

# KITES FOR CONNOISSEURS

# SALIDA SLED

ANDREAS ÅGREN  
andreas@windman.se



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*Kites for Connoisseurs* is a collection of plans for kites designed by Andreas Ågren. These kites often have a unique technical twist. The plans can be found at <http://windman.se/kite-plans> and they may not be used for commercial purpose without written consent.



**Salida Sled** (1998, 2002 & 2016) is a pocket kite; a small tail free kite that can always be carried, complete with line and winder, in any pocket or purse. It is made out of one single piece of material (ripstop or plastic) and it needs only two (plus two) seams.

## Material

- 30 x 80 cm Ripstop or plastic sheet

## Templates

This pdf document includes two different sizes of the template: One consists of a single sheet that needs to be enlarged when printed out on an A3 printer. The second consists of two parts on different A4 sheets that need to be cut and joined. The first one will give a slightly bigger kite (original size). Noteworthy about the templates: there is a cut out for better inflation of the inflatable tubes, and there are 'bat' ears in the corners for bridle point reinforcement.

## Prepare the template

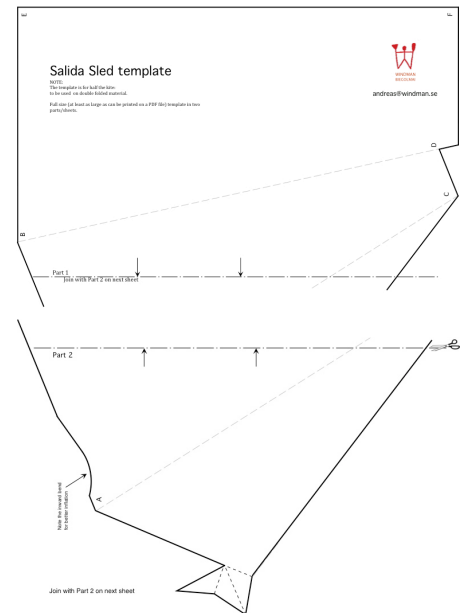
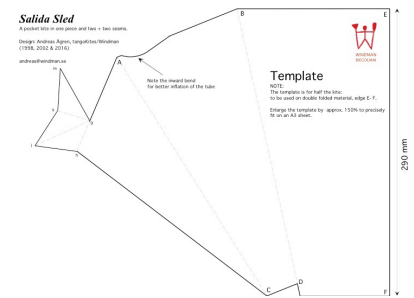
If you have access to an A3 printer or copying machine, then use the single sheet template.

Alternatives:

- Print out directly on A3 printer with proper enlargement setting.
- Print out the template on A4 paper and then enlarge it approx. 150 % to an A3 paper.

If you don't have access to an A3 printer/copying machine, then print out the two-sheets template on A4 papers.

Cut off the top part of part 2, as indicated by the scissors symbol. Put some glue on the bottom edge of the line-dotted line of part 1. Joint the two sheets with care so all lines and arrows match.



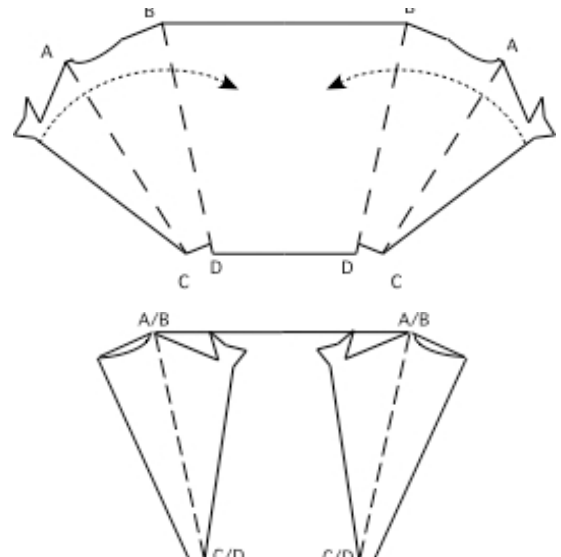
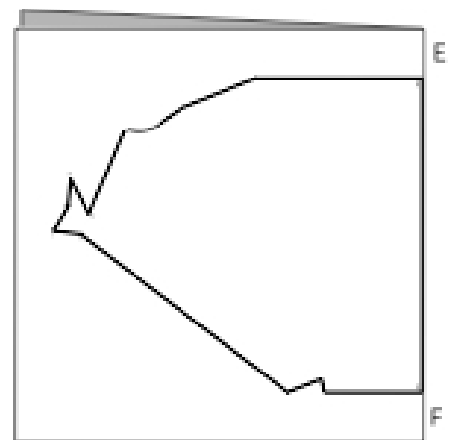
## How to make a Salida Sled

- Fold the material (rip stop or plastic sheet) double and cut out according to the template.

The side EF of the template should be alongside the fold.

- Create the inflateable pockets by folding (dotted arrows) the edges inwards, aligning the dashed line A-C with B-D, i.e. B-D should be hidden under A-C. Usually it's easier to achieve this by first drawing the lines A-C and B-D on the material. Do this on both sides, one side at a time.

For ripstop: sew along the line A-C (both sides). For plastic bag: either hot tack or fold back along the A-C line and use adhesive tape.

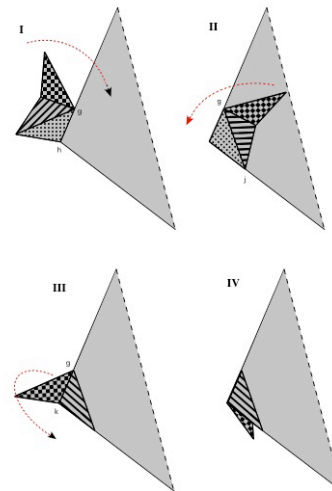
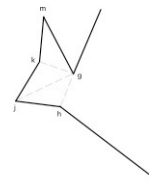


3. The corner where the bridle line is to be tied is reinforced by folding the material in several layers. The corner with the extra three layer pieces (triangles) is shown in detail in the figures to the right with the corners marked with letters g - m, and for clarity the different layers (triangles) are displayed in different patterns.

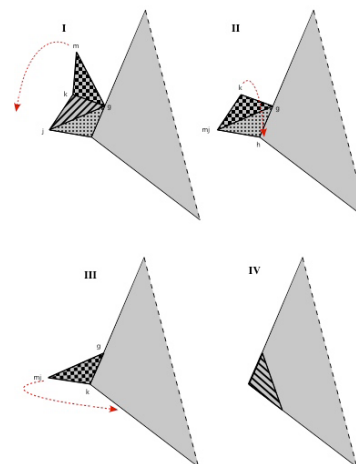
- I. Put a dot of glue from a glue stick on the dotted triangle in the bottom. Fold the whole extra-layer piece (the 'bat ear') inwards along the natural edge (g - h).
- II. With the dotted triangle fixed, put a dot of glue from a glue stick on the striped triangle in the middle. Fold the checkered and the striped triangles back over the dotted triangle along the line g - j.
- III. Now only the checkered triangle is 'outside'. Put a dot of glue from a glue stick on the backside of the checkered triangle and fold it onto the other side of the material.
- IV. The reinforcement is now on both sides of the material.

Alternative for folding the 'bat ear' reinforcement.

- I. Fold the checkered triangle along the line k-g so corner m meets corner j and the striped triangle is hidden.
- II. Fold the checkered triangle (and striped triangle underneath) along the line mj-g so corner k meets corner h.
- III. Now there are three layers of triangles. Fold the triangle package along line k-j into the main part of the sled.
- IV. The entire reinforcement is now on the inside of the material.

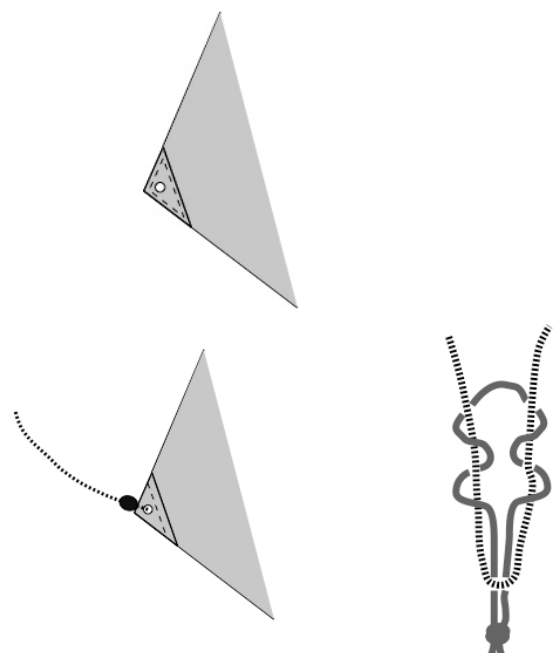


*Alternative 1 for folding reinforcement.*



*Alternative 2 for folding reinforcement.*

4. Sew a seam just inside the folded triangles (dashed line) to lock them. (For some plastics you can use hot tacking instead of sewing the triangles, or even use staples.)
5. Burn a (or punch) hole in the middle of the reinforced triangle (inside the seam) for the bridle line.
6. Tie a 1.5 m. long braided string as bridle on both sides. Probably the tie should be on the front side of the reinforcement.
7. Tie a Prusik knot loop in the middle for easy adjustments.
8. Tie the flying line to the Prusik knot loop.

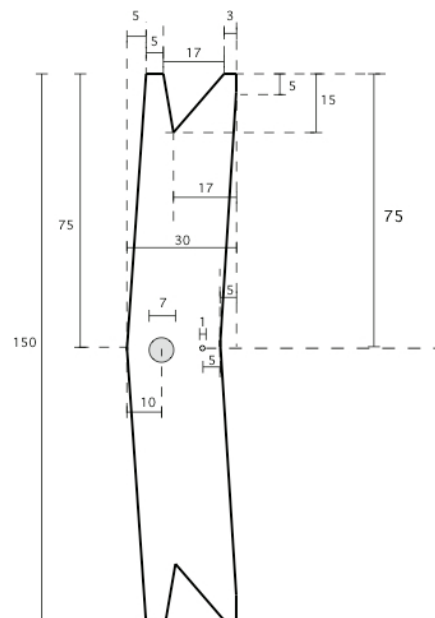


## Winder and bag

Salida Sled is a small kite to always be carried in any pocket, so it needs a minimal line winder and a small bag. To make launching of the kite easier, the kite should be folded around the winder in a specific way, described below.

### Line winder

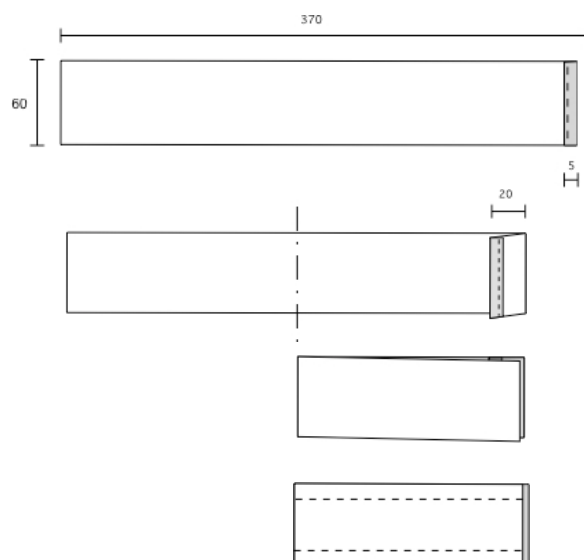
Make a winder of 3-4 mm plywood or acrylic, 150 mm long. Here is *Ocho*, the special Salida Sled winder, all measurements in mm. The kite line should be tied in the smaller hole in the centre. The larger hole is for holding the winder with thumb and index finger to let out line quickly.



### Bag

Cut a 370 x 60 mm piece of ripstop.

9. Fold back 5 mm and hem one of the short edges.
10. Flip over and fold 20 mm of folded edge backwards.
11. 3. Fold the ripstop piece double over the hem.
12. Sew along both sides with a 5 mm. sewing allowance.
13. Turn the finished bag inside-out. The lid is on the back side, so turn the lid inside-out too.



## Launching and flying Salida Sled

To launch the kite unfold it, make sure the leading edges of the inflatable tubes are clear and smooth down any folding creases.

Hold the top center of the kite with one hand and the winder with some 1.5 m stretched line in the other hand and let go in the wind.

The larger hole in the center of the winder is for holding the winder with the tips of your thumb and index finger to let the line out smoothly as the kite raises to the sky.

The Salida Sled is pretty sensitive on symmetry of the left/right side of the bridle, so use the Prusik knot loop for easy adjustments: If the kite tilts to the right move the towing point slightly to the right and vice versa.

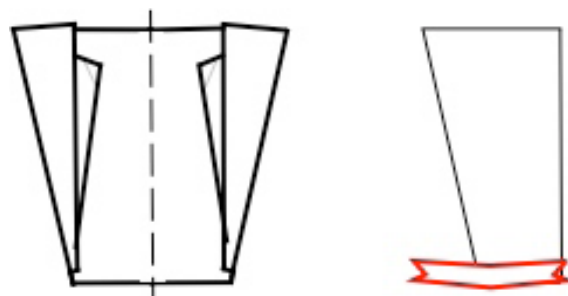
## Packing Salida Sled

Always wind in the line in a figure-of-8 (hence then name Ocho and the inward bend on one side of the winder.)

Fold the keels/sides and the whole tubes inwards towards the centre of the kite.

Then fold the sled double along the centre line (dashed). Place the winder at the bottom of the folded sled, hiding the trailing edge, and roll the winder up around sled.

Put the roll in the bag and put the bag in your pocket. Now you always will be prepared to fly a kite.

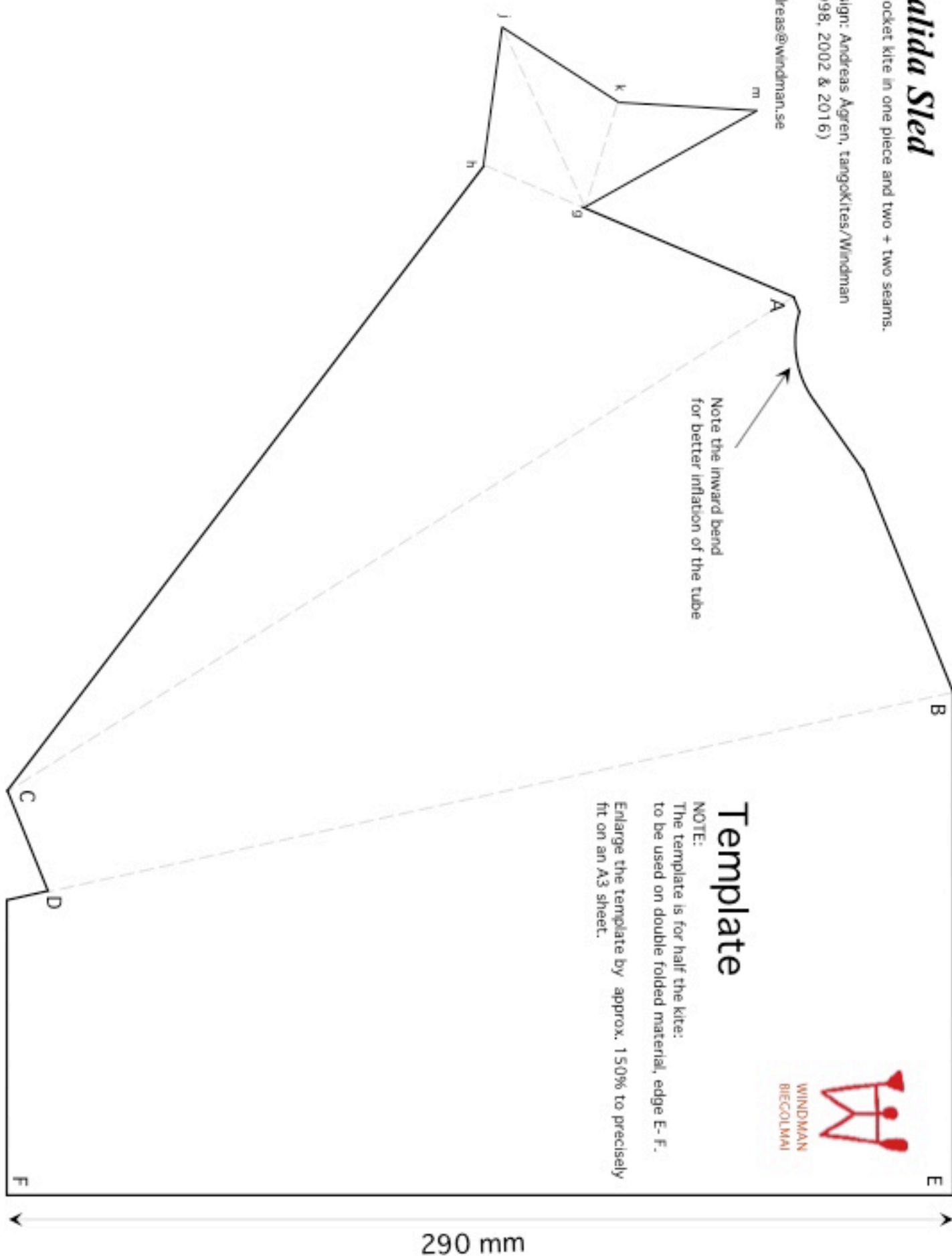


# Salida Sled

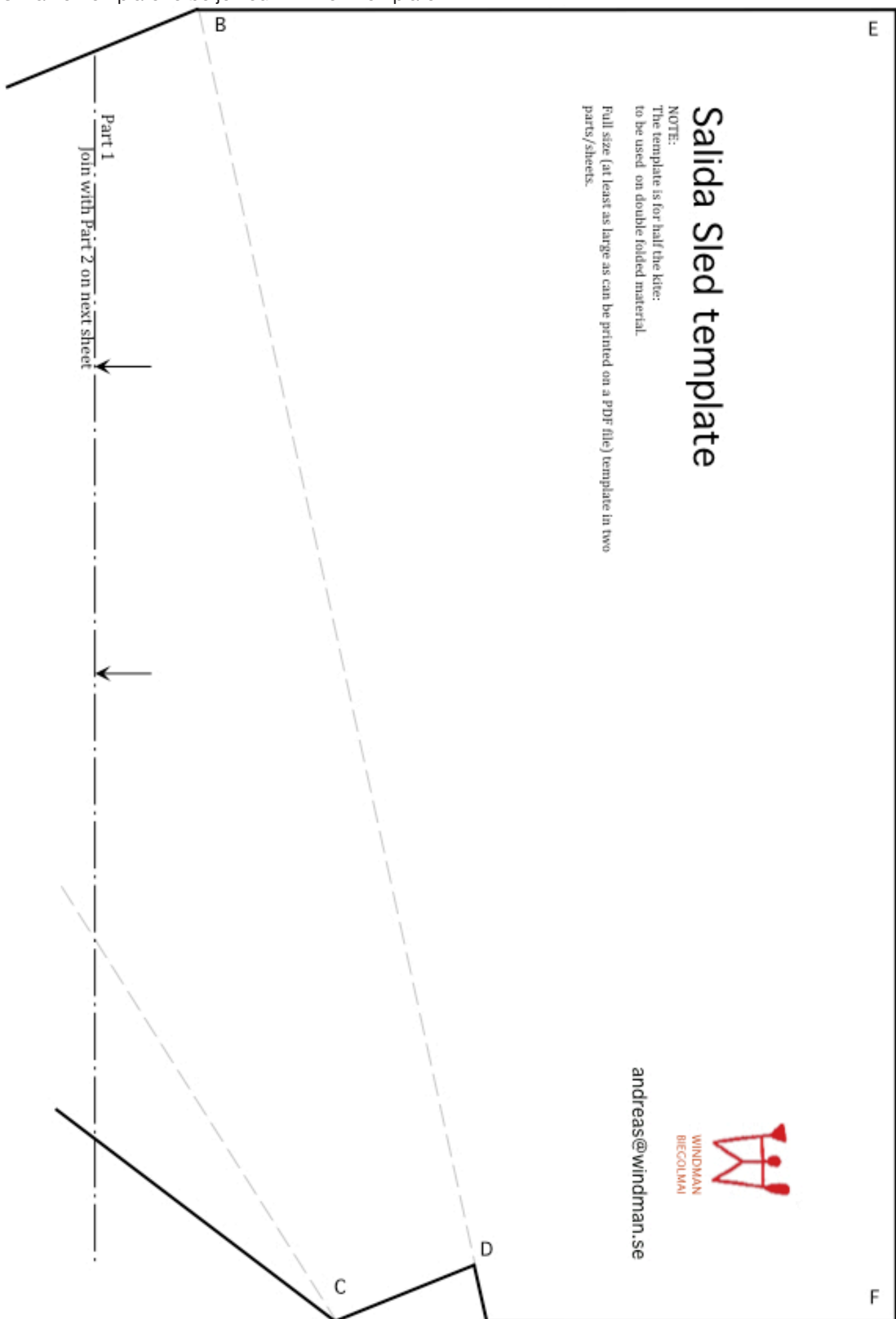
A pocket kite in one piece and two + two seams.

Design: Andreas Agren, tangokites/Windman  
(1998, 2002 & 2016)

andreas@windman.se



First half of template to be joined with next template.



# Salida Sled template

NOTE:  
The template is for half the kite:  
to be used on double folded material.  
Full size (at least as large as can be printed on a PDF file) template in two  
parts/sheets.



andreas@windman.se

Second half of template to be joined with previous part.

