

The placement of the thighline, the thigh circumference measurement, and how much of it goes in the front draft vs. the back draft is what makes the jeans draft work.

If the back of your jeans draft seems to be doing strange things, it is most likely due to the thigh. Changing this line can make a huge difference! Experiment with your thigh until you discover what works for you!

More tips and experiments for drafting your thigh:

Double check the circumference: The difference between jeans and trousers is that jeans cup under the bum and are fitted through the thigh. Getting the thigh correct will be very important for the jeans draft. Be sure to check the thigh circumference measurement both sitting and standing (since you'll want to be able to sit and stand in your jeans!)

Try a new placement: If the drafting steps after adding your back thigh are giving you trouble, it is most likely the thigh line placement. A few students chose to measure down from their "hoo-hahs" (instead of up from the knee) to find the parallel-to-the-floor placement of the fullest part of their thigh. They added their new thigh lines by measuring down this amount starting at the crotch of the front draft.

Others just experimented with raising or lowering. You'll notice that the amount that goes on the front vs. the back, the tilt of the back bowl, and how far the back skirt block hangs over the side seam changes significantly when this line is moved. *Play around!*

Thigh Tips for Jeans Drafting

Thigh arcs: After working through mockups, Najah thought it would have been helpful to have thigh arc measurements. While I agreed, I was not sure how to take these measurements in the drafting stage since they depend on inseams and side seams that have not been determined yet.

We brainstormed some thigh arc ideas:

Leggings: Najah took her thigh measurements while wearing leggings that had both inseams and side seams. This allowed her to divide her circumference into a front thigh arc and a back thigh arc. While the leggings did not give her accurate results for jeans, it helped her get much closer and validated some of her theories about her own shape.

Wide leg trouser mockup: I wondered if the completed WLT mockup could be helpful to determine thigh arcs. You could put elastic around the fullest part of the thigh over the mockup, redistribute the extra fabric until the inseam and side seam seem like they are in a good place for jeans, and then measure the elastic from inseam to side seam in the front for a *front thigh arc* and the back for a *back thigh arc*. (This might also offer another way of finding the thigh line placement: measuring from this elastic down to the WLT mockup's kneeline and/or up to its hipline.)

Look at your leg shapes and/or the shapes of well-fitting non-stretch jeans: See if this analysis offers any clues to how you could make adjustments to create your perfect jeans block.

Let me in on your detective work! I'd love a concise and fool-proof way to explain how to draft for perfect thigh placement and circumferences. *Please let me know what worked for you!*