

Patterns for *Hakama* (*Yoroi hitatare*)

This reproduces the "three-panel" hakama that was common daywear in Momoyama Japan, and is a useful size for hakama to wear under armour. In a true three-panel hakama, each leg is made of three widths of cloth (c. 15" once seams are allowed for), so I've provided a measurement of 45" for the width/diameter of each leg.

Two panels make up the front, the third is the back. The height is waist-to-ankle.

First fold over the outside openings (what I call the "doorknob catchers"), and sew them down after turning under the edges to the inside of the leg. Then turn each leg inside out and sew into a tube.

Sew the gusset into the crotch (just short of your knee in depth), matching A/B, then sew the two legs together along the gusset/inseam. Turn rightsideout.

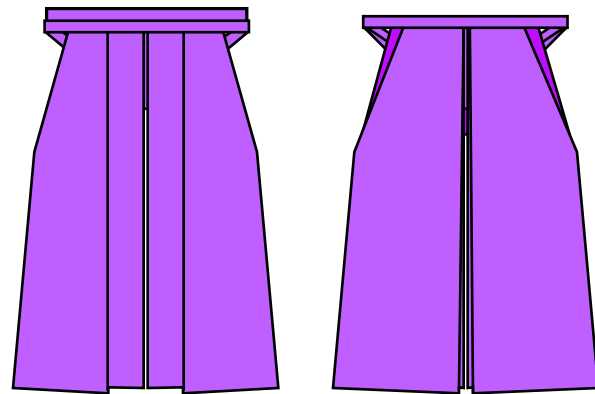
Cut strips (or piece together) for ties. These should be 6" wide (folded over twice to form bias-tape-like tube, and iron flat. The front tie should be of a length to encircle your waist three times and have enough to tie closed at the back. The back tie should be long enough to come around to the front and tie.

Cut the front down about an inch shorter than the back. For wearing with a yoroi hitatare, turn the hem up and run a cord through the hem seam, with the ends of the cord emerging on the inside ankle and tied off.

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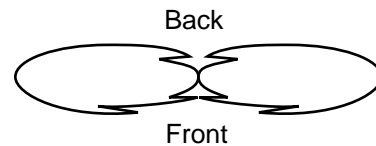
Fold according to the diagram below; the side seam should remain on the exact outside when finished. Not that the legs don't actually overlap, unlike modern martial arts hakama. Press the folds in place, and apply the waist ties, sewing them securely down.

You're finished.



Front

Back



View of the folds in the hakama.

