

**ITEM # 294****Men's Shirts, Extended Sizes, 3X-5X**

**MEN'S SHIRT KIT**  
**61<sup>ST</sup> NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION®**  
**SPOKANE, WASHINGTON**  
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The men's shirt design was sketched by the General Chairman, Don Pruitt, after the women's skirt was designed. The sketch was shared with Pat Hoot, a square dancer who is also known for their sewing abilities. From these original sketches, the final design for the men's shirt was developed. It is created from the same fabric as the women's skirt. The shirt features diagonal stripes of flat bias tape in white, black, and red beginning from the right shoulder and continuing to the left side hemline on both the front and back of the shirt. The diagonal stripe is on both the front and back of the shirt. On the right side of the diagonal stripes is red fabric and on the left side is the white fabric, including one sleeve of each color. The black bias tape stripe covers the seam that joins the two colors of fabric on the body of the shirt. The black fabric accent is also found in the collar, neck band, center front band, and sleeve cuffs.

**MEN'S EXTENDED SIZE SHIRT KIT CONTAINS:**

- 2 yards red fabric Ultima Poplin 65% polyester/35% cotton (Robert Kaufman Fabrics)
- 2 yards white fabric Ultima Poplin 65% polyester/35% cotton
- 1 ¼ yard black fabric Ultima Poplin 65% polyester/35% cotton
- 2 ½ yards single fold ½ inch black bias tape
- 2 ½ yards single fold ½ inch red bias tape
- 2 ½ yards single fold ½ inch white bias tape

**ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO KIT BY PURCHASER:**

- Snaps, in one of the colors, and that fit your snap applicator.
- Matching thread in red, black, and white
- Interfacing of choice
- Men's Shirt Pattern, we suggest Simplicity # 4975 or similar pattern by another manufacturer

**FABRIC PREPARATION:**

- Pre-treat fabric by washing the colors individually in warm/hot water and detergent. It is important to remove excess dye and sizing that is on the fabric.
- Observe the rinse water to be sure it is clear. If not, wash again.
- Bias tape needs to be soaked in hot water, towel blotted and air dried. Press folds back into the tape.

**ADAPTING THE PATTERN:**

- Most patterns are multiple sizes; trace the pieces needed in the correct size. Make two copies of the front pattern piece.
- Start with the back piece. Lay this pattern on a flat surface. Using a straight edge, mark a line beginning 4.25 inches from the right shoulder sleeve edge diagonal to opposite hemline, i.e., or 7.5 inches from the left side seam at the hemline.
  - Write on pattern pieces before cutting apart: On the left side, write "white color", left side back, pattern size. On the right side, write "red color", right side back, and pattern size.
  - Cut the pattern piece apart on the diagonal line; add ½ inch seam allowance to each side at the diagonal line before cutting out fabric.
- Next do the front body pattern. Lay the two front pieces together at center front, leaving room for the center front band, overlapping the seam allowances. Using a straight edge, mark a line beginning at 4.25 inches from the right shoulder sleeve edge (to left as looking at pattern) diagonal to opposite hemline, i.e., or 7.5 inches from the left side seam at the hemline (to right as looking at patterns).

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- Write on pattern pieces before cutting apart: Looking at top of pattern piece on the left side of the diagonal line, write "red color", right front side, and pattern size on large piece of bottom. On small piece at top, write "white color", right front side, and pattern size.
- Looking at top of pattern piece on the right side of diagonal line, write on small bottom pattern piece "red color", left side front, and pattern size. On large pattern piece write "white color", left side front, and pattern size.
- Cut the two front pattern pieces apart on the diagonal line; add ½ inch seam allowance to each side at the diagonal line before cutting out fabric.

#### LAYING THE PATTERN PIECES ON FABRIC:

- When cutting, consider the pattern pieces with writing to be the right side of garment.
- Red fabric, cut 1 each: sleeve, right side front (large piece), left side front (small piece), back piece
- White fabric, cut 1 each: sleeve, right side front (small piece), left side front (large piece), back piece, pocket is optional
- Black fabric, cut 2 each: collar, neck band, center front band, sleeve cuffs

#### STEPS IN MAKING MEN'S SHIRT:

- Follow basic pattern guide of pattern, with these adaptations.
- **Back:** Sew two sides together along diagonal seam line. Press seam. Finish edges together and press seam toward red fabric side. Using fabric pencil or lead pencil draw line 1 ½ inch on each side of seam line. The left side of the black bias tape lines up on the seam line; top stitch both sides of bias tape in place using straight stitch. The left side of the red bias tape lines up on the drawn line on the white side of the shirt, top stitching both sides in place. The left side of the white bias tape on the drawn line on the red side of the shirt, top stitching both sides in place.
- **Front right side:** Sew the two sides together along the diagonal seam line. Press seam. Finish edges together and press seam toward the red side. Using fabric pencil or lead pencil draw line 1 ½ inch on each side of seam line. The left side of the black bias tape lines up on the seam line; top stitch both sides of bias tape in place using straight stitch.
- **Front left side:** Sew the two sides together along the diagonal seam line. Press seam. Finish edges together and press seam toward the red side. Using fabric pencil or lead pencil draw line 1 ½ inch on each side of seam line. Using a flat surface, lay the two front pieces together, leaving appropriate space for the center front band but overlapping seam allowances. Be sure the diagonal seam line is continuous. When certain line up the black bias tape and top stitch each edge in place (this may not be exactly on the seam line). Now draw the lines 1 ½ inch from the left side of the black bias tape on both the red and white left shirt front.
- **White Bias stripe on Shirt Front:** Line up the white stripe on the right side, top stitching on both sides. Take care to create a continuous line at the center front band spacing. This is a good time to add the pocket (optional) to the left shirt front, since you are using white thread.
- **Red Bias stripe on Shirt Front:** The left side of the red bias tape lines up on the drawn line on the white side of the shirt, top stitching both sides in place. Follow the same process as before with the white bias tape. Then apply the black center front band to both sides. Be careful to keep these stripes matched when applying the neck band and collar, doing the hem, and applying the snaps.
- **Sleeves:** Match the sleeves together, then be sure that you have the placed the correct side of the "red sleeve" on the right side of the shirt and the "white sleeve" on the left side of the shirt. The cuff opening should be toward the back of the shirt.

These instructions developed by Colleen Sawyer & Janet Bellcoff. Either one may be contacted through the 61<sup>st</sup> NSDC website: [www.61nsdc.com](http://www.61nsdc.com)

More detailed instructions, with variations of the original shirt, are available at: [www.squaredancesewing.com](http://www.squaredancesewing.com) under "2012 Men's Shirt".