Elle's Knit Shorts

Simple Life Pattern Company

Beginner

2t to 12y

Fabric for cover and steps kindly provided by Art Gallery Fabrics
Cover: Petal and Plume and Steps: Emmy Grace by Bari J

 © Simple Life Pattern Company 2015

Size Charts

Standard SLP Co.

	2t	3t	4t	5	6	7	8	10	12
Chest	20.5"	21.5"	22.5"	23"	24"	25"	26"	28"	30"
Waist	19"	20"	21"	22"	23"	24"	24.5"	25"	26"

Finished Length - Inseam

	2t	3t	4t	5	6	7	8	10	12
Shorts	3"	3"	3"	3"	3"	3"	3"	3"	3"

Fabric Requirements

(Yards – based on 58/60" fabric width)

Size	Shorts
2t	3/8
3t	3/8
4t	3/8
5	1/2
6	1/2
7	1/2
8	1/2
10	1/2
12	1/2

Materials Needed

- Fabric (see chart for requirements)
- Scissors / rotary cutter / cutting mat
- Iron
- Pins / needle
- 1in Elastic
- Sewing Machine

 © Simple Life Pattern Company 2015

Tips & Notes:

- Please read through the entire pattern before beginning.
- All seam allowances are 3/8", unless otherwise stated.
- Finish your seams with a serger or zig zag stitch. This is not necessary since knit does not fray.
- For a professional look, press your garment when instructed.
- When instructed, topstitch your garment. This will give you professional results. TIP: I always increase my stitch length to 3.0 – I feel a longer topstitch length looks better. If you do this, be sure to put your stitch length back to 2.5 for regular sewing.
- Gathering can be tedious - I find it easiest to turn my tension to the highest tension and my stitch length to the longest stitch. Before you start sewing, pull up the bobbin thread and pull the top thread and bobbin thread out so you have about a 5" tail before you sew. From there, I adjust by hand to fit the length I need.
- When printing your pattern pieces, make sure "Auto portrait / landscape" is ticked and scaling is set to "None."
- You do not need to print the entire pattern. You can print the pattern pieces then follow the tutorial on your computer.
- Once you print your pattern pieces, match up the lines & rectangles, tape, and then cut out the pieces. You can then cut the size you want or use freezer paper and trace the size you need so you don't cut into the original pattern. This is helpful and saves paper and ink if you need to make multiple sizes.

NOTES FOR THIS PATTERN:

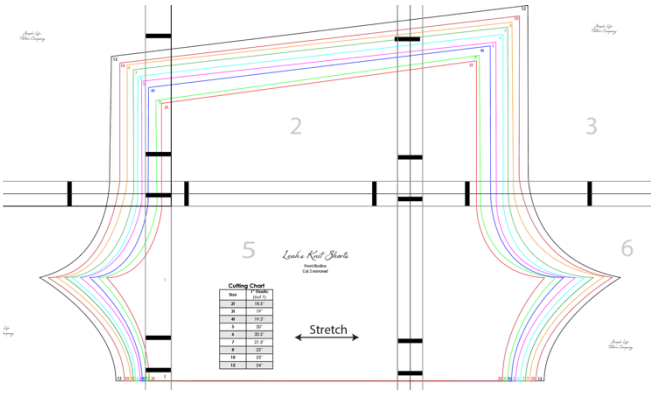
- **Fabric Recommendations:** There are many different types of knit. For this pattern, a 4 way knit is best. Some things to look for when choosing knit: I prefer a knit that is about 8-9 ounces per yard. Thin knits are harder to work with and don't have good recovery; avoid those. **Choose a knit that is about 75% stretch.** To determine the stretch percentage, take 4" of knit and stretch it, each inch past the 4 inches is 25%. Example: Art Gallery Fabrics knit is a 4 way stretch, 95% cotton with 5% spandex & is about 9 ounces. If you take 4 inches and stretch it, it will stretch an additional 3", therefore 75% stretch.
- **Working with knit:** Prewashing knit is recommended. Knit tends to shrink. Use a ballpoint needle to avoid tearing your knit. To avoid stretching while sewing, increase your stitch length to about 3.5 and your tension should be about 4.2. Each sewing machine will vary so play around on scrap fabric until you achieve your desired look. Knit does not ravel, therefore there is no need to finish your seams. However, if you prefer a professional, polished look, serge the raw edge before doing your hems. Any seam that will require stretch (neck binding, sleeve hems…) you will need to use a stretch stitch. Refer to your machines manual to see what options your specific machine has. I use the triple stretch stitch. The image to the left is what the triple stretch stitch option will look like.

- When sharing your creations: use #SLPco and #SLPcoElle so everyone can search your creations for inspiration. If you want to see other people's creation, then search for these hash tags on your favorite social media sites.

 © Simple Life Pattern Company 2015

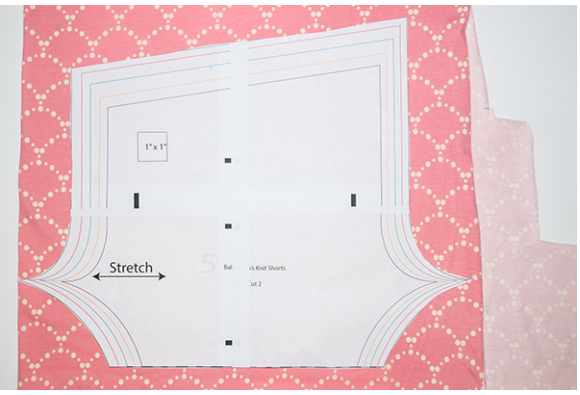
Cutting Chart

Size	1" Elastic (cut 1)
2t	18.5"
3t	19"
4t	19.5"
5	20"
6	20.5"
7	21.5"
8	22"
10	23"
12	24"



Print and tape your pattern pieces together. Here is the layout of how the pieces go together. This pattern is layered. You can print only the size you want but be sure you click the 1st layer that says "Must print – text" plus the size layer(s) that you want.
To view the blog post on how to print layers, click this link:
http://thesimplelifecompany.com/blog/tutorial-for-layered-patterns/

Cutting your pattern pieces:



Cutting out your pattern pieces. Fold your fabric in half with wrong sides together and being sure your stretch is going widthwise. Place your pattern piece on top and cut out your size you are doing. If you are adding ruffles, use the cutting chart above to cut your ruffles and ruffle bands.

 © Simple Life Pattern Company 2015

Elle's Knit Shorts

Step 1: Lay your 2 leggings pieces right sides together and sew the front and back curves using a stretch stitch.

Step 2: Line up the center crotch seams and begin to pin your leggings inseam. Sew your inseam using a stretch stitch.

Step 3: fold your hem up 1/2" wrong sides together. Fold an additional 1/2" and pin. Topstitch your hem 1/8" away from the edge using a stretch stitch.

Step 4: Take your elastic and overlap the 2 short cut ends 1/4". Use a zig zag stitch and stitch up and down about 3-4 times to secure them.

 © Simple Life Pattern Company 2015

Step 5: The seam on your elastic is the back. Find the center front of your elastic and mark it with a pin. Take your elastic and pin it to the RIGHT side of your waistband. Match up the elastic seam with the back seam of the leggings. Match up the center front of the elastic with the front legging seam and pin. You will gently stretch your elastic to evenly distribute the waist opening, pinning as you go. Using a serger or zig zag stitch set at 1/4" width, stitch the elastic in place. Your zig zag stitch should go right to the end of the elastic (needle should hit it right on the edge of the right side when sewing). If you are using your serger, make sure to stay away from the blade, you do **not** want cut the elastic or shorts and remove pins as you go.

Step 6: Flip the elastic up, then fold it to the wrong side of the shorts then fold one more time so your elastic is completely enclosed. Pin the elastic in place.

Step 7: Topstitch the elastic in place 1/8" from the edge of the casing using a stretch stitch.

 © Simple Life Pattern Company 2015

Add lace or trim to your shorts

Step 1: Starting at your crotch seam, place your lace or trim on the right side of your shorts leg, folding the raw edge under to hide the raw edge. Pin in place as you go around the shorts leg opening meeting back up at the crotch seam.

Step 2: Trim the excess leaving 1/2" past the crotch seam.

Step 3: Fold excess 1/2" trim raw edge under, making sure to overlap. Pin in place.

Step 4: Topstitch your hem 1/8" away from the edge using a stretch stitch. Repeat with other leg.

 © Simple Life Pattern Company 2015

Pattern cover photo courtesy of Ashley Herrmann.

Fabric for the pattern cover and the step photos kindly provided by Art Gallery Fabrics.
www.artgalleryfabrics.com
Emmy Grace by Bari J. Ackerman #EmmyGraceFabrics

Thank you for purchasing a Simple Life Pattern Co. pattern! To view my blog, see more patterns shop for fabric and free tutorials, visit my website at www.thesimplelifecompany.com

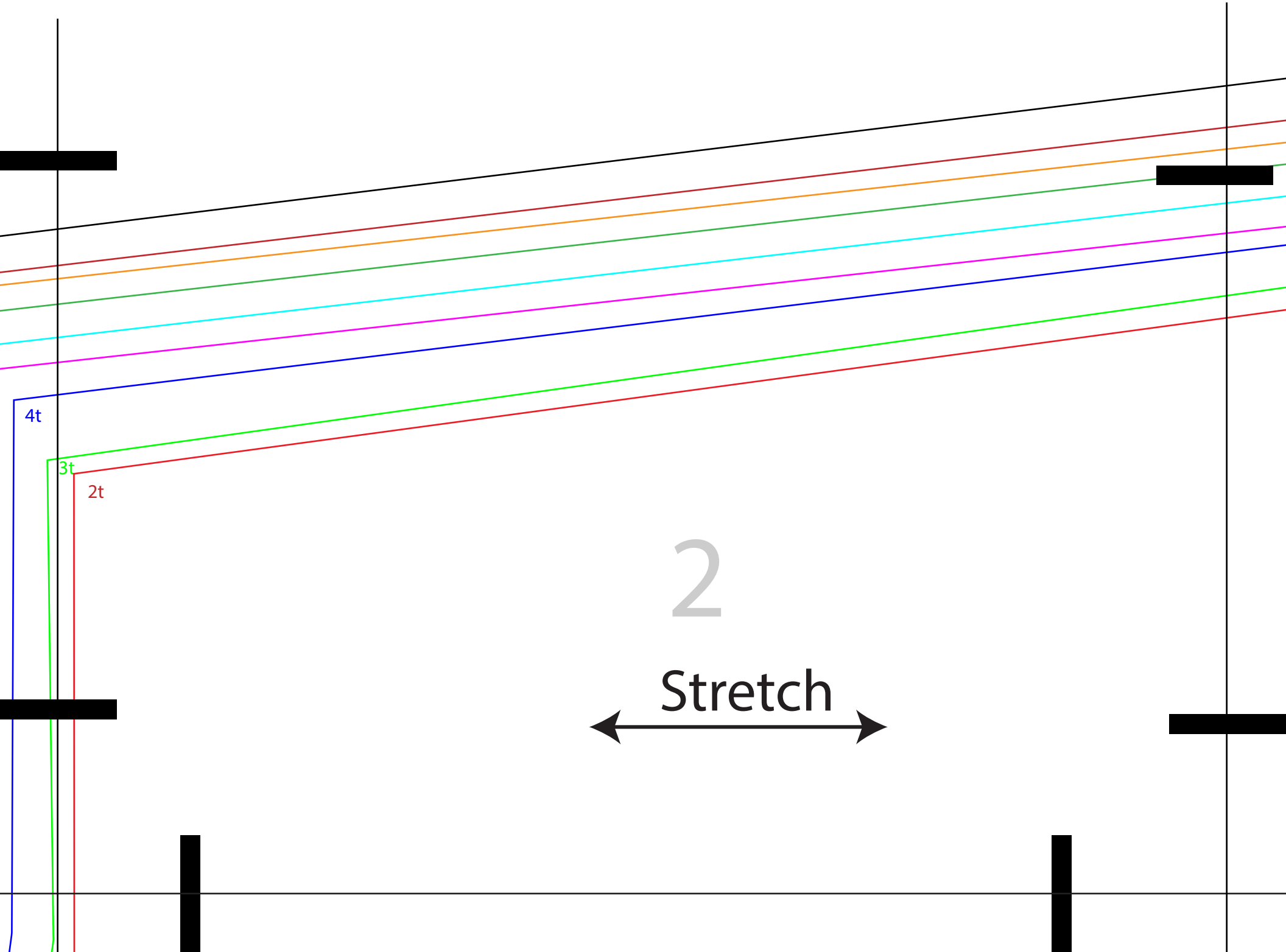
I am always working on new patterns so be sure to check us out on the following social media sites.
Join us on Facebook for all the latest patterns, sales, coupons, and to find inspiration for your next project. www.facebook.com/simplelifepatterns
Join the fan group to see more creations www.facebook.com/groups/SLPco

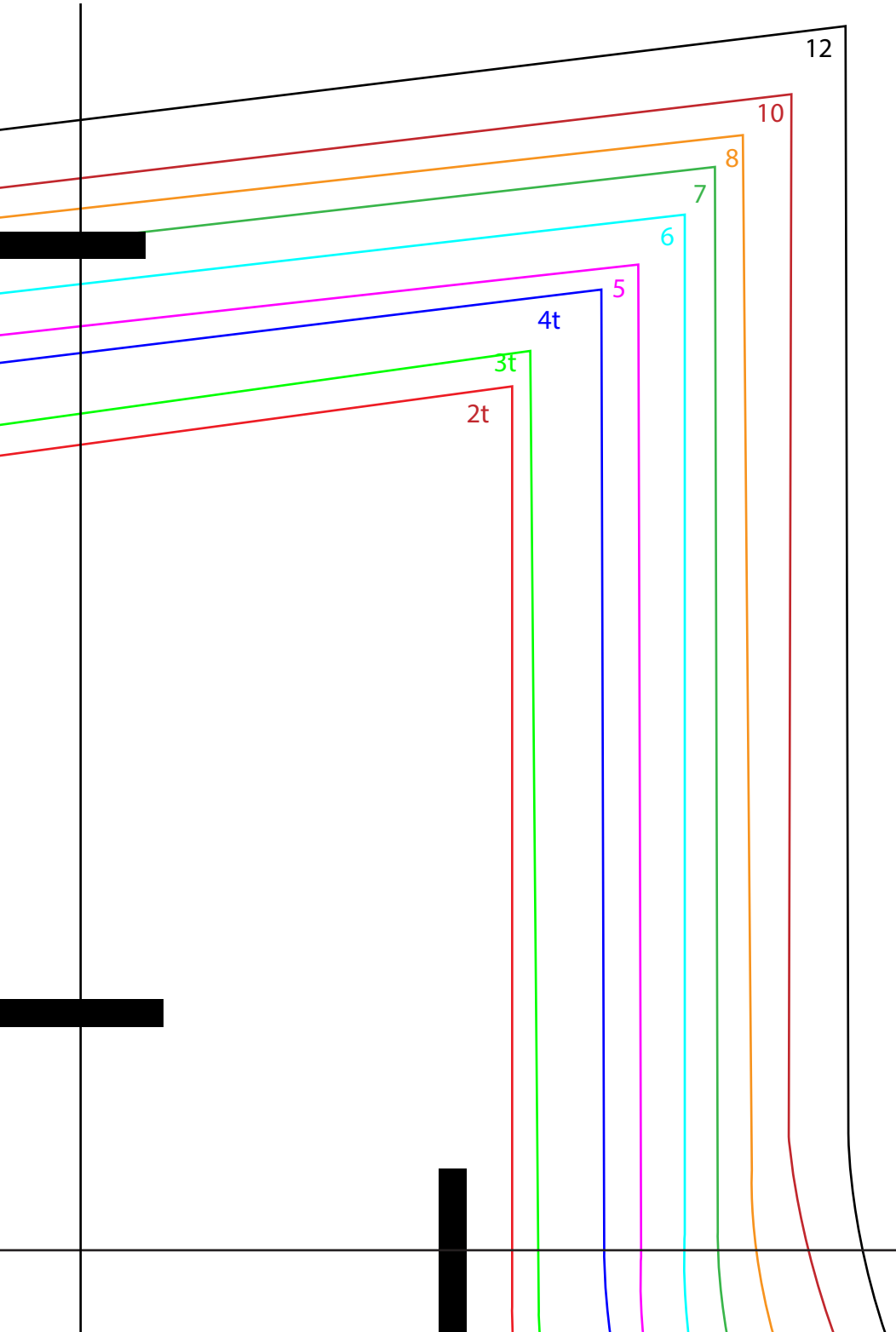
Follow us on Instagram @SLPco

Follow us on Pinterest @SLPco

Elle's Knit Shorts: #SLPco & #SLPcoElle

This tutorial, pattern pieces and all of its contents are copyright protected and property of Simple Life Pattern Company, LLC and cannot be reproduced in any way or form. Photocopying, emailing or distributing patterns in any form is illegal and punishable by law. This tutorial is for personal use and small scale business use. If you choose to sell a product using a Simple Life Pattern Company pattern, please give credit to us where you post photos of the pattern. If you would like to purchase a manufacturing license for this pattern, or have any questions or concerns, please contact Katie Skoog at Katie@thesimplelifecompany.com


4t
3t
2t
2
Stretch



3

5

1" x 1"

Cutting Chart

Size	1" Elastic (cut 1)
2t	18.5"
3t	19"
4t	19.5"
5	20"
6	20.5"
7	21.5"
8	22"
10	23"
12	24"

Simple Life Pattern Company

@SLPco /simplelifepatterns @SLPco

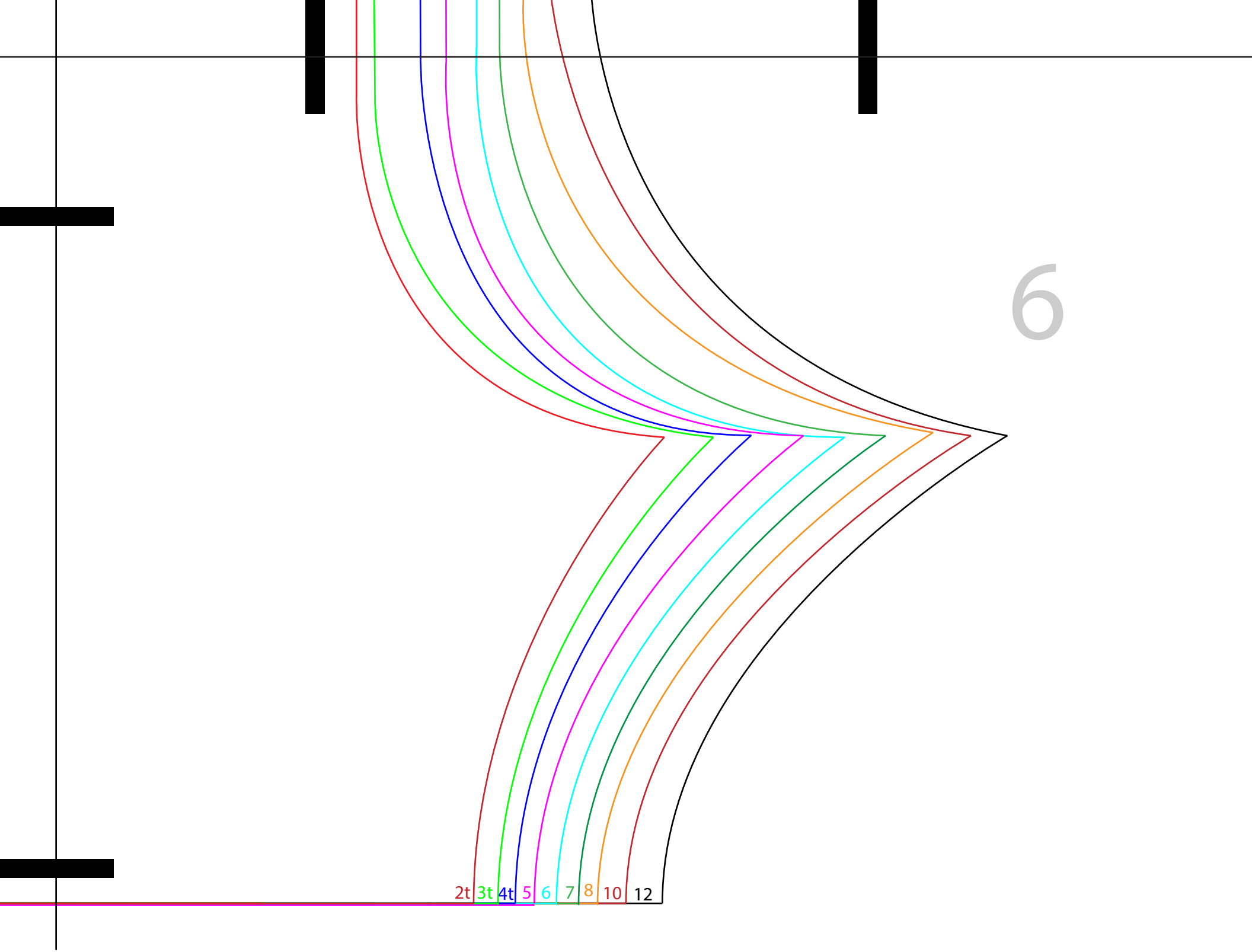
www.facebook.com/groups/SLPco

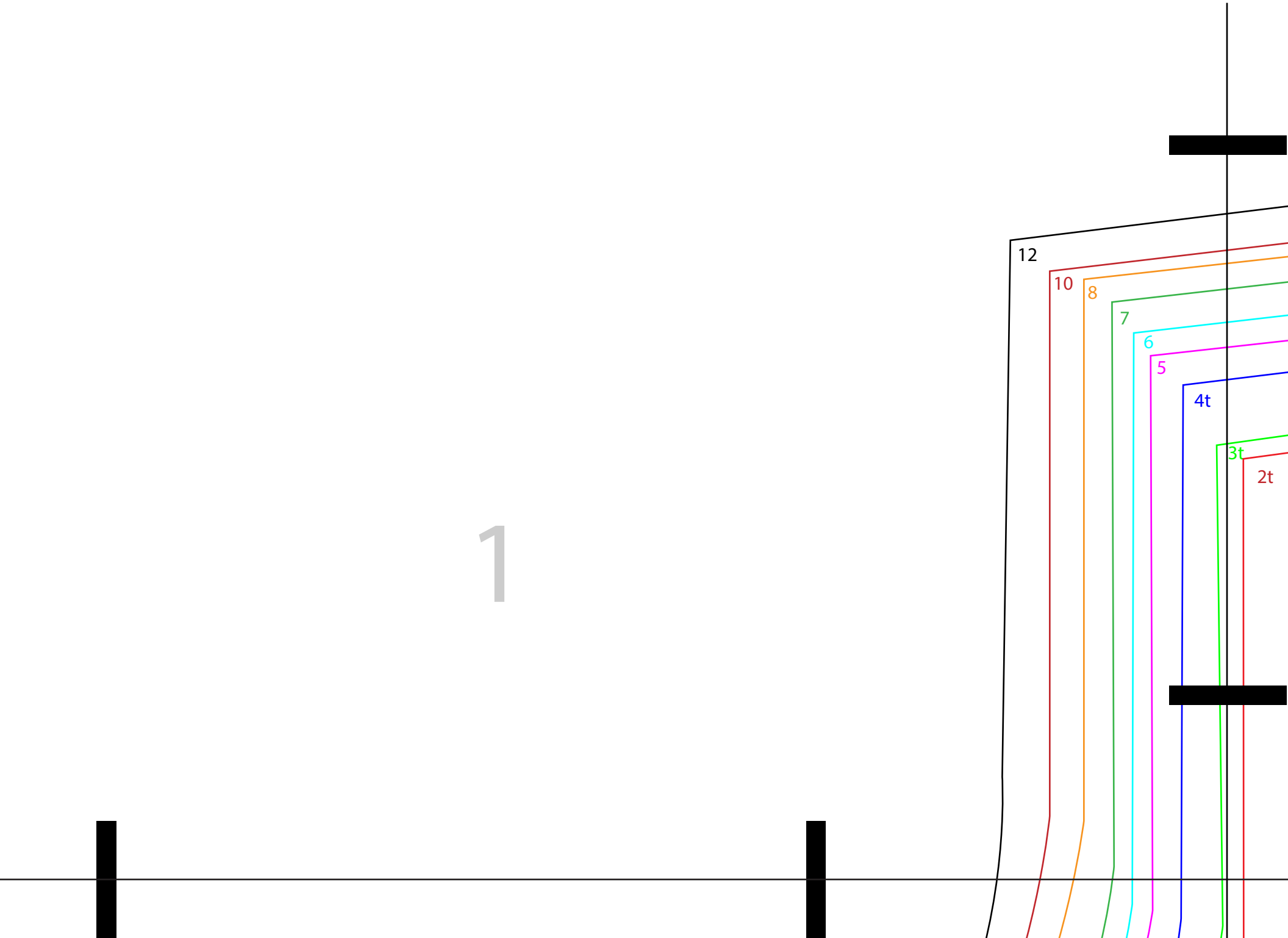
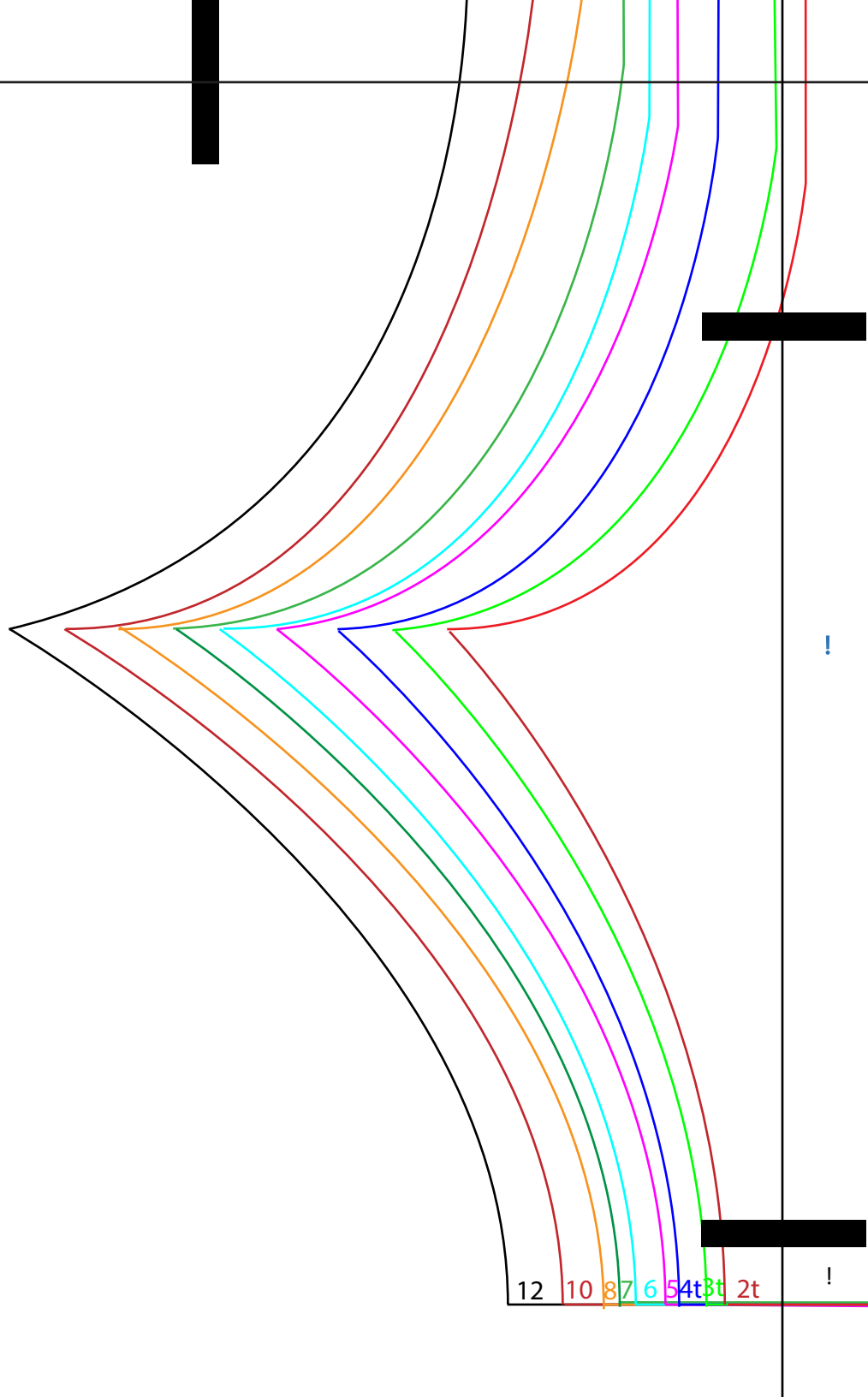
www.TheSimpleLifeCompany.com

Elle's Knit Shorts

Cut 2 (mirrored)

3t 2t


6
2t
3t
4t
5
6
7
8
10
12


12
10
8
7
6
5
4t
3t
2t
1

4