

DRESSES WITH RIBBON TIES AT NECK

Directions are for about size 4. All sizes are needed, especially larger.

Two pieces of fabric (main fabric) is about 18"-21" wide and about 15" long.

Attach a contrasting fabric 18" -21" long and 6 inches wide to the bottom.

Do a rolled hem or decorative stitch along the bottom.

Sew sides together leaving 7 ½ " at top for sleeves. Hem each side of fabric for sleeve area.

Fold over the top 1-1 ½ " to make a casing by stitching the bottom of the casing.

Thread 2 pieces of 3/8 inch grosgrain ribbon about 43" each into casing. One piece starting at one side the other piece starting at the other side. So there is a bow at each side of the neck, May use contrasting ribbon.

Note that all sizes are needed especially the larger ones, one color is fine. May add trim, ruffles, rick rack, etc. You are encouraged to add one or two pockets. The pockets turn out smaller than planned because you have to turn the material under before sewing. May use this design for new or gently used pillow cases just cut the sewn seams off cut the pillow case up the side so there are two pieces of material and follow the easy directions. Some people tuck a pair of panties in the pocket since that is not available for them. Needed especially for the larger sizes.

Simple britches with an elastic waist are also needed for little boys.

This is easy fun and quite fast.

Mail to:

Little Dresses for Africa,
24614 Curtis Dr.
Brownstown MI 48134

For additional info go to
Littledressesforafrica.org/blog/.

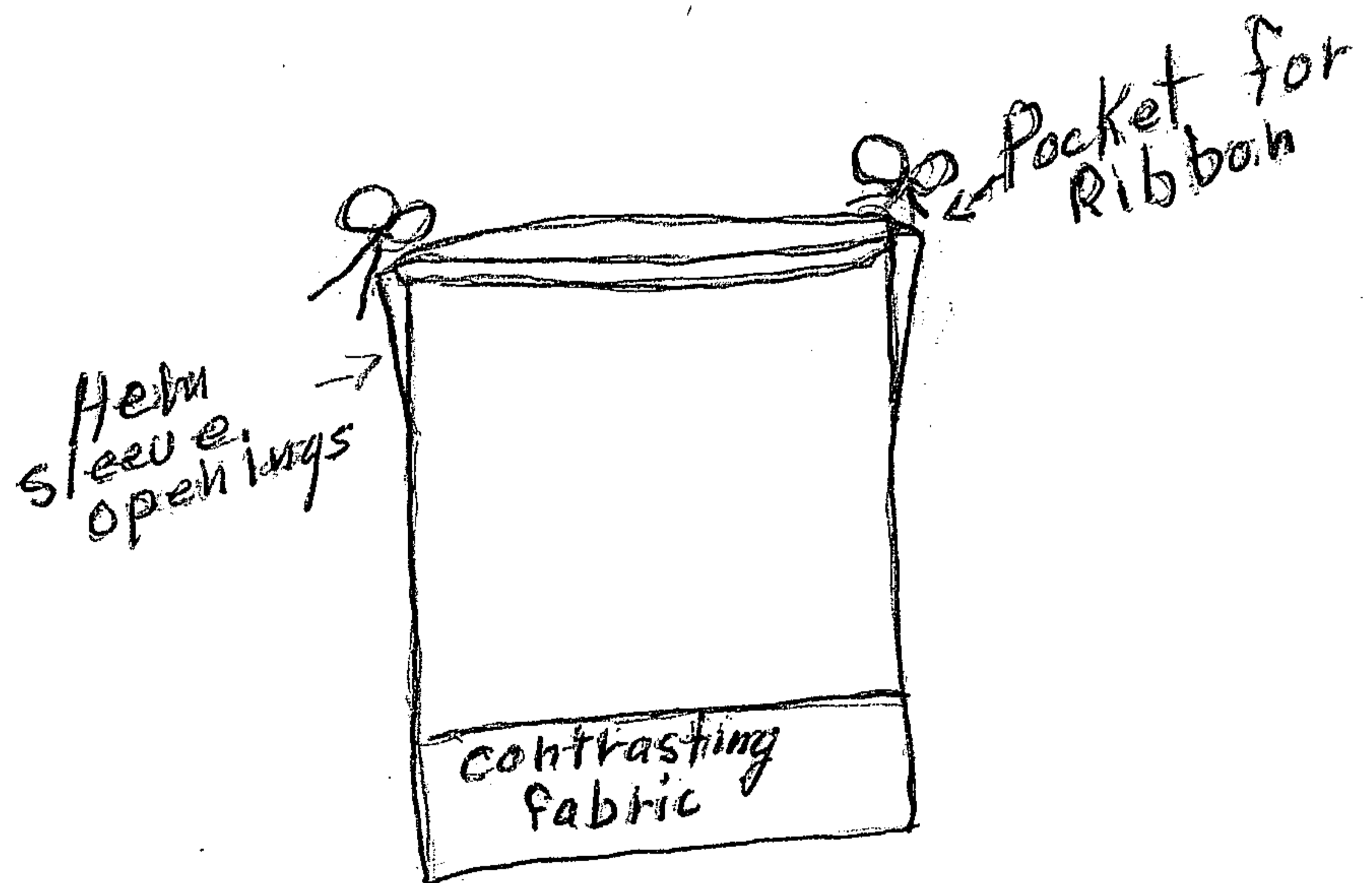
Or

Creative Kindness.org

Or call

Rachael O'Neal 734-637-9064

Connie Kovach 734-789-7182



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Little Dresses for Africa

Follow the simple directions below to make a dress that will be a prized possession for a grateful little girl in Africa. Use fabric yardage, or modify a purchased or gently used pillowcase. Mail completed dresses to Little Dresses for Africa, ~~c/o Nancy's Notions®, 393 Beichl Ave., Beaver Dam WI 53916-0683~~, and we'll ship the dresses to their destination. If you would like confirmation that your dresses have been received at Nancy's Notions®, please enclose a self-addressed stamped postcard. For additional information, go to littledressesforafrica.org/blog/.

Dress with Elasticized Top

Materials required:

- $\frac{3}{8}$ yd.–1 $\frac{1}{8}$ yd. cotton fabric, depending on size
- 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ yd. double fold bias tape
- 12"–16" elastic, $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide, depending on size
- Coordinating all-purpose thread

Making the Dress

1. Cut a fabric rectangle.

Size	Cut size	Finished length	Size	Cut size	Finished length
3	22" x 42"	19"	8	33" x 42"	30"
4	25" x 42"	22"	9	35" x 42"	32"
5	27" x 42"	24"	10	37" x 42"	34"
6	29" x 42"	26"	11	39" x 42"	36"
7	31" x 42"	28"	12	41" x 42"	38"

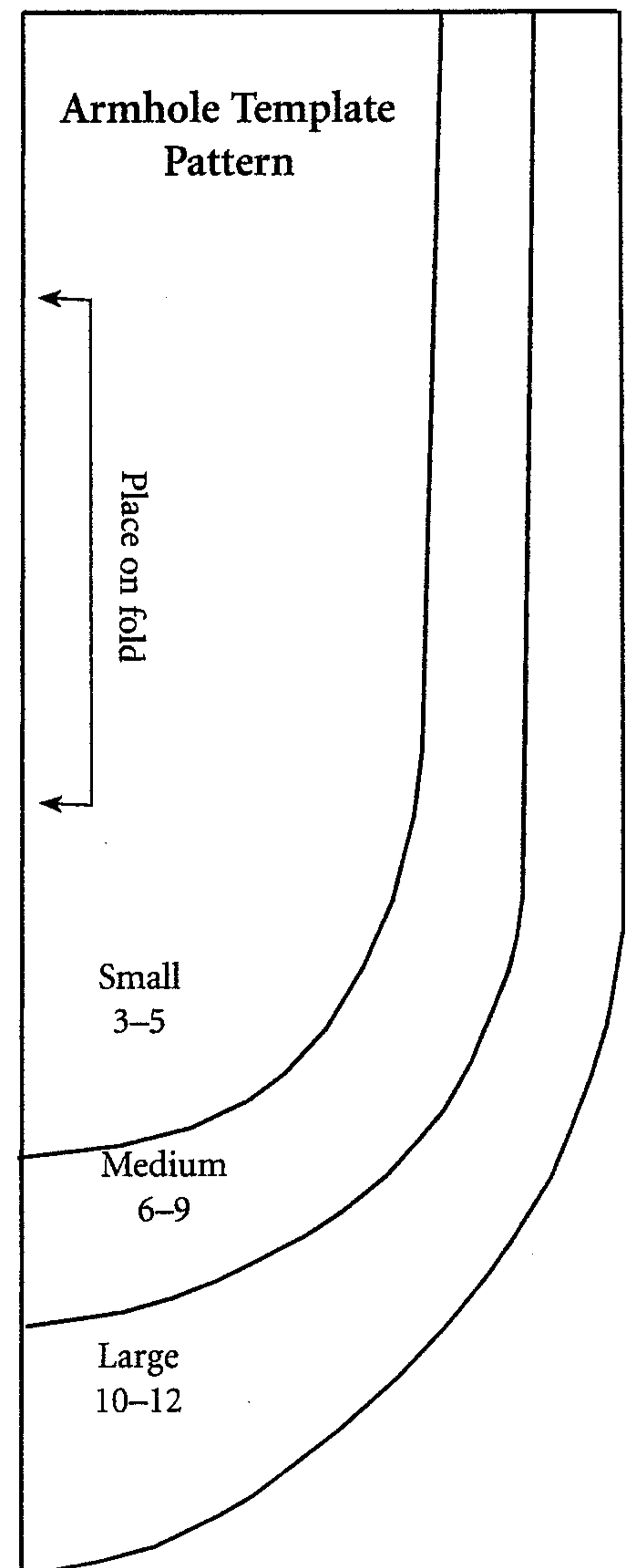
2. Fold fabric in half, meeting selvage edges. Stitch or serge the seam. Press seam open or to one side. Center seam on the stitched tube. (This will be the center back of the dress.)
3. Cut out armholes on upper side edges using the Armhole Template Pattern at right.
4. Fold under casings at the front and back top edges (the edges containing the armholes). Fold edge under $\frac{1}{4}$ ", then $\frac{1}{2}$ " to make each casing. Edgestitch casings.
5. Cut elastic into two equal lengths (6" for size small, 7" for size medium, and 8" for size large). Insert one length into each casing. Thread elastic through the casing; stitch elastic ends to the outer edges of the casing to prevent them from pulling out. This gathers the front and back edges.
6. Cut two 38" lengths of double fold bias tape. Open tape and turn under $\frac{1}{4}$ " on each end to finish the ends of the tape. Refold tape and encase armhole, allowing equal tape extensions at each end of the armhole so the dress can be tied at the shoulders. Edgestitch tape.
7. Hem the lower edge by turning under $\frac{1}{4}$ ", then 2". Edgestitch.

You're finished! Wasn't that easy?

Optional trim ideas:

- Add one or two pockets.
- Add a band of a contrasting or coordinating fabric to the dress.
- Add lace or other trims.
- Add an appliqué.
- Add machine embroidery.
- Use your imagination! This is a great way to use bits and pieces of leftover trims and fabrics.

mail complete dresses to:
Little Dresses for Africa
24614 Curtis Dr.
Brownstown, MI 48134



Dress with Bias Tape Ties

Materials required:

- $\frac{5}{8}$ yd.–1 $\frac{1}{8}$ yd. cotton fabric, depending on size
- 3 yd. double fold bias tape
- Coordinating all-purpose thread

Making the Dress

1. Cut a fabric rectangle.

Size	Cut size	Finished length	Size	Cut size	Finished length
3	22" x 42"	19"	8	33" x 42"	30"
4	25" x 42"	22"	9	35" x 42"	32"
5	27" x 42"	24"	10	37" x 42"	34"
6	29" x 42"	26"	11	39" x 42"	36"
7	31" x 42"	28"	12	41" x 42"	38"

2. Fold fabric in half, meeting selvage edges. Stitch or serge the seam. Press seam open or to one side. Center seam on the stitched tube. (This will be the center back of the dress.)
3. Cut out armholes on upper side edges using the Armhole Template Pattern on p. 1.
4. Cut two lengths of bias tape long enough to bind the armholes. Bind cut edges of armhole and edgestitch tape.
5. Fold under casings at the front and back top edges (the edges containing the armholes). Fold edge under $\frac{1}{4}$ ", then $\frac{3}{4}$ " to make each casing. Edgestitch casings.
6. Cut remaining bias tape into two equal pieces. Stitch folds and cut ends of tape together with a narrow zigzag to prevent stitches from breaking. Insert one piece through each of the casings, allowing equal extensions at each end. Machine stitch at center front and center back to prevent tape from pulling out of the casing.
7. Hem the lower edge, turning under $\frac{1}{4}$ " and then 2". Edgestitch hem.

To wear the dress, pull up tape ties to gather the top of the dress to fit. Tie bias tape at the shoulders.

Optional: Trim dress as desired. Several possibilities are listed on p. 1.

Modifying a Pillowcase to Make the Dress

Materials required:

- One new or gently used cotton pillowcase
- 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ yd. double fold bias tape
- 12"–16" elastic, $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide, depending on size
- Coordinating all-purpose thread

Making the Dress

1. Trim off the seamed end of the pillowcase. Do not cut off the hemmed edge; it will be the hem of the dress.
2. Cut out armholes on the cut edge, using the Armhole Template Pattern as a guide.
3. Fold under casings at the front and back top edges (the edges containing the armholes). Fold edge under $\frac{1}{4}$ ", then $\frac{1}{2}$ " to make each casing. Edgestitch casings.
4. Cut elastic into two equal lengths (6" for size small, 7" for size medium, and 8" for size large). Insert one length into each casing. Thread elastic through the casing; stitch elastic ends to the outer edges of the casing to prevent them from pulling out. This gathers the front and back edges.
5. Cut two 38" lengths of double fold bias tape. Open tape and turn under $\frac{1}{4}$ " on each end to finish the ends of the tape. Refold tape and encase armhole, allowing equal tape extensions at each end of the armhole so the dress can be tied at the shoulders. Edgestitch tape.

Optional: Trim dress as desired. Several possibilities are listed on p. 1.



Summer Fun-Dresses

You won't need a By Hope Yoder pattern for these colorful dresses. Use a purchased T-shirt in your size and a bright conversational print for the skirt of this swingy summer dress with bodice appliques. Alternatively, you can substitute machine embroidery or purchased appliques for the embellishment. The style is decidedly cool and comfortable for summer fun in the sun.

FINISHED SIZE

Your size

MATERIALS FOR CHILD'S DRESS (UP TO SIZE 8)

Note: Fabric yardage will vary depending on the finished size and length.

- Purchased cotton T-shirt
- 44/45-inch-wide cotton prints
 - 1 yard for skirt
 - 1/4 yard for upper contrasting band
 - 1/4 yard for lower band
 - 3/8 yard for ruffle

MATERIALS FOR ADULT DRESS

Note: Fabric yardage will vary depending on the finished size and length.

- Purchased cotton T-shirt
- 44/45-inch-wide cotton prints
 - 2 yards for skirt

- 1/2 yard for ruffle
- 2 fat quarters (18 x 22-inch pieces) for applique

MATERIALS FOR BOTH DRESSES

- 2 fat quarters (18 x 22-inch pieces) for applique
- Scraps for yo-yo flowers
- Lime green Chenille By The Inch for stems
- Scraps of fusible knit interfacing
- Lightweight fusible web
- Novelty buttons for embellishment
- Optional: Hot-fix 2mm and 3mm crystals and heat-setting tool (L'Orna)
- Stretch needle for sewing machine
- Tear-away stabilizer
- Rayon 40-wt embroidery thread
- All-purpose thread to match fabrics
- Optional: Gathering presser foot
- Basic sewing tools and supplies

Cutting

Note: Wash all fabrics and T-shirts before cutting. All seam allowances are 1/2 inch wide.

- Try on the T-shirt and mark your natural waistline. Remove the shirt and smooth out on a cutting surface with hem edges aligned. Draw a line 1 inch above the waistline mark and cut through both layers (Figure 1).

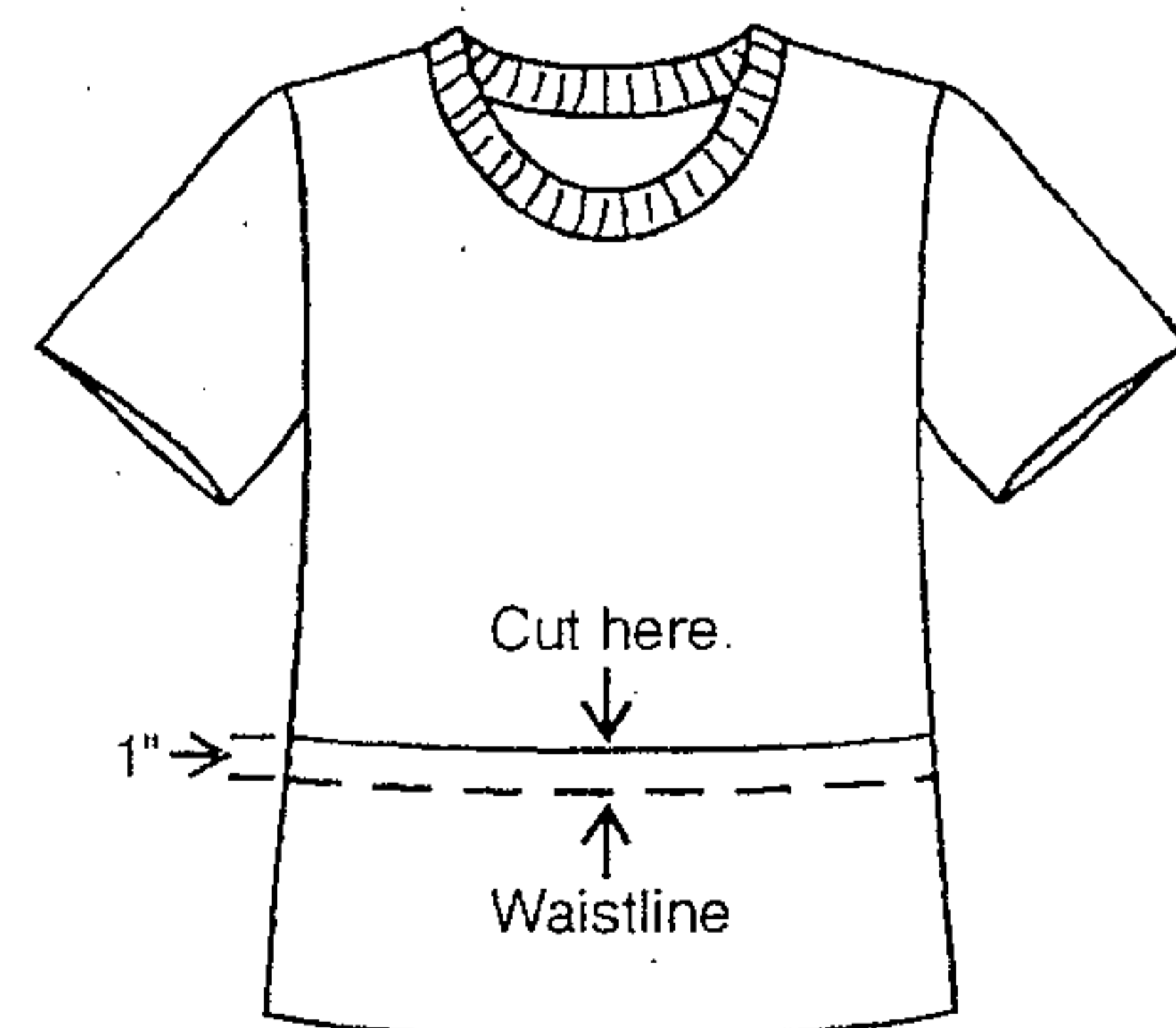


Figure 1

Cut away lower portion of T-shirt.