



Bodacious Bow Peasant Dress



This peasant dress is simple and fun and with the added bow it surely can be called THE BODACIOUS BOW dress 😊. The sleeves are in short, $\frac{3}{4}$ or long sleeves. The bow has its own tutorial which you can find at the bottom of this one.

The fit is very roomy. As an option you can add shirring to the waist, find the tutorial at the bottom of this one.

List of required materials:

- Fabric
- Sewing machine
- Serger (optional)
- Straight pins
- Safety pin
- $\frac{1}{4}$ " band elastic
- Elastic thread (optional)
- Iron

Seam allowance: $\frac{3}{8}$ " unless stated otherwise

Sizing chart – based on 42 inch wide fabric WITH print direction

Size	Approximate length from shoulder to hem	Dress bodice W x L Cut 2	Short sleeves W x L Cut 2	$\frac{3}{4}$ sleeves W x L Cut 2	Long sleeves W x L Cut 2
NB	13"	15"x14"	16"x7.5"	16"x9"	14"x12"
3-6m	15"	15.5"x16"	16.5"x7 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	16.5"x10"	15"x13"
9-12m	17.5"	17.5"x18.5"	16 $\frac{3}{4}$ "x8 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	16 $\frac{3}{4}$ "x11"	15"x14"
18m	20"	19"x21"	17"x8.5"	17"x11.5"	15"x15"
2t	21"	20"x22"	17 $\frac{1}{4}$ "x8 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	17 $\frac{1}{4}$ "x12"	15.5"x16"
3t	22.5"	21"x23.5"	17.5"x9"	17.5"x13"	15.5"x17"
4t	24"	22"x25"	18"x9"	18"x14"	15.5"x18"
5t	25.5"	22.5"x26.5"	18.5"x9.5"	18.5"x15"	16"x19"
6	26"	23"x27"	18 $\frac{3}{4}$ "x10"	18 $\frac{3}{4}$ "x16"	16"x19.5"
7/8	28"	23.5"x29"	19"x10.5"	19"x16.5"	16 $\frac{1}{4}$ "x20"
9/10	30"	24"x31"	19.5"x10 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	19.5"x17 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	16.5"x20.5"
11/12	32"	25"x33"	20"x11"	20"x18"	16 $\frac{3}{4}$ "x22"

Elastic and yardage chart:

Size	Neckline elastic ¼" width cut 1	Yardage for dress	Yardage for short sleeves	Yardage for 3/4 sleeves	Yardage for long sleeves
NB	13"	1/2 yd	1/4 yd	1/4 yd	1/3 yd
3-6m	14"	1/2 yd	1/4 yd	1/3 yd	1/2 yd
9-12m	15"	2/3 yd	1/4 yd	1/3 yd	1/2 yd
18m	15.5"	2/3 yd	1/4 yd	1/3 yd	1/2 yd
2t	16"	2/3 yd	1/4 yd	1/3 yd	1/2 yd
3t	16.5"	2/3 yd	1/4 yd	1/3 yd	1/2 yd
4t	17"	3/4 yd	1/4 yd	1/2 yd	1/2 yd
5t	17.5"	1 1/2 yds	1/4 yd	1/2 yd	2/3 yd
6	18"	1 2/3 yds	1/4 yd	1/2 yd	2/3 yd
7/8	18.5"	1 2/3 yds	1/4 yd	1/2 yd	2/3 yd
9/10	19"	2 yds	1/4 yd	1/2 yd	2/3 yd
11/12	19.5"	2 yds	1/4 yd	1/2 yd	2/3 yd

These should be the pieces you have cut out:

1 front and 1 back piece



3

2 sleeves:



To cut out the armholes:

Fold sleeve and main dress piece over widthwise (print direction = vertical) so that your fabric fold is on the left, place armhole cutout into the upper right corner, pin and trim around:

Sleeve:

Main Dress piece:



4

This is now your front and back dress piece:



These are the sleeves:



5

To assemble pieces:

Place your main dress piece with right side up in front of and place one sleeve into the upper right corner with the armhole curves facing each other:



Flip the sleeve over and pin both armholes together. Then sew along dashes:



6

Repeat with other side and sleeve:



Then sew the remaining main dress piece to the sleeves in the same fashion. You should now have a connected piece with 2 sleeves and 2 main dress pieces:



7

Serge/zigzag stitch raw edges.

To finish the hems:

Serge or zig zag stitch the main dress hems as shown:

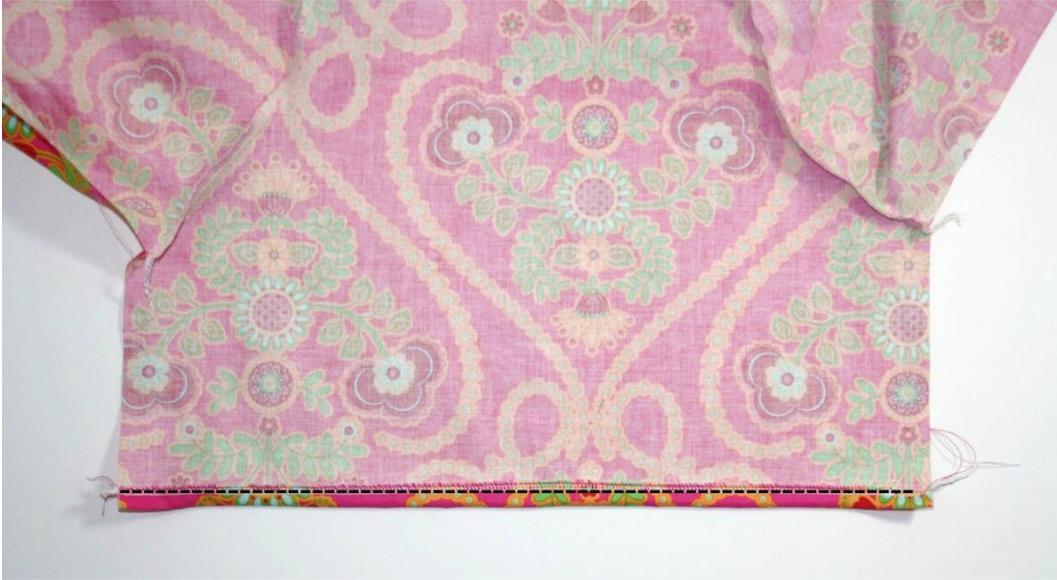


Repeat with both sleeve hems:



8

Fold your sleeve hem 0.5" up and press. Then sew in place as shown with dashes:



Repeat with other sleeve.

To sew in elastic:

NOTE: if your machine does not want to shir properly you can use the additional tutorial “adding casing for elasticized ribbon ties” or use the “tutorial for sewing in band elastic”.

Wind some elastic manually onto your bobbin. I use the shown brand but any brand available at craft/fabric stores will be fine! Wind the thread tight but not too tight. You can pull slightly on your elastic thread while you are winding it up.

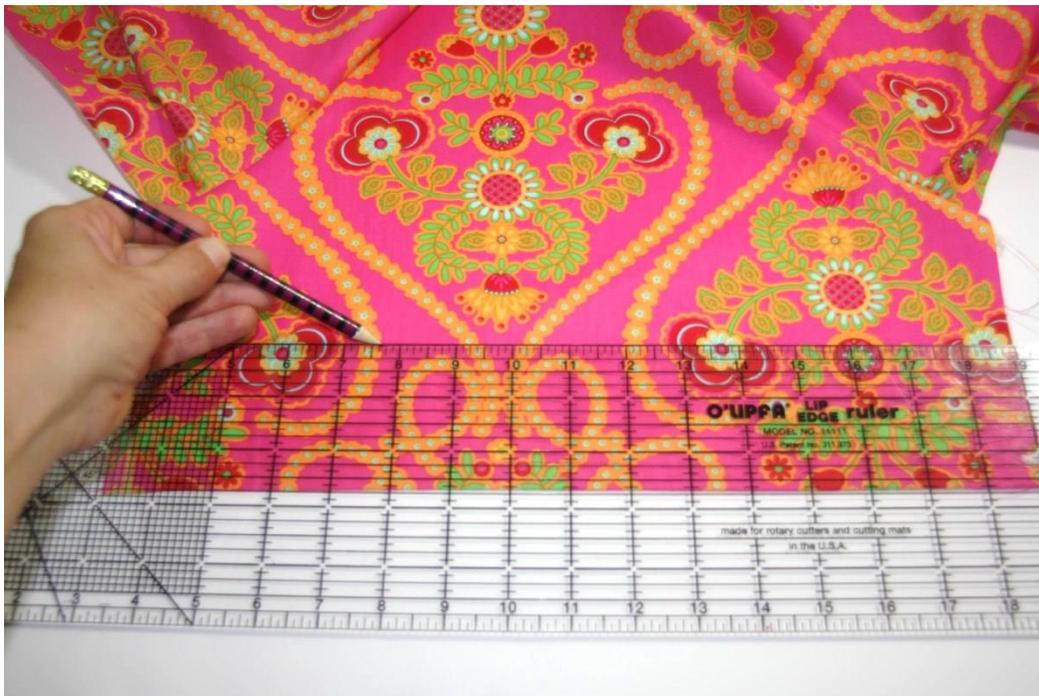


Spread out your sleeve as shown. Mark the area where you want your elastic to be (**ideally go down 2" from the armpit for sizes up to 24m and 3" for up to 2t and 4" for up to size 8 and 6" for up to size 12**), with a fabric pen:

Insert the bobbin with the elastic thread into your lower part of your machine and thread the upper with regular thread. Insert your sleeve into your sewing machine with right sides up and start sewing right at the edge with a good 4 inches of elastic thread hanging out. Set your machine to the longest stitch length and the tension to 2-3. Sew right along the drawn line. Be sure to check while you are sewing if your elastic thread has not jumped out from over the bobbin. That sometimes happens and will make your elastic not being gathered. If that happens rewind your elastic thread!

NOTE: if you are having trouble with your machine not wanting to sew with elastic thread please google this issue with "sewing with elastic thread" or "shirring" or visit my blog for 2 interesting posts on that!

<http://whimsycoutureboutique.blogspot.com/2010/08/no-more-shirring-problems-ever.html> and here: <http://whimsycoutureboutique.blogspot.com/2010/01/tutorial-how-to-shirr-fabric.html>



10

This should now be your sewn in elastic:



Repeat with other sleeve. Reset your machine to regular stitch!

This is what your dress should look like now:



11

To sew the side seams:

Pin and sew along the underside of the sleeves down the sides as marked with dashes:



Repeat with other side.

To make the neckline casing:

Serge/zig zag stitch the top edge as shown:



12

Fold top edge 0.5 inch down and press, pin and sew in place, leaving a 1.5" opening at the center back. Backstitch beginning and end:



Secure a safety pin to the band elastic and insert into the casing:



13

Once both ends meet, overlap slightly and hand sew with at least 10-15 stitches:



Add care/size tags if desired. Close the opening with your machine.



To finish the bottom hem:

Fold hem 0.5 inch up and press. Then sew in place right along the serged/zigzag stitched seam. Backstitch the end:



All done! Here are some sleeve length examples:

Dress with short sleeves:



Dress with ¾ sleeves:



Long sleeves and elastic at wrist:



Comparison for a dress without or with chest shirring:



Add shirring to the chest or waist area tutorial is at the bottom of this one.

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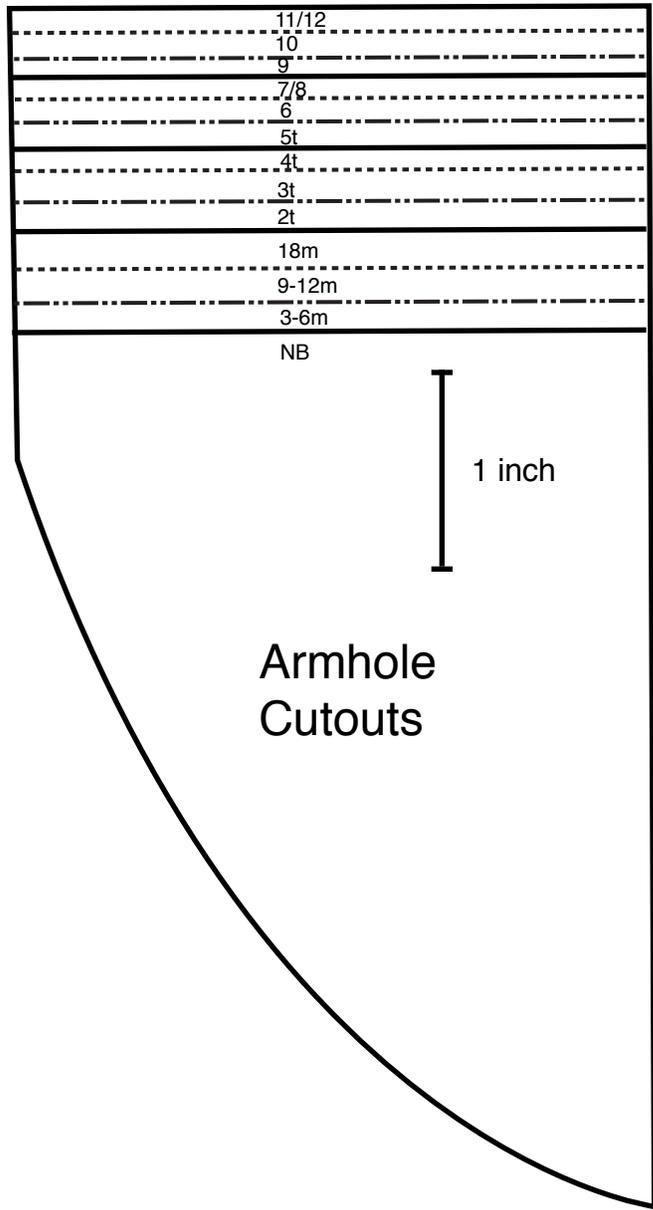
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For questions please email whimsycouture@hotmail.com

Thank you so much for using this pattern!

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Revised 03/14





Whimsy Couture Sewing Tutorial

Bodacious Bow



List of required materials:

- Sewing machine
- Scissors
- Pins
- Measuring tape or ruler
- Fabric
- iron

This bodacious bow is just perfect to embellish any girls' outfit and add pizzazz! Simply pin it to her dress and she is ready to go! Also great for Mom's garments and to use for decoration! Endless possibilities!

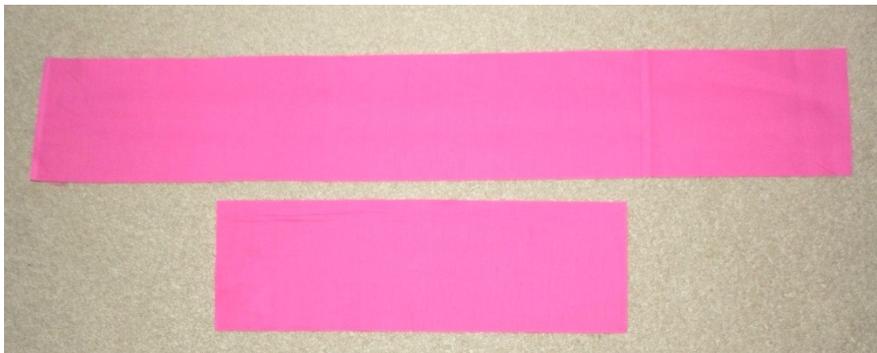
Bow shown is pinned to a size 4t dress! Alter measurements to your liking!

Cut your fabric:

Size	Ties	bow
0m-18m	25x4"	12x4"
2t - 6	30x4.5"	14.5x4.5"
7 -12	40x5"	16x5"

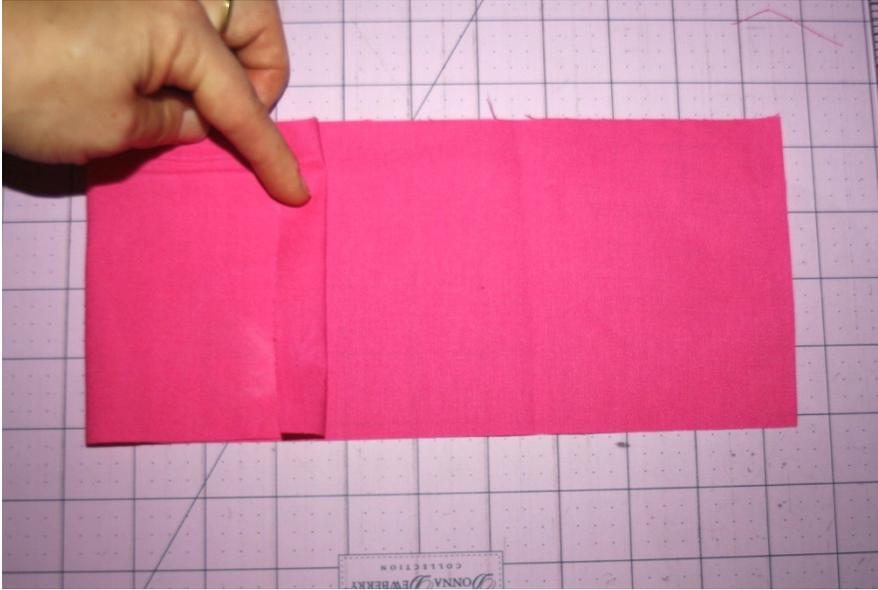
Yardage is no more than 1/8 yd.

These are the pieces you have cut out:

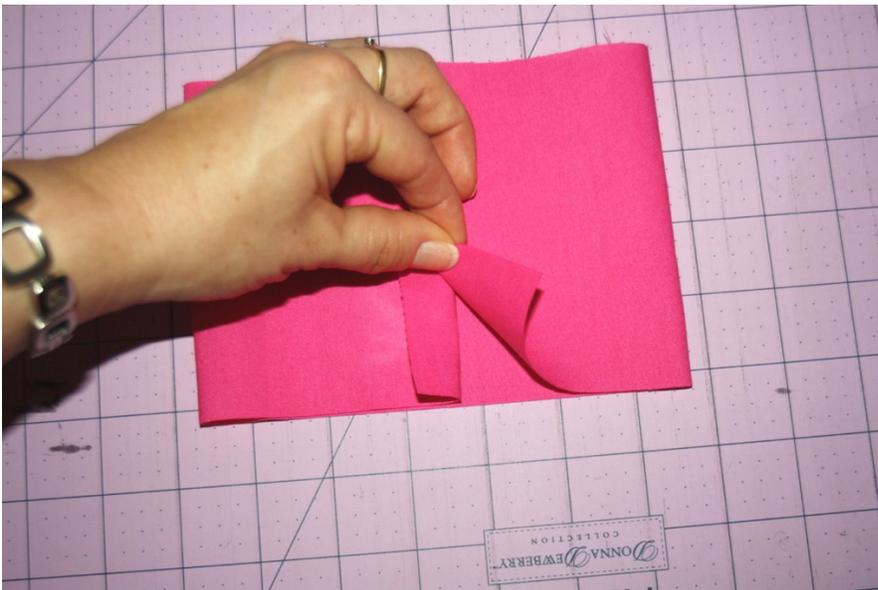


2

Take your small piece and fold the left side half way towards the center. Then fold the short edge which is now in the center, over to about 0.5 inch.....



.....fold the other side (right side) over towards the center to cover the small fold in the middle:

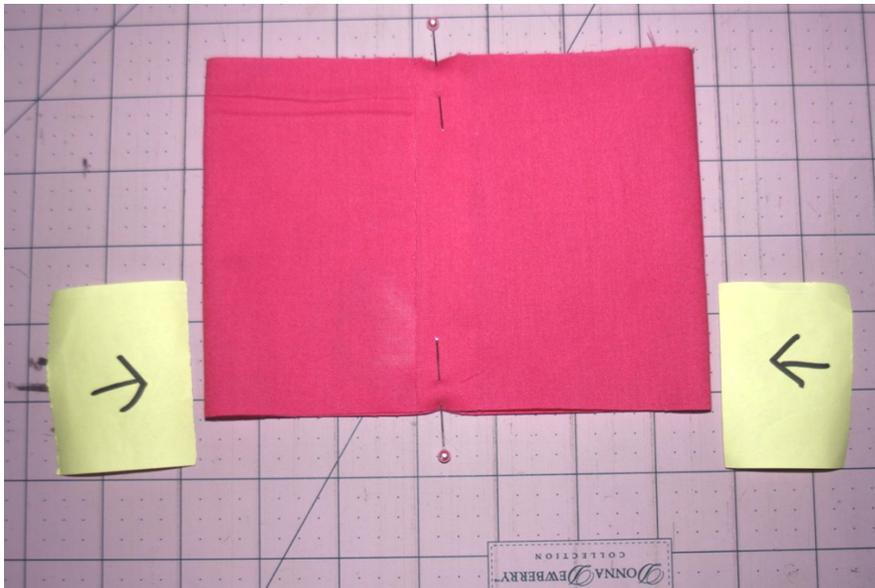


3

You should now have this picture:



Pin top and bottom edges and sew between arrows.



4

Sew top and bottom with backstitching

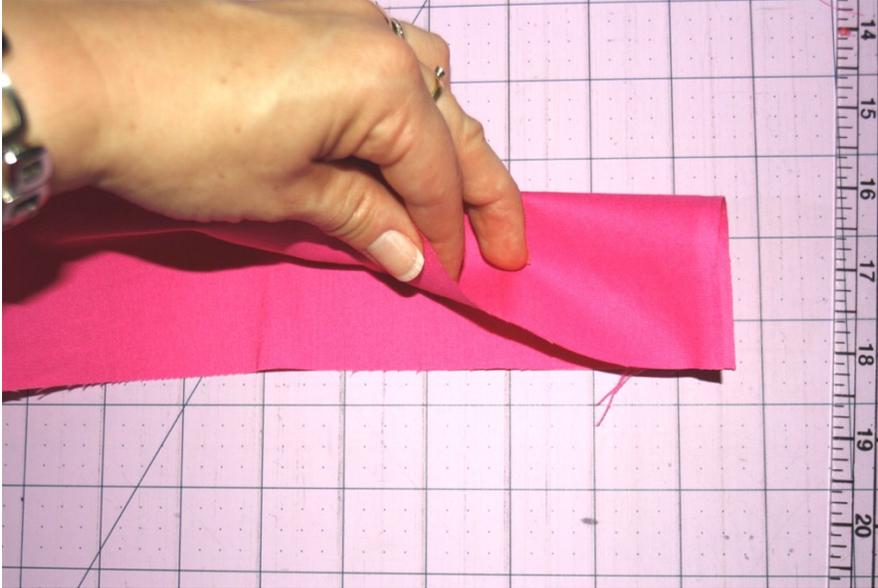


Turn piece inside out:

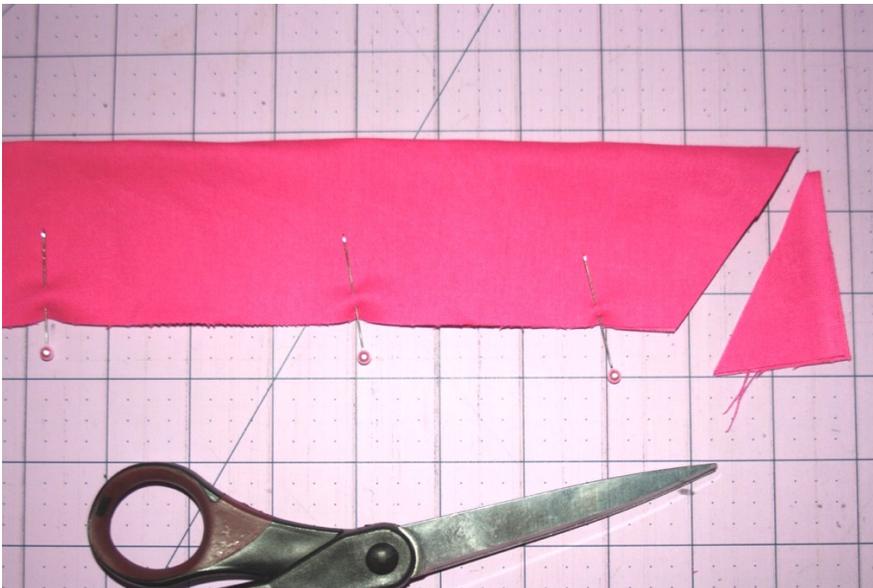


5

Take your long fabric strip and fold it lengthwise (with right sides together if you have a printed fabric)



Pin along open edge and trim corner diagonally if desired:

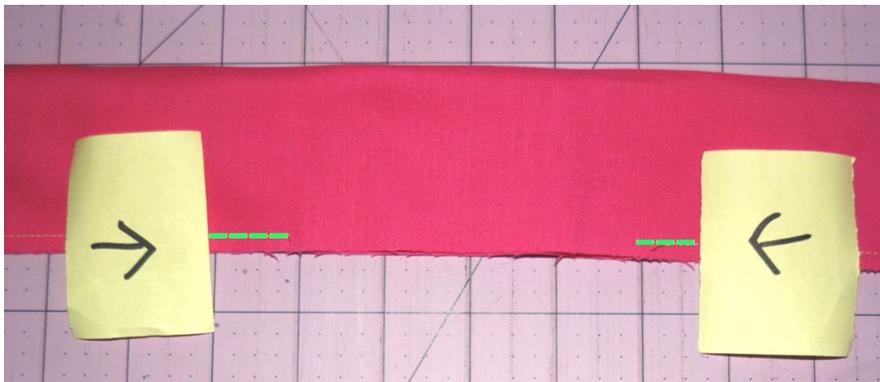


6

Sew open edge leaving a 4 inch opening towards the middle of the strip. Trim off corners:



This is your opening:



Turn strip inside out and press. Close the opening with your sewing machine:



7

Take the small piece now and pinch it as shown:



Take your long piece and fold it over the pinches area. Long piece should be positioned centered:



8

Tie one time into a knot and you are done!



For purchasing the PEASANT DRESS PATTERN please visit www.whimsycouture.etsy.com/ or my blog www.whimsycoutureboutique.blogspot.com/

Thank you so much for using this pattern!

You may sell bows made from this pattern in a small scale.

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Sewing in mid chest/waist elastic



1

This tutorial shows you how to sew in elastic thread to accentuate the chest/waist area.

List of required materials:

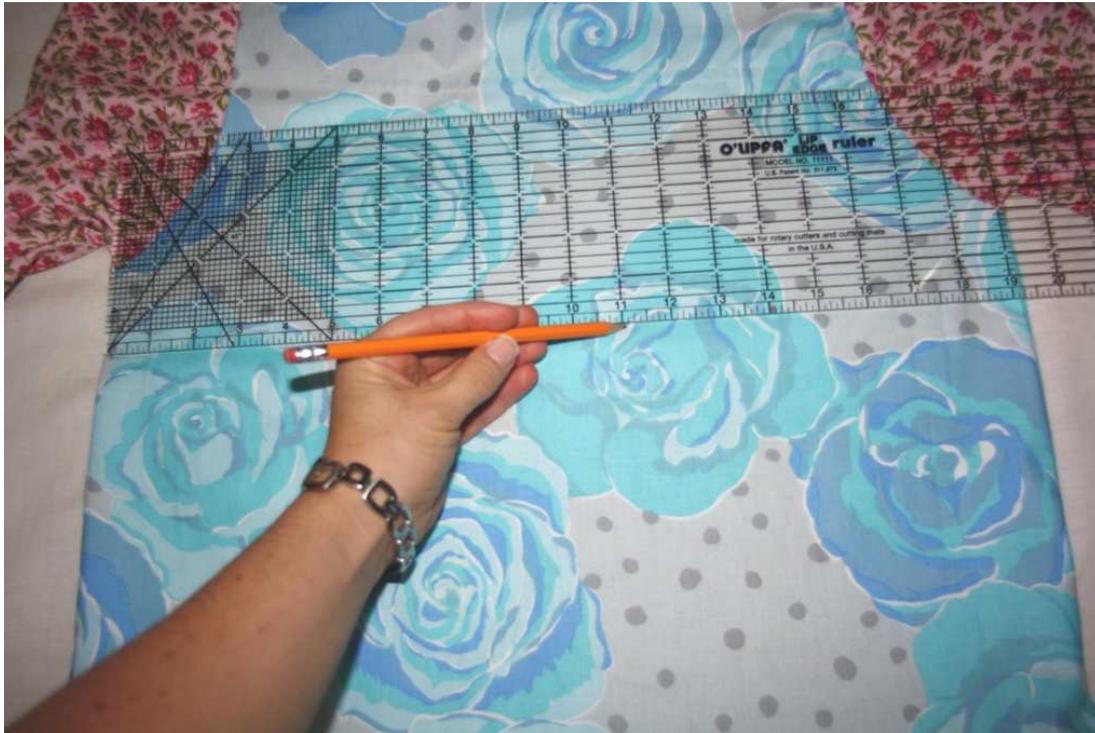
- Finished top or dress
- Sewing machine
- Elastic thread
- Regular thread
- Lip edge ruler
- Fabric marker or pen
- Iron (optional)

Finish your top or dress according to the instruction. Before you put in your neckline elastic, place your garment in front of you with right sides out. Mark the height of where you want to have your elastic positioned. I placed my lip edge ruler about 2.5" below the armpits to make my chest area fit a bit more snug:



2

Draw a line with your fabric marker or pencil:



Repeat with other side.

To sew in the elastic:

Wind some elastic manually onto your bobbin. I use the shown brand but any brand available at craft/fabric stores will be fine! Wind the thread tight but not too tight. You can pull slightly on your elastic thread while you are winding it up.



Insert the bobbin with the elastic thread into your lower part of your machine and thread the upper with regular thread. Insert your fabric into your sewing machine with right sides up and start sewing right at the edge with a good 4 inches of elastic thread hanging out. Set your machine to the longest stitch length and the tension to 2-3. Sew right along the drawn line. Be sure to check while you are sewing if your elastic thread has not jumped out from over the bobbin. That sometimes happens and will make your elastic not being gathered. If that happens rewind your elastic thread!



(picture from a diff. project!)

Once you have finished the first row of elastic you may raise your presser foot and turn your fabric around while both threads are still in.

Position your fabric as you would while first starting but leave all threads in as shown.



4

Insert your needle again right at about half your presser foot's width so you can sew right next to the first row of elastic.



Once you reach the end repeat the same thing as you did with the first and second row. Your fabric should now start to gather up. If not please check your elastic thread in your lower machine compartment as it can happen that the elastic thread snaps away from going over the bobbin!



Sew at least 5 rows of elastic thread to make your bodice nicely gathered. Once you are done shirring leave about 4 inches of elastic thread hanging out!

Tip: if you happen to run out of elastic thread in the middle of sewing just rewind some more elastic thread onto your bobbin and start sewing just about 1/8 inch BEFORE the spot where you ran out. Then when you are all done with shirring double knot the elastic thread on the inside. Then take a sewing needle and feed the regular threads from the outside in and insert the needle into your garment and pull it through to the wrong side. Then double knot the threads and trim off with leaving about ¼ inch on.

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