Cutting Out Patterns

In taking the pattern or cutting out the shape of a cape, pelerine, mantilla, or any other article of dress, instead of using a newspaper for that purpose (according to the general custom), cut the pattern in coarse, low-priced muslin or calico. Then with a needle and thread sew or run all the different parts together so that you can try it on and see if it fits, or if any alteration will be necessary in suiting it to your own figure. Cut out the whole pattern and not merely half; otherwise you will not be able to try it on conveniently. The stiffness of paper and its liability to tear render it far less suitable for pattern cutting than coarse muslin which, if not already in the house, can be bought for a mere trifle.

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