

# PILLOWCASE DRESS

You don't need to cut up an existing pillowcase to do it!

## Materials:

fabric for dress (1/2 - 1 yard, depending on finished length desired) 44"-45" wide COTTON BLENDS BEST - not shiny or fancy (they will be washed on rocks!)

1/4 inch elastic

thread

bias tape (extra wide double fold)

optional: 8 inches contrasting fabric for bottom band, if desired

- Fold piece of fabric in half with selvages aligned, right sides together.
- Stitch 1/2" seam along selvages to create a fabric tube.
- Press seam open
- Turn the fabric tube right side out and place on cutting table.
- Fold the tube in half lengthwise with upper raw edges aligned.
- Cut an armhole curve (dimensions to follow depending on size of dress) along the open-fold side, so you are cutting both sides the same.
- For the upper-edge casing, press under slight 1/4 inch at top of dress, front and back, and then press under another 3/4 inch (thereby creating a casing with a finished edge)
- Stitch this casing down.
- Cut 2 pieces of 1/4 inch elastic (length depending on size of dress), thread these through the two casings and stitch at each end.
- Cut 2 equal pieces of bias tape (length depending on size of dress).
- Determine 1/2-way point on tape and on armhole. Place pin at each place.
- Pin the bias tape to the armhole at the 1/2-way points.
- Sew the bias tape around the armhole on the wrong side of fabric.
- Fold over bias tape to create finished edge and sew the tape on the right side of the fabric.
- Sew the bias tape closed on part that will be the ties.
- Hem: Fold over bottom edge 1", press, fold over 1" again to make finished hem.
- Stitch hem.

## **Fabric lengths:**

Cut 44-45" fabrics in these lengths for these size dresses:

Sizes 2, 3, 4 = 16-23 inch fabric

Sizes 5, 6, 7 = 24-29 inch fabric

Sizes 8, 9, 10 = 30-34 inch fabric

Size 12 = 36 inch fabric

## **1/4 inch elastic lengths (for casings):**

sizes 2, 3, 4 = 6 inch pieces

sizes 5, 6, 7 = 7 inch pieces

sizes 8, 9, 10 = 8 inch pieces

size 12 = 9 inch pieces

## **Bias tape lengths:**

smallest sizes = 30 inches

largest sizes = 34 inches

(To save Money: make your own tape! NO NEED TO CUT IT ON THE BIAS! Cut 2 pieces from the same dress fabric, 2 inches wide, then cut them 1 inch longer than needed. As you press the 3 folds into the tapes, turn under each end 1/2 inch.)

## Size to cut armholes:

smallest sizes = 2" at top, 4" at bottom

medium sizes = 2 1/2 " x 4 1/2 "

largest sizes = 3" x 5"

## OPTIONS:

If you want to put a contrasting color/print fabric at the bottom/hem, here's what to do:

- cut piece about 8-10 inches long, the same width as the dress fabric.
- First stitching: stitch contrast to bottom of dress fabric **before** sewing it into a tube. (RIGHT SIDE OF CONTRAST TO WRONG SIDE OF DRESS)
- On outside of dress fabric, press down seam toward contrast.
- On opposite side of contrast fabric, press under 1/2 inch to form finished edge.
- Pin this edge to the right side of dress fabric covering the seam. Stitch.
- THERE! You have the contrast fabric and the hem is DONE!
- Now continue with the steps at the beginning: Fold piece of fabric in half with selvages aligned.....

If you have fabric that is wider than 44" (maybe 50-54") use it to make a 36" length dress for girls that need 'wider' clothes.

All lengths are needed. We are not making specifics so any length/size is wonderful. Easy for us!