



HOW TO

HEM TROUSERS

Learn how to shorten and hem a pair of trousers with a sewing machine.

BY MIRRY MAKER

SUPPLIES

Here's what you'll need...

- Trousers to be hemmed
- Measuring tape / Seam guide
- Fabric chalk or a washable fabric marker
- Scissors / Rotary cutter and cutting mat
- Pins or sewing clips
- Iron
- Sewing machine

STEP 1

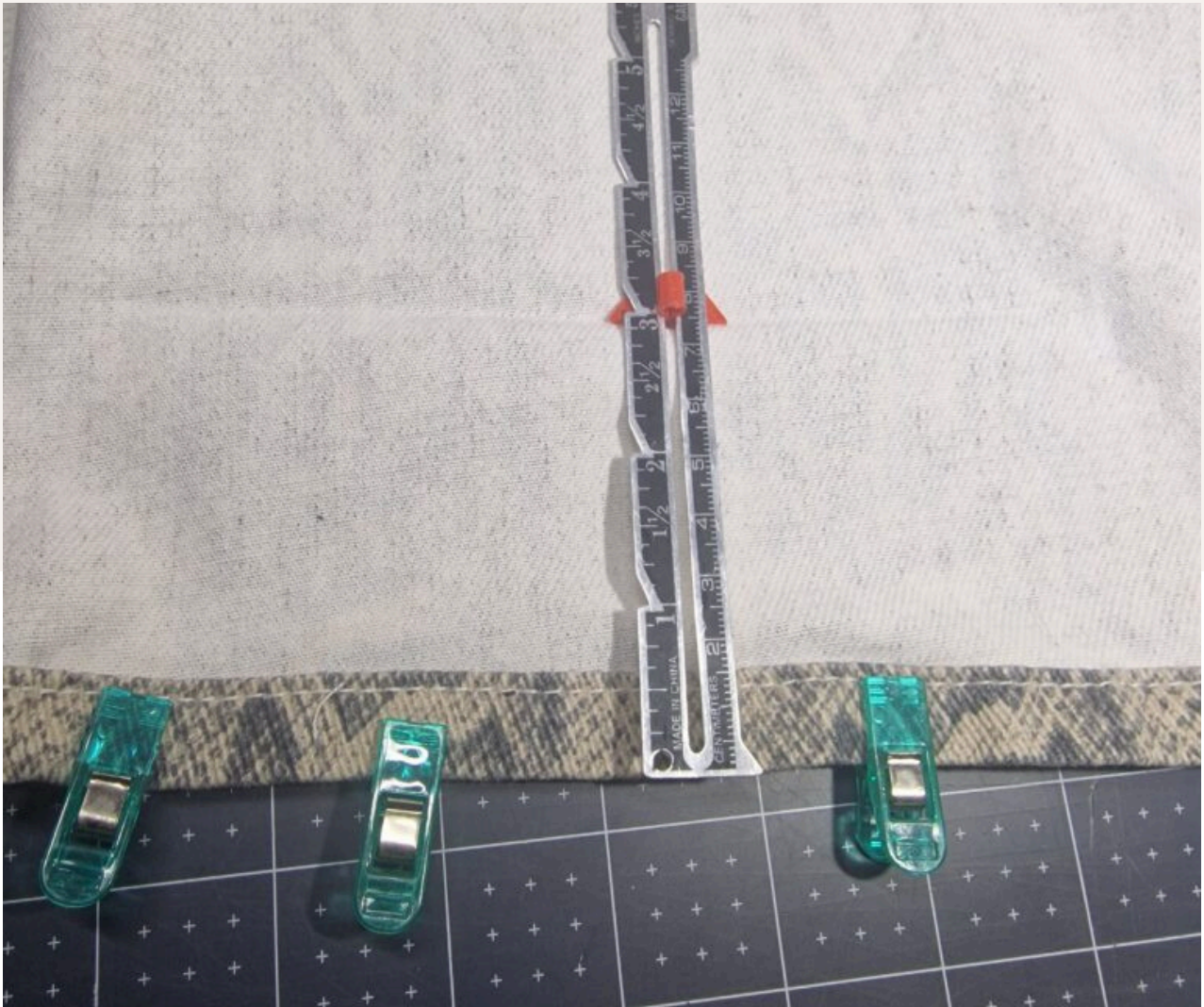
Determine the New Hem Length



- 01** Before cutting, decide how much you need to shorten the trousers. Turn them inside out, put them on and fold up the hem to your desired length. Remember to try them on with shoes so you can make sure they'll look right once cut. Use an iron to press a crease at the fold – this will serve as a guide for your new hem. If you are doing this for someone else, you could get them to complete this step before giving you their trousers for alteration.

STEP 2

Measure and Mark



02 Using a seam guide or a measuring tape, measure from the fold mark down to the original hem. Be sure to check that this measurement is consistent around the leg. Mark this line with fabric chalk or fabric marker.

STEP 3

Add Seam Allowance

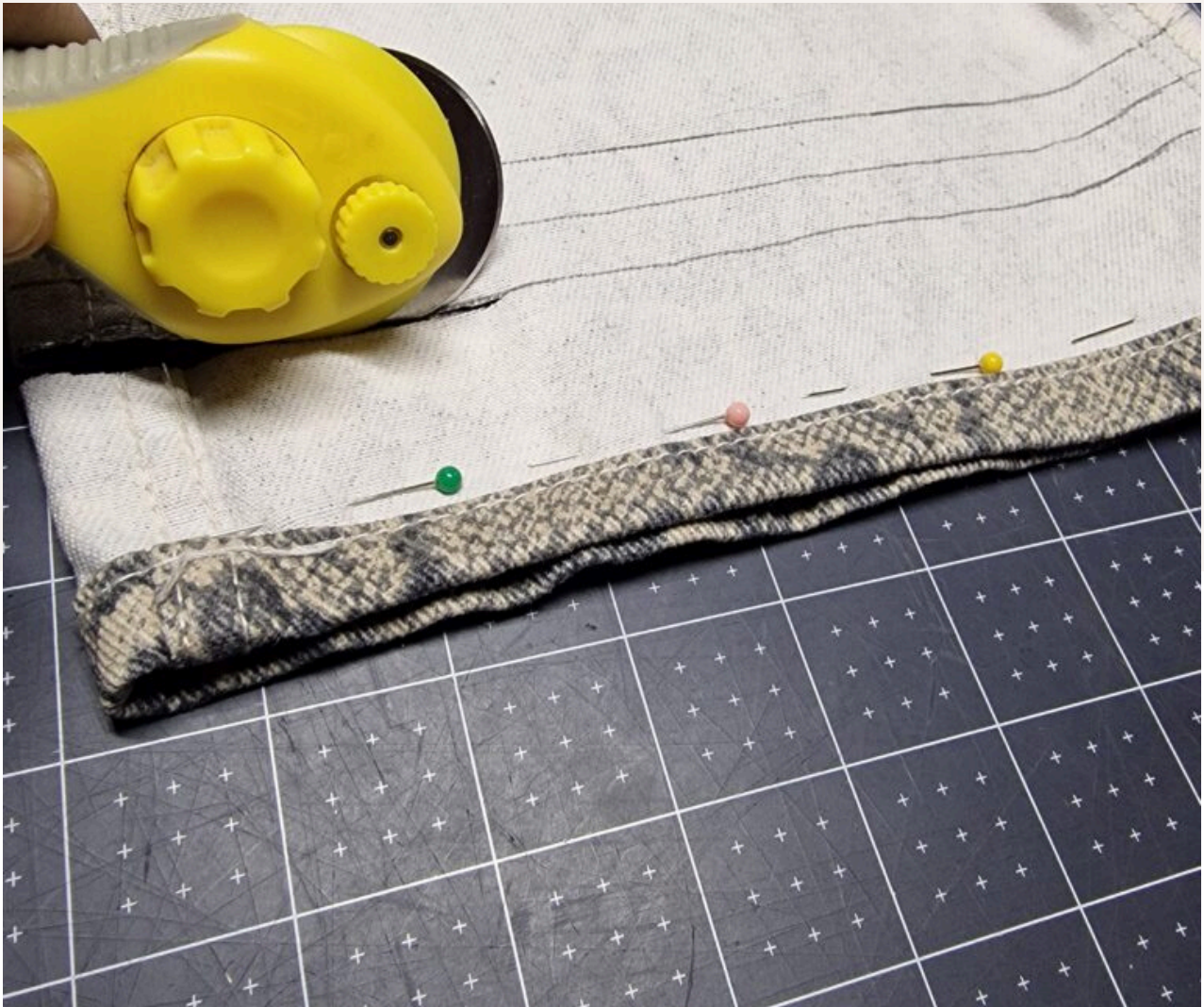


03 To create a neat and durable hem, we will use a double fold but first, we need to add the seam allowance. To do this we need to mark two additional lines below the fold mark:

- The first line should be 1/2 inch below the fold mark.
- The second line should be another 1/2 inch below the first. This extra fabric allows us to create a clean double-fold hem.

STEP 4

Cut the Excess Fabric



04 Cut along the lowest marked line. Try to keep the cut even and smooth.

STEP 5

Fold and Press



05 We'll create the double-fold hem by folding and pressing the raw edges up and using the lines we created as a guide.

- Fold the raw edge up by 1/2 inch and press with an iron.
- Fold it up another 1/2 inch and press again.
- Pin or clip the folded edge in place to prevent shifting while sewing.

STEP 6

Sew the Hem



06 Using a sewing machine, stitch close to the inner folded edge, maintaining a 1/2-inch seam allowance. Take your time to ensure your stitches are even for a professional finish.

STEP 7

Press the Finished Hem



07 Once the hem is sewn, give it a final press with the iron to set the stitches and remove any creases. Enjoy your newly hemmed trousers.

Mirry Maker 
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