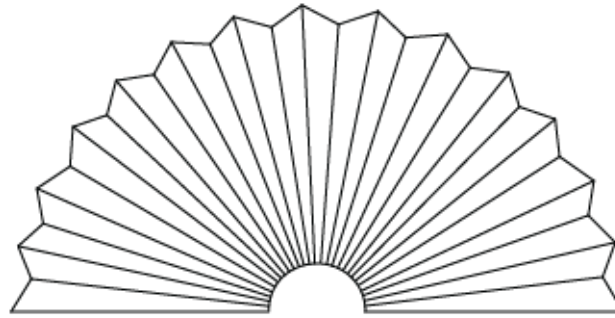


Sunray Pleating Explained Basic

Pleating is an artisan hand craft, our team has an overall experience of 100 years that has been passed down through three generations. Each of our patterns have been hand crafted in house. Please see our T & Cs on our website here: www.cimentpleating.com/termsandconditions

What is a Sunray / Drop?

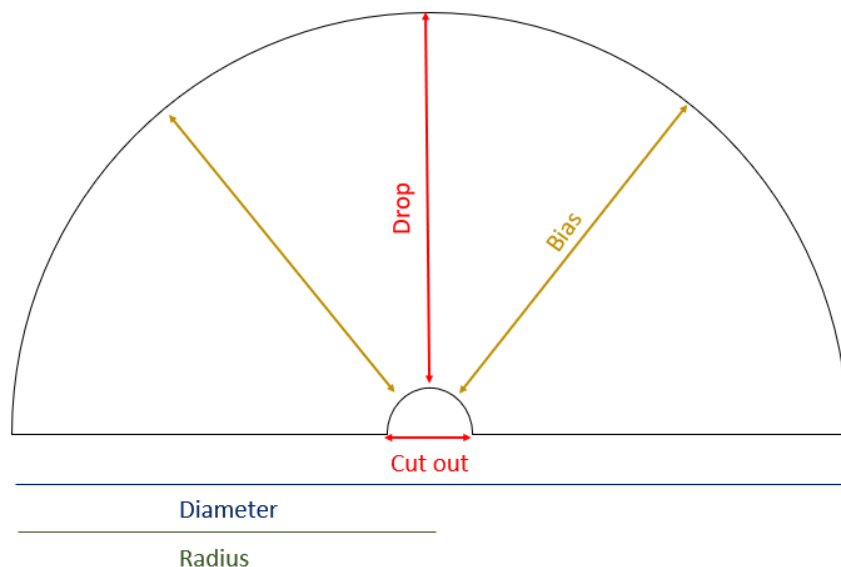
A sunray is just a circle skirt that when pleated has graduating accordion lines starting from a centre point growing towards a hem or bottom. We can pleat a sunray in anything between a $\frac{1}{2}$ circle and $\frac{1}{4}$ circle (anything smaller than a semi-circle). Sunrays are typically used for skirts but can be used for other things such as sleeves, trouser legs, or decorative upholsteries the list goes on. To keep things simple, we will be talking about sunrays as if you are pleating it for a skirt.



The 'drop' is the drop of your skirt, this is the measurement from waist to hem.

Our patterns have a cut out at the centre point where the pleats graduate from, this part of your fabric will not be pleated. It varies slightly from each pattern but it's usually 20cm diameter.

Please see diagram below of a guide to our sunray patterns and the terminology best use when describing a sunray.



How much fabric to use.

Usually, fashion will use 2 semi circles per skirt. For a fuller look you can use 3 or 4 popular for dance wear. To work out how much cloth you need, you can use the equation below.

Drop x 2 + cut-out

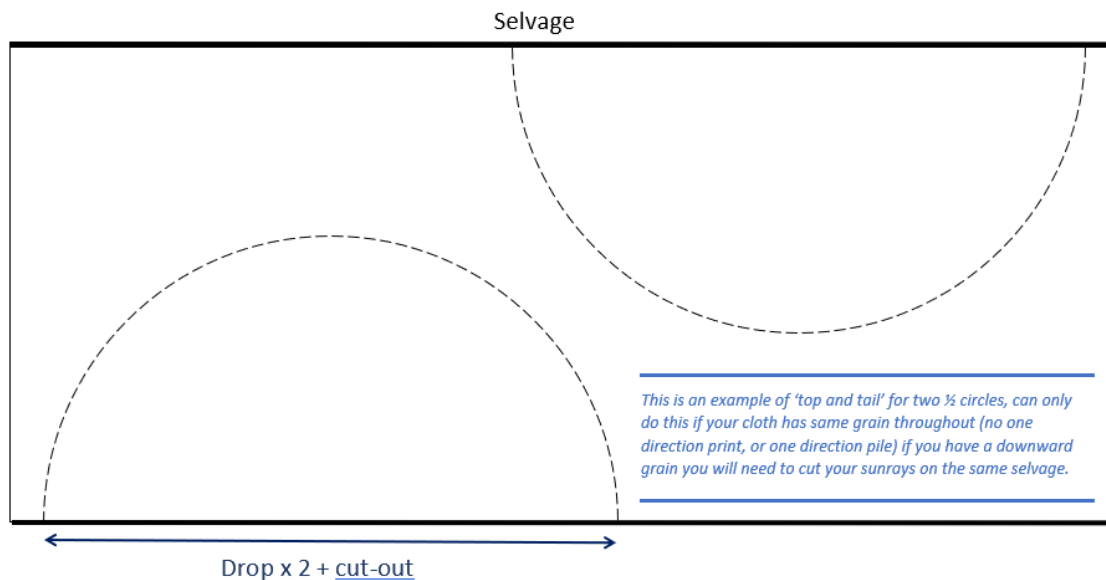
Example:

If your skirt requires a drop of 1 metre then you need 100cm x 2 + 20cm. This will be a total diameter of fabric 220cm usually cut along the selvage. This is the total for 1 ½ circle if you require a ¼ circle half it.

You do not have to cut your cut out before sending to us.

How to cut a sunray

To help your side seams hang straight you will need to cut your sunray along a selvage of your chosen fabric.



On softer fabrics such as georgette and chiffon the fabric can drop down at the cross grain / bias. To ensure this doesn't happen too much we suggest you to hang your sunrays over night after cutting, you will then need to level them after hanging. If you do not hem before pleating this can be done after pleating.

Do I hem before or after?

The advantage of hemming the fabric first is that you get a sharper pleat. If you hem afterwards then the hem will flute out, popular in dance wear. If you are hemming first, make sure you hang the half circle first then level. Make sure the hem sits flat on the table after hemming, it is very important to get the right tension on your machine. The disadvantage of hemming is that after the sunray is pleated the hem line may not be straight.

If you would like to learn more about sunray, we have a more in-depth document on our website [pleat download it.](#)