



FROM OUR HEARTS & HANDS TO YOURS

Square Neck Dress

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This square neck dress to fit 14" Hearts for Hearts dolls is patterned after a vintage design. 2 skirt options are offered as a choice for the maker. The simple top can be embellished many ways. The instructions were written as part of an effort to give dolls with wardrobes to young patients in hospitals.



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: **Read Pattern All the Way Through Before Starting**

- Main fabric for dress, e.g. quilting weight cotton
- Lightweight lining fabric for bodice – bodice is fully lined, no facings
- Cut skirt front and backs using attached pattern **OR** cut skirt fabric 5" x 22"
- 2½" piece of ¾" Velcro, cut in half lengthwise
- Buttons, ribbons or other embellishments
- Ribbon, small or baby rick-rack or other narrow trim if desired for skirt and/or bodice
- Scissors, Thread, Pins, Needles, Sewing machine in good working order

Assumptions:

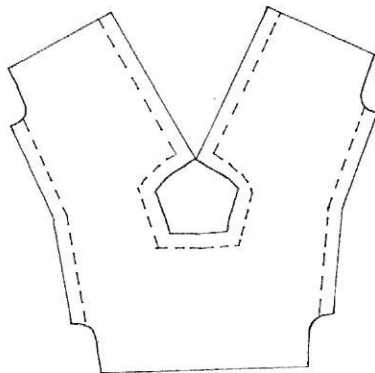
All seams are ¼" unless specified

Preparation:

- Cut front and back bodice pieces of main fabric and lining
- Two Skirt options:
 1. Use attached pattern pieces to cut 1 front on the fold and 2 back pieces **OR**
 2. Cut 1 piece of fabric 5" x 22"

Construction:

- Sew main fabric bodice pieces together at the shoulders. Press seam allowances open. Repeat with lining bodice pieces.
- Pin bodice and lining right sides together and sew:
 1. Sew edge of each armhole.
 2. Sew up one back edge, around neck, and down other back edge:

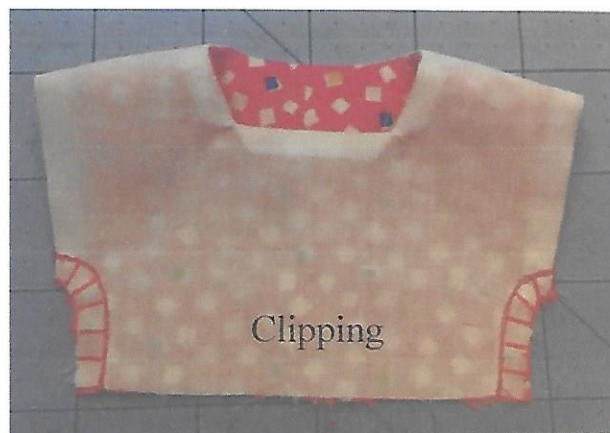


3. Clip neckline and armhole curves and all corners. Using safety pin, turn the bodice right side out through the shoulders. Push out corners, make seams run exactly on the edges and press carefully:



4. Match side seams of bodice and stitch using $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam. (Stitching twice will help reinforce seam). Carefully clip curves of underarm seams to help them lie flat. (Do not cut too deeply).

* Red marks on photo on right below shows underarm clipping:



5. Turn bodice right side out, smooth underarm seam and press flat.

Preparing skirt – both options

1. Turn in back side edges $\frac{1}{4}$ ", then another $\frac{1}{4}$ ", press and stitch.
2. Turn up $\frac{1}{4}$ " hem and press, turn another $\frac{1}{4}$ ", press and stitch.
3. Using longest stitch on machine, baste along top edge of skirt at $\frac{1}{4}$ " and again at $\frac{1}{8}$ " for gathering.
4. Gather skirt and match to right sides of bodice, spacing gathers evenly.
Sew skirt to bodice using $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam and then zig zag the seam to finish the edge.

Hint: The following link shows six different ways to gather fabric:

<https://blog.treasure.com/?s=gathering+fabric>

Finishing Back

1. Overlap the bodice backs and sew the $\frac{3}{8}$ " wide by 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " long piece of Velcro into place.
Hint: Before sewing Velcro, tack it down with a bit of glue stick; let dry before sewing.

Adorning Skirt – Optional

1. If adding rick-rack, ribbon or other narrow trim, place over hem stitching and stitch in place.
2. Optionally, rick-rack can be stitched along bottom edge on inside of skirt.
3. Decorative trims or stitching can also be added while the skirt is flat.

