



## **18 INCH AND AMERICAN GIRL FAIRY DRESS**

### **Make Your Outfit Instructions**

#### **1. Preview of Completed Outfit**

Play this video and check out this great outfit that YOU will make!

#### **2. Tools and Resources Required**

- 1) Paper pattern (printed from PDF file downloaded to your computer)
- 2) Fabric for the skirt and shoulder straps – netting (not stiff tulle) 10 x 48 inch (25 x 120cm). This will include fabric for the headpiece.
- 3) Fabric for the bodice and skirt lining – satin, cotton or poly cotton 8 inches x 38 inches (20cm x 95cm)
- 4) Matching thread
- 5) 10 inches (25cm) of 1/8 inch (3mm) elastic
- 6) Velcro strip ½ inch x 1 ¼ inch (1.2cm x 3.5cm)
- 7) Decoration Optional – glitter netting, sequins, glitter glue, etc.
- 8) Paper scissors
- 9) Paper glue
- 10) Fabric scissors or Rotary Blade & Cutting Mat
- 11) Pencil
- 12) Clippers/snips
- 13) Tape measure or ruler
- 14) Point Turner
- 15) Pins





### 3. Preparing Paper Pattern

- 1) Check the 'Tip' measurement is correct.
- 2) Cut out paper pattern pieces following the solid line.
- 3) Glue pattern piece #3 part 1 on top of pattern piece #3 part 2 matching A1 to A2 and B1 to B2. Glue pattern piece #4 part 1 on top of pattern piece #4 part 2 matching A1 to A2 and B1 to B2.

### 4. Cutting Out Fabric

#### Skirt Lining & Bodice

- 1) With fabric in a single layer, fold one edge (selvedge) over 12 inches (30cm) and place the skirt lining pattern on taking note to place the marked side on the 'fold of the fabric'. Pin in place. Fold the other edge (selvedge) of the fabric over 7 inches (18cm) and place the bodice pattern on taking note to place the marked side on the 'fold of the fabric'. Pin in place. You will need to cut this out twice so ensure you place it to the top of the fabric so you can cut another piece out below.
- 2) Cut around the paper pattern with fabric scissors or rotary cutter. Remove pins.
- 3) Place the bodice pattern onto the fabric below where you have just cut out the first bodice piece and pin in place.
- 4) Cut around the paper pattern with fabric scissors or rotary cutter. Remove pins.

#### Skirt & Headpiece

- 1) Fold the netting in half matching the selvedges. Take the fold of the netting and bring it over toward the selvedge 11 ¼ inches (29cm) so you have 4 layers of netting and pattern piece #3 fits between the two folds.
- 2) Place the skirt pattern piece #3 onto the fabric taking note that the 'Place on Double Fold of Fabric' instruction is on to the side of the netting that has the fold only. The 'Place on Single Fold of Fabric' instruction will be on the side that has one layer of netting folded over and two single layers of netting underneath. Pin in place.



- 3) Cut around the paper pattern with fabric scissors or rotary cutter being careful to keep the piece that you cut away from the hem in one piece so that it can be used for the headpiece. Remove pins.

### Shoulder Straps

- 1) Using the netting that is left over after cutting out the skirt fold the two layers in half and pin the strap pattern piece #2 on. This way you can cut four (4) pieces out at the same time.
- 2) Cut around the paper pattern and remove the pins.

### **5. Prepare Straps**

- 1) With two pieces of netting on top of each other, sew a row of straight stitch down the centre of the length of the strap. Repeat with the remaining two pieces of netting.
- 2) Mark the elastic with a pencil at 4 ¼ inches (11cm) and again at 8 ½ inches (22cm).
- 3) On the wrong side of the netting, place the end of the elastic at the end of the first shoulder strap so that it will be attached down the centre of the length of the strap. Pin in place. Match the first pencil mark on the elastic with the other end of your shoulder strap. Pin in place. Attach the elastic to the netting using a narrow zigzag stitch for the first ½ inch (1.2cm) to ensure that the needle goes through the elastic to secure the end. Change to a wide zigzag stitch and stretching the elastic out so that it is the same length as the netting. Stitch over the elastic until you are ½ inch (1.2cm) from the end. Change to a narrow zigzag stitch and continue to the end so that you secure the elastic to the netting. Cut the elastic.
- 4) Repeat with the second shoulder strap.

### **6. Prepare Bodice**

- 1) Take one piece of bodice and fold in half to find the centre front. Place a pin on the top at the centre. Measure ¾ inch (2cm) to the left of the pin and place another pin or mark with a pen. Repeat of the right side of the centre pin. Remove centre pin.
- 2) Along the top side of the bodice, measure 1 ¼ inch (3cm) from the centre back (end of the bodice) on both sides and mark with a pen or place a pin.



- 3) With the right side of the bodice facing up, place the first shoulder strap (right side facing down) onto the bodice to the right of the first pin or pen marking. The end of the shoulder strap is matching the raw edge at the top of the bodice and the strap will go down below the bottom of the bodice. Pin in place. Take the other end of the first shoulder strap (making sure it is not twisted) and place it to left of the second pin or pen mark with right sides together. The end will be even with the raw edge at the top of the bodice. Pin in place.
- 4) Take the second shoulder strap and place it onto the bodice to the right of the third pin or pen marking (right side facing down). The end of the shoulder strap is matching the raw edge at the top of the bodice and the strap will go down below the bottom of the bodice. Pin in place. Take the other end of the second shoulder strap (making sure it is not twisted) and place it to left of the fourth pin or pen mark with right sides together. The end will be even with the raw edge at the top of the bodice. Pin in place.
- 5) Remove the pins that you had marking the strap positions. Stitch over the shoulder straps (just inside  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch or 6mm seam allowance) to secure straps in place, removing pins as you go.
- 6) Take the second bodice piece and place it on top of the first bodice piece with right sides together and making sure that the shoulder straps are facing down toward the bottom of the bodice. Pin the bodice pieces together along the short ends (back of the bodice) and all along the top. Sew a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch (6mm) seam allowance along the three edges securing the beginning and end with reverse stitches. The bottom of the bodice will be left open.
- 7) Clip off excess fabric at the corners and clip the curves under the arms. Turn the bodice to the right side, pushing out corners and press with an iron.

## **7. Hem Skirt Lining**

- 1) Using a zigzag stitch overcast the raw edges of three sides of the skirt lining i.e. down the two short sides and along one long side. Trim any wayward threads.
- 2) Fold up  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (1.2cm) to the wrong side of the fabric along the bottom hem. Pin and Press.
- 3) Fold in  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (1.2cm) to the wrong side of the fabric down both of the short ends of the skirt lining. Pin and Press.
- 4) Using a straight stitch, sew the hem in place, stitching just inside the overcast edge of the hem.



## 8. Join Skirt to Lining

- 1) Place skirt lining on the table with the right side facing up.
- 2) Place the skirt netting on the table folded in half with the folded side on the left. Take hold of the top layer of netting on the right hand side and pull it  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (2cm) to the right so that the points of the hem on the top layer of netting are in between the points of the bottom layer of netting.
- 3) Place the netting on top of the skirt lining matching the raw edge of the skirt lining with the flat side of the skirt netting. There should be  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (1.2mm) of netting extending past the two ends of the skirt lining. Fold this excess netting over the ends of the skirt lining and pin in place. Pin the netting and skirt lining together along the top of the skirt (raw edge of the skirt lining).
- 4) Sew one row of gathering stitch just less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch (6mm) in from the raw edge of the skirt and a second row of gathering stitch just more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch (6mm) from the raw edge. This will join the skirt and the skirt lining together.

## 9. Attach Skirt to Bodice

- 1) Fold the skirt in half to find the centre front and mark with a pin. Fold the end of the skirt in to the centre pin and mark the new fold with another pin. Repeat with the other end of the skirt. Your skirt will now be marked in four even sections.
- 2) Fold the bodice in half to find the centre front and mark the raw edge with a pin. Fold the end of the bodice in to the centre pin and mark the new fold with another pin. Repeat with the other end of the bodice. Your bodice will now be marked in four even sections.
- 3) With the right side of the bodice facing the right side of the skirt, match the ends and pin together. Match the first pin of the bodice to the first pin of the skirt and pin together. Repeat with the second pins of the skirt and bodice. Repeat again with the third pins of the skirt and bodice.
- 4) Pull the gathering threads until the skirt is even with the bodice. Even out the gathers and pin in place.
- 5) Stitch Skirt to bodice with a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch (6mm) seam allowance.
- 5) Overcast raw edges with a zigzag stitch.
- 6) Remove gathering threads.



## **10. Attach Sequins**

- 1) Place a sequin onto the front of the bodice just below the shoulder strap. Using a needle with double thread, push the needle up from the wrong side of the bodice through the centre of the sequin. Leave about 4 inches (10cm) of thread on the wrong side. Take the needle through the centre of a small bead, then push the needle back down through the centre of the sequin to the wrong side of the bodice.
- 2) Repeat two more times sewing up through the centre of the sequin and bead and down through the sequin only.
- 3) On the wrong side of the bodice tie a secure knot with the threads. Trim the threads.
- 4) Repeat steps 1) to 3) with a second sequin and bead just below the second shoulder strap.

## **11. Attach Velcro**

- 1) Place the hook side of the Velcro on the right side at one end of the bodice. Stitch in place by sewing 1/8 inch (3mm) in all around the edge of the Velcro using a straight stitch. Place the loop side of the Velcro on the wrong side at the other end of the bodice. Stitch in place with a straight stitch.

## **12. Congratulations You Did It!**

Celebrate! YOU made another great outfit. Well done!