FREE PROJECT SHEET  CAFTAN  SIZE  ONE SIZE FITS MOST (~30"h X 40"w)

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1. Fold each MAIN BODY piece in half widthwise. {fig 1} Lay BOATNECK TEMPLATE {pg 3} over top edge on center fold. {fig 2} Pin and cut away the boat-neck. Unfold.

2. Create a ¼” rolled hem at the bottom edge of both BORDER pieces. {fig 3}

3. To connect BORDER we use a French Seam [alternatively, a serger would work great]: With wrong sides together - raw edge of BORDER along bottom edge of MAIN BODY. Stitch ¼” from raw edge. Press open. Fold and press along the seam so right sides are together. Stitch ⅝” from the seamed edge. Press seam down. {fig 4}

4. We use a French Seam at the shoulders. Pin shoulders together wrong sides together and repeat French Seam steps taken in step 2, stitching from outer edges to neck edges. {fig 5}

5. Open the caftan and make a ¼” rolled hem along both sides. {fig 6}

6. Fold back along shoulder seam right sides together, align and pin at seam where border and main body meet. Measure up 13” from that point and use pin as marker. Pin between the two points stitch ⅝” from edge backtacking at both ends. Turn right side out. Press seam. {fig 7}

7. BIAS FACING: Fold strip in half, press.

8. Pin raw edge of tape to right side edge of neckline, overlapping ends ½”. Trim excess tape. Stitch ends, press open and pin. Stitch ⅝” from raw edge all the way around.

9. Press seam flat then fold the tape back on seam and pin. Topstitch a little more than ⅛” from seam, catching the tape on the inside neckline.
**BIAS TAPE:** We recommend this tutorial to cut the strips, making it 1½" and do not press into double fold bias tape:

[WWW.COLETTERIE.COM/TUTORIALS-TIPS-TRICKS/CONTINUOUS-BIAS-TAPE-TUTORIAL](http://WWW.COLETTERIE.COM/TUTORIALS-TIPS-TRICKS/CONTINUOUS-BIAS-TAPE-TUTORIAL)

**FRENCH SEAMS:** We recommend this tutorial to sew French seams:

[WWW.TILLYANDTHEBUTTONS.COM/2013/02/HOW-TO-SEW-FRENCH-SEAMS.HTML](http://WWW.TILLYANDTHEBUTTONS.COM/2013/02/HOW-TO-SEW-FRENCH-SEAMS.HTML)

**FRENCH BINDING FOR NECKLINE:** There is a great diagram on this post that shows the steps we suggest.