

Sew Darling Mini Mocs Pattern

Supplies List

Sewing machine needle for leather if applicable
Ball point sewing machine needle if applicable
Thread
Leather, fleece, felted wool or other non-fraying fabric
¼ inch knit elastic
Scissors
Craft knife *optional*
Small safety pin
Printer and paper

Good to Know

Because there are so many different ways to sew this shoe, there is no way for me to tell you how much fabric to purchase for each kind of shoe. However, to get you started with a shoe made using our basic directions, 1/3 (1/4 of a yard for smallest three sizes) of a yard will produce about two pair of shoes if you get a 60 inch wide fabric. Fold it in half lengthwise so you can cut two pieces at a time for the toe and soles and cut the heel piece on a fold. If you use 45 inch wide fabric, you will need about an additional 6 inches. Some specialty fabrics, such as suede, can be sold in fat quarters or other dimensions. Plan ahead before you fabric shop and calculate how many pieces you need to cut from each fabric you choose. Take your pattern pieces along and lay them out if the pieces are irregular to be certain you get enough yardage in each fabric needed. This is especially important if you are using different fabrics. For example, if you use a heavy leather for one sole layer but wool for the toe and heel, you will need to calculate how much of each fabric you need based on those pieces you will cut. If you are using scraps from your fabric closet, be careful to make sure you can get enough pieces from each fabric you plan to use. Hint- the inside sole doesn't show, so if you need to substitute an alternative fabric to complete a shoe, this is the piece to substitute.

Depending on what fabric you use, you can make a wide variety of coverings for little feet with this pattern. It is important to choose a fabric that will not fray since seams are not finished. If you do use a special fabric, perhaps to match a special outfit, that might fray, take care to hand-wash gently. For mocs, suede is an excellent choice. An abundant and inexpensive source is your local thrift shop. Aim for larger items like jackets and long skirts if you are going to recycle some suede clothing. Try to find medium weight leather if possible. Very thin leather tends to tear too easily with wear and very thick or heavy leather might be too much for most home sewing machines. Most every-day suede clothing is made from a suitable weight for Mini Mocs. If you plan to make cozy slippers or booties, fleece (we like microfleece around here) is excellent. You can use suede as the bottom sole piece to give the shoe more grip if you like. Felt or felted wool fabrics such as wool flannel or wool interlock are also good choices. Be sure the wool is well felted so you don't end up with slippers that are too small once you wash them. Be creative and have fun with your fabric choices.

Because most leather isn't meant to be machine washed, you have a good chance of bleeding dyes. So, be mindful of that if you combine different colors. If you have a tan toe section and a red heel section, the red might bleed dye onto the toe section during washing. The same is true of some dyed wool. Keep this in mind if you do appliqué work with leather scraps as well.

If you use leather, you will need a special needle for your sewing machine specifically for sewing leather. A heavier thread, such as jean-stitch is also helpful. Use a long stitch length to put as few holes as possible in the leather and consider reducing the tension of the stitches by just a little so the thread doesn't put unneeded tension on the needle holes. Most other fabrics can be sewn with a ball-point needle and regular sewing thread.

If you want to spruce up the moccasins with some embroidery or appliqué but you aren't lucky enough to own an embroidery machine and appliqué work just isn't for you, you'll find a beautiful selection of iron-on

appliqué/patches at your local craft store. Sewing on strips of ribbon can also be fun. Try sewing a pretty piece of ribbon over the section that will become your elastic casing. A little creativity can go a LONG way. A little pink satin over that microfleece can make some gorgeous ballet slippers for your little ballerina! To make traditional fringe on the mocs, cut the heel piece higher and then snip every quarter of an inch. You can even add some pretty bead fringe that is available in most sewing sections/craft stores by stitching the ribbon band into the elastic casing stitches. Just be sure to only hand-wash and air dry to protect your handiwork.

If your family doesn't use leather but you still want somewhat of a sturdy sole on your mocs, pleather can get the job done pretty well too. It's not quite as tough as leather, but will work as an alternative.

The sizing is given for averages only. But, if you have those little tootsies handy, check to see you are using the correct size by placing baby's foot on the pattern you intend to use. The pattern is written for a ¼ inch seam allowance. Be sure to take that into account when you line the foot up. For narrower feet, trim a little off the sides of the sole and sides of the toe pattern piece (it doesn't take much so trim sparingly!). For wider feet, add a little to the sole pattern. If you tend to need more working room than ¼ inch, consider sizing up to the next size to give yourself more seam allowance to work with.

A shoestring, drawstring and toggle, or ribbon can be used in place of the elastic and brought through the front of the toe section for tying. If you use a ribbon or shoestring that will easily be pulled out of the casing, use a straight stitch vertically through the casing at the back of the ankle to hold it into place.

Consider making your first pair with scrap fleece or an fleece baby blanket that needs new life. Fleece is a easier than suede to work with and very forgiving if you have mistakes that need corrected not to mention more readily available and very often less expensive.

The pattern calls for you to sew the toe and heel onto the sole in four sections of stitching. This is the easiest way to get good results right away although more time consuming. When you are comfortable sewing these mocs or if you are a proficient seamstress, you can sew both the toe and the heel piece on in a single line of stitches. If you are working with a fabric that can be pinned it is much easier. Pin toe and heel sections onto the sole section all the way around and sew in one line of stitching. This is harder to do with leather since you can't pin leather, or at least not easily so sewing in four sections will give the best results.

It is easy for some layers to not get caught in the stitching. Sew slowly and carefully to be sure all layers are well secured in the stitches. Sizing up and using a 3/8 inch seam allowance can give you much more control if you are having trouble with some edges evading the ¼ inch seam allowance.

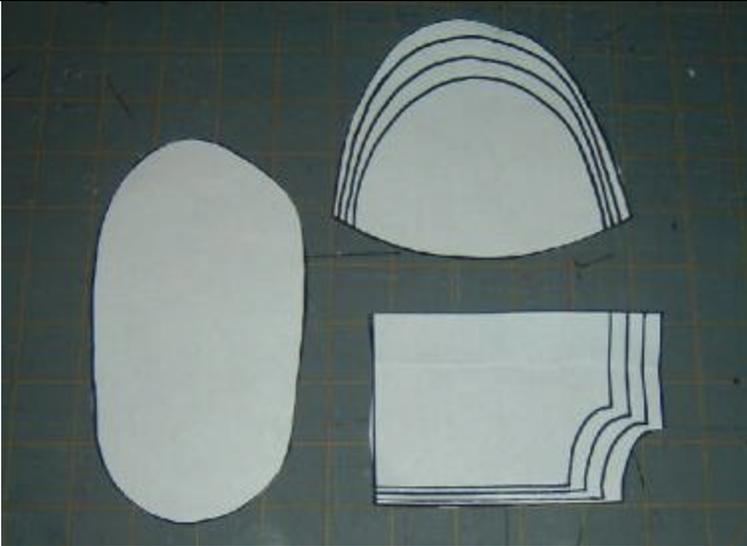
To prevent layers, like the two sole layers from shifting while you sew, you can use stick glue or spray adhesive between the layers.

When all your stitching is finished, you'll probably want to clean up the seam allowance to make it look nice even though it's on the inside of the shoe. When you do this, be VERY careful that you don't snip too close to your stitches or they might not have enough seam allowance left to be strong enough for a shoe's life. Clean up the seam allowance sparingly and only snip off pieces that might be uncomfortable to little feet.

To give a sole more support and a foot more protection, a heavy iron-on stabilizer between the sole layers can be used.

This pattern is basic, but the possibilities are endless. Join our yahoo group MINIMOCS to ask questions, share ideas, and show off your handy-work!

Basic Directions



Print Pages 9 (for size 0-6M, 6-12M and 12-18M) **10** (for size 18-24M, 2years and 4 years), **11, and 12**
Cut out the size needed.

Sizing smallest to largest is

0-6M

6-12M

12-18M

18-24M

2years

4 years

The heel piece needs to be printed twice to get a full pattern. Or, place on the fold of the fabric.

Cut fabric pieces for each shoe

Heel - 1 piece per shoe or 2 pieces if shoe is to be lined.

Toe - 2 pieces per shoe

Sole - 2 Pieces per shoe

If you are using very heavy leather for this project, consider using only one piece for the sole and for the toe. For most suede, microfleece, fleece, and wool fabrics, 2 layers are recommended.

Remember to cut one layer of inner and one layer of outer fabric if you plan to line shoe in a different fabric.

If the shoe will have hidden elastic (such as in our example), cut two small slits in the **inner** layer of the toe piece as marked on the pattern. If the shoe will have a toggle and drawstring, or shoestring/ribbon to be tied, cut the slits through **both** toe layers at the same time. A razor blade or craft knife is helpful, but not necessary.

I am using two layers for the sole of each shoe. Simply **place wrong sides of sole pieces together then use this as one piece through the pattern.** It is not necessary to use two layers if the fabric is thick enough alone to serve as the sole. Otherwise, I prefer two layers to provide stability to aid in getting the shoe on the foot.





Put right sides of toe pieces together and stitch along the curve that will go near the ankle. Turn the two layers right side out and topstitch over the seam you just made.



Fold top section of heel piece so as to create a casing for the elastic and straight stitch using a long stitch length.

Because the wrong side of microfleece isn't as pretty, I chose to fold this section inward (wrong sides facing). If you are using suede that is the same on both sides, this section can also be folded outward if you like.



Find the center point of the toe piece and line it up with the top center of the sole piece with **RIGHT** sides together. **Stitch the toe piece to the sole piece** from center point to top edge of toe piece. Then, turn shoe over and do the same for the other side of the toe piece. Stitching from center to side for each side helps ensure that the toe piece is positioned properly and gives the layers less chance to shift.



With **right** sides facing, line up the center of the heel piece and the end center of the sole piece as you did with the toe piece above. **Stitch the heel piece to the toe piece** from center to side for each side. The heel piece should overlap the toe piece evenly on both sides.



Using a safety pin, **thread elastic through the casing and through the slits made in the toe piece**. Pull elastic to desired snugness/gather. **Stitch ends of elastic together securely.**

The best way to make sure shoes have the same amount of elastic in each casing is to measure how long your string of elastic is before you thread it through the casing. Then, measure it again after you work elastic for the first shoe. The difference is how much elastic to use in the second shoe.

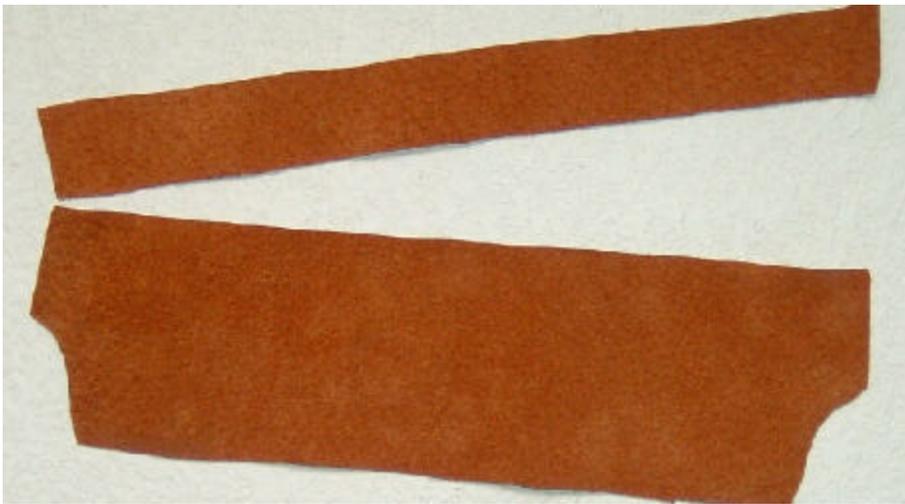


Trim all seams evenly around.
Turn shoe right side out and you have completed a Sew Darling Mini Moc!



Directions for Different Elastic Casings

Sometimes folding the top edge of the heel piece in or out won't create the desired effect. Here are a couple of examples of different ways to sew the casing.



If you are using a fabric that could create a rough edge if folded inward but folding it outward will not be aesthetically pleasing, **cut off the top section at the point you would normally fold**. A straight edge and rotary come in handy to get clean cuts.

Lay the cut piece onto the remaining piece lining up the top edges with right side facing up on both pieces. Stitch very near the top edge and very near the lower edge of the strip you cut. This will create a pretty casing.



Remember to secure your stitching with backstitches at the beginning and ending of every line of stitches since these points will get stressed over time.

This method can also be used if you want to create the casing strip a different color than the heel piece.



If you plan to line the shoe, such as a suede shoe lined in microfleece, you will need to **decide if you want the lining to be only on the inside or if you would prefer that it be on the outside of the elastic casing to create a coordinating cuff.**



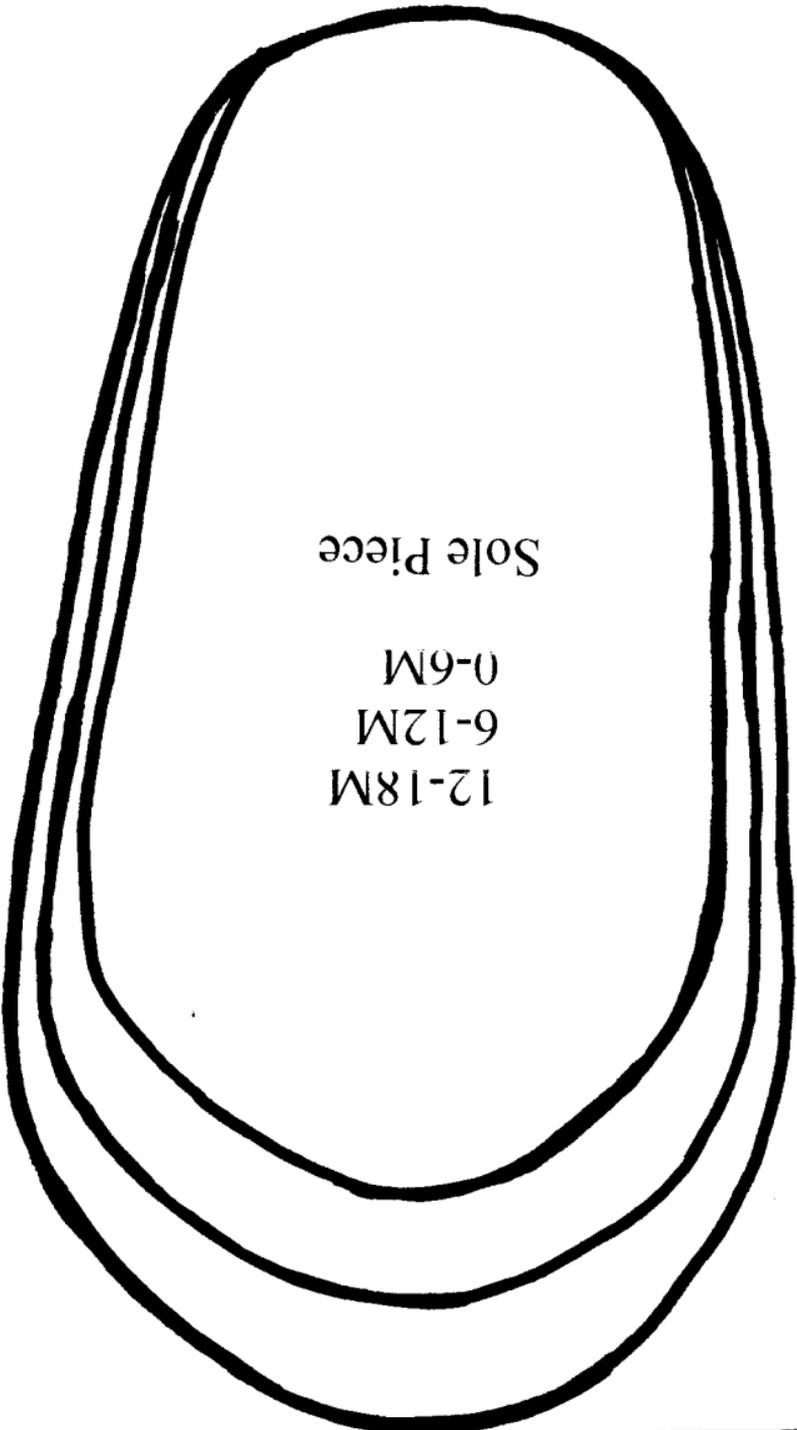
To create a lining that serves as the elastic casing also,

Cut a heel piece from your lining fabric (in this case, red microfleece). Then, fold the top edge of your heel paper pattern down $\frac{1}{4}$ inch BELOW the point you would normally fold to create a casing in your fabric. Use this as your pattern piece to cut your outer fabric.

Places pieces together wrong sides facing. Fold lining fabric outward overlapping the top edge of the outer fabric. Straight stitch your casing.



To create a lining that is only inside the shoe, **fold your heel paper pattern $\frac{1}{4}$ inch ABOVE the point you would normally use as a folding line to create a casing. Cut both the lining and the outer fabric using the folded pattern piece. Put pieces right sides together and stitch them together with a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch seam allowance (picture 2). Turn right sides out and straight stitch to create your elastic casing as shown in the last picture. Continue with Basic Directions to finish the shoe.**



Sole Piece

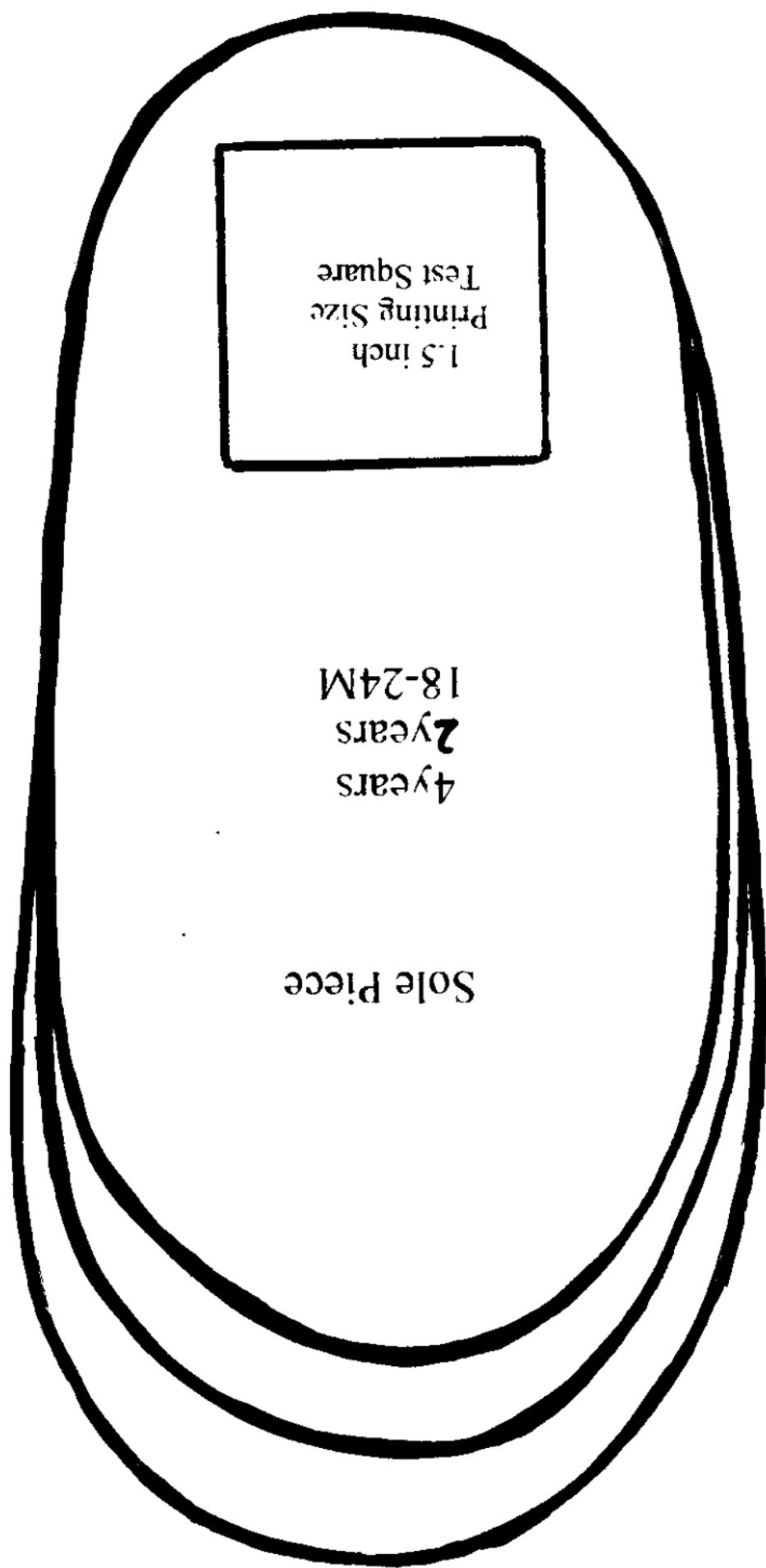
0-6M

6-12M

12-18M



1.5 inch
Printing Size
Test Square

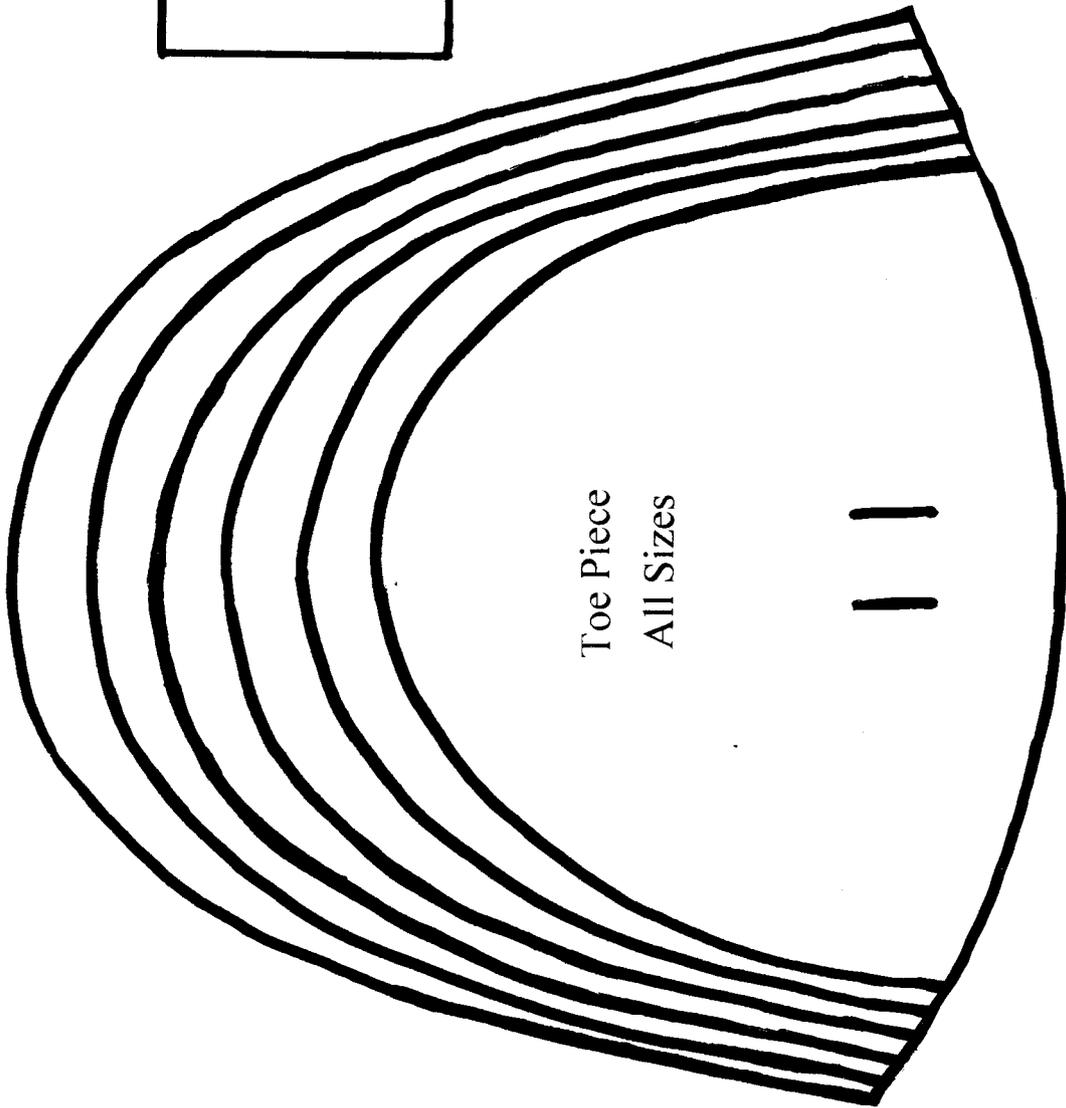


1.5 inch
Printing Size
Test Square

4years
2years
18-24M

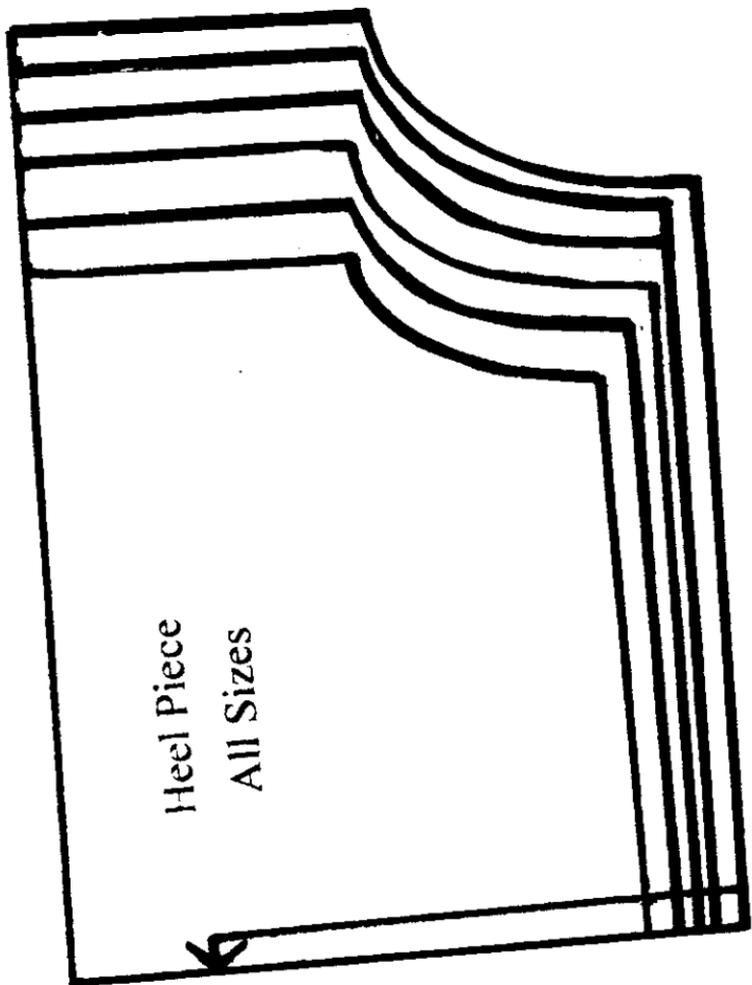
Sole Piece

1.5 inch
Printing Size
Test Square



Toe Piece
All Sizes





Heel Piece
All Sizes



1 5 inch
Printing Size
Test Square