

Sundress and Summer Top in Three Small Sizes

sherralynsdolls.com



Supplies

- Scraps of soft cotton fabric with soft colors or small prints
- Matching thread
- Narrow ribbon

Equipment

- Basic sewing tools (see **Tools, Tips, and Techniques**)

Skills

- Simple Sundress and Top with Shoulder Ties (easy project)
 - Use **Tools, Tips, and Techniques** for any help you need.
- Sundress or Summer Top with Back Opening
 - Use **Tools, Tips, and Techniques** for instructions on applying hook and loop tape.

Sizes

- Twinkle's (★) Clothing Patterns Fit

- Sherralyn's Dolls' Twinkle
- American Girl® Mini
- Corelle's® 6½ inch doll (produced in the 1990's)
- Amanda Jane® (7 inch produced in the UK)
- Florabunda's (✿) Clothing Patterns Fit
 - Sherralyn's Dolls' Florabunda
 - Madam Alexander's® 7½ inch Wendy
 - Vogue® Doll Company's Modern and Vintage Ginny®
 - Lillian Vernon's® 7½ inch doll
- Tender Heart's (♥) Clothing Patterns Fit
 - Sherralyn's Dolls' Tender Heart
 - Effanbee's® Li'l Innocents®

Introduction

These instructions describe the construction of a sundress and summer top for three sizes of dolls.

The sundress and top can be constructed in either of two versions. The first version is simpler and uses shoulder ties. The second version uses a hook and loop tape closure in the back. Twinkle is about 6½ inches tall. Florabunda is about 7½ inches. Tender Heart is about 8¾ inches. Manufactured dolls of similar sizes can also wear these outfits. (See title page.)

Symbols

- The pattern pieces for Twinkle's clothing are marked by a star (★), Florabunda's clothing patterns by a flower (🌸), and Tender Heart's clothing patterns by a heart (♥). These same symbols are used in tables in these instructions if there is a difference in the size or amount of materials used for each size outfit.
- In the patterns a thick broken line indicates where to gather the fabric.



- In these instructions light gray indicates the right side of the fabric



Copyright Notice

You may sell or give away as many of the outfits as you can make by yourself. The outfits cannot be mass produced without my permission. You may make as many copies of the patterns as you need for your own use. You may not give away or sell the patterns or the instructions, or kits containing the patterns or instructions.

The Patterns

Attached to the end of these instructions are patterns for the outfits.

- Print the patterns out and use them in the construction your outfits.
- You want the pattern printed full size, not reduced in size. It is easy to get your printer into a “shrink to fit” mode. Before cutting out pattern pieces, check the ruler printed on the pattern sheet to make sure that the pattern is printed full size.
- If the ruler does not measure correctly you will need to adjust settings on your printer and reprint the pattern.

Simple Sundress with Shoulder Ties

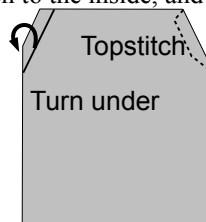
This is an easy to make version of the sundress that does not require a back opening.

Cutting and Marking

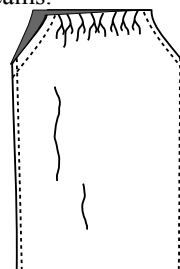
- Cut two fronts on the fold. The second front will serve as a back with no back opening.
- Mark the double notches on the garment's sides and the A dots.

Sewing Arm Openings and Side Seams

- Finish the outside edges of the four arm openings, press ¼ inch to the inside, and topstitch.



- Match the double notches and sew the sides together beginning at the bottom of the arm openings.
- Finish the seams.



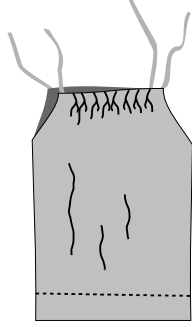
Hand Gathering the Neck

- Finish the outside edges of front and back neck.
- Press under ¼ inch and gather each side by hand to the length shown in the table

doll	gathered length
★	1”
🌸	1 1/8”
♥	1 1/4”

Making Shoulder Ties

- Cut four 5 inch lengths of narrow ribbon and sew one strip at the top of each arm opening at dot A.



- Put the outfit on the doll and tie bows at the left and right shoulders.

Hemming the Garment

- Remove the dress from the doll.
- Finish the raw edge of the hem.
- Fold and press ½ inch of fabric to the inside at hem.
- Topstitch or slip-stitch the hem.

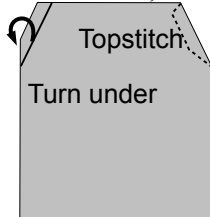
Sundress or Summer Top with Back Opening

Cutting and Marking

- Cut one front on the fold and two backs.
- Mark the A and B dots and the double notches on the sides.

Sewing Arm Openings and Side Seams

- Finish the outside edges of the four arm openings, press ¼ inch to the inside, and topstitch.



- Right sides together, match the double notches on the garment's sides.
- Sew the sides together beginning at the bottom of the arm openings.
- Finish the seams.
- Press the finished side seams to the back.

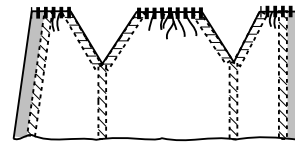
Hand Gathering the Neck

- Finish the outside edges of front and back necks, and the two sides of the back closing.
- Press the back closings ½ inch to the inside. Then press the neck edge ¼ inch to the inside. The finished top edges of the back closings will be

folded to the inside along with the rest of the neck edge.

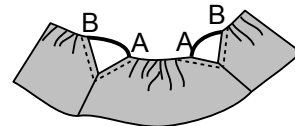
- Gather the neck front by hand. Catch the fabric layer that has been pressed to the inside. Gather each side of the neck back by hand. Catch all the fabric layers that have been pressed to the inside of the garment including the top of the folded back closing in the gathering stitches. Use the chart to determine the length of each piece gathered.

doll	front	backs
★	1"	½"
🌸	1⅛"	¾"
♥	1¼"	⅞"



Making Ribbon Shoulder Strap

- Cut two 2½ inch lengths of ribbon.
- On the inside of the garment hand sew each piece of ribbon to the front of the garment where the A dots have been marked.
- Pin the ribbon lengths to the back of the garment where the B dots have been marked. Leave about one inch of ribbon between the dots.
- Try the garment on the doll. Check and adjust the ribbon length.
- Hand sew the ribbon at B dots.



Closing the Garment

- Close the back with hook and loop tape. The instructions are in **Tools, Tips, and Techniques**.

Hemming the Garment

- Finish the raw edge of the hem.
- Fold and press ½ inch of fabric to the inside at hem.
- Topstitch or slip-stitch the hem.

