



FROM OUR HEARTS & HANDS TO YOURS

Breezy Shirt

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This shirt is great with skirts and pants and it is easy and quick. It fits the 14" Hearts for Hearts doll. The instructions were written for the volunteers of the non-profit Stitchin' for Kids that gives dolls with outfits to young patients in hospitals. The Breezy Shirt can be made in a variety of fabrics.

Important

Print pattern full size and check that the one inch square equals one inch before beginning to sew. If it does not, please adjust accordingly.

Requirements:

Pattern for the Breezy Shirt

Fabric: ¼ yard or a fat quarter of cotton quilting fabric or other lightweight quality fabric

Scissors, Thread, Pins, Needles, Sewing machine in good working order, etc.

Hook and loop (e.g. Velcro®)

Adornments such as roses, buttons and bows are optional;
if used, they need to be sewn on securely

Options:

The bias binding around neck and arms can be made with the same fabric as the shirt, or a coordinating or contrasting fabric.

Front can be adorned with buttons or bows; if used, they need to be sewn on securely.

Assumptions:

All seams are ¼ inch unless specified. We recommend using a 2mm stitch length and backstitching at beginning and end of seams.

Preparation:

- Back - Cut one piece using the back pattern placing the pattern on the fold.
- Front - Cut two pieces using the front pattern, ensuring one is cut in reverse.
- Binding – Cut on the bias a strip 1 1/8" by 20" for binding around neck and armholes; there will be some leftover. (1 ¼" crosswise cut of fabric can also be used, but may not be as smooth around the curves of the neck and armholes).
- Cut Velcro® strip 1 ½" long and ¼" to 3/8" wide

Construction:**1. Bodice**

- With fabric folded on center back right sides together, mark ½" in from fold on neckline and sew down from the mark for ½". Stay-stitch pleat.
- Attach left back to front by placing right sides together, stitch shoulder seams.
- Repeat to stitch right shoulder seam. Press left and right shoulder seams open.
- To create facing along front opening, turn in left front edge ¼". Stitch and press.
- Repeat on right side.
- Turn left front opening another approximately 5/8".
- Repeat on right side.
- Stay-stitch along neckline.

2. Armhole Binding

- Press scant ¼" hem along one long side of bias strip.
- With raw edges and right sides together, slowly stitch bias strip to armhole edge of garment. Trim excess length of bias trim. The raw edge of bias strip will be caught in the side seam when you sew it and will be sewn down in Step 4.
- Clip curves. Press bias strip away from garment and fold bias strip over so seam you just sewed is encased by the bias strip. A ¼" of bias strip should be showing on right side along armhole. Pin. Being sure folded edge of strip is caught, stitch in the ditch from the front with machine. Alternatively you can hand stitch the bias strip to the garment.
- Repeat for other armhole.

3. Neck/Collar Binding

- With raw edges and right sides together, and providing a ¼" fabric allowance beyond front opening, slowly stitch bias strip to neckline of garment. Clip curves. Trim excess length of bias strip (short end) being sure there's enough to turn in ¼" as described next.
- Turn in ¼" of bias binding short ends.
- Press bias strip away from garment and fold bias strip over so seam you just sewed is encased by the bias strip. A ¼" of bias strip should be showing on right side along neckline. Pin. Being sure folded edge of bias strip is caught, stitch in the ditch from the front of the garment with machine. Alternatively you can hand stitch the bias strip to the garment.

4. Side Seams

- With right sides together, pin match bias seams and then pin rest of side seam. Stitch and press seam open.
- Starting at the hemline, in the side seam allowance sew about 1/8" from side seamline up to and across bias seam allowance and then down the other side to the hemline.
- Repeat to complete other side seam.

5. Hem

- Turn up shirt bottom edge of garment ¼", then another ¼" and stitch and press.

6. Finishing

- Stitch Velcro®) along front opening
 - Place hook side on outside left, tack in place with a small amount of washable glue and then sew.
 - Place soft loop side on inside right, tack in place with a small amount of washable glue and then sew.
- Add optional adornments such as buttons, ribbon roses, bows, etc.; please be sure that buttons and adornments are sewn on securely.

