

FRONT and BACK CASINGS

5. Attach a safety pin close to one end of the elastic and pull it thru the casing with the pin until about ¼'-inch remains. Stitch ¼-inch from the edge of the fabric, stitching back and forth 2 or 3 times to be sure the elastic is held firmly. Pull elastic on through casing until elastic is about ¼-inch beyond the fabric. Pin to hold, remove safety pin and stitch across 2 or 3 times to hold.

BIAS TAPE for TIES

6. You can make your own bias tape or use wide double fold bias tape. Turn the end inside out, folding in half and stitch ¼-inch from end. Clip corner and trim seam. Turn right side out. Unfold bias tape and pin to dress, right side of bias to wrong side of dress, centering bias at side seam and having raw edges even. Sew in fold closest to the edge along the entire armhole, being sure to back stitch at the beginning and the end. Fold bias tape over the edge to the right side and stitch along the whole edge of the tape.

7. Tie the ties at the shoulder and admire your dress!

Hope 4 Women International

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Dress A Girl Sewing Instructions: A-Line Dress

For this Kit you will cut one (1) dress front and one (1) dress back on the fold and 2 (two) pockets on the fold.

You will need two (2) pieces of ½ – ¾ inch elastic – seven (7) inches long.

You will also need two (2) ties from double fold bias tape – at least 36 inches long. You want to be able to tie a bow at the top.

You can embellish the pockets and other parts of the dress with Cotton eyelet, rickrack, etc. You may also add a 2- or 3-inch ruffle to the bottom edge.

1. Press the front and back pieces and turn $\frac{1}{4}$ inch to inside along top edge and press. Next turn down 1-inch to inside for casing. Press and stitch close to the fold.

POCKETS

2. Pocket 1 – Fold on fold line with right sides together and stitch around edge with $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch seam, leaving side seam open for turning. Turn right side out and press. Topstitch along the slanted edge and sew a label to one of the pockets as shown on pattern. Stitch the pocket to the dress, placing on guidelines, and matching open edge with side edge of dress. Stitch close to the edge as shown, being sure to backstitch at the beginning and end.

Pocket 2 – Fold pocket right sides together on fold line and stitch around pocket, taking $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch seam and leaving an opening for turning. Turn right side out and press. Sew a label to one pocket as shown on pattern. Place pocket on dress following guideline and stitch close to the edge being sure to backstitch at the beginning and end.

SIDE SEAMS

3. Sew the front and back together down the side seams, right sides together, taking $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch seams. Finish the seams with a zigzag stitch, surging or use a French Seam, which is easy and makes a neat and sturdy seam.

To Make a French Seam – with wrong sides together, stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch from edge, then trim close to stitching. Press seam to one side. Then turn right sides together, press and stitch $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch from edge, enclosing the raw edges of seam. Press this seam to one side.

HEM

4. Turn $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch to inside on lower edge and press. Then turn up 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch hem. Press and stitch close to fold.