



How to Lengthen Dress Pants

Add a few inches to your dress pants by sewing in bias tape.

Written By: CASSANDRA ROBBINS



INTRODUCTION

This fix can be done without a sewing machine and instead be hand-sewn, however a sewing machine is recommended. The estimated time for this project is half an hour to 45 minutes. Allow extra time for seam ripping.

TOOLS:

- A pair of pants (1)

- Thread (1)

- Single fold bias tape (1)

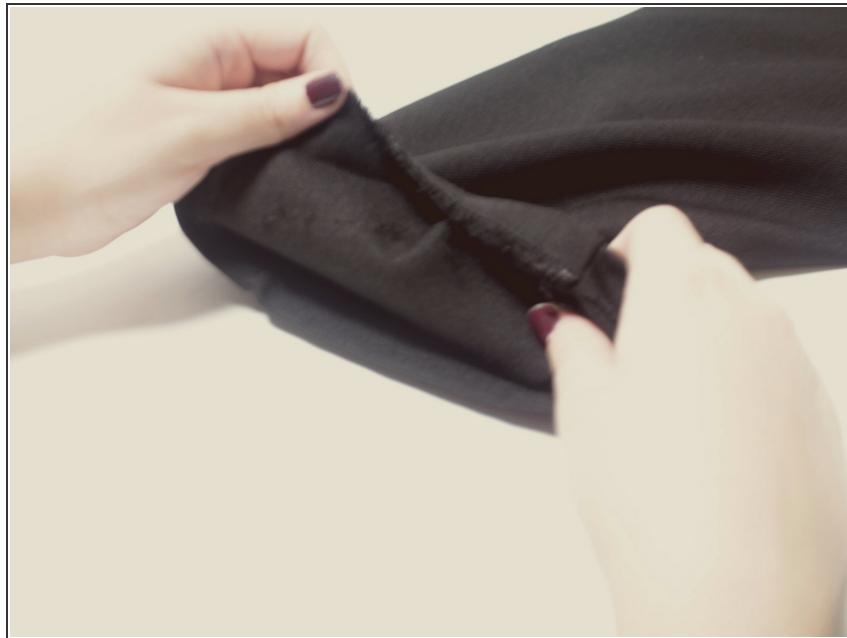
The thread and the bias tape should match the color of the pants.

- Fabric Scissors (1)

- Seam Ripper (1)

- Ruler (1)

Step 1 — How to Lengthen Dress Pants



- Start by **carefully** ripping the seam of the pants with a seam ripper. Make sure not to leave holes in the fabric or it will show in the finished product.

Step 2



- Next, iron the crease left previously by the seam.

i Some fabrics cannot take high heat. Consult the tag of the garment for ironing instructions. Consider placing layers of fabric between the iron and garment to reduce heat.

Step 3



- Try on the pants. Have a partner pin the pants to the desired length.
- If you do not have someone to help, measure the inseam of the pants and pin to the desired length.

Step 4



- Measure the width of the pant leg, double that measurement, and add 1.5 inches for seam allowance. Cut the bias tape to match this width.

Step 5



- Sew the bottom of the pant to the edge of the bias tape.

⚠ Make sure to remove pins while sewing as you move the work closer to the needle to avoid damaging the machine.

Step 6



- Fold the bias tape underneath (about $3/4$ " -1") and iron flat. Make sure that the bias tape is not visible. Pin the two layers together.

Step 7



- Sew the new seam of the pants.
- *i* If sewing with a machine, consult the machine's manual on how to do a blind stitch. If sewing by hand, use a tacking stitch. Make sure to only sew the two layers of fabric and not the entire pant-- this will cause the leg of your pants to not have an opening.

Step 8



- Repeat steps 1-7 for the other pant leg and iron flat.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.