

Cap Sleeve Dress for Sasha Dolls Toddler 13"

PDF Sewing Tutorial

Designed by Petrana
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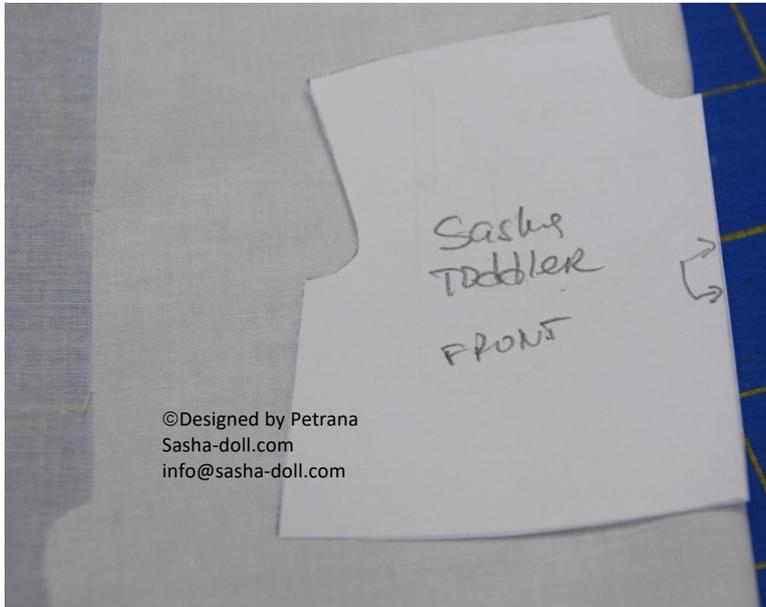
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Please familiarise yourself with all the steps in this guide first, by reading through them, before sewing.

Video tutorials as a supplemental are available here:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoBqWXshVlxhwjuePjEC4g>



Fold the fabric and place the front of the bodice pattern on the folded line; do the same with the front lining and cut one piece from the fabric and one from the lining.

You may pin the pattern to the fabric to help you cut correctly as in doll clothes even 1mm makes a difference.

TIP: Never lift the fabric from the surface while cutting!



Cut out from the fabric a piece measured 26" by 5 7/8 " for the skirt.

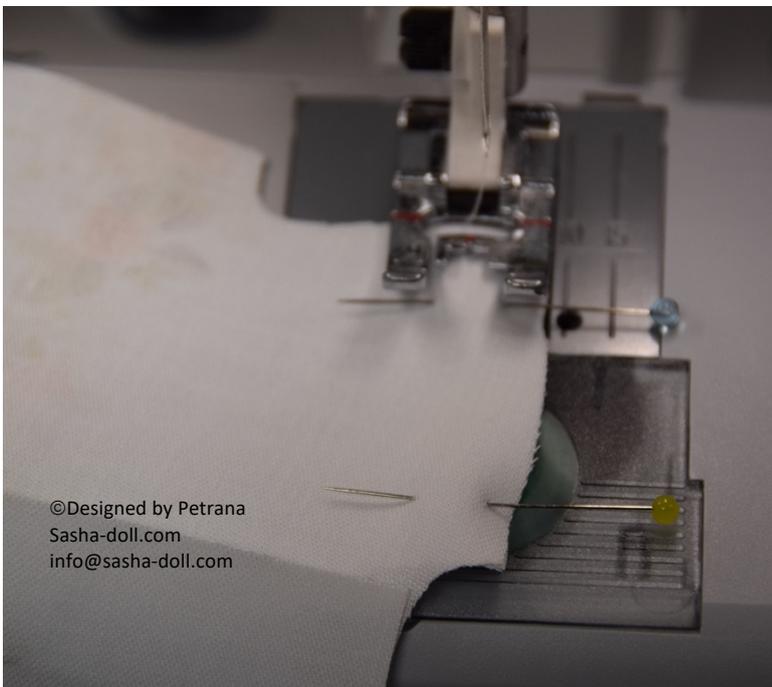


With the right sides together pin the front of the dress fabric to the back, do the same with the lining and sew by machine or hand. If you are not comfortable with the pins you can use a basting stitch, but make sure you are not basting on the sewing line. The sewing line is 1/4" from the end.

For the lining, you can use the same fabric as the dress, or similar weight fabric.

For dark coloured outer fabrics, it is best to use light colours for lining to prevent staining the doll body.

Red, Black and Denim most definitely will stain the doll's body!



TIP: Always leave a long tail of threads at the beginning so you can use it to help move the fabric along in the beginning. It is best to secure the stitches at the beginning and at the end every time.

Try to avoid sewing over the pins and keep your fingers away from the needle!

When you are done with the shoulder seam, press them.



When you are done with the shoulder seams open them and press both sides.



Trim



Place them over each other with the right sides inside.



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Pin or baste both sides starting from the back, going around the neckline and finishing at the other side at the back. Do the same for the sides. Follow the same direction to sew.

Always secure by reverse stitching at the beginning and at the end!



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When you are done sewing clip closely into the seam allowance. Be careful not to cut the seam line!



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Clip the corners from the back.



Trim the excess of the seams off and press the seams.



To turn the bodice inside out, the best way is to use a haemostat.

If you don't have one you can leave the upper and lower thread of the machine longer and use them to turn out.



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Pinch the end corner, making sure you catch the sewing line, and pull carefully to turn the bodice inside out.

Try not to stretch it too much whilst doing so.



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Use a point turner to shape the back seam into a straight line, pressing with your fingers first and then with the iron.

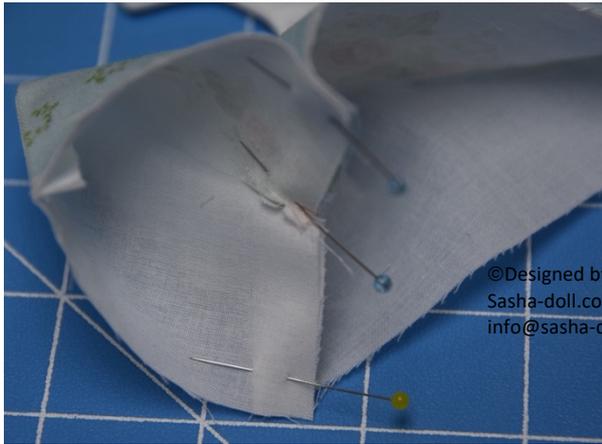


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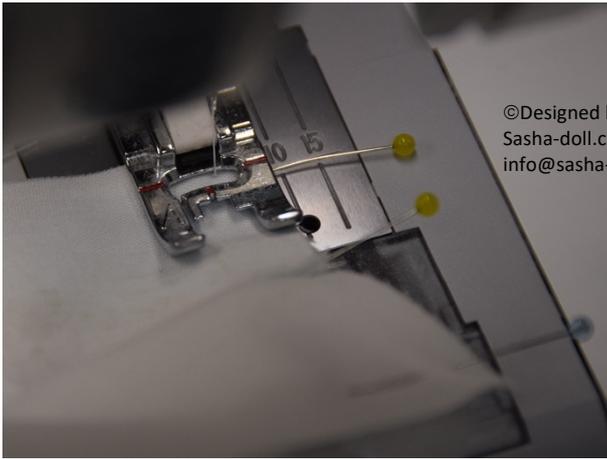
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After you are done with both sides of the back, do the same on the arm openings and then to the neck area.



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Open the side seams and pin or baste the right sides together from front to back of the fabric and do the same for the lining.



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Start sewing the side seams together, securing in the beginning and at the end with reverse stitch.



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Make a small clip in the middle to avoid bulk.



Open and press with hands, comparing to make sure both sides are equal in length.



SKIRT. Use a zig-zag stitch on all sides excluding the top of the skirt. Trim the remaining thread carefully and press. Now is the time to fold the sides and the hem. I used around 3/8" for the side seams and 1/4" for the hem.

After forming the side seams, being careful with your hand and using the tip of the iron at the same time, press on the front side to strengthen the fold. Do the same with the hem.



The raw edges on the skirt are finished by overlocker(serger) as shown in the picture.



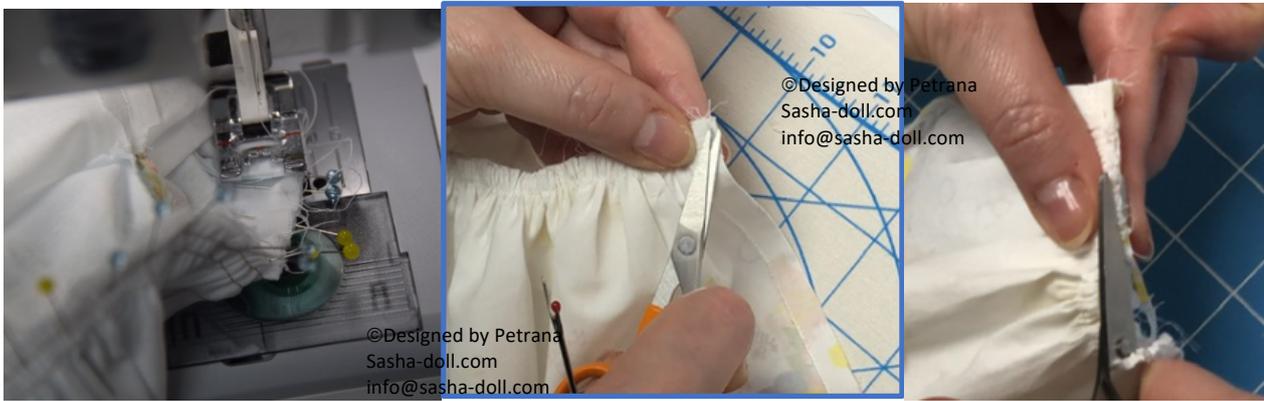
For best results do not cut the tail but instead insert it in into the seam.



The sewing line for attaching the skirt to the bodice is $\frac{1}{4}$ " so make sure the gathering lines are not over the sewing line.



If you have a gathering stitch on your machine, use it, otherwise select a long length stitch between 4 to 5. The sewing line is $\frac{1}{4}$ " so closely run two gathering rows with the machine at either side of the sewing line. When you are done, attach the front side of the skirt to the front of the bodice and leave the lining open. Secure both ends with pins. Pull both threads at the same time to gather the fabric, distributing it evenly so the length of the skirt and bodice are equal. Secure the thread by wrapping it two times around the pins on both sides. Pin or baste.



Set your machine at $\frac{1}{4}$ " distance from the end and run a 2.5 stitch - this is important as it is going to help you with the lining of the bodice.

Secure at the beginning and sew slowly, removing the pins before the needle reaches them. Watch your fingers and use your left hand to keep the gathers nicely in place.

Secure at the end, remove the gathering threads.



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Use your fingers to turn the $\frac{1}{4}$ " lining inwards and all the way across the bodice. Pin or baste it to the skirt, being careful not to penetrate the front.

IMPORTANT: this is when you must work as fast as possible and NEVER leave pins on your sewing project for a long time as it is going to be very difficult to remove the holes, even if you are using the finest pins.



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I use a very small needle to line the dress as this helps me to work faster.
Start with securing the thread and work in EVERY stitch when attaching the skirt to the bodice – this is for the best results, otherwise you can skip a stitch 😊
Remove the pins as soon as you are done with attaching the lining and secure well at the end.



Start ironing the dress from the back, using your hands to shape the waistline straight. Do not iron over the skirt, just on the joining seams to flatten them.



Make sure back lengths of the dress are equal and line up before joining them with pins or by basting.

Run a machine stitch that is approximately 2.5" long, starting from the hem and secure well with reverse stitch at the end.



Use your hands to shape the hem and now you are ready to sew on the hem!



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Sew the snaps close to the edges and once you are done, iron the dress for the final time.

After you finish, leave the dress on a hanger or to lay flat until it is completely dry and then you are ready to dress your doll



Thank you very much for making it to the end! I hope you have enjoyed the process and that you have a beautiful dress.

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I will greatly appreciate it if you credit me as for the pattern when listing your creation; this support will encourage and inspire me to create new patterns 😊

Petrana xx

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