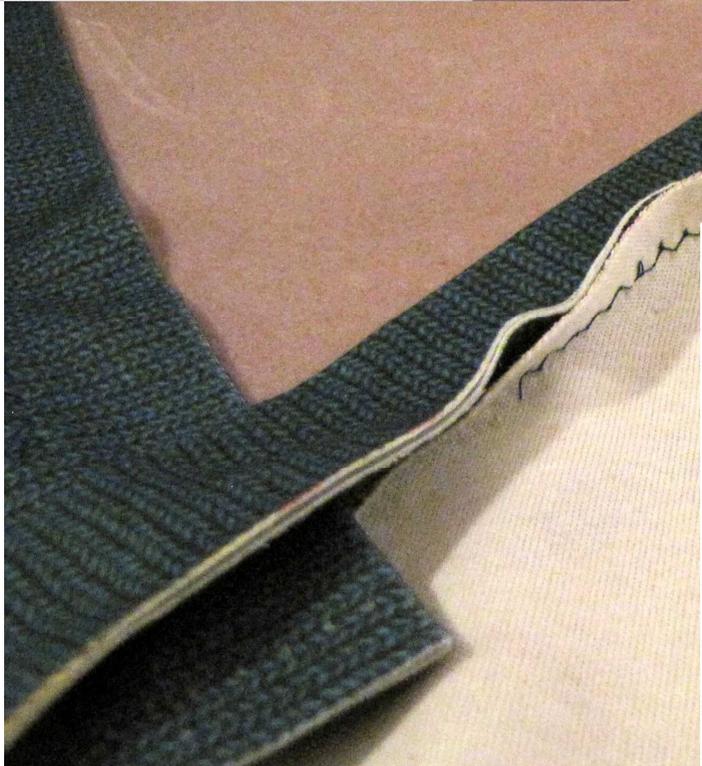
Go all the way around!
I just stopped drawing here!



Zig-zag or double-needle stitch all around the collar. This goes through the top layer and the layers of seam allowance underneath.



'Neatify' the trim on the inside. This will be stitched down when you add the zig-zag or double-needle from the front.



The white is the inside of the jumper/vest. The stitch line is at the edge of the seam allowance. The seam allowance for the jumper/vest is folded to the inside. The seam allowance for the trim lies flat.

SEWING

Step 3 - Sew the side seams. Turn the shirt inside-out. Match the sides; pin as necessary. Try to line up the pattern so the VVV more-or-less continue over the seam. This won't be perfect unless you're -very- lucky!

Step 4 - Attach the armhole trim. Fold the shirt right-side out and pin the trim like you did for the collar. Instead of an overlapped joint, I tucked one end of the folded trim inside the other, and pinned them into position. I positioned this joint at the bottom of the armhole (at the 'armpit'). This will put the overlap in a hidden spot.

When the trim had been sewed into position, I ran a line of stitches (zig-zag) from the edge of the trim to the seam line, so the ends would stay put.

Step 5 - Attach the waistband. This is just like the armhole, but with wider trim. Start and end at one of the side-seams.

Making one was such fun, I made three!



For an amateur with limited experience making complete garments, they came out nice (if I do say so myself)!