



Ruffle Shorts Tutorial



Whimsy Couture

Make some cute ruffled shorts with big dimensional ruffled pocket! This tutorial also provides a bonus part for making flat front shorts with added belt loops! This part was extracted from the boys shorts version and has different pictures.

List of required materials:

- Fabric
- Sewing machine
- Serger (optional)
- Scissors
- Pins
- Iron
- Elastic (3/4" width non roll)
- Interfacing for pocket for bigger sizes (optional)
- Lip edge, ruler cutting mat and rotary cutter – all optional
- For belted shorts: Ribbon (grosgrain, satin or other)
- For belted shorts: Fray check or lighter
- Buttons (optional)

Seam allowance: 3/8" unless otherwise stated

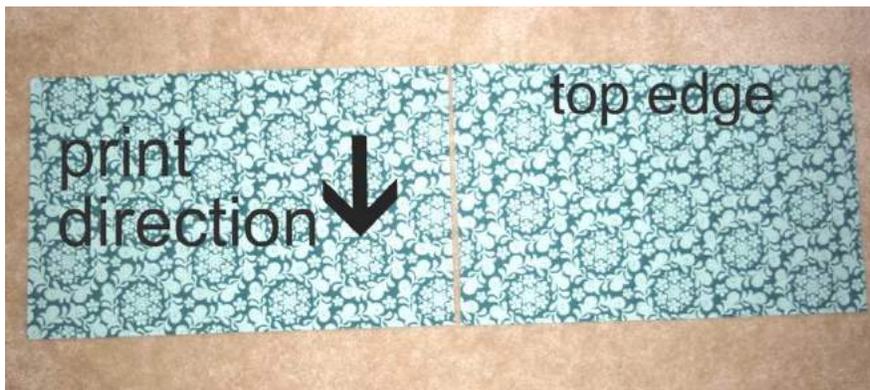
Print your templates without scaling!

To make the FLAT FRONT SHORTS follow through until end of page 5. If you want to add the pocket, go to page 10, follow through until second part of page 26. Then skip to page 30 to finish the flat front shorts.

RUFFLE SHORTS - To begin cutting your fabric:

Select your size from the sizing chart to cut your fabric including ruffles, pocket etc.

Cut your 2 pieces of fabric:

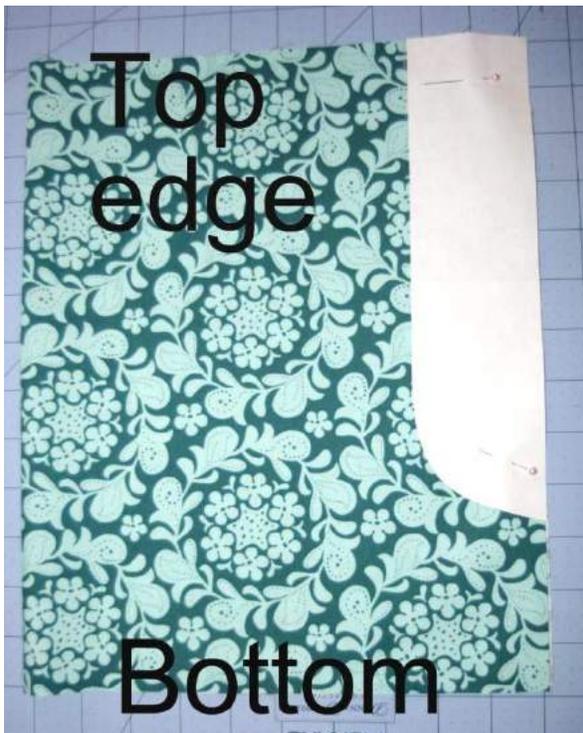


2

Fold one piece over so your fold is on your left:



Print out the desired size crotch cutout and leg strip. Place crotch cutout with curve towards inside of fabric and long/straight edge aligning with both raw edges on the right and short top edge aligning with top edge of fabric:



Pin in place.

3



Cut around template as shown.



Repeat with leg strip. Place it with curve facing towards inside of fabric and pin.

4



Cut around template.

Repeat with other shorts fabric piece.

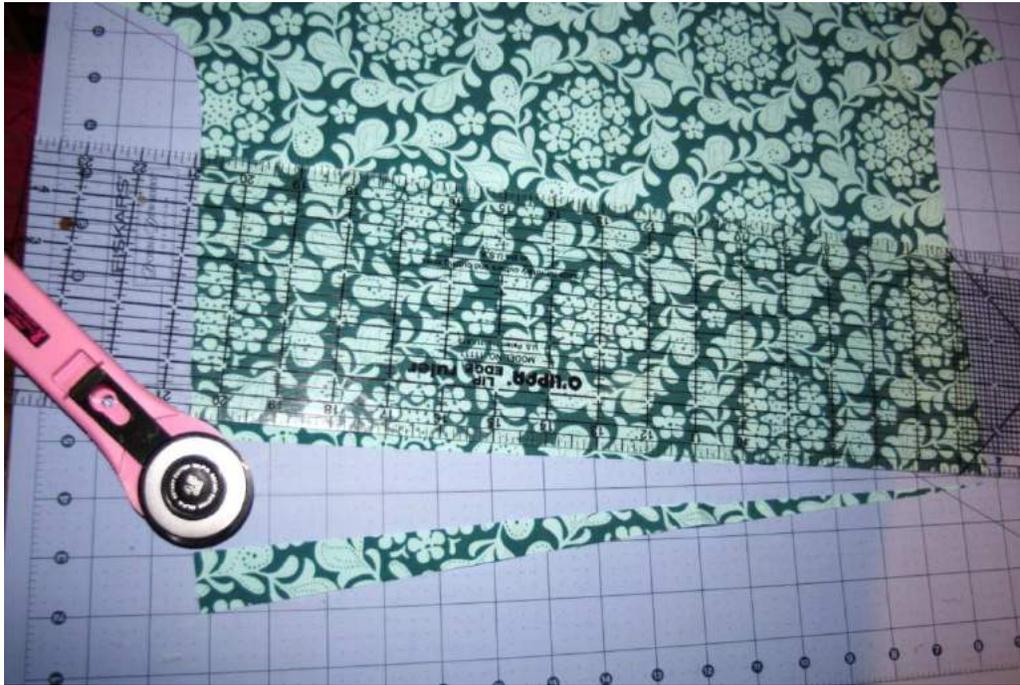
To create front and back rise:

In order to make the shorts lower in the front and a bit higher in the back place your shorts panel in front of you and place a ruler along the top edge as shown. Align ruler flush on one side and 1" lower on the other (if you don't have a ruler you may draw a line with a pencil):



5

Trim off this diagonal edge:



Repeat with second shorts panel but reverse the angle:



6

To make the ruffles:

Cut 2 strips of fabric as shown:



Serge/zigzag stitch the bottom edges:

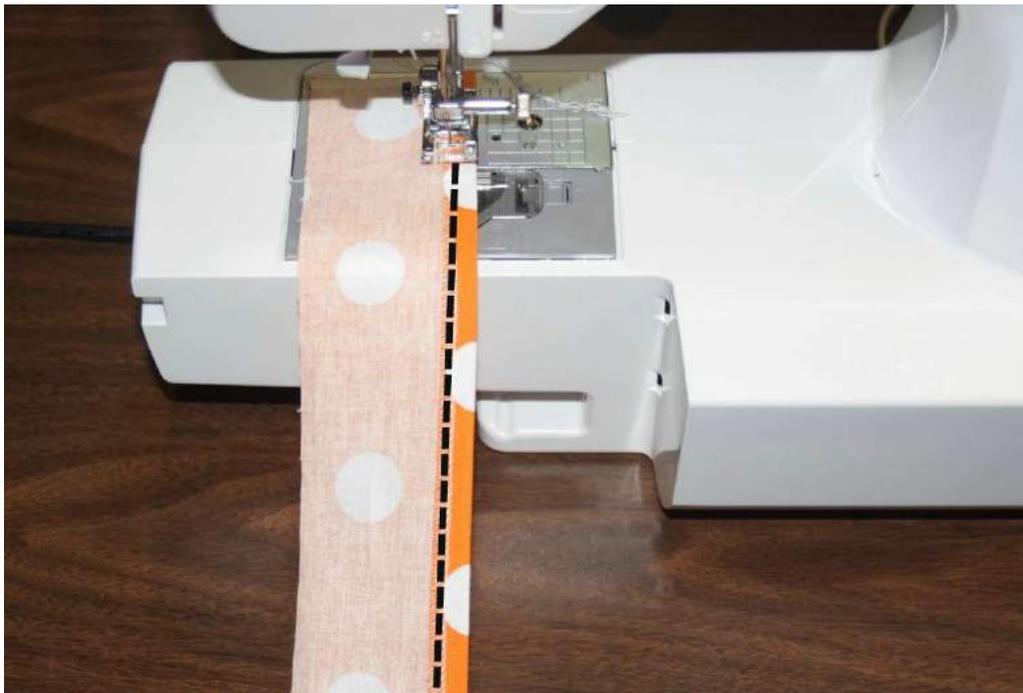


7

Heat up iron and fold down the bottom edge to 3/8" towards the inside and press. Repeat with other strip.



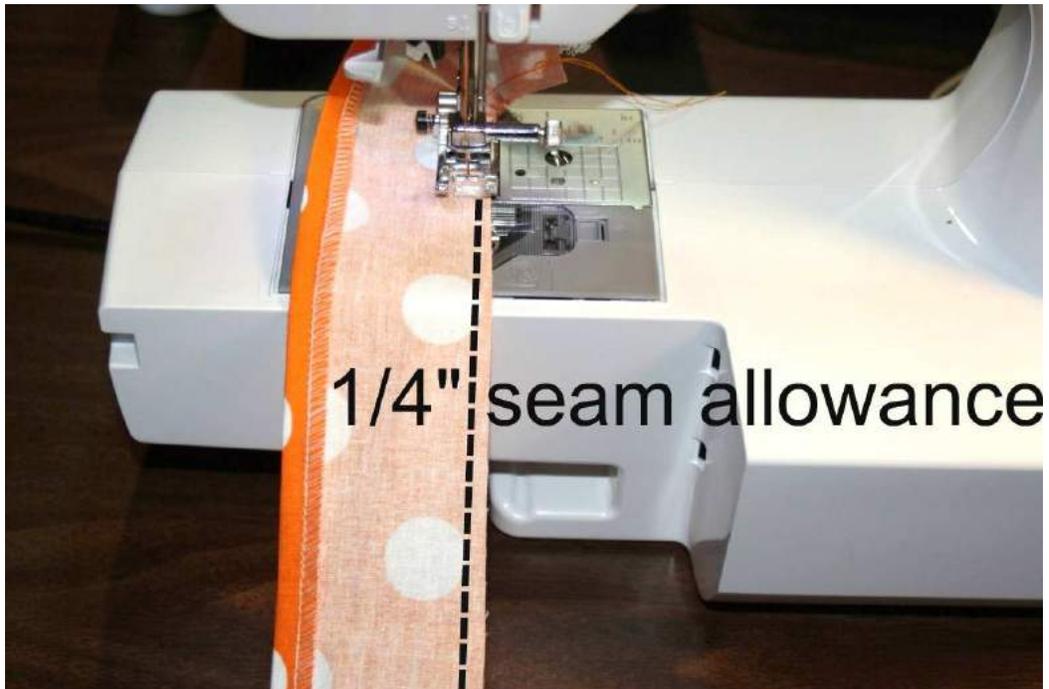
Sew with straight stitch along of serged/zigzag stitched edge with a seam allowance of 1/4":



7.2 To gather fabric with your machine: set your sewing machine to the longest stitch length and the highest number tension. This way your machine should automatically gather your fabric! (If your machine doesn't allow this setting you may set your tension to 2-3 and to the longest stitch length and sew. Then manually pull the upper thread to gather your ruffle.)

8

Slowly sew with $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance along the raw edge:



This should now be your ruffle fabric strip:



9

Place your shorts panel with right sides up in front of you and place ruffle with right sides down along the bottom edge. Adjust gathers to match the edge length and pin. Then sew with a seam allowance of 3/8" between arrows with backstitching beginning and end:



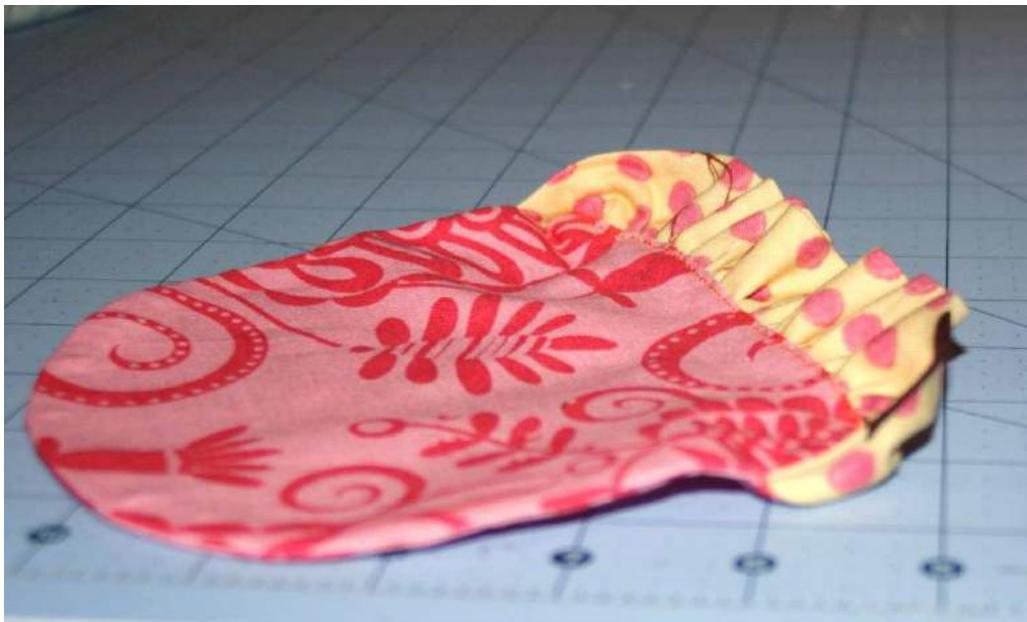
Serge/overcast raw edge:



Turn shorts panel around and top stitch on right side close to the seam where ruffles meet shorts fabric:



To make a dimensional pocket with sewn in ruffle sides:

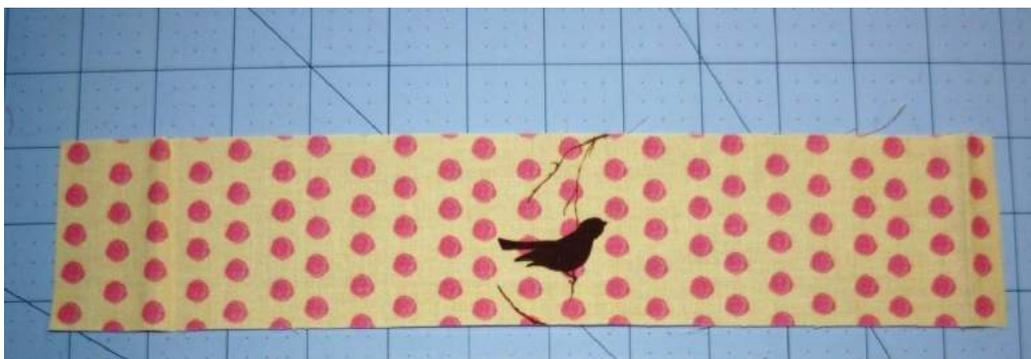


11

Print pocket template and place on your sandwiched fabric piece. Cut out 2 pocket shapes for making ONE pocket. These should be your 2 pocket shapes:

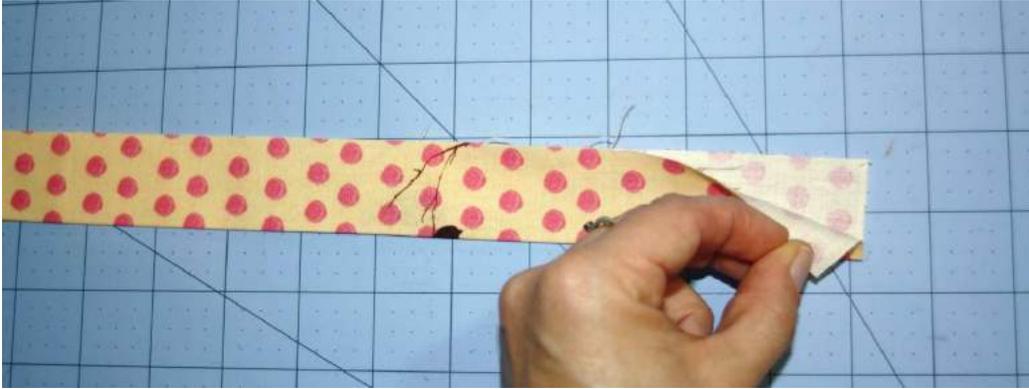


Cut out the ruffle for your pocket:



12

Fold it over with wrong sides facing each other:



Ruffle this strip as you did your shorts ruffle on page 7.2

Place ruffle onto ONE pocket shape as shown, aligning ruffle edges with pocket side edges. Pin and sew between arrows:



13

Take second pocket shape and place it onto your ruffled pocket shape:



Pin entire pocket leaving an opening on top of 3" to turn pocket inside out later. Sew with a seam allowance of $\frac{1}{4}$ " along the dashed line. Backstitch beginning and end on top edge:



14

Trim off corners and rounded seam allowance if preferred:



Turn pocket inside out and trim off seam allowance of ruffle as shown:



15

Fold down back side top edge to $\frac{1}{4}$ " and press:



Fold ruffle back over top edge and pin. Then sew with straight stitch close to seam where ruffle meets pocket fabric. Backstitch beginning and end:



16

This is now your finished pocket:



To sew pocket on:

Place your shorts panel with right sides in front of you and mark the center:



Mark the top edge of pocket about 3" down from top edge:



To reinforce the backside for a durable pocket please see this tutorial extracted from the boys shorts' version. For baby sizes it's NOT necessary to add interfacing so you may skip to page 21 to continue sewing on pocket:

To use fusible interfacing for sewing on pockets:

This step is optional but recommended as pockets gets lots of use and might tear the area where it's sewn on to the shorts. Fusible interfacing provides an enforcing area anywhere you want to sew pockets or buttonholes!

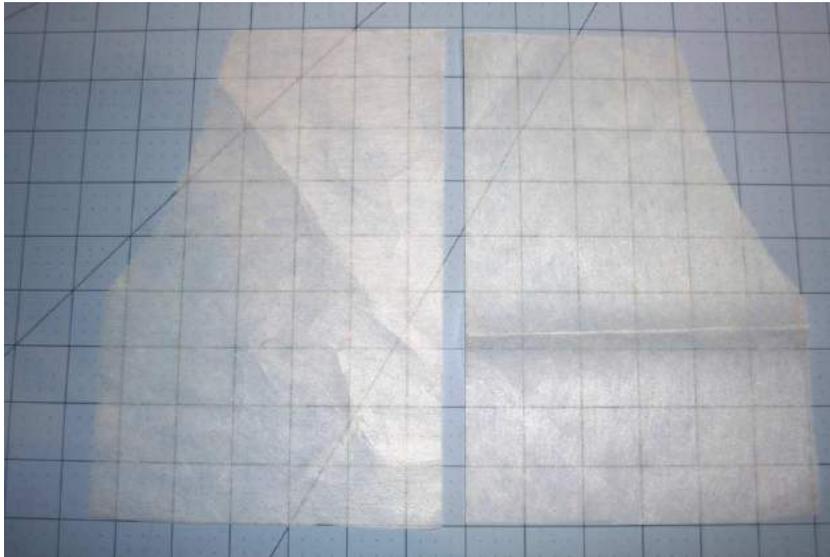
I use this brand but it also comes as flat yards on a roll which might end up less expensive if you only need a small amount.



18

Cut 2 shapes 0.5 inch bigger all around as shown (one piece with the curve on the right, the other piece with the curve on the left):

NOTE: shapes are from boys shorts pattern!



Place your shorts with right sides facing up in front of you and position the pocket 2.5" down from the top edge on the FRONT with the lower cut top edge. For this version I made the shorts with the side seam, to have it easier positioning the pocket along the sides. Have the pocket curve (which is the opening of the pocket) face to the side seam. Pin all straight edges of pocket to the fabric leaving the curve open:



Turn shorts around so the wrong side is facing up now. Take one interfacing piece and place it with the rubbed side down into the margins of the pins. Pin the interfacing shape down as well (make sure the curve is facing to the side seam):



Transfer shorts to your ironing board and carefully remove interfacing pins making sure the shape does not shift (leave other pins in that hold the pocket):



Take a dampened press cloth (kitchen towel works well) and lay it carefully on top of the interfacing. With your iron set on high heat and steam press down on the towel and hold it for 10-15 sec. Best is to follow the interfacing instructions!



Once all pressed, remove towel and turn shorts to press pocket without steam and around the pins. Best is not to press over the pins as some can melt under high heat. Double check pocket for accuracy and sew it on:

This should be your reverse side of the pocket:



Now sew pocket on with straight stitch closely to the outer pocket edge. Backstitch beginning and end:



Remove pins and this should now be your sewn on girls pocket 😊



Serge/zigzag stitch top edge as shown (repeat with other shorts piece):



To sew legs together:

Place your shorts panel with right sides together as shown. Align ruffles and pin inner leg. Sew between the arrows, backing at the beginning and end:





Serge/zigzag stitch raw edge.

Repeat with other leg.

To sew both legs together:

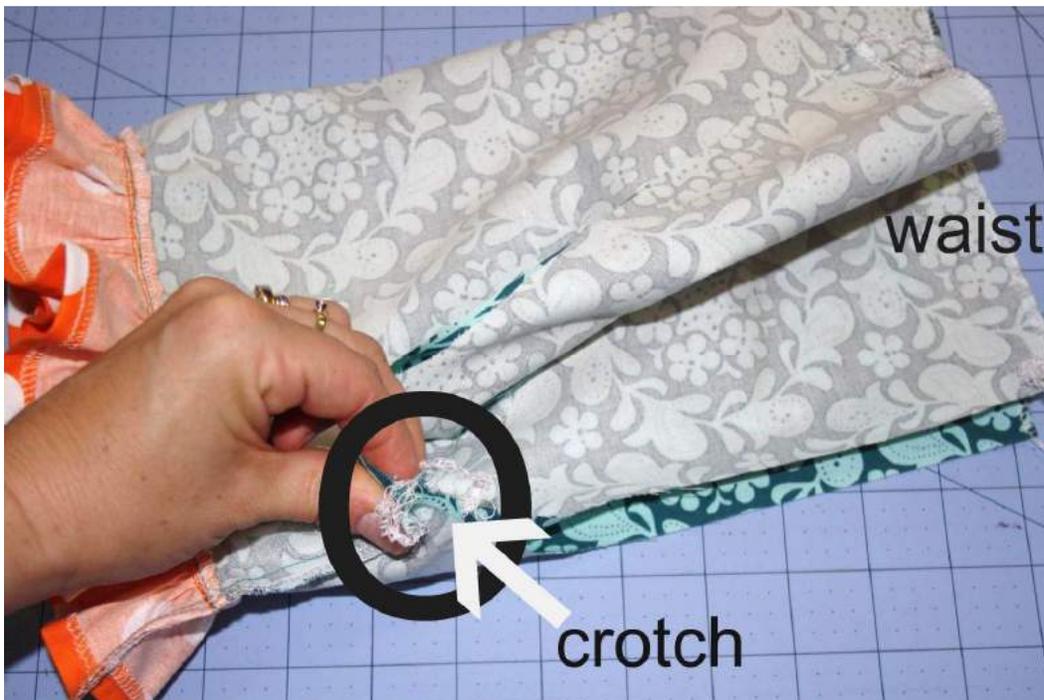
Place legs side by side with one leg turned with right sides out. Crotch should face to you:



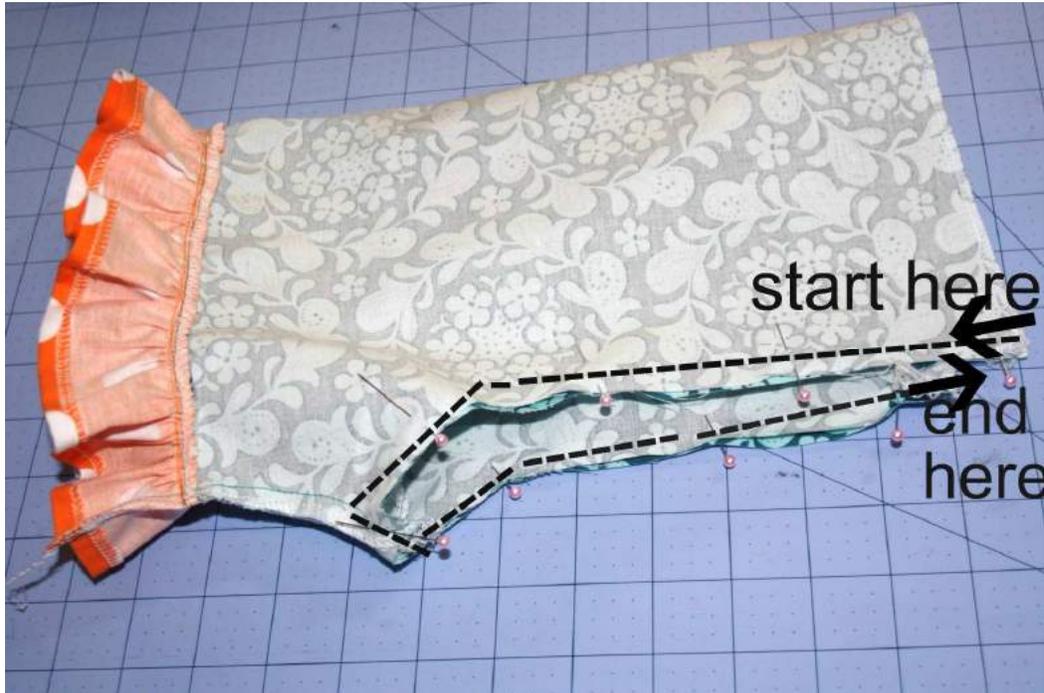
Take the leg with right sides out and insert it into the other leg as shown (your fabric right sides are now facing):



Match both crotch areas as shown:



Pin entire rise and sew at one top edge all the way down over the crotch area and up the other side:



Serge/zigzag stitch raw edges:



To make casing for elastic:

Leave your shorts with right sides in and fold down the top edge to 1 ¼" and either press or pin:



Sew with straight stitch right on top of serged/zigzag stitched seam leaving an opening of 2" in the back center. Backstitch beginning and end:



27

This should now be your finished casing:



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



Pin both ends overlapping 3/8”:



Machine or hand stitch overlapped elastic several times:



29

Add a sizing tag if preferred and close the opening with your machine. Backstitch beginning and end:



Finish off your shorts with topstitching the loose hanging threads from the ruffles:



Bonus tutorial: flat front shorts



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For this style shorts please see the extracted tutorial from the boys version.

Follow through all steps to make the shorts starting at page 1 through page 25 then come back here to continue making your flat front shorts.

Fold entire top edge down 1 inch and press:



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Have your piece of elastic ready (cut it to $\frac{1}{3}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ shorter than the shorts measure from side seam to side seam):



Position one end of the elastic right into the top edge flap on the side seam (we are making our girls shorts without side seam but the boys shorts had one):



Fold top edge over the elastic and.....



.....pin through the top edge:



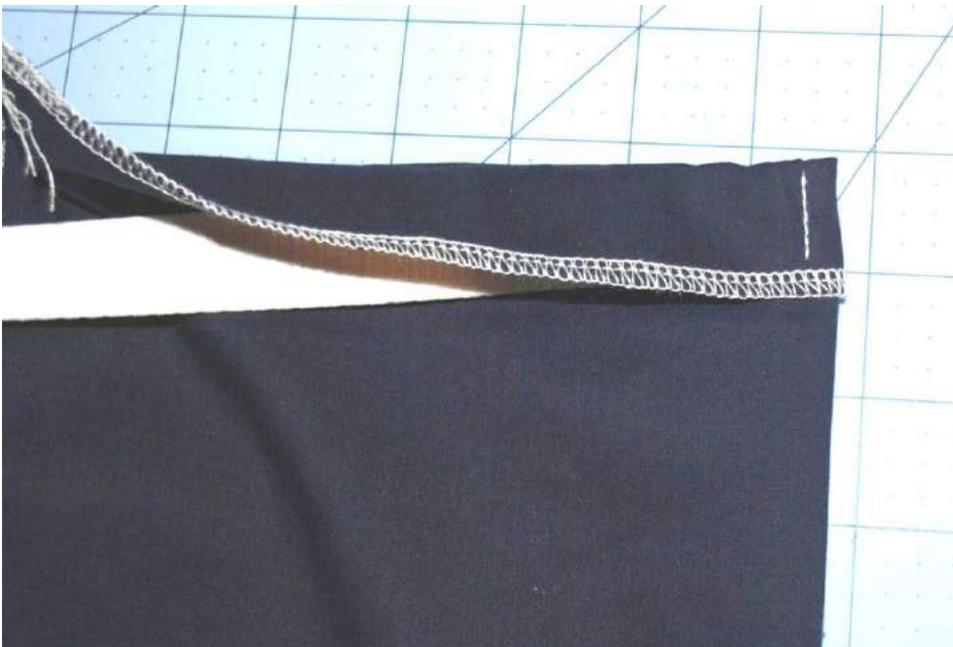
Repeat on other side:

Note – if your shorts do not have the side seams, sew the elastic on to the sides of shorts slightly facing more towards the BACK (disregard the side seam visible in this picture)!



Sew down elastic on each side with backstitching.

The following picture shows it much better where to sew the elastic down on shorts without a side seam:



The shorts should look like this now:



Fold top edge down again and pin right underneath the elastic:

Sew between arrows right along the serged/zigzag stitched seam (making sure not to sew over the elastic):



Note: while sewing you want to hold the shorts taut (pulled straight) from the top and bottom (or left and right side) so it's easier to sew a straight line while the elastic pulls it together.

Then continue sewing the entire top edge (including front).



To finish straight cut leg hems:

For the example shorts I made a straight cut leg hem and folded it up to $\frac{3}{4}$ " while the shorts are still turned with wrong sides out and pressed it:



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Sew right along the serged/zigzag stitched seam with backstitching beginning and end:



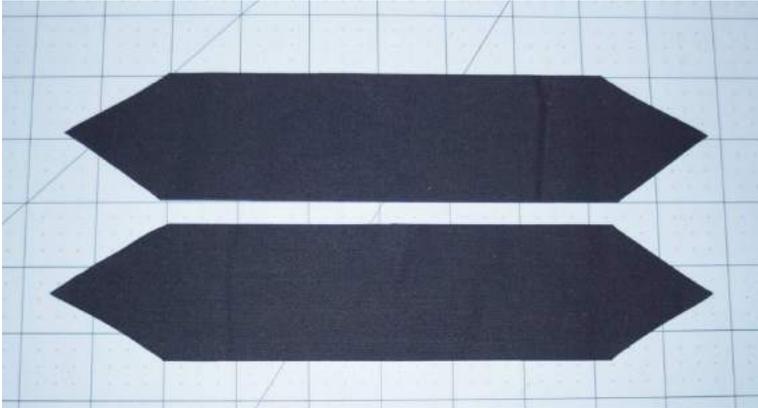
This is now your finished leg hem from the right side:



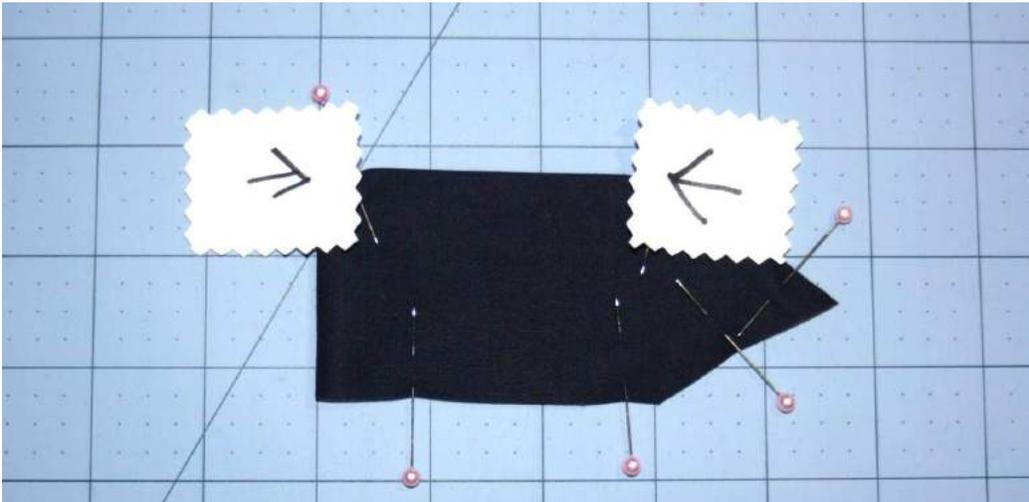
Repeat with other leg.

To cut belt loops:

Cut out the belt loop template and pin to fabric then cut around it. Cut 2 of the following. These should be your cut belt loops:



Fold belt loop fabric over with right sides together and pin leaving an opening along the straight edge of 2.5”:



38

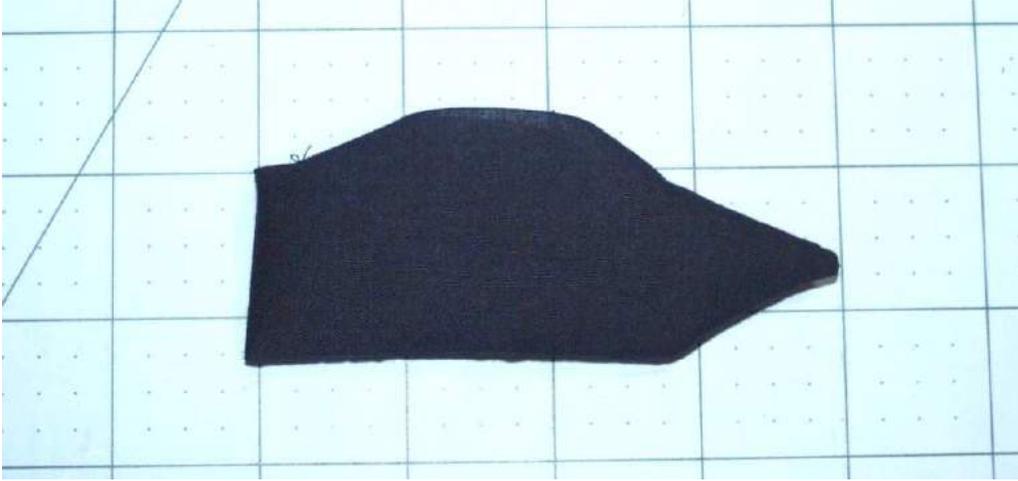
Sew with backstitching and end:



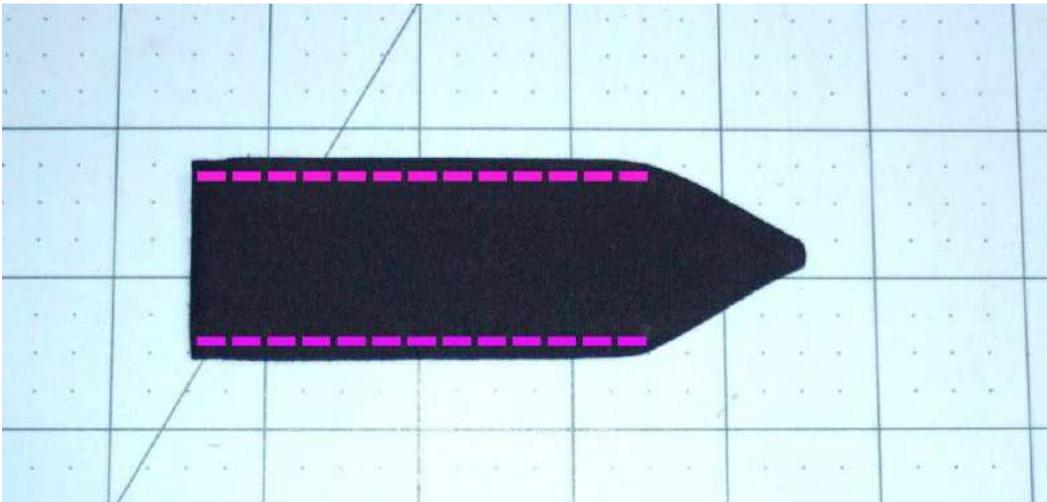
Trim off excess fabric as shown:



Turn belt loop with right sides out :



Fold in opening and press. Then top stitch opening closed and sew across the entire long side with backstitch. Repeat on other side of belt loop:



To sew belt loops on:

The position of the belt loops can ideally be about 2-3" away from sides:



Sew belt loops on with backstitch beginning and end as shown below (repeat on other side):

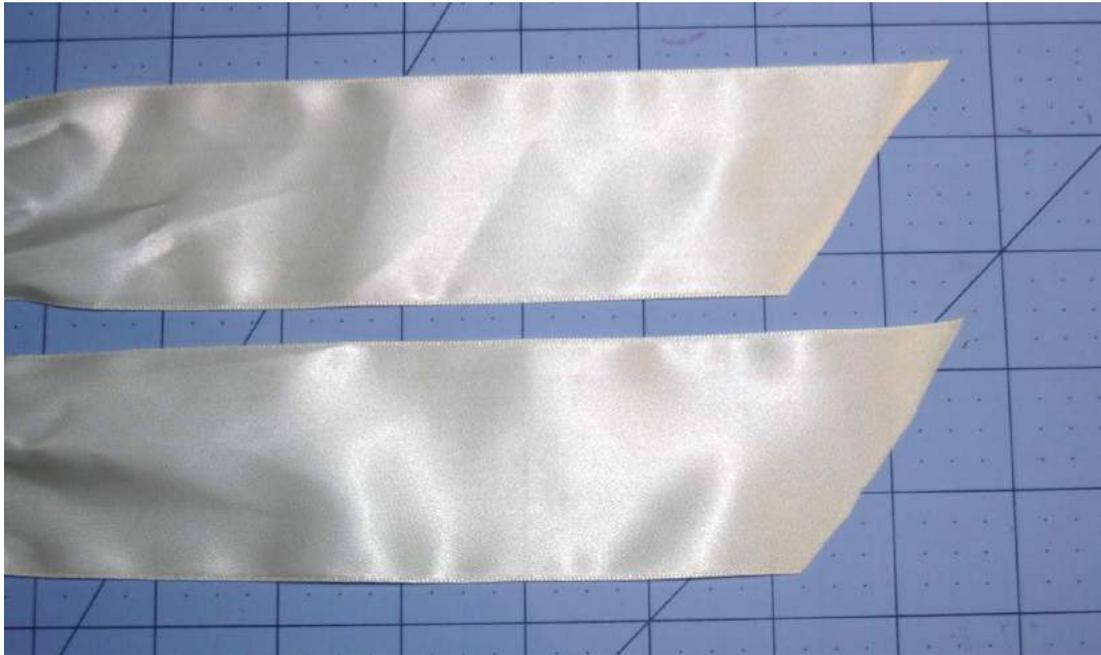


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Sew buttons on if desired and stitch those only through the belt loop:



Heat seal (with lighter) or fray check your ribbon's cut edges (straight back edge and diagonally cut edge).



Fold your ribbon $\frac{1}{4}$ " under and pin it to the sides of your shorts where the elastic starts. Sew with backstitching as shown:



Repeat on other side.

This is how it should look like now:



Loop your ribbon through and enjoy!



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For questions please email whimsycouture@hotmail.com

Thank you so much for using this pattern!

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SIZING CHART for RUFFLED SHORTS & FLAT FRONT shorts:

The following chart is only a guide. Please measure to be sure that those are the correct sizes. Not all children are the same.

This sizing chart gives measurements for the all around elastic waist shorts only! For the option of the flat front shorts please cut your fabric width 1" slimmer AND 1 3/4 " longer!

Cut TWO (2) of the following:

SIZING CHART:

Size	width	length	ruffle	fabric requirements for shorts (not ruffle)
NB	15.5"	8 1/4 "	2 1/4 x27"	1/4 yd
3-6m	16"	8.5 "	2 1/4 x29"	1/4 yd
9-12m	16.5"	8 3/4 "	2 1/4 x31"	1/3 yd
12-18m	17"	9 "	2 1/4 x32"	1/3 yd
2t	18"	9.5"	2.5x33"	0.5 yd
3t	19"	10"	2.5x35"	0.5yd
4t	19.5"	11"	2.5x36"	0.5yd
5t	20.5"	12"	2 3/4 x37"	0.5yd
6	21"	13"	2 3/4 x37.5"	0.5yd
7	22"	14"	3x38"	0.5yd
8	22.5"	15"	3x38.5"	0.5yd

- For the leg hem ruffles you need up to 1/4 yd of fabric in addition to the above mentioned measurements.
- The pocket only needs a fat quarter including pocket ruffle. Pocket ruffle needs to be twice as long as the pocket top edge measures and 2.5" wide.
- Belt loops only need scraps – use S for sizes up to 3t and L for up to size 8

Guide for all around waist elastic (3/4" width):

NB	13.5"
3-6m	14.5"
9-12m	17"
12-18m	18.5"
2t	20"
3t	20.5"
4t	21"
5t	21.5"
6	22"
7	23"
8	23.5"

The measurements for the flat front back elastic has to be measured according to the shorts width when finished through to page 25 of the tutorial.

Ribbon for belt – cut 2 pieces of grosgrain or satin ribbon:

sizes nb – 18m	1.5" or close to it x 14"
sizes 2t – 5t	2.5" or close to it x 20"
sizes up to 8	2.5" or close to it x 25"

For all questions or suggestions to make this pattern better please email me at whimsycouture@hotmail.com

Thank you so much for using this pattern!

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GIRLS SHORTS
CROTCH

NB

3-6M

9-12M

12-18M

2

3

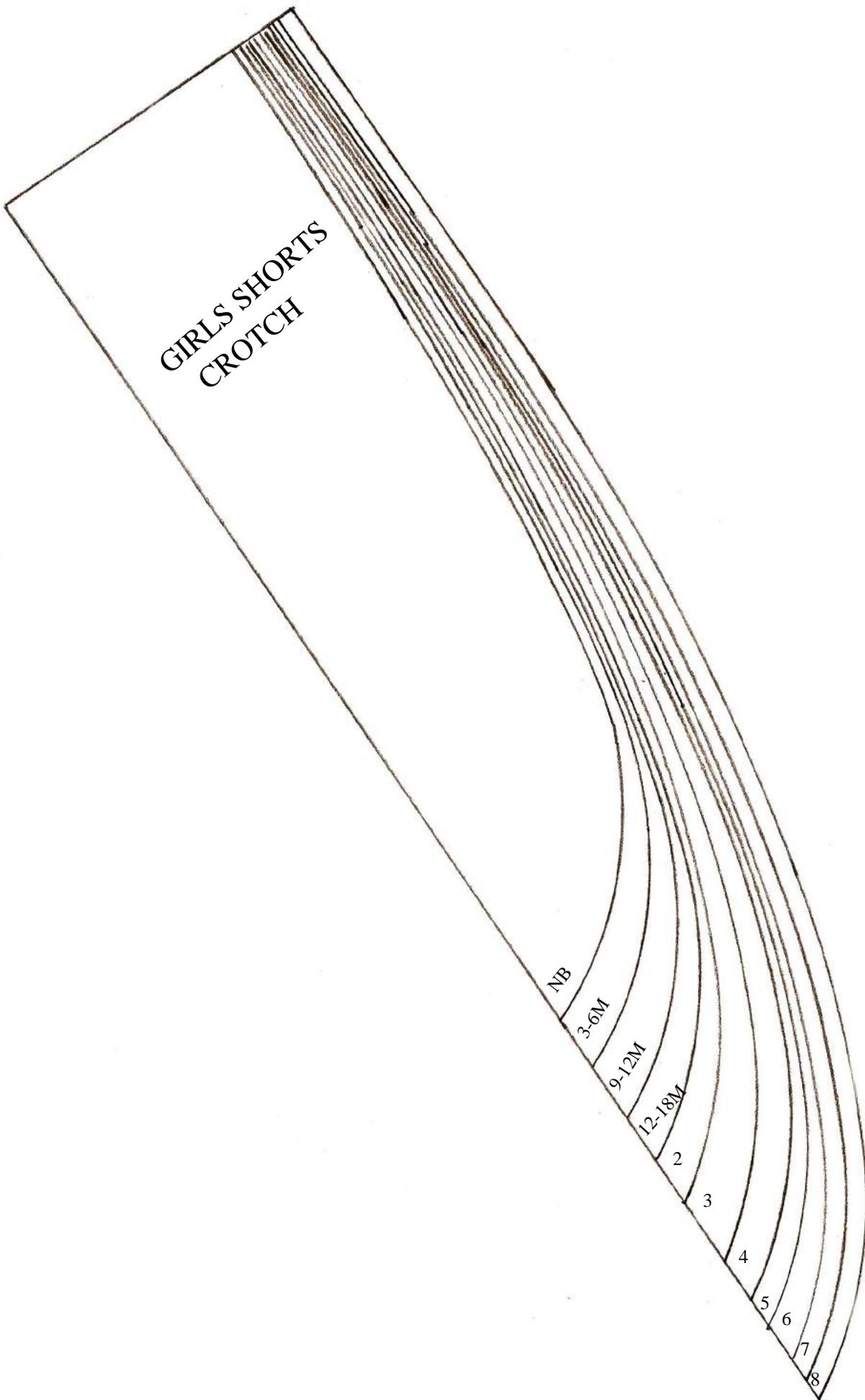
4

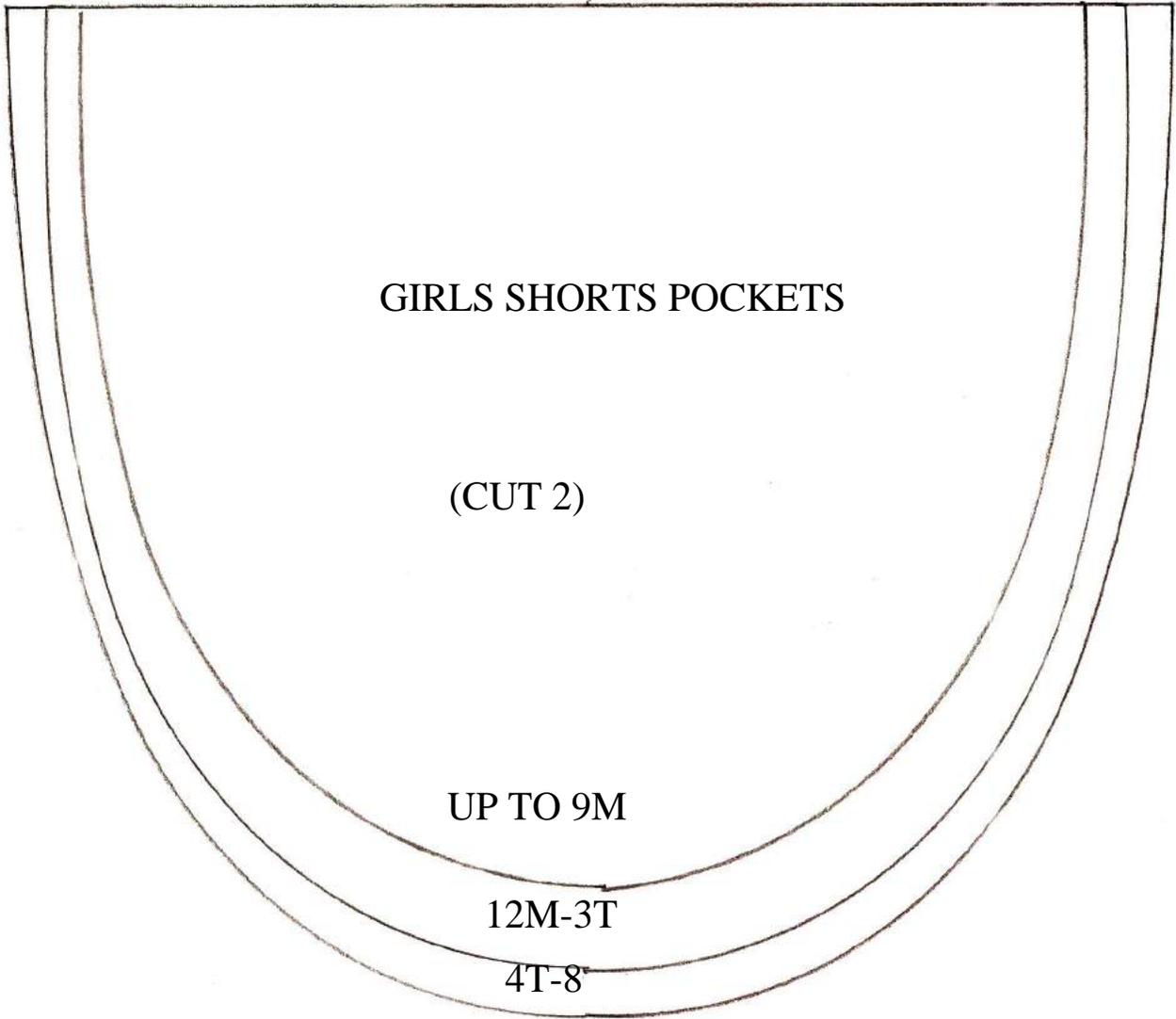
5

6

7

8





GIRLS SHORTS POCKETS

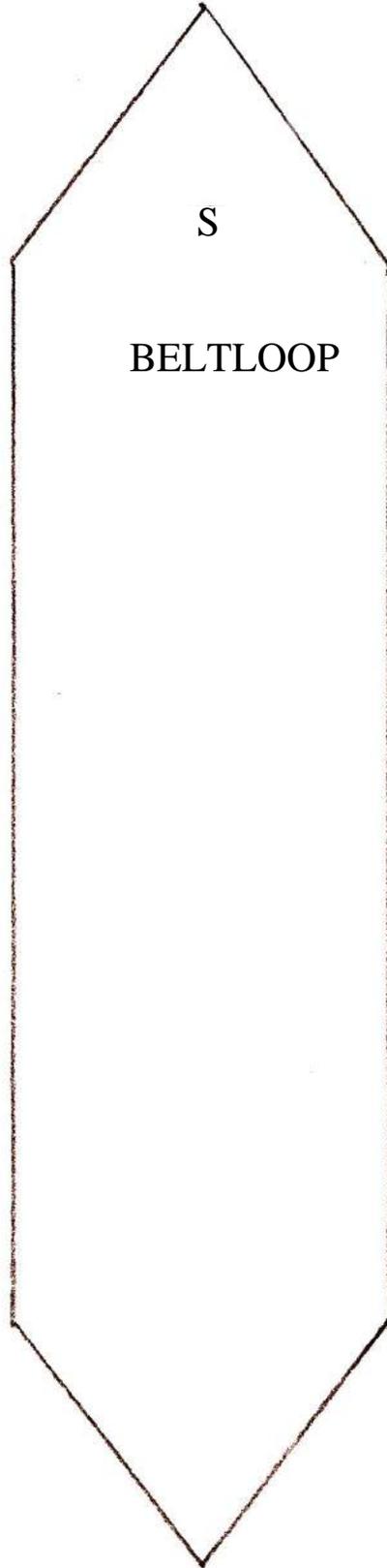
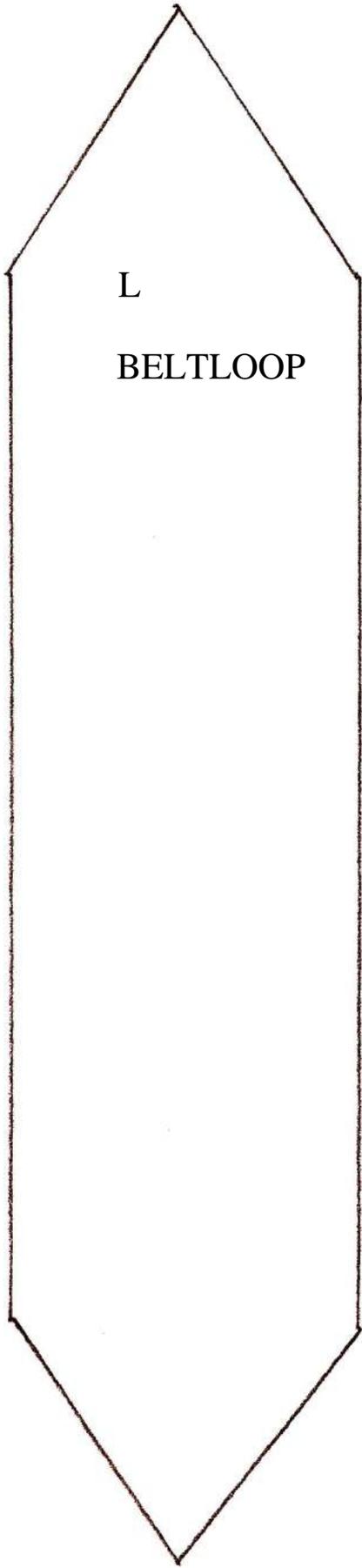
(CUT 2)

UP TO 9M

12M-3T

4T-8

1 INCH





INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO MAKE A SASH:

Making your own sash and ties for tops and dresses is a great way to customize your garments and add uniqueness. Besides store bought ribbon custom made sashes match even nicer with your garment!

Determine how wide and how long you want your sash/to be.

Please see this sizing chart:

Sizes	width	x	length
0-6m	4"	x	38"
9m-24m	4"	x	44"
2t-5t	4.5"	x	60" (sew 2 pieces together to make this length)
6-8	5"	x	68" (sew 2 pieces together.....)
9-12	5"	x	76" (sew 2 pieces together.....)

Some sashes and ties may be tied into a bow so please take this math in consideration when you determine the length. For sizes 2t – 12 girls it's necessary to cut two strips of fabric and sew those together before you continue finishing your sash/ties.

Fold this strip in half with right sides (patterned sides) together and press. Cut the ends how you prefer them either diagonally, pointy or leave them straight.

Mark somewhere around the middle of this strip and pin in two places about 3 inches apart. This will be your opening to turn your sash inside out later on.

Now straight stitch all around your sash leaving the just pinned section open. Make sure to sew back and fourth a couple of times at the opening so later when you turn the sash your stitches won't come loose inside.

2

Your sash should look like this now:



Trim the pointy corners carefully to reduce bulk once it's turned inside out. Turn your sash inside out and press all the way through while smoothing out all creases with your fingers. The picture below shows the opening which you may press carefully in place.

3

This prevent pinning later on.



Sew the entire sash along the edge where the opening is. Leave only about an 1/8 inch room at the edge. You may only sew along that edge or sew all the way around for a nice and finished look.



4

You are done!!!



INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO MAKE PLEATED TOP RUFFLES:

Follow the same steps as with the sash but cut your fabric 2.5x the width of your garment for front and back. The only thing different will be the ends of the sash, they need to be straight not cut on an angle. Once you are finished with your sash now turn it into a pleated top ruffle by simply folding pleats in equal distances.

5

Pin each pleat section as shown:





When you are getting to sew the ruffle on position it onto your garment **BEFORE** you sew the sides.

Best is to briefly press the pleated ruffle in case it opens on you that way you know easier to reposition the pleats. Leave the pins in that hold each pleat in place until you have sewn it onto your garment.

Best is to sew right in the middle if you like you may mark the center with a fabric marker and ruler or lip edge to stay in line better ☺

For all questions or suggestions to make this pattern better please email me at

whimsycouture@hotmail.com

Thank you so much for using this pattern!

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