

## **Hemming Instructions:**

It is important to make sure the pants, jacket and garment bag are all ready for marching season by picture day during band camp.

You are welcome to ask another parent or have a professional hem them, but **they must follow these instructions!!!** Please read over all the instructions carefully. First and foremost - **DO NOT CUT ANY FABRIC** when adjusting the hem!

---

### **Determining the hem length:**

Band members MUST have their band shoes on when being fitted.

Have the student stand straight, at attention, looking straight ahead. Before determining pant length, adjust the shoulder straps to achieve proper crotch position. Pants should not hang unreasonably low in the crotch area, and the straps should not fall off the shoulders.

Measure up 2" from the ground at the back of the uniform. The hem should hit mid-back of the shoe. The front should hit the top of the front of the shoe.

DEEP HEMS are acceptable but difficult as the pants do taper a bit. If you must take a deep hem, you may, very carefully, take out a few stitches at the side seams to provide a little give.

### **Sewing the hem:**

Use sturdy, doubled, BLACK thread ONLY.

Safety pins and tape are NOT acceptable.

Iron-on hem tape or hem adhesives are NOT allowed.

Hem stitching SHOULD NOT BE VISIBLE on the top side of the garment.

You may use the blind hem stitch on a machine or hem by hand.

### **Pressing the hem:**

Once you have finished hemming the pants, the new hems will need to be pressed.

**CAUTION!!!!** AN IRON SHOULD ***NEVER*** TOUCH THE UNIFORM DIRECTLY, SO PLEASE USE A **PRESSING CLOTH OR DISH TOWEL** OVER THE FABRIC. If a hot iron directly touches the uniform, it will damage the fabric, causing it to take on a shiny appearance. We **do not** want that!!!

Contact the Uniform Committee Chairs with any questions.