

# STITCHIN' for KIDS

FROM OUR HEARTS & HANDS TO YOURS

## Gathered Skirt Options Elastic & Traditional Waistband

Please respect intellectual property; do not post this pattern on your website, blog or other electronic media without the express written permission of the designer when identified or Stitchin' for Kids



Elastic Waist

Two options are included in this pattern: Traditional waistband and Elastic waist. This gathered skirt fits the 14" Hearts for Hearts doll and can be matched or coordinated with many other tops.

The instructions were written as part of an effort to give dolls with outfits to young patients in hospitals.

Skirt with Waistband



## Requirements

No pattern piece is used for this skirt

Fabric: 1 fat quarter or ¼ yard of light weight cotton (heavy fabrics are not advised)

Scissors, Pins, Needles, Sewing Machine in good working order, etc.

Hook and loop (Velcro®)

Ribbon, small or baby rick-rack or other narrow trim if desired

For Elastic Waistband Option:

¼" wide elastic and safety pin

## Assumptions

All seams are ¼" unless specified

## Preparation

- Before cutting skirt, remove selvage from fabric
- 14" skirt width creates a less full skirt
- skirt can be made shorter or longer by varying the length of skirt
- Option – cut baby rick-rack, ribbon or other narrow trim to the same width of skirt
- Traditional Waistband
  - Skirt - cut 1 piece of fabric 20" x 5 1/2
  - Waistband – cut 1 piece of fabric 7 3/4" x 1 1/2"
  - Velcro® strip
    - cut 1 strip 1/4" to 3/8" wide and 3/4" long;
    - cut a second Velcro® piece approximately 3/8" square
- Elastic Waistband Option
  - Skirt – cut 1 piece of fabric 20" x 6"
  - Mark and measure 6" of elastic but do not cut from roll yet

## Traditional and Elastic Waistband

- Adorning Skirt - Optional
  - If you want to add narrow embellishments or decorative trims to the skirt, it's easiest to do so while the skirt is still flat. However, rick-rack, lace or other embellishments can be stitched along the bottom edge on inside of finished skirt after final hem.
- Initial Hem
  - Turn up ¼" hem. Additional turn up of hem will be sewn when skirt is completed.

## Construction for Traditional Waistband

### 1. Preparing Center Back Seam

- Turn in back side edges ¼", then another ½", press and stitch.

### 2. Gathering and Waistband

- Using longest stitch on machine, baste along top edge of skirt for gathering.
- Gather skirt tightly to fit waistband.
- Press in ¼" at each short end of waistband.
- Carefully pin right side of waistband to right side of gathered skirt allowing approximately ½" overhang of waistband on both sides – align raw edges of gathers with raw edges of waistband.
- Using longest stitch again, baste gathered edge to waistband. Review to ensure gathers are relatively even along waistband and did not twist. Stitch again using normal stitch length.

- To enclose waistband seam, turn waistband up and then fold down so that the height of the waistband on the right side, measuring from the waistband seam, will be 3/8".
- Turn in long raw edge of waistband. Pin in place being sure that when you sew from the front, you'll catch the bottom edge of the waistband.
- From right side of skirt side, top stitch waistband by stitching in the ditch catching the turned waistband.

### 3. Closing Waistband/ Sewing on Velcro®

- Stitch the 3/4" long by 1/4" wide strip of Velcro® horizontally to waistband about 1/8" in from each end of the waistband.
  - 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.
- Close skirt with Velcro®

### 4. Finishing Back

- Overlap the center backs of the skirt so that the skirt hangs smoothly.
- Place small 3/8" square of Velcro® at bottom of back 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.

### 5. Creating Final Hem

- Turn bottom of skirt up another 3/4" for finished hem. Stitch and press.

## Construction for Elastic Waistband

### 6. Preparing Center Back Seam *See Note Below for Alternative Construction*

- Turn in each center back seam 1/4" and sew.
- Press.

### 7. Casing

- Turn under 1/4" at waist and sew.
- Turn down another 1/2" at waist for casing and sew close to finished edge.

### 8. Inserting Elastic

- Attach safety pin to elastic.
- Insert marked elastic through waist. Pin elastic at marks on elastic on each end of skirt.

### 9. Center Back Seam

- With right sides together pin the center backs making sure the elastic is pinned; stitch center backs together catching elastic in seam; cut elastic from main roll.
- Press seam open.

### 10. Creating Final Hem

- Turn up bottom of skirt another 1/2" for finished hem. Stitch and press.

**Note:** As an alternative, you can make a French Seam at Center Back, and then make the Casing leaving about 1" unsewn, then pull the Elastic through the casing and finish the Final Hem.