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# OVAL MESSENGER BAG

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Free Pattern



THE STITCHING SCIENTIST  
[www.thestitchingscientist.com](http://www.thestitchingscientist.com)

## Instructions

### Fabric requirements

1 yard main fabric  
1/2 yard coordinate fabric  
1 yard fleece lining  
About 14" of binding for the front pocket ( you will have extra)

### Pattern pieces

(One main back, two main lining back, two main interfacing, one center overlay, two pocket/secondary overlay (mirror images) *\*sorry this picture shows two identical images instead of mirror images (I initially made a mistake)\**, one pocket interfacing, one right front side piece, one left front side piece)



**Let's first start with the pocket/secondary overlay.**

Iron on fleece interfacing to wrong side of one of your pieces.



Baste stitch (longest stitch length) the other pocket piece to the first pocket piece right side facing out forming a sandwich with the interfacing in between.



Next, put the binding on the top of the pocket sandwich you just made.

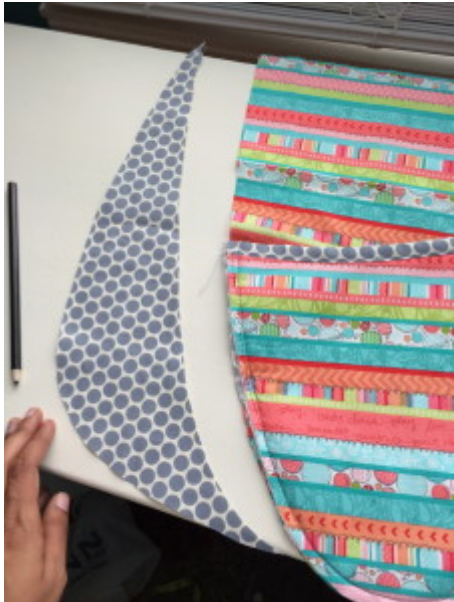


Now, sew the pocket to the first overlay with both right sides facing up.





Take the two front side pieces and sew them to the side of the middle piece you just completed. Sew right sides together. Iron down neatly.





Here is what your completed front piece will look like.



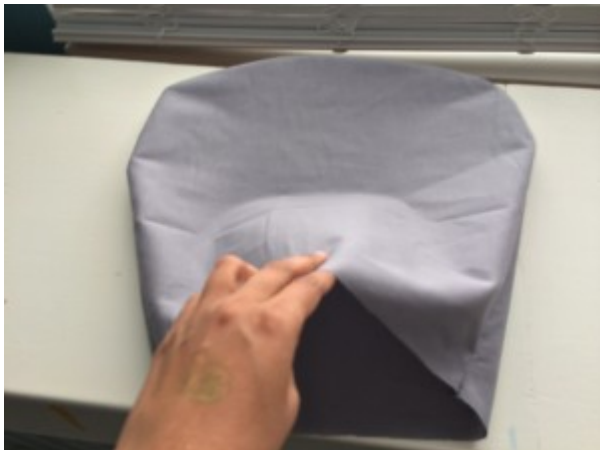
Once you have your main front completed, iron on the fleece interfacing to it as well as your main back piece. The picture below shows both the front and back piece with fleece interfacing on it. Your front main piece will be slightly smaller than your main because of all the seam allowances you used. See next steps on trimming the back to match the front.



Next, **\*\*LINE UP THE BACK PIECE TO THE MAIN FRONT PIECE RIGHT SIDES TOGETHER. YOU WILL HAVE TO TRIM OFF SOME OF THE BACK PIECE TO ALIGN AND FIT TO YOUR FRONT SO THAT ALL SIDES MATCH UP (sorry I did not take a picture). \*\* Sew the back piece to the front piece right sides together. Turn inside out.**



Take your lining piece and sew right sides together.



Fit the main bag into the lining right sides facing each other.



Sew the top all the way around leaving about 5" open.



Turn it inside out and top stitch all the way around closing your opening.





### **Now onto the straps**

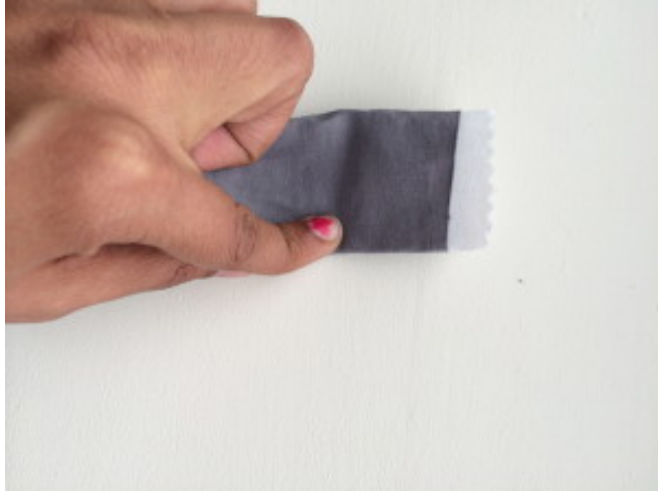
You will need to measure how long you want your straps to be based on whether you want to wear it as a messenger or over the shoulder bag. The length of mine ended up being about 30" with a width of about 3.5". Iron on regular interfacing on the wrong side.



Fold in and iron down about 1/2" on each side.



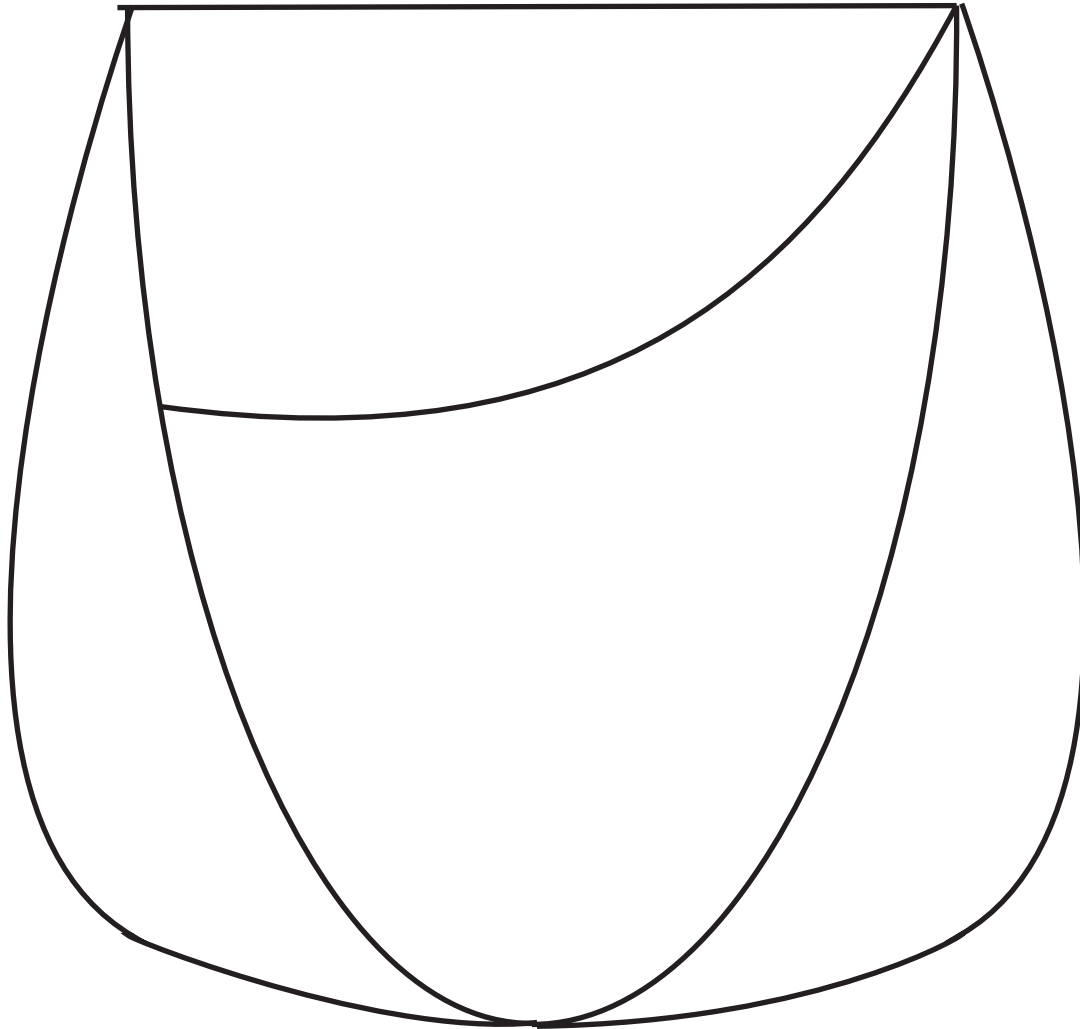
Then, fold in the center. Sew all the way down



Next, fold in the ends and sew a square X on the side to ensure it is secure. Repeat on the other side.



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RETRO TOTE BAG PATTERN



PRINTING INSTRUCTIONS

PIECES:

MAIN PIECE (CUT 1 MAIN FABRIC, TWO LINING, TWO INTERFACING),  
OVERLAY (CUT 1),  
ONE SECONDARY OVERLAY (CUT TWO MIRROR IMAGES  
FRONT SIDE (CUT TWO MIRROR IMAGES)

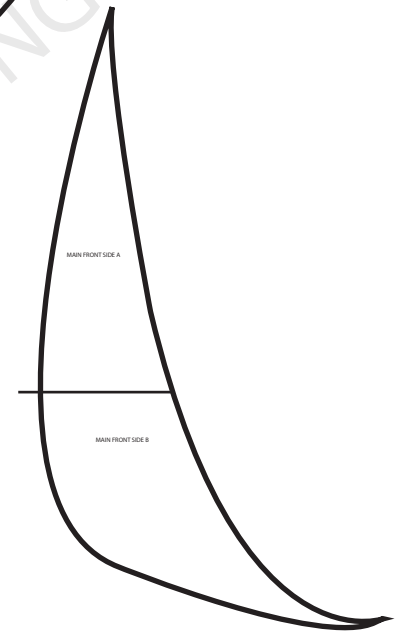
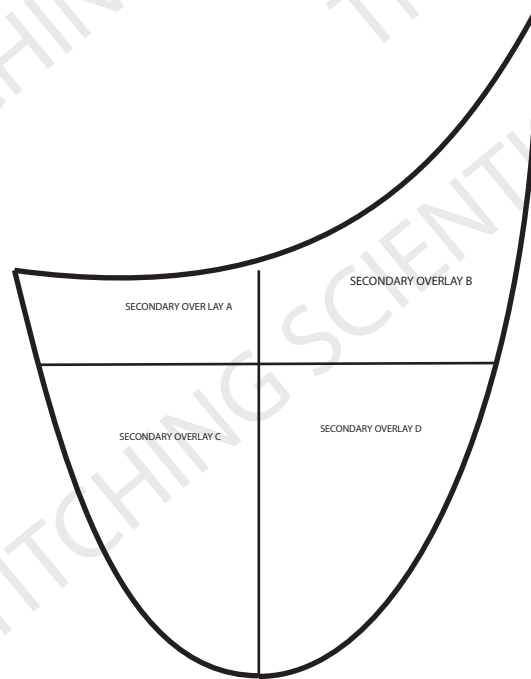
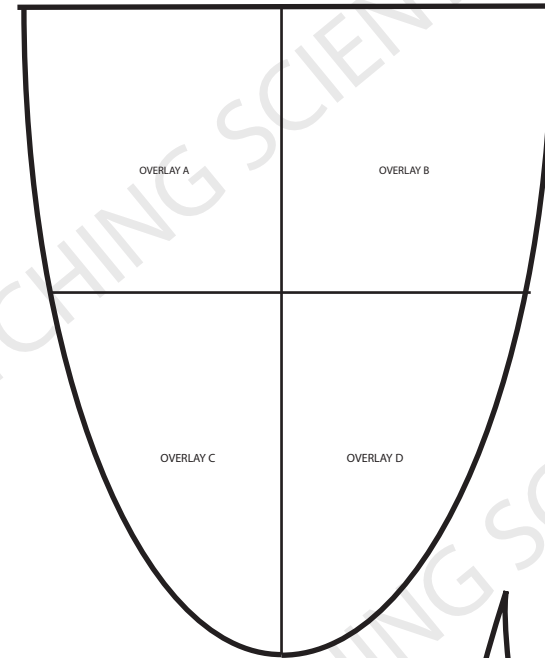
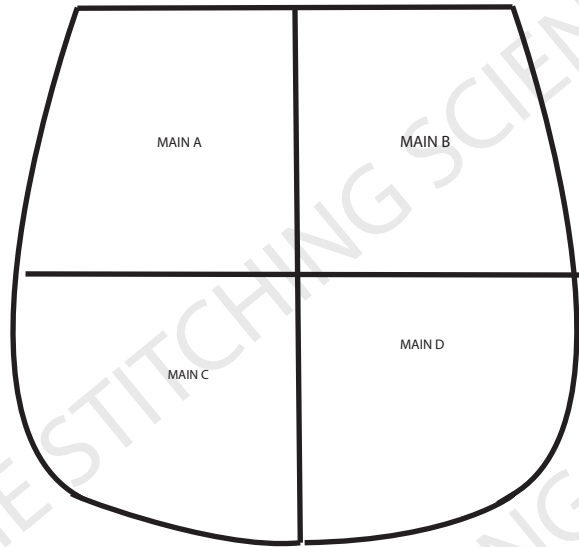
INSTRUCTIONS:

Pieces will print in standard letter 8.5 x11" paper

Each piece will print out on 4 paper landscape orientation

Using the layout guide, arrange the paper for each piece like a puzzle.  
Cut out pattern .

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RETRO TOTE BAG PATTERN  
LAYOUT GUIDE



LAY D

MAIN BACK B



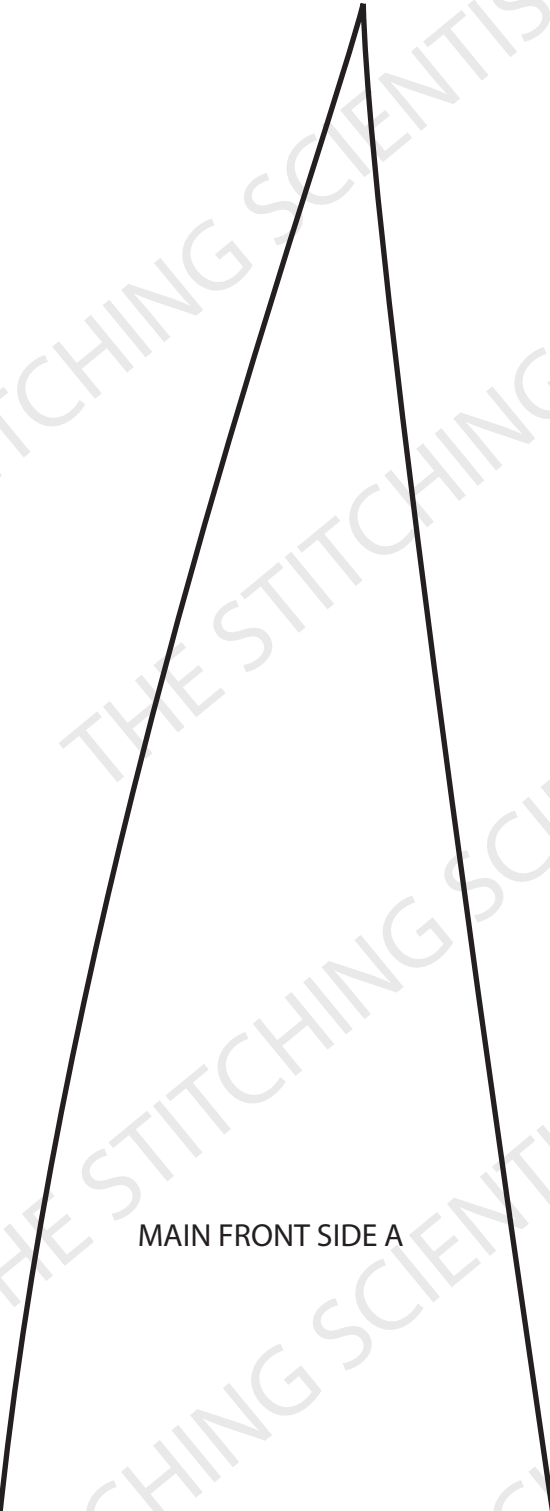
OVERLAY C

OVER

MAIN BACK A

MAIN FRONT SIDE B



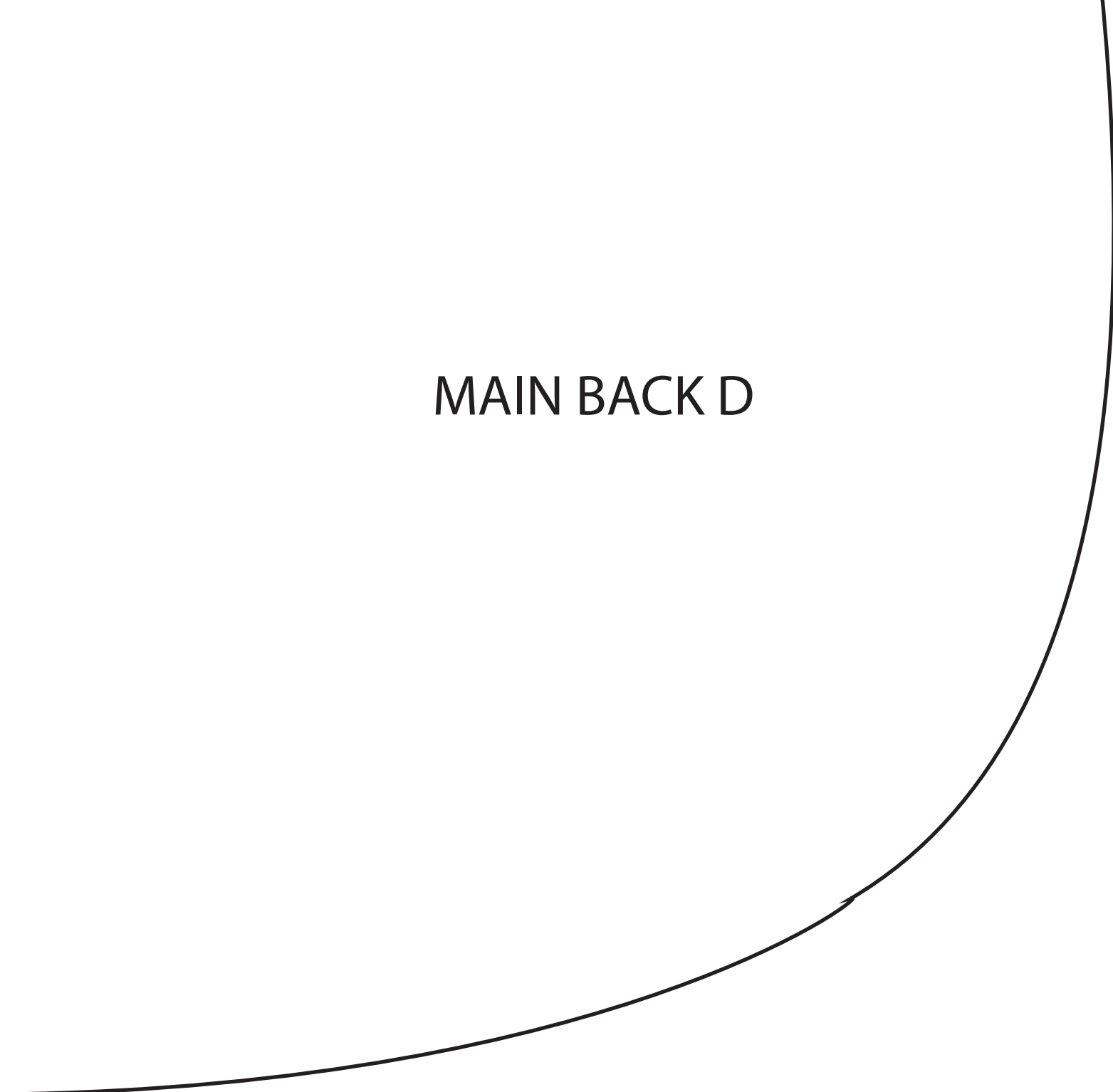


MAIN FRONT SIDE A



MAIN BACK C

MAIN BACK D



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OVERLAY A

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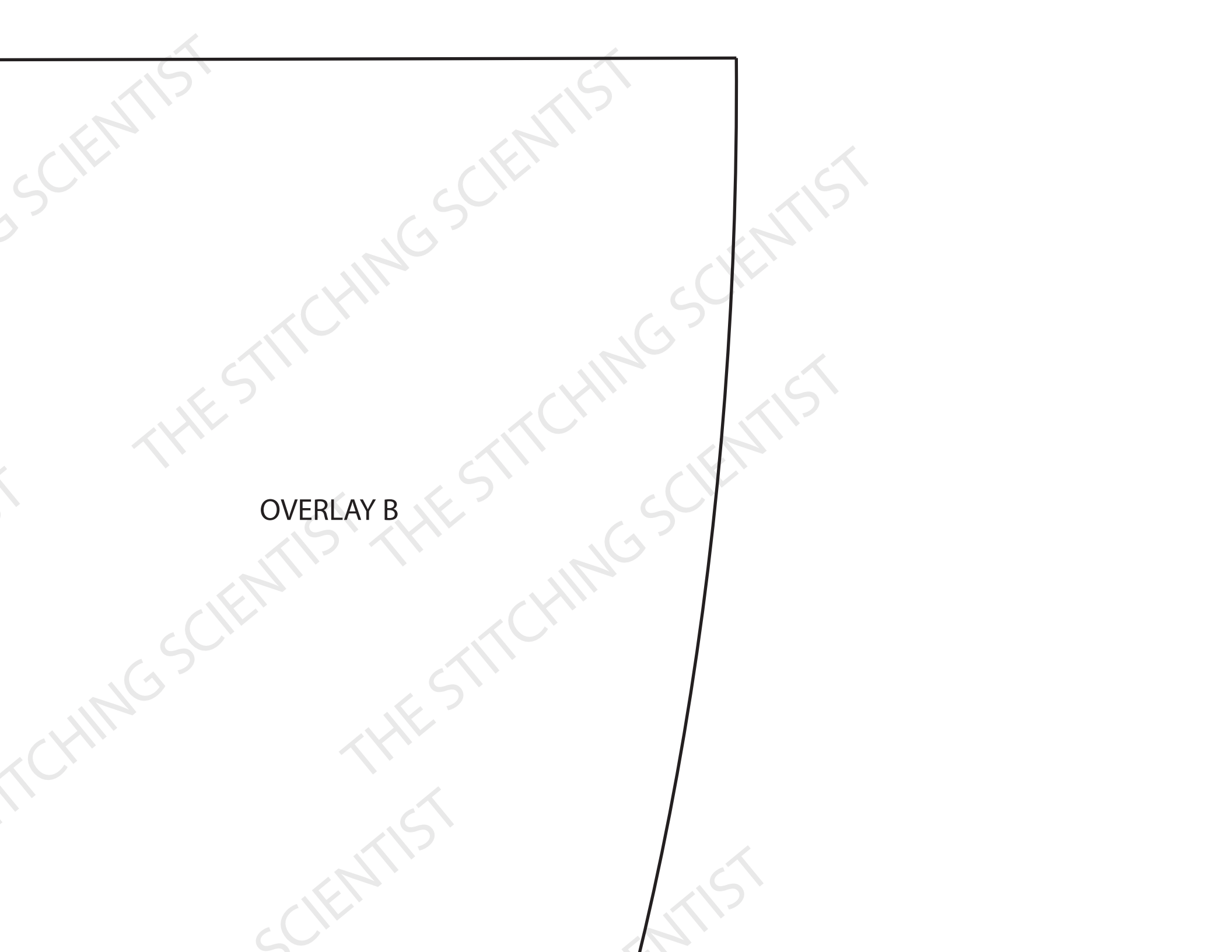
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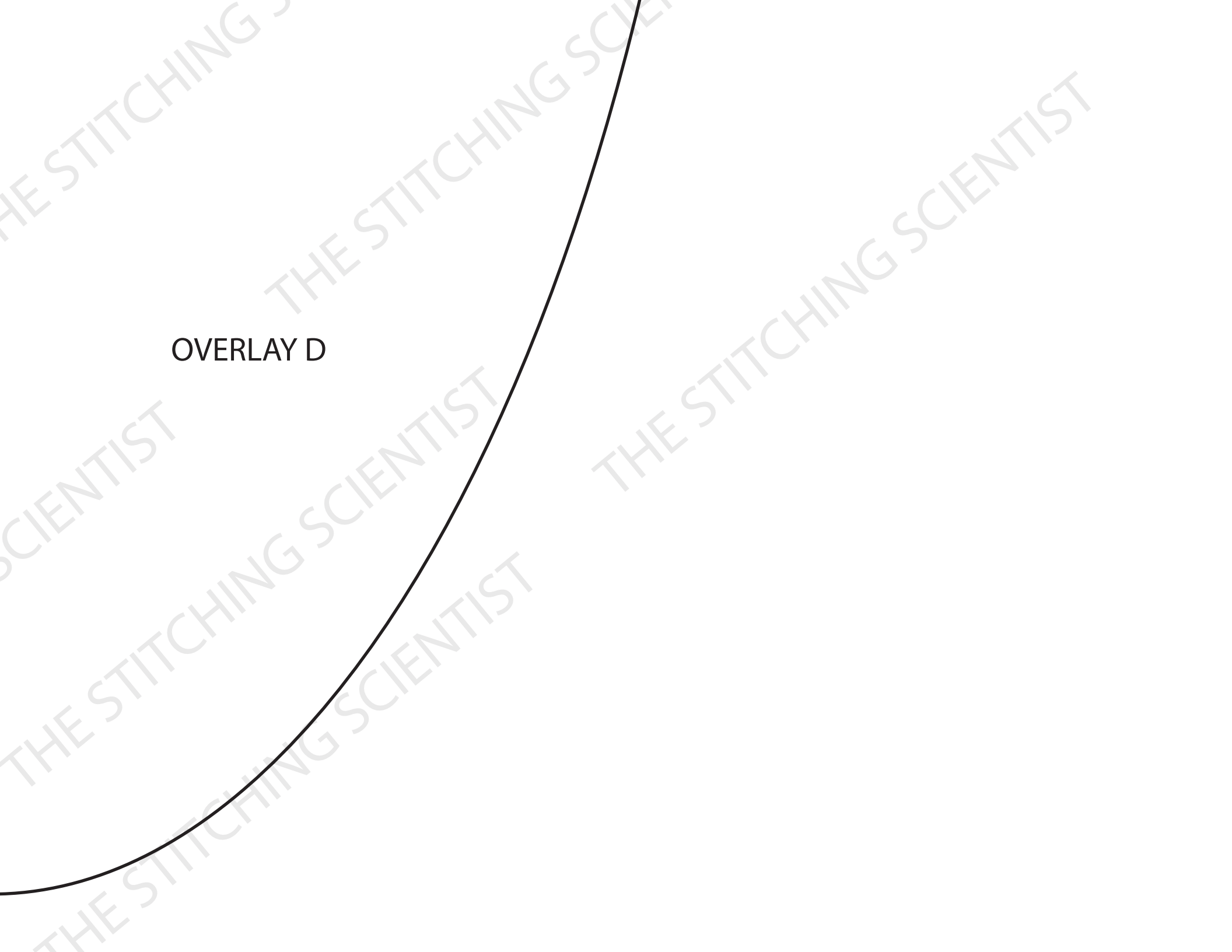
OVERLAY C

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OVERLAY B

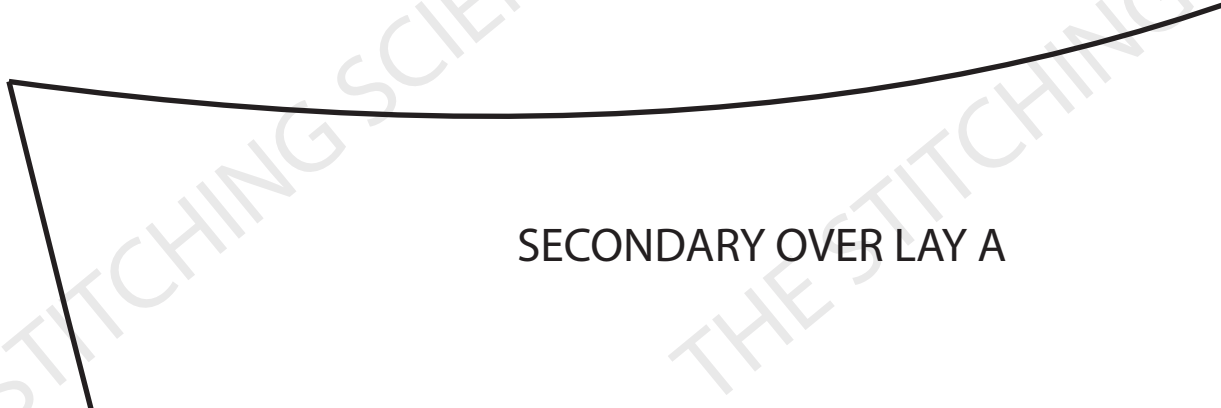
OVERLAY D



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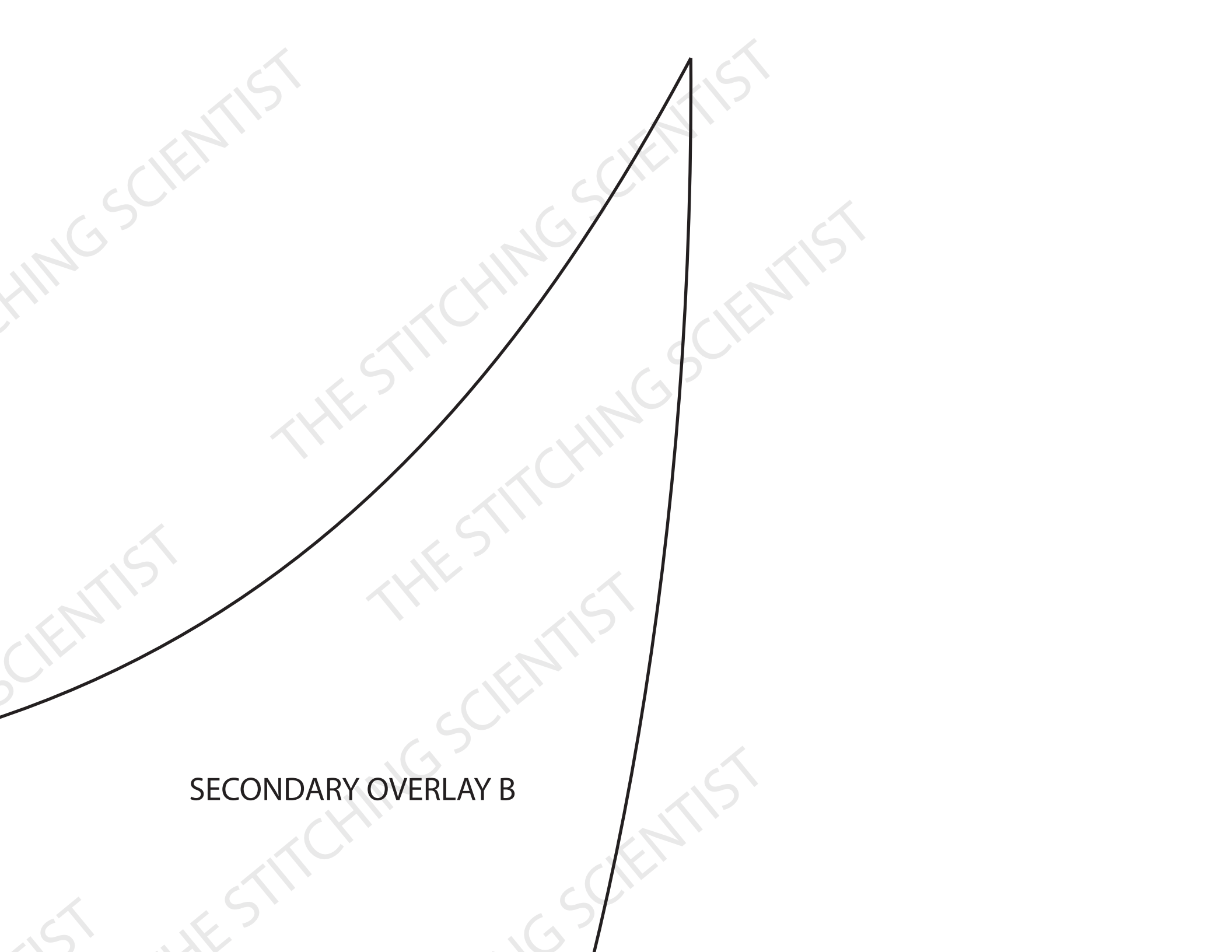
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SECONDARY OVER LAY A





SECONDARY OVERLAY B

SECONDARY OVERLAY C

SECONDARY OVERLAY D

