



18 INCH AND AMERICAN GIRL ANGEL DRESS

Make Your Outfit Instructions

1. Preview of Completed Outfit

Play this video and check out the 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 Dress 17 inches (43cm) Satin. If using the same fabric for the sleeves and the dress you will not need any extra fabric.

Fabric for Sheer Sleeves 9 inches (23cm) sheer e.g. Organza, voile or very fine tulle with a sparkle.
- 3) 48 inches (1.2m) Decorative ribbon or trim
- 4) Matching thread
- 5) Velcro strip ½ inch x 4 inches (1.2cm x 10cm) plus loop side of Velcro strip from Angel wings
- 6) Paper scissors
- 7) Paper glue
- 8) Fabric scissors or Rotary Blade & Cutting Mat
- 9) Pencil
- 10) Clippers/snips
- 11) Tape measure or ruler
- 12) Pins





3. Preparing Paper Pattern

- 1) Check the 'Tip' measurement is correct.
- 2) Cut out paper pattern pieces following the solid line. Taking note to cut along the relevant hem line and top of sleeve. e.g. shorter for 18 inch dolls such as the American Girl or longer for 19 inch doll such as the Australian Girl.
- 3) Glue pattern piece #1: part 1 and part 2 together matching solid line to dashed line. Repeat with pattern piece #2: part 1 and part 2, and pattern piece #3: part 1 and part 2.

4. Cutting Out Fabric

Sleeves

- 1) Fold sheer fabric in half and place pattern piece #3 onto the fabric with the grain line of the pattern parallel to the selvedge. Pin in place.
- 2) Cut around the paper pattern with fabric scissors or rotary cutter. Remove pins.

Dress

- 1) With fabric folded in half matching selvages, place pattern piece #1 (Front) on the fold. Pin in place. Place pattern piece #2 (Back) beside piece #1 and pin in place. The grain line of the pattern will be parallel to the selvedge.
- 2) Cut around the paper pattern with fabric scissors or rotary cutter. Remove pins.
- 3) Open out fabric so you have one layer. Place pattern piece #4 (neck trim) onto the fabric with grain line parallel to the grain of the fabric. Pin in place.
- 4) Cut around the paper pattern with fabric scissors or rotary cutter. Remove pins.

5. Prepare Sleeves

- 1) Sew a row of gathering thread along the top curve of each sleeve about ¼ inch (6mm) from the raw edge. Start and finish this row about ½ inch (1.5cm) from each end. Do not do reverse stitches as we need the threads loose to pull.
- 2) Sew a row of zigzag stitch along the hem of the sleeve making sure the needle goes over the edge of the fabric when it comes down on the right hand side. I set my machine to a width of 3 ½ and a length of 1. If you have a Serger, you may prefer to do a rolled hem along the hem.
- 3) Repeat on second sleeve. Trim off any threads that need trimming.
- 4) Place ribbon or fancy trim along the hem of the sleeve and stitch using a straight stitch.
- 5) Repeat with second sleeve.



6. Sew Shoulder Seams

- 1) With right sides together, match shoulder seams of the front to the shoulder seams of the two back pieces. Pin.
- 2) Sew a ¼ inch (6mm) seam allowance with a straight stitch securing the beginning and end with reverse stitches. Repeat on second shoulder.
- 3) Sew a row of zigzag stitches along the raw edges of both shoulder seams.

7. Attach Neck Trim

- 1) Press Neck Trim in half length ways with the wrong sides together.
- 2) Starting at one end of the neckline, match the raw edges of the neck trim with the raw edge of the neckline. Pin in place.
- 3) Sew a row of straight stitches around the neckline, ¼ inch (6mm) in from the raw edges (this will be about center of the neck trim). Secure beginning and end with reverse stitches. Cut off the excess neck trim so that it is even with the center back.
- 4) Sew a row of zigzag stitches along the raw edges and trim.
- 5) Turn the neck trim up so that the seam is facing down towards the dress. Press.
- 6) Sew a row of zigzag stitches along the raw edge of the center back seam on both sides, securing with reverse stitches at the neckline.

8. Attach Sleeves

- 1) Fold one sleeve in half to find the centre of the top of the sleeve. Mark with a pin.
- 2) With right sides of fabric together, match the pin marking the centre of the top of the sleeve with the first shoulder seam of the dress. (The raw edge of the sleeve will be even with the raw edge of the armhole) Pin. Match the first end of the armhole with the corresponding end of the curved edge of the sleeve. Pin. Match the second end of the armhole with the other end of the curved edge of the sleeve. Pin.
- 3) Pull gently on the bobbin threads of the gathering stitches until the sleeve is even with the armhole. With the majority of the gathering near the shoulder seam, pin securely.
- 4) With a seam allowance of ¼ inch (6mm), sew a row of straight stitches to join the sleeve to the armhole securing beginning and end with reverse stitches.
- 5) Remove gathering thread.



- 6) Sew a row of zigzag stitches along the raw edges, trim.
- 7) Push this seam allowance in towards the dress. With the right side of the fabric facing up, sew a few straight stitches forwards and backwards along the shoulder seam close to the sleeve seam. This will secure the sleeve seam allowance to the dress and ensure that you do not see the seam allowance of the sleeve through the sheer fabric.
- 8) Repeat steps 1) – 7) with the second sleeve.

9. Sew Side Seams

- 1) With right sides of fabric together match the hem of the sleeve and pin. Now match the sleeve seam under the arm, push the seam allowance in towards the dress and pin. Continue pinning down the side of the dress. Repeat on the second side seam.
- 2) With a seam allowance of ¼ inch (6mm), sew a row of straight stitches starting at the hem of the sleeve. Secure beginning and end of seam with reverse stitches. Repeat on the second side.
- 3) At the hem of each sleeve, cut the seam allowance on an angle about ½ inch (12mm) from the end so that the seam allowance at the hem of the sleeve is only 1/8 inch (2mm). This makes the point of the sleeve much neater.
- 4) Sew a row of zigzag stitches along the raw edges, trim.
- 5) Turn the dress to the right side.
- 6) Push the seam allowance of the sleeve to one side and pin from the hem of the sleeve up about 4 inches (10cm).
- 7) Sew a row of straight stitches securing beginning and end with reverse stitches. This will make the sleeve sit better.
- 8) Repeat with second sleeve.

10. Sew Hem

- 1) Fold up the raw edge of the hem ½ inch (12mm) into the wrong side of the fabric. Pin and press.
- 2) Fold down the raw edge of the hem into the fold you have just created with the iron. Pin and press.
- 3) Sew a row of straight stitches close to the inside fold, securing beginning and end with reverse stitches.
- 4) Place ribbon or fancy trim along the hem, pin and stitch down the center. Secure beginning and end with reverse stitches.



11. Sew Back Seam

- 1) Turn the dress over so that you are looking at the back of the dress. Take the right side and fold the finished off edge in ½ inch (12mm) towards the wrong side. Press.
- 2) Turn the dress inside out. With right sides together, match the back seam starting at the hem and pin together for 6 inches (15cm).
- 3) With a seam allowance of 1/2 inch (12mm) sew the back seam with a straight stitch starting at the hem and securing the beginning with reverse stitches. Sew up 6 inches (15cm). With the needle down in the fabric, lift the presser foot and turn the fabric so that you can now sew out towards the edge of the seam finishing with reverse stitches. This will give extra strength to the top of your seam.

12. Attach Velcro

- 1) Separate the Velcro strip and stitch the hook side to the back opening that is not pressed under. The strip should be attached to the right side of the fabric and starting close to the neckline.
- 2) Attach the loop side of the Velcro strip to the underside (wrong side) of the other back that has been pressed under, starting close to the neckline.
- 3) On this same side, place the loop side of the Velcro from the Angel wings on to the right side of the fabric about 1 inch (25mm) down from the neckline. You will be sewing through two layers of Velcro so ensure you have at least a size 14 needle.

13. Congratulations You Did It!

Celebrate! YOU made another great outfit. Well done!