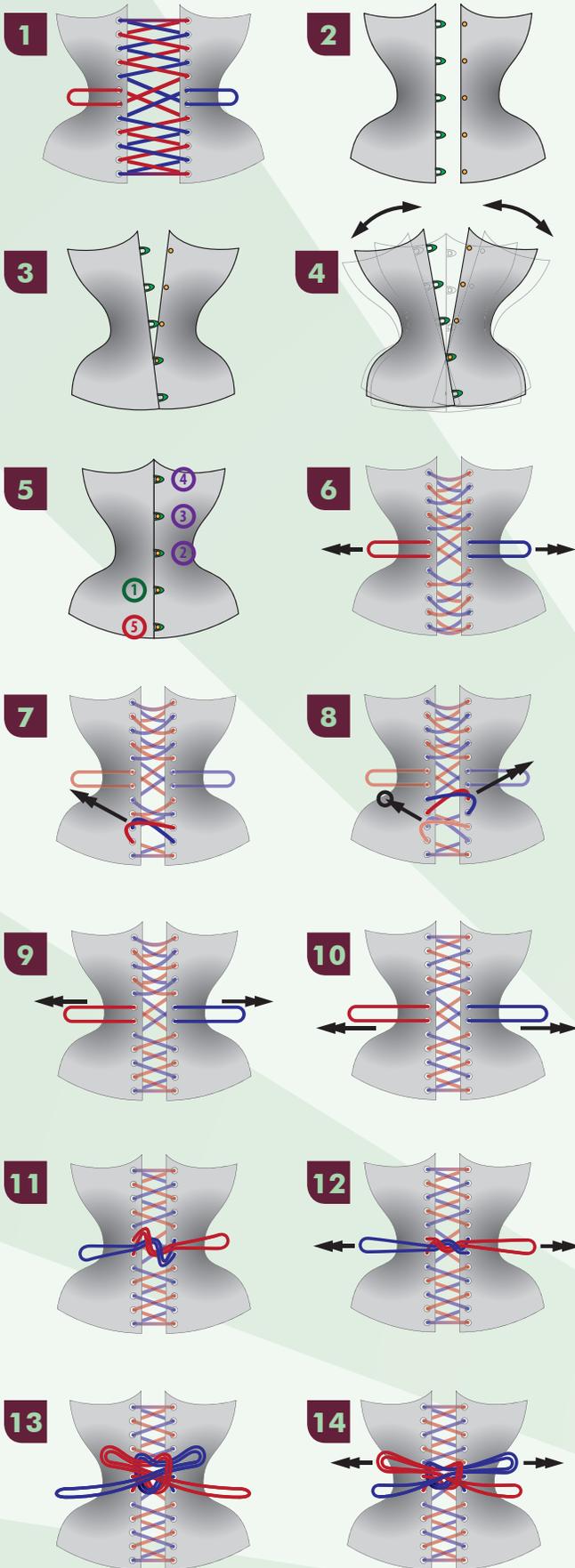


Lacing Up Your Corset

You can master it on your own!



1. Lay your corset on a flat surface and loosen the laces so that the corset is opened up wider than your natural waist.
2. Bring the corset around your waist with the busk in the front (the hoops will be on your right, and the knobs on your left).
3. Hook together the hoop and knob that are second up from the bottom of the corset.
4. "Hinge" the corset gently, catching each knob in its hoop going upward.
5. Hook together the very bottom knob and hoop. If you have a back panel, straighten it before tightening your corset (continue to straighten your back panel occasionally throughout the tightening process).
6. Reach your hands behind you to the smallest area of your waist and find the waist loops. Hold the right loop in your right hand and the left loop in your left hand, and pull the waist loops evenly to begin tightening the corset.
7. Move your dominant hand to the bottom outside X of your laces, and pull it to tighten the lower edge of your corset.
8. Next, without letting go of the bottom external X, use your non-dominant hand to grab the next external X up (you will have to "pass over" an internal X in the process), and tighten it. Repeat this, with alternating hands, until you come to the waist loops.
9. Use both hands to pull the waist loops tight. This eliminates the slack you've just pulled up from the bottom half of the corset.
10. Repeat steps 7 -9 for the top half of your corset, starting at the top external X and working down to the waist loops. You may choose to repeat these steps for both the top and bottom half of the corset a second or third time to tighten it even further or to ensure that the lacing gap is parallel (both sides of the corset are equally spaced from one another, all the way up and down the opening).
11. Cross over the right waist loop and wrap it around the left waist loop. This is comparable to the first step in knotting shoe laces – the loops are simply crossed over and wrapped around one another.
12. Give the crossed laces one final tug to ensure the corset is tightened at the waist.
13. Holding the tension, tie a bow with the laces. This is comparable to the bow you would tie with shoe laces.
14. Pull the "bow ends" of the bow out so that the entire group of laces is approximately the same length. Depending on how you are wearing your corset, you can either leave the laces out or tuck them away discreetly.