

Easy Summer Pillowcase Nightgown

First find yourself a pretty pillowcase. If you want to use a sheet or regular fabric that is fine too but the pillowcase gives you a head start since the bottom is already finished.



Measure 21" from the bottom of the pillowcase and cut across so you have a tube. Open up the top section & cut out your pattern pieces.

Sew together the shoulders of the front body and the back body pieces right sides facing. It should look like this...



Next create your cap sleeves. Sew a rolled hem on the long flat edge of each sleeve. Now mark the center on the unfinished edge of the sleeve with a pin. Mark 2" to either side of that center with a pin. Sew a loose stitch (my setting is 7) between the 2 outside pins. Pull this to make a little ruffle. Adjust back to regular stitch setting and sew this ruffle down to secure it.

It will look like this...



Now attach the sleeve to the yoke like this...



Make sure that the ends of the sleeves and the edges of the yoke match up. You may have to make some adjustments to make these line up but getting this right is important for fitting well under your girl's arm.

Repeat on the other sleeve. Use pinking shears along the seams to prevent fraying (or you can serge, or you can zig zag stitch to really secure it)

Next you need to sew up the back and the sides. In the next picture you will see that I only sewed up about 2 inches here. Do not do your regular back stitch at the top since you may need to lower this stitch a little when you try it over your girls head.



Next do the sides. You only need to stitch up about .75 inch here but it needs to be put all together to attach the skirt next. See the next picture



Use your pinking shears again on this little seam.

Turn your piece right side out and this is what it should look like from the back...



I already finished the back opening in this picture. You have several ways of doing this. I choose to iron open the short seam I made in the back when I attached the back pieces and using that as a guide iron down the edges of the opened area too. Then used my pinking shears and stitched the opening down in a V shape. This prepares me for the button closure & using my lacey yellow hem binding.

I thought later I could of just done the hem binding and tied it in the back or used double fold bias tape and tied it for a closure in the back. I wouldn't try to make bias tape out of anything but all cotton fabric though so if you are using a vintage pillowcase you would have to figure something out here.

Also if you are more patient than me you could do the rolled hem all around the neck at this point too.

Now that you have the top made, the bottom part is pretty easy. Measure the width of the yoke. Sew a loose (I used 7) stitch and pull together a ruffle. I do 2 so that I fit one to the back and one to the front.

Insert the yoke into the gathered skirt RIGHT sides together like the pictures below.



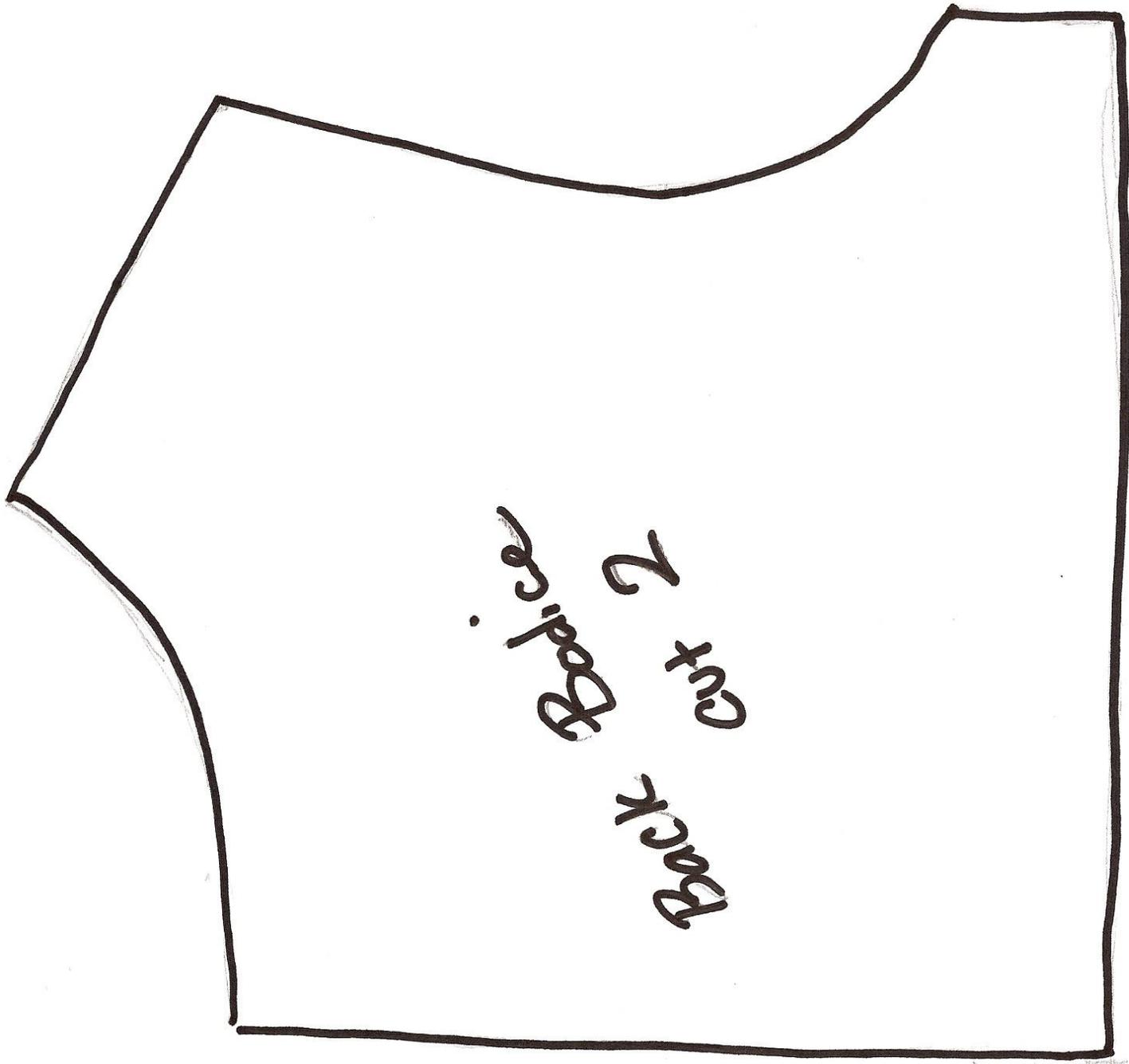


Stitch all around to attach the skirt to the top. Turn it out so you can see that you didn't miss any spots. Turn it back inside out and serge or zig zag stitch to prevent fraying.

Now I turn it right side out again and iron around where you attached the skirt to the top. Then stitch around about a 1/4" above the seam to secure the edge below.



Now do your button and button hole! Finished!



Back
Back
Cut 2

