

Class: Judge the Shorts

Pretend you are the judge at the fair. Think about fabric, thread, seam finishes, elastic choices, and everything it takes to have a nice pair of shorts that you would want to wear.

Look at the four pair of shorts. Rank them best to worst.

(Construct sample pull-on shorts that will match the descriptions in the rationale statements below or create errors in construction as desired. All samples were made with the same asymmetric stripe that ran with the lengthwise grain of the fabric and had a repeat of about 4 inches. Adjust the cuts accordingly if the construction errors are changed. Use Nancy Zieman's *Let's Sew* and *Measure Up, PNW0197* as guides for sewing techniques and quality construction methods.)

Official Placement: 3-1-4-2

Cuts: 3,5,7

Hormel scores, for online score calculations see:

<http://www.worldaccessnet.com/%7EEnormans/hormel.html>)

#3 The stripes are symmetric and they match. The thread is a good match and the seams are finished. The stitching on the shorts is straight and even. The seam finish serves to trim the seam to reduce bulk and act as a second seam if the first rips out. The crotch seam is also reinforced with a sturdy stretch stitch. All raw edges are finished. The non-roll elastic is the proper size for the casing and the proper type for waistlines. The elastic is stabilized by the edge stitching on the casing and the stitching in the ditch in the front seam.

#1 The stripes are symmetric and they match. The thread is a good match and the seams have been finished. They have not been trimmed to reduce bulk. The crotch seam is reinforced by a sturdy stretch stitch but there is not a second row of stitching in case the first rips out. The elastic is the correct size and type. It could be stabilized by edge stitching the casing and stitching in the ditch of the front seam.

#4 The stripes do not match and they are not symmetric. The thread is a good match and the stitching is straight and even. Only the hem and casing are finished to prevent raveling. The seams have not been trimmed to reduce bulk. The elastic is the proper size and type but it could be stabilized. The crotch seam needs reinforcement.

#2 The stripes do not match and they are not symmetric. The thread is a good match and the stitching is straight and even. Only the hem and casing have seam finish. The seams have not been trimmed or finished. The crotch seam needs to be reinforced. The elastic is too small, it is twisted, and it is not the proper type for a waistline. The casing has not been stitched closed where the elastic was put in. There is no edge stitching or stitching in a ditch to stabilize the elastic.