

# STITCHIN' for KIDS

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## Crop Top with Variations

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This short top is simple and it can be modified to become a dress or a top with a peplum. The top will fit the 14" Glitter Girl doll. The instructions were written as part of an effort to give dolls with outfits to young patients in hospitals.



The above sample shows the basic crop top



The above sample shows crop top with peplum

### 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 Crop Top

Fabric: 1/4 yard of quilting cotton or one fat quarter

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

Hook and loop (Velcro®)

## Assumptions:

All seams are 1/4 inch unless specified.

## Basic Crop Top/Bodice

### Preparation

Cut two pieces of fabric using ***Basic Crop Top pattern piece***; one piece is the main fabric, the other is the lining

Cut two strips of fabric **1 1/2" by 3 3/4"** for straps; cutting straps on bias works best but can be cut on straight of grain as well.

Cut Velcro® strip 3/8" wide and 1/2" long

**Note:** For other variations, be sure to use the appropriate pattern piece.

### Construction

#### 1. Straps

- Lengthwise, fold edges of each strap piece to center, and then fold in half. Stitch.

#### 2. Bodice Top Edge

- Pin straps to main fabric right sides together placing raw edge of the strap to raw edge of top of bodice. Put each strap a scant 3/8" in from each side which results in about 1 1/8" inner distance between the straps on bodice front. Stay stitch across straps at top edge.
- With right sides together, pin lining to the main fabric with straps sandwiched between the lining and the main fabric - have the straps hanging down from the bodice top edge.
- With 1/4" seam allowance sew across the top of the bodice leaving gaps at the back where indicated on the pattern piece where you will insert the back straps.
- Clip curves. Turn and Press

#### 3. Attaching Back Straps

- Insert the strap into the gaps on each side of the bodice back. The outer edge of the strap will be about 1/2 inch from the center back. The strap length showing after inserting the strap should measure about 2 7/8 inches measuring from the top edge of the bodice front to the top edge of the bodice back. Sew and Press.

#### 4. Bodice Bottom and Side Edges

- Turn in main fabric and lining center back edges 1/4". Stitch and press.
- Turn up 1/4" of bottom edges of main fabric and lining; pin wrong sides together being sure bottom edges of main fabric and lining align; top stitch with scant 1/4" seam allowance being sure edges of both main fabric and lining are caught within stitching. Press.





## 5. Velcro®

- Place Velcro® vertically 1/8" in from each center back. Stitch Velcro® along 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.

## Creating Crop Top/Bodice with a Peplum

### Preparation

Use the Peplum Crop Top pattern piece for both the main and lining fabrics

For the Peplum Cut 1 piece of fabric 15" by 2 3/4"

See Basic Crop Top Preparation to cut Straps and Velcro®

### Construction

1. **Construct Crop Top/Bodice as specified in Basic Crop, numbers 1 and 2.**

### 2. Preparing Peplum

- Turn peplum bottom edge under 1/4" then another 1/2". Stitch and press.
- Turn peplum side edges in 1/4", then another 1/2". Stitch and press.
- Using longest stitch on machine gather raw edge of peplum. Leave 1/2" ungathered at each center back.

### 3. Attach Peplum to Main Fabric Bodice

- With right sides together and leaving 1/2" free at each center back of main fabric crop top bodice: line up edge of peplum 1/2" from crop top center back raw edge; pin gathered peplum to main fabric bodice aligning raw edges of peplum and bodice.
  - An easy way to attach gathered peplum to bodice evenly:
    - a) Peplum: Fold in half and mark center; Fold in half again and mark; end result is you've marked peplum in quarters.
    - b) Crop Top: Mark 1/2" in from each center back then fold in half raw edges together and mark center. Fold again; now the top is marked in quarters.
    - c) Put center back of peplum at 1/2" from center back of top then match peplum and top at quarter marks right sides together.
- Baste to ensure gathers do not twist. Stitch.
- Turn gathered peplum down and press seam up toward bodice.

#### 4. Attaching Back Straps

- Insert the strap into the gaps on each side of the bodice back. The outer edge of the strap will be about ½ inch from the center back. The strap length showing after inserting the strap should measure about 2 7/8 inches measuring from the top edge of the bodice front to the top edge of the bodice back. Sew and Press.

#### 5. Attaching Bodice Lining to Main Fabric Bodice

- Turn in main fabric and lining center back edges ¼". Stitch and press.
- Turn up 1/4" of bottom edge of bodice lining. Press.
- Pin bottom edges of main fabric bodice and lining wrong sides together being sure that the gathered seam is covered by the lining. From front side of main fabric, top stitch the main fabric and lining together being sure to catch edges.
- Continue construction with Velcro® (#5) as specified for Basic Crop Top Bodice.

### Creating Crop Top/Bodice as a Dress

#### Preparation:

Use the Peplum Crop Top pattern piece for both the main and lining fabrics

For Skirt: Cut 1 piece of main fabric 20 1/2" by 6" for dress skirt - longer if a long skirt is desired

See Basic Crop Top Preparation for straps and Velcro®

#### Construction

Construct Crop Top/Bodice as specified under Crop Top with Peplum Numbers 1 through 5.

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**Peplum Crop Top - GG 8/13/21**

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**Basic Crop Top - GG 8/13/21**

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