

Creating Contemporary Doll Clothes

A Project Perfect For Valentine's Day: Combining Colorful Embroidery With Denim

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General Supplies:

♥ 18" doll clothes pattern:

We used the book and patterns from *Sew the Contemporary Wardrobe For 18-inch Dolls* by Joan Hinds

Similar patterns that could be used are:

- Simplicity 7083
- McCall's 3040
- McCall's 3474
- Butterick 3329
- ♥ Baby Lock sewing & embroidery machine
- ♥ Baby Lock Evolvé or Imagine Serger
- ♥ Baby Lock Mike Abram's Collection I Embroidery Card C-16
- ♥ Scissors
- ♥ Chalk marker
- ♥ Pins
- ♥ Rotary cutter, mat and ruler
- ♥ Steam iron
- ♥ 40-weight rayon embroidery thread in a variety of colors to match fabrics
- ♥ Embroidery weight bobbin thread
- ♥ Three pieces 8"x8" medium weight cut-away or tear-away stabilizer
- ♥ Four cones of all purpose thread to coordinate with fabric
- ♥ One spool of 100% long staple polyester thread

Long Sleeve T-shirt:



Supplies:

- ♥ 1/4 yard knit t-shirt fabric
- ♥ 8" x 1 1/2" rib knit to match
- ♥ Small piece of Velcro or a snap to close back neck.

Instructions:

1. Hoop t-shirt knit and stabilizer; embroider the heart with leaves design.
2. Position t-shirt front pattern over the center of the design. Pin in place.

Note: Trace the shirt front pattern, then flip your pattern and trace it again, creating a pattern that can open out flat and does not require the fold.

3. Cut out t-shirt front and back from the t-shirt fabric according to the pattern layout instructions.
4. Serge the shoulder seams.
5. Use a Baby Lock serger to set the sleeves, use the differential feed to ease in the fullness. Position the sleeve on the bottom and the shoulder edge on top. Start serging with the differential set on normal and adjust up to 1.3 or 1.5 at the cap then down to normal again at the edge.
6. Fold the rib knit in half lengthwise, right sides together, and stitch the ends only.
7. Turn the rib knit so the wrong sides are together and match raw edges to the neckline edge.
8. Set up the Baby Lock Evolve, following the instruction manual for a narrow cover.

Note: If you do not have coverstitch capabilities, Serge fabric edges and topstitch using a twin needle on a conventional sewing machine.

9. Fold the sleeve hems according to the pattern directions and hem using a narrow cover stitch.
10. In one step, serge the side seams and the underarm seam.
11. Hem the t-shirt using a cover hem.
12. Serge the back seam and attach the Velcro® or snaps according to the pattern directions.



Jacket:

Supplies:

- ♥ 1/2 yard cotton or light weight denim fabric for the jacket
- ♥ Buttons according to the pattern
- ♥ 2.0 mm twin needle

Instructions:

1. Cut out all the pieces, except the yolk back and the pocket flaps, according to the pattern instructions and layout.
2. Hoop a piece of the denim fabric and stabilizer; embroider the strip of hearts embroidery design.

Note: Make sure you have enough fabric around the design to shift the pattern as necessary to center the design.

3. Position the yolk back piece over the embroidery design centering the design. Cut out the yolk back piece.
4. Hoop another piece of fabric and stabilizer; stitch the last heart in the pattern only. Move the design over and repeat. These are for the pocket flaps.

Note: Use the help keys on the machine to forward past the previous colors

5. Center the pocket flap pattern pieces over the embroidery designs and cut them out.
6. Assemble jacket pattern according to the jacket instructions.

Any little girl would be proud to take this doll to her tea party. This ensemble for dolls combines colorful embroidery with denim.



Skirt:

Supplies:

- ♥ 1/4 yard cotton or medium weight plaid fabric for the skirt
- ♥ 5" of 1/4" wide elastic
- ♥ Baby Lock hemmer foot

Instructions:

1. Cut out skirt front, back and waistband from the plaid fabric according to the pattern layout instructions.
2. Using a 1/4" seam with a stitch length setting at 2.5. Serge both side seams using a four-thread stitch and adjusting your width for a quarter inch seam. Or sew side seams using a quarter inch seam and then finish the edges with an overcasting stitch on a conventional sewing machine.
3. To attach waistband, fold band in half lengthwise. Match the raw edges to the waist edge of the skirt. Stitch or serge it with a quarter inch seam, leaving a small opening.
4. Run the elastic through the casing. Stitch the elastic ends together, tuck the elastic into the casing, and finish the waistband by stitching the opening closed.
5. Hem the skirt on a Baby Lock sewing machine using the Baby Lock hemmer foot and a straight stitch with embroidery thread for added interest.