

**My Army Issue Shirt
from
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1. Per article about Federal Issue shirts from Stephen Osman in the Watchdog (and reprinted in the 3d Mississippi manual of the late 1990's)
 - a. Length of shirt 34" ; of sleeve 21" ; of collar 16" or 17 " ; of width of shirt 26" ; of sleeve 20" at top, of sleeve at cuff 10" ; and of collar 3-1/2" ; shoulder straps 9" long by 3" wide ; and of underarm gussets 5"x3".

2. Per the CRCC first edition :
 - a. Same measurements, plus : Length of sleeve slit 5" ; of slit at tails 9" ; of neck opening 12"

 - b. A Troiani shirt has 22" sleeves rather than 20"

3. Per Thoughts on Men's Shirts, #15 (finished, worn shirt)
 - a. Length
 - i. of shirt : 32" (folded) ;
 - ii. of sleeve on top : 21" ;
 - iii. of collar : not noted ;
 - iv. of under arm gussets (folded) 3-1/4" along sleeve x 3-3/8" down shirt ;
 - v. of slit down front from collar : 9-3/8" ;
 - vi. of slit down shirt : 4-3/4" ; and
 - vii. of slit at cuff : 4"

 - b. Width
 - i. of shirt : 25-1/2" (each side) ;
 - ii. of sleeve at top : 17-1/4" ;
 - iii. of sleeve at cuff : 10-5/8" ; and
 - iv. of collar : 3-1/4" ;
 - v. of shoulder straps : length not noted, but width 1-7/8" ; and
 - vi. of cuff 2-5/8".

4. Official size plus seam allowances should be :
 - a. Length
 - i. of shirt : 34" + 0.5 + 0.5 (folded) ;
 - ii. of sleeve : 21" + 1.0 + 0.5 (top and bottom) ;
 - iii. of collar : 16" or 17 " + 0.25 + 0.25 (ends) ;

 - b. Width
 - i. of shirt : 26" + 1.0 + 1.0 (each side) ;
 - ii. of sleeve : 20" at top + 1.0 ;

- iii. of sleeve at cuff : $10'' + 1.0$; and
- iv. of collar : $3\text{-}1/2'' + 1.0$;
- v. of shoulder straps : $9''$ long (don't cut until you've made the body) by $3''$ wide + $0.5 + 0.5$ (folded) ; and
- vi. of under arm gussets $5'' \times 3'' + 1.0 + 1.0$ (each side).

5. A shirt made from the Osman and CRCC dimensions has, four years later, shrunk considerably. The below instructions show the current length of the shirt, the correct length of the shirt and how much I need to add so the next shirt may be around correct size four years from now. When new, I'll swim in this shirt. However, it will have more life than my current shirt. Most seams are French fold.

a. Length

- i. of shirt is $30''$ folded / should be $34'' + 0.5 + 0.5$ folded
 - (1) Add four inches longer per side. Cut length is *now forty inches at the fold* with allowance. (Better too long a shirt than too short.)
- ii. of sleeve is $20''$ / should be $21'' + 1.0 + 0.5$ (top and bottom)
 - (1) Cut this two inches longer. Cut length is *now twenty-four and a half inches* with allowance. (Better too long a sleeve than too short.)
- iii. of collar is $16''$ / should be $16''$ or $17'' + 0.25 + 0.25$ (ends)
 - (1) My work shirt collars are $16''$. Cut this *nineteen and a half inches* with allowances as I've done much repair to make my current issue shirt collar sixteen inches long. There should be an overlap in the front of the shirt for buttoning, but there's not.
- iv. of slit down front from collar is $10''$ / should be $9\text{-}3/8$ to $12''$;
- v. of slit at tails is $6\text{-}1/2''$ / should be $4\text{-}3/4''$ to $9''$; and
- vi. of slit at cuff is $4\text{-}3/4''$ / should be $4''$ to $5''$

b. Width

- i. of shirt is $22''$ / should be $26'' + 1.0 + 1.0$ (each side) ;
 - (1) Cut this four inches wider! Cut length is *thirty-two inches* with allowance.
- ii. of sleeve at top is $16''$ ($8''$ folded) / should be $20''$ ($10''$ folded) + $1.0 + 1.0$
 - (1) Cut this two inches wider with fold or four inches without fold. Cut this *twenty-six inches - unfolded* - with allowance.
- iii. of sleeve at cuff is $9''$ ($4.5''$ folded) / should be $10''$ ($5''$ folded) + $1.0 + 1.0$
 - (1) Cut this *thirteen inches wide - unfolded* - with allowance

- iv. of collar is 3" / should be $3\text{-}1/2" + 0.5 + 1.0$
 - (1) Cut this one half inch wider. Cut length *four and a half inches*.

- c. Shoulder straps
 - i. 9" long
 - (1) Don't cut until you've made the body. Don't make individual straps. Use one long strap going across the entire top. Neck hole is cut after the solitary long strap is placed and sewn.

 - ii. by $2\text{-}1/4$ / should be 3" wide + 0.5 + 0.5 (fold)
 - (1) Cut width is *four and a half inches*.

- d. Under arm gussets $5\text{"x}3" + 1.0 + 1.0$ (each side).
 - i. Mine are almost nonexistent. Cut a square where the inside diagonal length to each corner is *seven inches (7" x 7" diagonal)*