

Spoiling

A Trio of Sewing Projects for a Special Little Doll

by Gael Shults and AnneLise Wilhelmsen

One of the most anticipated moments of any UFDC National Convention happens at Sunday evening's banquet. After the meal has been eaten, the entertainments enjoyed, and the speeches given comes the final delight of the week. On the count of three everyone in the room, simultaneously, opens their souvenir dolls. This year there were audible gasps of pleasure, followed by a cacophony of chatter as we examined the details of her face, her dress, and her tiny little treasure of a bonnet.

It goes without saying that she deserves to be spoiled. And so once home, we designed a trio of goodies with that purpose in mind: a pretty calico dress, a small stuffed doll, and a charming little patchwork quilt so Stella can tuck her dolly into bed each night.

From our Stellas to yours, we wish you plenty of beautiful fall days and many happy sewing hours. Enjoy!

Stella...



1. Cut one bodice front and one bodice front lining on the fold, two bodice backs, two bodice back linings, two sleeves, two cuffs, one skirt, and (optionally) one ruffle. NOTE: Separate cutting lines are provided on the skirt pattern for sewing it with, or without, a ruffle.
2. With right sides together, pin bodice front to bodice backs at shoulders. Stitch using a 1/4" seam allowance. Press seams open flat. Repeat for lining.
3. Stitch 1/4" from armhole edges of lining. Clip curves. Turn to inside along stitching line and hand baste in place.

Step 3



4. With right sides together, pin lining to dress at neckline and center back edges, turning up 1/4" at lower edges of lining as shown.
5. Begin stitching at lower edge of (doll's) right side using a 1/8" seam allowance. Stop 1/4" from the neckline and pivot. Continue around the neckline using a 1/4" seam allowance and stop when you're 3/8" from the left center back edge. Pivot and continue down the left side using a 3/8" seam allowance. Trim all seam allowances to 1/8", clip curves, and turn to the right side. Press.

Steps 4 and 5



6. Cut 8" of lace edging. Turn under one short end 1/8" plus a second 1/8" to create a narrow hem and hand stitch in place.

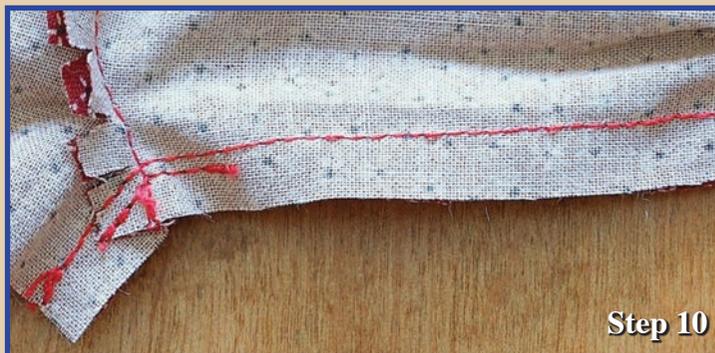
Hand stitch lace to neckline, just inside the edge, clipping off any excess and narrow hemming the final short end of the lace the same as at the beginning edge. Press.

7. Run long gathering threads along upper sleeve edges between marks, stitching 1/8" and 3/16" from edges. With right sides together, pin sleeves to bodice only (be careful not to catch in the lining) matching marks on sleeves to marks on bodice. Pull up gathers to fit and adjust evenly by combing and pinning in place. Stitch using 1/4" seam allowances. Clip curves. Trim to 1/8" and press towards bodice.
8. Run long gathering threads along lower sleeve edges at 1/8" and 3/16" from the edge, starting and stopping 1/4" from each side. With right sides together, pin sleeves to cuffs. Pull up gathers to fit. Adjust evenly and pin in place. Stitch using 1/4" seam allowances. Press seams towards cuffs.
9. Turn under 1/4" along remaining cuff edges and press. Turn to inside, matching folded edges to seam lines. Hand stitch in place over seams using tiny, even, stitches. Press.

Step 9



10. With right sides together, pin dress front to backs at sides and underarms. Stitch using 1/4" seam allowances. Stitch again 1/8" from first stitching in curves of underarms as shown.



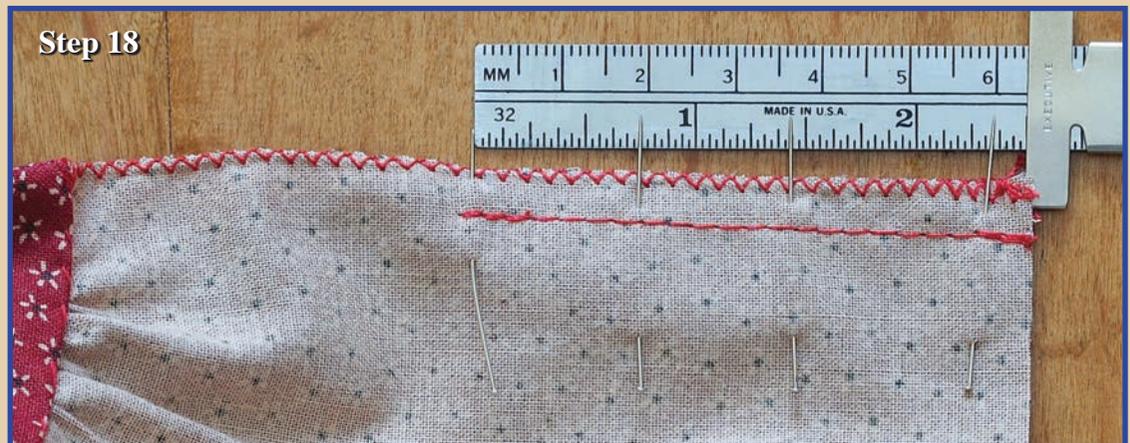
Step 10

11. Trim seam allowances close to second row of stitching. Clip just to either side of this narrowed area and press seams open flat above, and below, it. Finish sleeve seams individually. On trimmed away area, finish seams together and press towards the back.



Step 11

12. Pin lining front to backs at sides. Stitch using 1/4" seam allowances. Press seams open flat.
13. On inside, fit lining over sleeves and match armhole edges to sleeve seams. Slip stitch to seam lines. Press.



14. Run long gathering threads along upper skirt edge at 1/8" and 3/16" from the edge, starting and stopping 1/2" from center backs.
15. Finish center back skirt edges with zig-zag or blanket stitch.
16. With right sides together, pin skirt to bodice (keep lining free), having center back edge on (doll's) right side even with the finished bodice edge, and extending 1/4" beyond the bodice edge on the (doll's) left side as shown. Pull up gathers to fit and adjust evenly by combing and pinning in place. Stitch using a 1/4" seam allowance. Trim seam and press towards bodice.
17. Turn under 1/4" along lower edge of bodice lining and press. Pin in place over seam line and slip stitch in place, turning in the 1/4" at the left center back as shown.
18. With right sides together pin center back of skirt and stitch, beginning at the lower edge and continuing for two-and-a-half inches. Press seam allowance towards the (doll's) left.
19. To finish lower edge of dress without a ruffle, turn up 1/4" and press. Turn up a second 1/2" and blind stitch in place. Press.
20. To finish lower edge with a ruffle, pin short ends of ruffle right sides together and stitch using a 1/4" seam allowance. Press seam open flat and finish edges.
21. Turn up 1/8" plus a second 1/8" along lower edge of ruffle and hand baste. Edge stitch in place. Press. Remove basting.
22. Run long gathering threads along upper edge of ruffle at 1/8" and 3/16" from the edge, starting and stopping just to either side of the center back point (the seam from step 21 above is a good place to designate as the center back).
23. With right sides together, pin ruffle to lower dress edge matching center backs and center fronts. Pull up gathers to fit and adjust evenly by combing and pinning into place. Stitch using a 1/4" seam allowance. Finish seam and press up, away from ruffle.
24. Lap doll's left back over the right 1/4" and close with buttons and thread loops. If you wish, you may sew small, decorative buttons to the center front of the bodice.

Stella's Autumn Calico Dress

Sized to fit the 2015 UFDC Convention Souvenir Doll by Susan Fosnot

NOTE: Seam allowances are included, however they vary.
Please read the instructions carefully for the correct allowance at each seam.

Requirements

Calico - 32" W, 14" L
Lace - 1/8" W, 8" L
3 Tiny Buttons for Back Closure
Optional Decorative Buttons for Bodice Front

Doll's Measurements

11" Tall
Waist - 6"
Chest - 6 1/2"
Arm Length from Shoulder - 3 1/2"

