



Sewing Tutorial
Shirred Bubble Romper



1

List of required materials:

- Sewing machine
- Serger (overlock machine) – optional
- Elastic thread
- Scissors
- Iron
- Notions
- Fabric marker/pen (optional)

Seam allowance: 3/8 inch unless otherwise stated

Cut out your fabric according to the sizing chart on page 17.

These are your fabric pieces that you have cut out:



2

Place one side on top of the other with right sides facing in and pin the right side:



Sew the pinned side and serge/zigzag stitch it:



3

Unfold your piece and finish the TOP edge by serging with a roll hem or by using a narrow zigzag stitch:



This should be your finished TOP edge:



4

Measure the BOTTOM edge's center and mark it with a pen or pin:



Cut out the desired size crotch template and place it right into the center of your BOTTOM edge fabric pieces and pin:



5

Cut around template and discard fabric piece:



Fold your fabric with right sides together. Pin and sew the other side of your romper:



6

Serge/zigzag stitch raw edge. This should now be your romper:



Finish your leg hems by using a roll hem stitch from your serger or a narrow zigzag stitch:



7

Pin crotch area (front and back piece) and sew between arrows:



Serge/zigzag stitch raw edge. Be careful to serge the corner since your serger knife could cut into the fabric! Using a zigzag stitch wouldn't create this problem.



8

This should now be your almost finished romper:



To sew in the top shirring/elastic:

Place a ruler about 0.5 inch away from the top edge as shown and draw a line with your fabric marker/pen. Draw this line across front and back. You may also go directly to sewing in the elastic and concentrating to sew carefully at the same distance to the edge.



To sew in the elastic:

(pictures are from a different project)

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!



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.



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 4-6 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. Also, if your shirred area doesn't look gathered much press it with a steam iron! Steam pulls elastic threads closer together!

To sew in the leg elastics:

Do the same steps as you did with the top shirring! Sew in 2 rows of elastic.

Place your ruler at about 0.5 inch from the bottom edge and draw a line on front and back or go directly to sewing:



To make a skinny halter strap:

Cute one long strip of fabric of 2 inches width. Use the entire width of your fabric. Most fabric comes in 44 inches width. You can cut the length of the ties later on to fit your needs. Some like them longer to tie into bows 😊

Fold both edges towards the middle like shown (a great tool to use is a bias tape folder, it costs about \$4-5.00 at fabric stores) and fold over both side edges (ends) about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch as shown.





Then sew all around the strap with backstitching beginning and end:



15

Pin strap into the center of the inside of the romper and sew on with backstitching several times:



Add a pretty flower to the front....All done!



Design examples:



Sizing chart for Shirred Bubble Rompers:

Cut 2

Size	length	x	width	fabric yardage
Preemie/doll	11	x	13	0.5yd
0-3m	14	x	15	0.5yd
6-9m	15	x	17	0.5 yd
12-18m	16.5	x	18	0.5 yd
2t	18.5	x	19	0.5yd
3t	20	x	20	$\frac{3}{4}$ yd
4t	21	x	22	$\frac{3}{4}$ yd

TIES:

Cut one strip of fabric to the length preferred. Width should be no smaller than 2 inches but can be wider to preference. Grosgrain and satin ribbon works great, too!

As an addition to this pattern you may want to check out my **SLEEVES & STRAPS tutorial** to make 5 variations to the halter ties!

FREE TUTORIAL:



Flower Tutorial



Whimsy Couture

for small flowers cut 2x20" for big flowers cut 3x30"

Cut 1 strip of fabric and serge all edges with a rolled hem or a wider serge stitch:



To gather your fabric:

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.

Sew along the raw edge with a seam allowance of about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch very slowly.
Pull the upper thread to gather your fabric so it should look like this:



Twist and twirl fabric strip to form a flower:



Hand stitch the center through all layers:



21

Stack another flower on top of the first one. Add a pretty button to the center:



All done!

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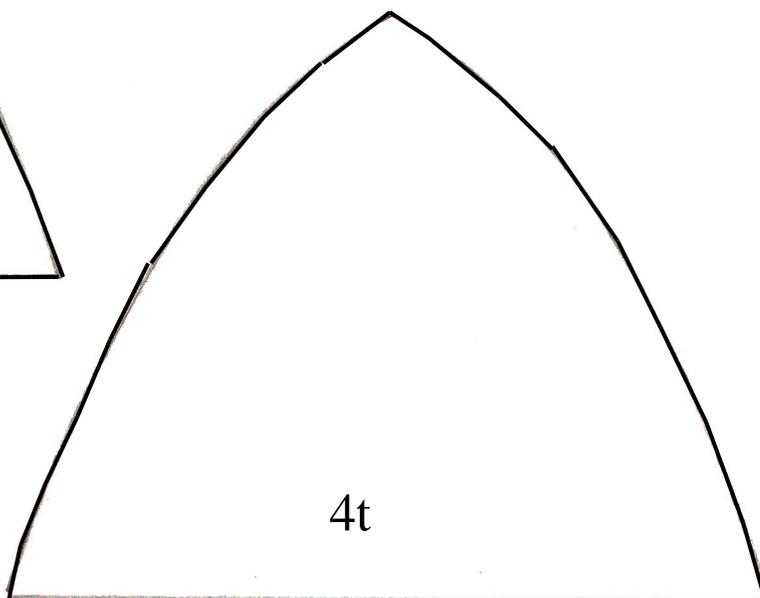
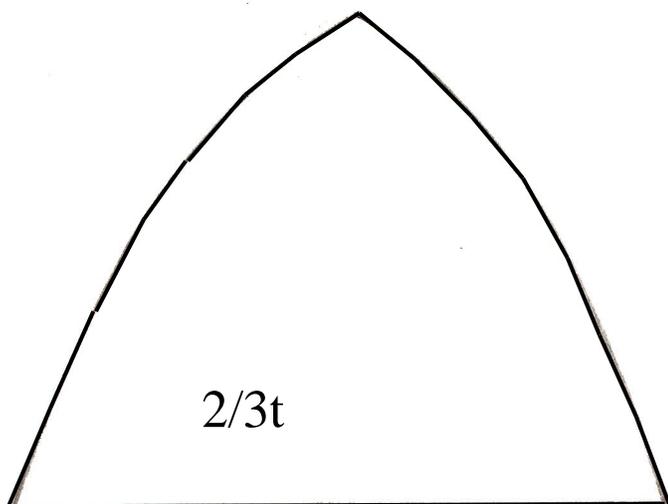
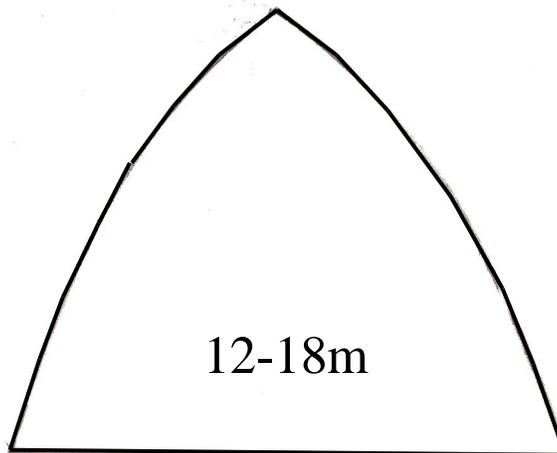
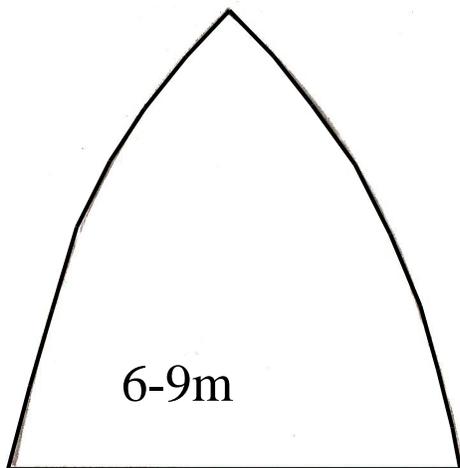
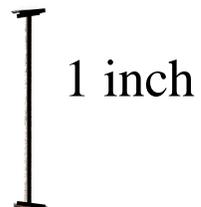
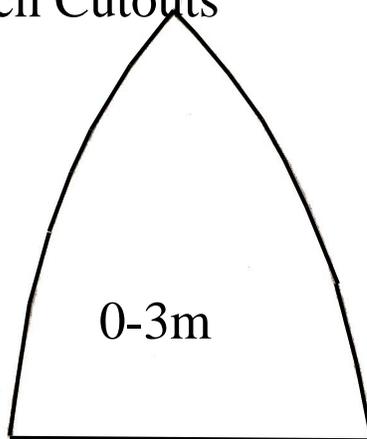
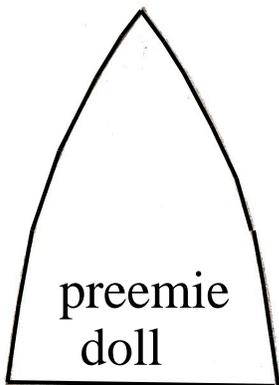
Blog: <http://whimsycoutureboutique.blogspot.com/>

For questions please email whimsycouture@hotmail.com

Thank you so much for using this pattern!

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Shirred Bubble Romper Crotch Cutouts





**Tutorial for adding snap buttons to the
legs of rompers/overalls & pants**



This tutorial is an addition and can be used for all pants, rompers, overalls etc. even store bought ones! For those you can rip the inner seams and pull all the loose threads and start from the beginning of this tutorial.

For handmade rompers/overalls, pants I suggest to go one size up in length to make up for the difference in the crotch area.

List of required materials:

- Sewing machine
- Serger/overlock machine (recommended but not required)
- Zipper foot
- Seam ripper (in case of a seam sewn wrong)
- Snap button tape
- Scissors
- pins
- Pants, overall, romper etc.

If you are adding snap buttons to your sewn garment, finish it up until you reach the inner legs which should be unsewn:



2

Serge/overcast/zigzag stitch the inner leg seams:



Take your snap button tape and lay it onto your legs of your garment to match up the position of the snap buttons. You want to have them equally positioned. Either mark the spot on your snap tape or leave it long in case you mismeasured.

Now separate the snap tape and lay one tape to the side.



3

Start by folding over the front side of your garment starting at the bottom leg hem. I have a ruffled romper so it doesn't matter 😊

Fold the inner seam over to about ¼ inch.....



.....and lay your snap button tape with the end folded under to about ¼ inch and pin it right on top of the folded leg seam. You may also press the folded edge.



4

Pin the snap tape along the folded seam and sew right along the edges of the snap tape with your zipper foot. Backstitch the beginning and end.

This is how the first sewn in snap tape should look like now:



Take your back side of your garment and fold the inner leg seam (your print should now face down) down to about ¼ inch.....



5

.....fold your snap tape end under to about ¼ inch and.....



Pin it right on top along of the folded seam:



6

This is how it should look now:



Sew along the snap tape's edge with your machine:



7

This should now be your sewn in snap tape:



Here is the finished look of both sides sewn in:



8

This should now be your finished and snapped together inseam. Ready to be worn and easy to open for diaper changes! 😊



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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