

# KarateGi Trousers



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design

# About the pattern

A Karate Gi is the uniform used for training and competing in Karate. The origin of the garments are Japanese working clothes. It was first developed for Judo and later adopted by Karate to the uniform we have today. There are three main cuts, Kata, Japanese and European, all still close to the original workwear from rural Japan. This pattern is a sportswear garment used by both men and women. It's an easy pattern to sew and suitable for beginners.

The printed pattern makes crotch piece, leg triangle, side vent and drawstring loop pieces. The leg rectangle and drawstring piece are drawn directly on the fabric according to instructions. This can be a minimal waist project.

References: [martialartsguy.com](http://martialartsguy.com)  
[wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org)

## Fabric and Supplies

The KarateGi Trousers can be made in many materials but preferable natural fibre with a bit of body. The original is made in tightly woven cotton canvas. Chambray, thin denim, twills and other cottons works fine.

On 140-150 cm width you will need the length of your leg piece + ca **30 cm/12 in** if your leg piece is very wide, don't forget to add for shrinking.

You also need grosgrain ribbon for drawstring if you're not making it yourself. In that case make **3 cm/1 1/8 in** wide strips out of leftover fabric to wanted length. Check your waist measurement before buying or cutting. The drawstring goes 2 times around the waist + enough length to tie with. Better longer than shorter.

For this sewing project you also need a sewing machine, pins, scissors, measuring tape, tailors chalk, tread and a steam iron.



# Pattern making

Take measurements for the leg according to illustration below. This will help you draw the pieces directly on to the fabric. Add seam allowance.



## Measurements for leg piece

### Length of front/back seam.

From top of trousers to crotch.  
+4 cm / 1 5/8 in for drawstring  
channels.

### Width of leg piece.

Largest circumference of thigh.  
+5-10 cm / 2-4 in ease.

### Length of leg piece.

+4 cm / 1 5/8 in for drawstring  
channels.  
+5 cm / 2 in for hemming.

## Measurements

Width of leg piece

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Length of leg piece

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Length of front/back seam

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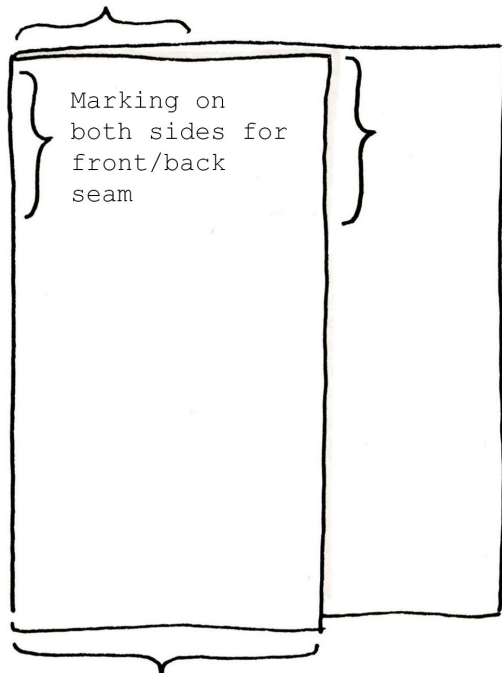
# Cutting Instructions

Fold fabric the width of one leg piece and make all shown markings. The crotch piece, leg triangles, drawstring loops and side vent bias binding are placed out and marked onto the leftover fabric. Don't forget that the side vent bias binding is cut 45° to fabrics grain. The placement differs since the width and length of the leg rectangle varies and we want to use the fabric as effective as possible. The drawstring can be made from one or more strips of fabric. Mark all pieces before cutting.

Start by cutting along the fold, edge of fabric and markings for the leg piece. Then cut all other pieces.

Wide fabrics

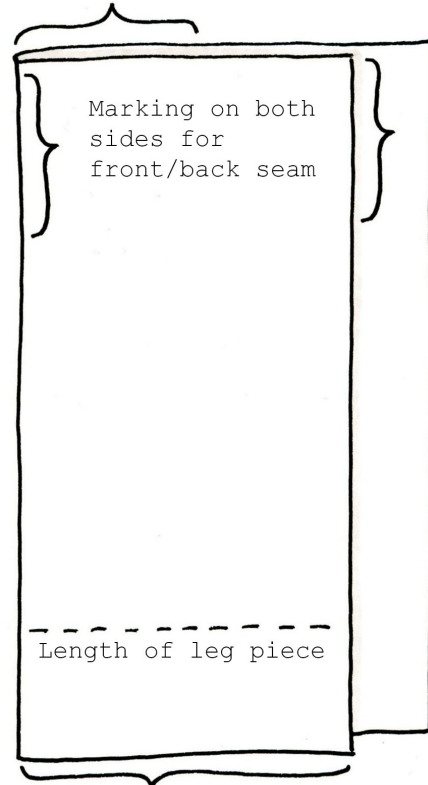
1/2 of leg width



Width of leg piece

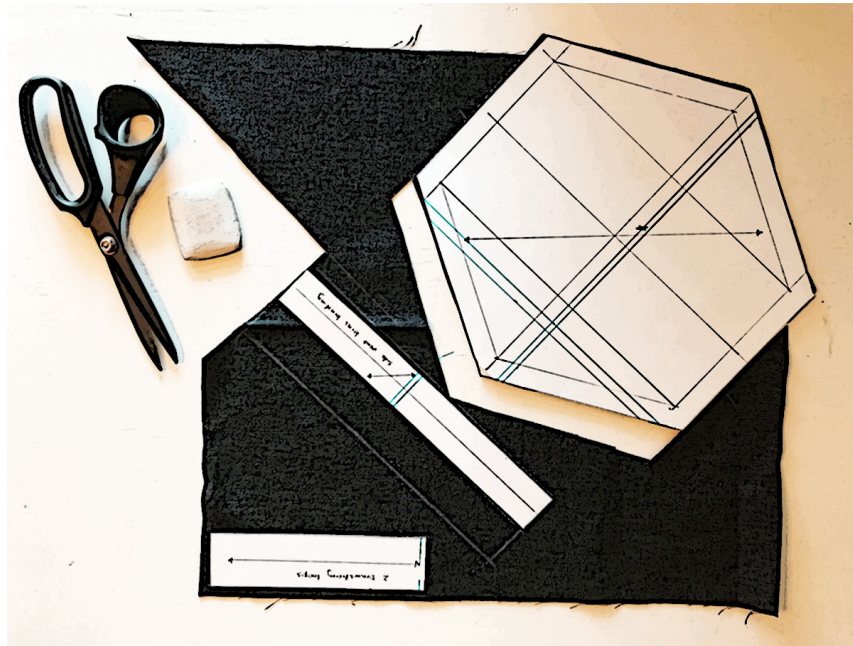
Narrow fabrics

1/2 of leg width



Width of leg piece

# Prework after cutting



**You should now have:**

2 Leg pieces

1 Crotch piece

2 Leg triangles

1 Drawstring loop piece

2 Side vent bias bindings

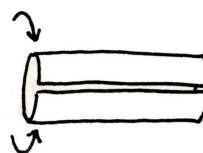
Drawstring strip or strips

The first thing to do is to sew together the drawstring strips if you have chosen that option.

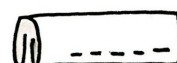
Drawstring loops, side vent bias binding and drawstring strip is then folded and pressed as bias strip with edges together.

Fold belt loops and drawstring once more, press and sew along edge. Leave the side vent bias binding as it is.

1 Fold and press



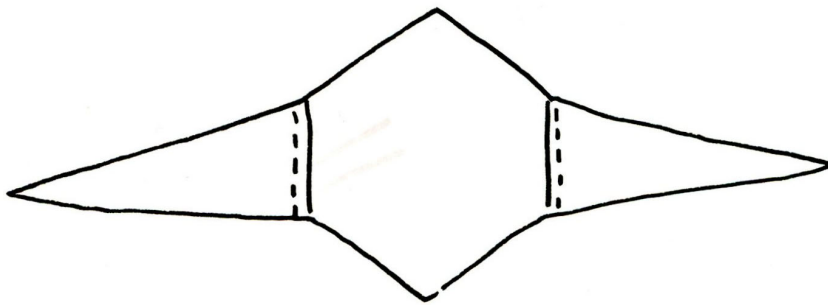
2 Fold and sew along edge



# Sewing Instruction



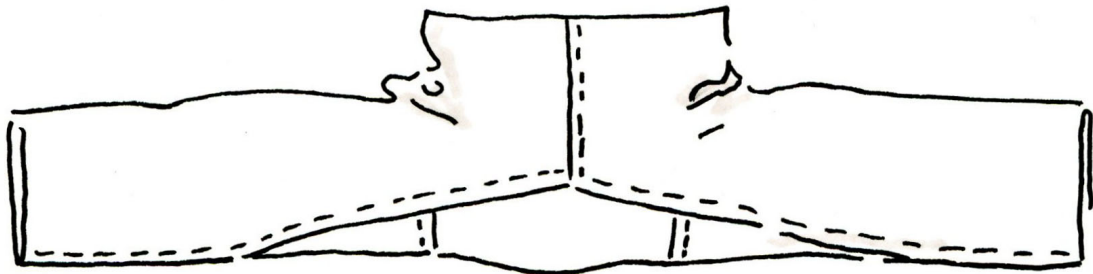
**1.** Assembly the crotch piece and leg triangles. The 12 cm sides should go together, right sides facing. Sew and then serge or zigzag the seam allowance, press towards triangles and topstitch.



**2.** Lay leg pieces with front sides facing and sew **one** of the front/back seam together.

**3.** Pin the sewn crotch/triangles to the legs right sides together on one side. Sew one leg at the time starting from the leg triangle to point of front/back seam. Trim corners. Serge or zigzag seams, press toward legs and topstitch.

**4.** Sew the other front/back seam. Pin the whole length of the leg and crotch/triangles to point of front/back seam. Sew one leg at the time, serge or zigzag seam allowance, press towards leg and topstitch all along the inside seams of the legs.



**5.** Lay the top part of trousers with front/back seams exactly on top of each other, right side out. Pin to secure. Mark 12 cm down in the sides and cut for side vents, be careful! Mark 10 cm from front/back side 5 cm from top of trousers. This is the drawstring loop placement.

**6.** Sew side vent bias binding to the side vent. Fold over covering the raw edge and stitch to place.

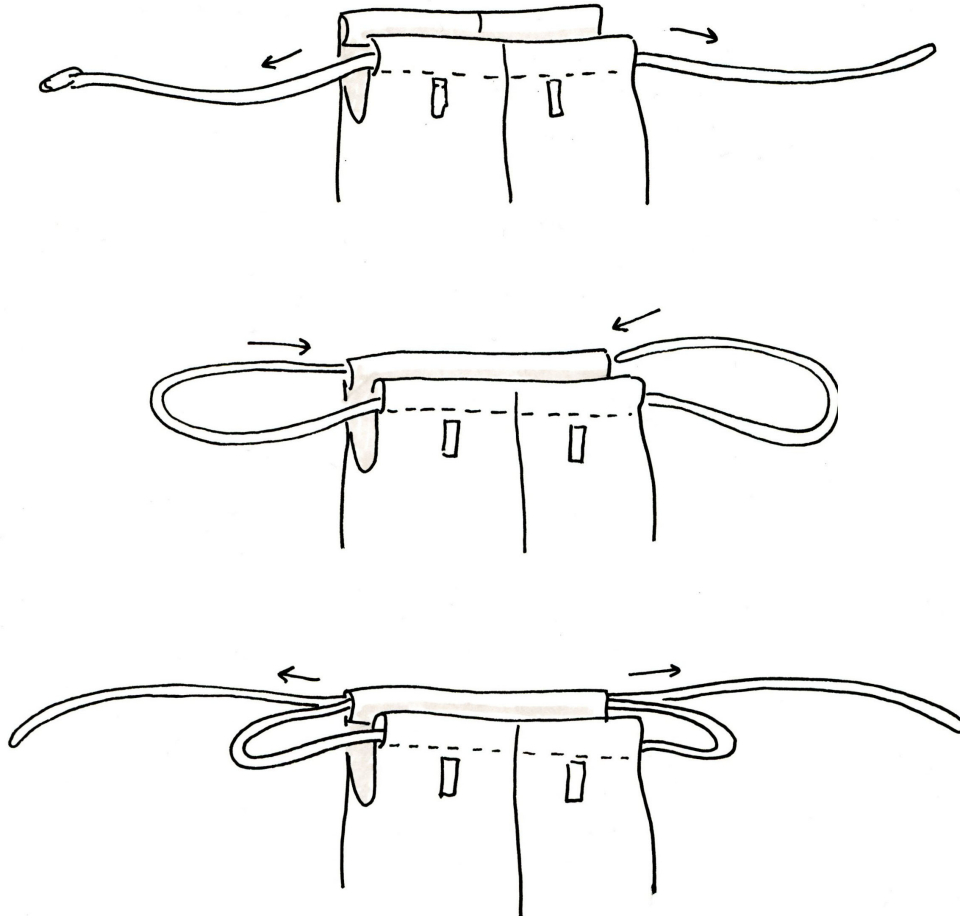
**7.** Cut the drawstring loop strip in two. Press 1 cm down and then 3 cm towards wrong side of front/back waist creating the drawstring channel. Sew along the edge on both sides of trousers. Sew belt loops as marked. This is now the front side of the trousers.

**8.** Finish the leg by pressing the hems first 1 cm then 3 cm towards the wrong side of trousers. Sew along edges and then sew one or two seams more as reinforcement.

Now the sewing is done!



# The drawstring



1. Set a safety pin to one end of the drawstring and draw it through the front channel of the trousers. Have an equal amount of drawstring on each side.
2. Draw ends of drawstring through the back channel going by each other inside the channel and out on the other side.
3. Put on trousers, draw the end of the drawstring through the loops and tie. Arrange the folds around your waist to fit your need for movability.

You made it, congratulations!