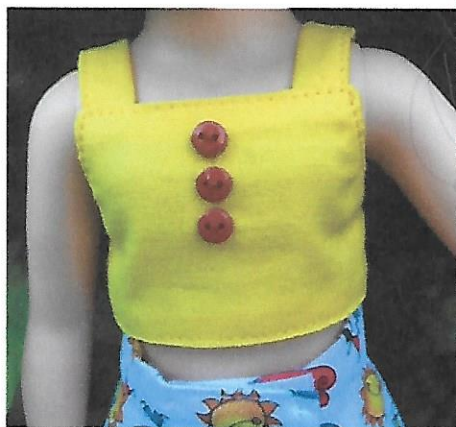


FROM OUR HEARTS & HANDS TO YOURS

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" Hearts for Hearts 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 left sample shows crop top with peplum; the right with center trim and 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 Crop Top pattern placing both pieces on fold;
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

or use 3/8" wide ribbon cut 3 3/4" long (fray check both ends of ribbon if used)

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

Construction

1. Straps

- Lengthwise, fold edges of each strap piece to center, and then fold in half. Stitch.
- If using ribbon, fray check both ends of the ribbon

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 1/4" in from each side which results in about 1 1/8" 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 - and the straps hanging down from the bodice top edge. With 1/4" seam allowance sew across entire length of the top of the crop top/bodice.
- Clip curves. If ribbon is used, do not trim or clip ribbon.
- Turn and Press

3. 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.

4. Attaching Back Straps

- Turn under 3/8" of the back strap length and tack each.
- Place the outer edge of each strap 1" from center back edges and 1/4" up from bottom edge. Sew and 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.

Inserting Lace or Ruffle Trim to Center Front of Basic Crop Top/Bodice

Preparation

Cut one piece of fabric for lining using Crop Top pattern placing piece on fold

Cut two pieces of main fabric using Crop Top pattern (one in reverse), not on the fold, and adding additional $\frac{1}{4}$ " to each end that was specified to be on the fold

Options - Choose one:

A. Cut one strip of fabric for ruffle (ruffle strip) $4\frac{1}{2}$ " by 2" OR

B. Cut one strip of lace 2"

Cut two strips $1\frac{1}{2}$ " by $3\frac{3}{4}$ " for straps

or use $\frac{3}{8}$ " wide ribbon cut $3\frac{3}{4}$ " long (fray check both ends of ribbon if used)

Cut Velcro® strip $\frac{3}{8}$ " wide and $\frac{1}{2}$ " long

Construction

- Prior to Step 1 on page 1, follow the additional steps below.

6. Ruffle Option

- Turn up lengthwise edge of ruffle strip $\frac{1}{4}$ " and then an additional $\frac{1}{4}$ ", press. Stitch.
- Using longest stitch, stitch raw lengthwise edge for gathering.
- Gather to fit center front height of top.

7. Adding Ruffle or Lace

- With right sides together, pin ruffle or lace to left main fabric Crop Top/Bodice along center front edge. Stitch.
- With right sides together, pin right side of Crop Top/Bodice to left side over ruffle/lace. Stitch on top of previous stitches. Open and press seam allowance behind left side.
- Continue with construction as specified for Basic Crop Top/Bodice (Numbers 1 thru 4).

Creating Crop Top/Bodice with a Peplum

Preparation

Cut Top/Bodice pieces and straps as specified for Basic Crop Top

Cut 1 piece of fabric $14\frac{1}{2}$ " by $2\frac{3}{4}$ " for **Peplum**

Cut Velcro® strip $\frac{3}{8}$ " wide and $\frac{1}{2}$ " long.

Construction

8. Construct Crop Top/Bodice as specified in Numbers 1 and 2.

9. Preparing Peplum

- Turn peplum bottom edge under $\frac{1}{4}$ " then another $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Stitch and press.
- Turn peplum side edges in $\frac{1}{4}$ ", then another $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Stitch and press.
- Using longest stitch on machine gather raw edge of peplum.

10. Attaching Peplum to Main Fabric Bodice

- With right sides together, and leaving ½" free at each center back of main fabric bodice, pin gathered peplum to main fabric bodice aligning raw edges of peplum and bodice. Baste to ensure gathers do not twist. Stitch.
- Turn gathered peplum down and press seam up towards bodice.

11. Attaching Bodice Lining to Main Fabric Bodice

- Turn in main fabric and lining center back edges ¼". Stitch and press.
- Turn up ¼" 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.

12. Attaching Strap Backs

- Turn under 3/8" of the back strap length and tack each.
- Place the outer edge of each strap 1" from center back edges and ¼" up from bottom edge. Sew and Press.

13. Velcro®

- Place Velcro® vertically 1/8" in from each center back. Stitch Velcro® along back opening, hook piece on outside left and loop on inside right.
 - See Number 5 above for details

Creating Crop Top/Bodice as a Dress

Preparation:

Cut Bodice top pieces and straps as specified for Basic Crop Top/Bodice

Cut 1 piece of main fabric 20 1/2" by 5 1/2" for dress skirt - longer if a long skirt is desired

Cut two Velcro® strips; one 3/8" wide and 1/2" long and the other about 3/8" square

Construction

14. Construct Crop Top/Bodice as specified under Crop Top with Peplum Numbers 8 through 13

15. Creating Final Hem

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

16. Skirt Closure

- Close Bodice with the Velcro®
- Overlap the center backs of the skirt so that the skirt hangs evenly.
- Place 3/8" square of Velcro® at bottom of back opening approximately ¼" in from center back seam and about 1 1/2 inch from bottom of skirt hem.
 - See Number 5 above for details of attaching Velcro®

