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BULLETIN 22A · MAKING CHILDREN'S DRESSES

Making C



ALL THE PREVIOUS sewing bulletins have contained clothes and accessories for you to make for yourself. Now we turn your attention to the younger members of your family, who will be charmed with the dresses we have designed for them. The pinafore dress, with matching panties, is made of green wincey checked with white. It is worn with a white wincey blouse trimmed at collar and sleeve edges with cross-cut strips of the checked wincey. The dress, panties and blouse will fit a girl from 5 to 6 years of age.

The feature of the striped cotton dress is the yoke of tucks. The tucks are constructed so that the floral stripe is hidden. Some of the tucks may be unpicked to add extra width for a growing child. This dress will fit a girl of 1 to 2 years of age.

Patterns are given for the dresses, but you could buy a reliable paper pattern similar in style.

The next bulletin, 23A, will contain instructions for summer dresses

STRIPED DRESS

Size: Chest, 20½ in. Finished length, 18 in.

Materials: 1½ yd. striped cotton, 36 in. wide; one card bias binding to match; five hooks; two reels mercerised sewing cotton No. 40 to match; one Sharps needle No. 7; one machine needle No. 14.

Patterns: Make these from diagram, 1 sq. = 1 in. The patterns give the front and back bodice sections, extend the lower edges of each 12½ in. for the skirt. Solid spots mark the edge to be laid on the folded edge of the fabric. Arrows mark the straight grain. CF marks centre front, CB marks centre back.

Cutting Directions: Allow ½ in. for seams on all pattern pieces. Pattern A (sleeve). Cut two pieces. Pattern B (collar). Cut two pieces with long straight edge on a stripe. Back and front dress. Cut two pieces 36 in. by 22 in. Continuous opening. Cut a strip 16 in. by 1½ in. Neck facing. Cut a crossway strip 12 in.

by 1¼ in. Sleeve bindings. Cut two strips 10 in. by 1½ in. from the dark stripe. Front and back dress sections are cut from Patterns C and D after the tucking has been worked.

Sewing Directions: ½ in. has been allowed for seams on the crossway strip. (1) Run a basting thread down the centre back and front sections. (2) Measure and mark approximately 1½ in. on each side of the centre front and centre back line. (3) On each side of the centre front, pin and baste tucks on the wrong side, starting at the marked position, to form a solid colour panel, approximately 3¼ in. wide. (4) Stitch and press tucks towards the centre. (5) Repeat the tucks on the back dress section. (6) Cut out the front and the back sections from patterns C and D. (7) Tailor tack round the pattern pieces to mark the stitching lines. (8) With right sides together, pin, baste and stitch the side and shoulder seams. Press the seams open and finish the raw edges. (9) From

the neck edge, cut down the centre back 8 in. and make a continuous opening. (10) With right sides together, baste and stitch the underarm sleeve seams. Press the seams open and finish the raw edges. (11) Join the short ends of each sleeve binding. Press the seams open. Bind the lower raw edge of each sleeve. (12) With right sides together and raw edges even, insert each sleeve into the corresponding armhole, matching notches and seams. Baste and stitch in position. Finish the raw edges. (13) Fold each collar section in half lengthwise, right sides together. (14) Baste and stitch the short ends of each collar section. Trim the seams, turn to the right side and press. (15) Attach the collar to the dress in the same way as in the blouse. (16) Turn up the hem to the desired length and slipstitch in position. (17) Sew the hooks and work buttonhole bars at the back opening as in the pinafore dress.

Children's Dresses

PINAFORE DRESS

Size: Chest, 24 in. Finished length, 22 in.

Materials: $1\frac{3}{4}$ yd. checked wincey, 36 in. wide; $\frac{3}{8}$ yd. plain wincey for lining the bodice; $\frac{7}{8}$ yd. narrow piping cord; five hooks; one press stud; small scraps of wadding for the buttons; one reel mercerised sewing cotton No. 40 to match each fabric; one Sharps needle No. 7; one machine needle No. 14.

Patterns: Make these from diagram, 1 sq. = 1 in. Solid spots mark the edge to be laid on the folded edge of the fabric. Arrows mark the straight grain. Broken lines mark darts. CF marks centre front, CB marks centre back.

Cutting Directions: Allow $\frac{1}{2}$ in. for seams on all pattern pieces. Pattern A (front bodice). Cut two pieces (one from checked fabric, one from lining fabric). Pattern B (back bodice). Cut four pieces (two from checked fabric, two from lining fabric). Front skirt. Cut one piece 36 in. by 17 in. Fold in half widthwise; mark a point on the fold, 2 in. down from one raw edge. Mark a straight line from this point to the top corner. Cut along the line to form the front skirt shaping. Back Skirt. Cut two pieces 18 in. by 17 in. Neck Piping. Cut one crossway strip $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. by 21 in. Armhole piping. Cut two crossway strips $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. by 15 in. Waist Piping. Cut one crossway strip $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. by 28 in. Buttons. Cut five circles 1 in. in diameter. Back of buttons. Cut five circles $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter.

Sewing Directions: (1) Tailor tack round the pattern pieces and darts to mark the stitching lines. (2) Run a basting thread down the centre front and the centre back of the bodice sections and the centre front of the skirt section. (3) Pin, baste and stitch darts, side and shoulder seams of checked bodice sections. Trim the seams and press open; press the darts towards the centre front. (4) Repeat with the lining bodice sections. (5) Fold the neck piping strip in half lengthwise, wrong sides together. Pin and baste the piping to the right side of the neck edge, raw edges even and centres matching. (6) With right sides together, stitch the short ends of one armhole piping strip. Fold, pin and baste to the armhole edge as for the neck piping. (7) Machine stitch the armhole piping in position. Trim and turn the raw edges to the wrong side of the bodice. Baste and press. (8) Repeat steps 6 and 7 for the remaining armhole piping. (9) Fold the waist piping strip in half lengthwise, wrong sides together. Insert the cord close to the fold and baste securely in position. (10) Place the piping strip to the right side of the bodice at the waist edge, centres matching and raw edges even. Baste in position. (11) With right sides together, baste and stitch two short edges of the back skirt sections, $\frac{3}{4}$ in. from the raw edge, leaving $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. open at one end for the opening. Press the seam open and finish the raw edges. (12) Join the front skirt to the back skirt with machine fell seams. (13) Run two rows of gathering stitches (one $\frac{1}{2}$ in. above the fitting line, the other $\frac{1}{2}$ in. below) along the top edge of the skirt. (14) Pull up and space the gathers evenly to fit the bodice. (15) On the right hand side of the opening, place the fitting lines of the bodice and the skirt together. On the left hand side of the opening place the edge of the skirt seam allowance to the fitting line of the bodice. Baste and stitch the skirt to the bodice, right sides together, seams matching, raw edges even. It is necessary to use a piping foot attachment for stitching this waist seam. Trim the seam, and press open. (16) Place the lining to the bodice, right sides together, raw edges even. Baste and stitch the centre back and neck edges. Trim the seams; turn the lining to the wrong side and baste round the stitched edges. (17) Turn in the raw armhole edges of the lining; baste and slipstitch just above the machine stitching. Slipstitch the waist edge of lining in the same way. (18) Back stitch the seam allowances of the back skirt together at the base of the opening. Snip the seam allowance of the left side below the back stitching and finish the raw edges. (19) Cut a strip of checked fabric 1 in. by the length of the skirt opening plus seam allowance. Turn in all raw edges and slipstitch down the inside of the left side of



opening. Sew press stud in position on opening. (20) Turn up the hem to the desired length; baste and slipstitch in position. (21) Sew the hooks to the lining at the right hand side of the opening, with the first one at the waist, the last one at the neckline, and the remainder at equal intervals above the waist. Sew the press stud at the back skirt opening. Make small buttonhole bars on the left hand side of the opening to correspond. (22) To make a button, run a gathering thread round one large circle $\frac{1}{4}$ in. from the raw edge. (23) Make a small ball from the wadding and place to the wrong side of the circle. Pull up the gathering thread and finish off securely. Trim the raw edges. (24) Turn in the raw edge of one small circle and slipstitch to the back of the button, concealing all raw edges. (25) Repeat for remaining buttons. Sew buttons to the back of the dress on the right hand side, above the hooks. Almost the same effect may be obtained more simply by cutting the front bodice straight across from the side seam. Then cut one piece 17 in. by 36 in. for the front skirt. The piping at the waist may be omitted and armhole and neck edges bound with the crossway strips. In this alternative style no lining is required, but the side and shoulder seams of the bodice are joined with machine fell seams and a facing must be applied at each side of the back opening.

PANTIES

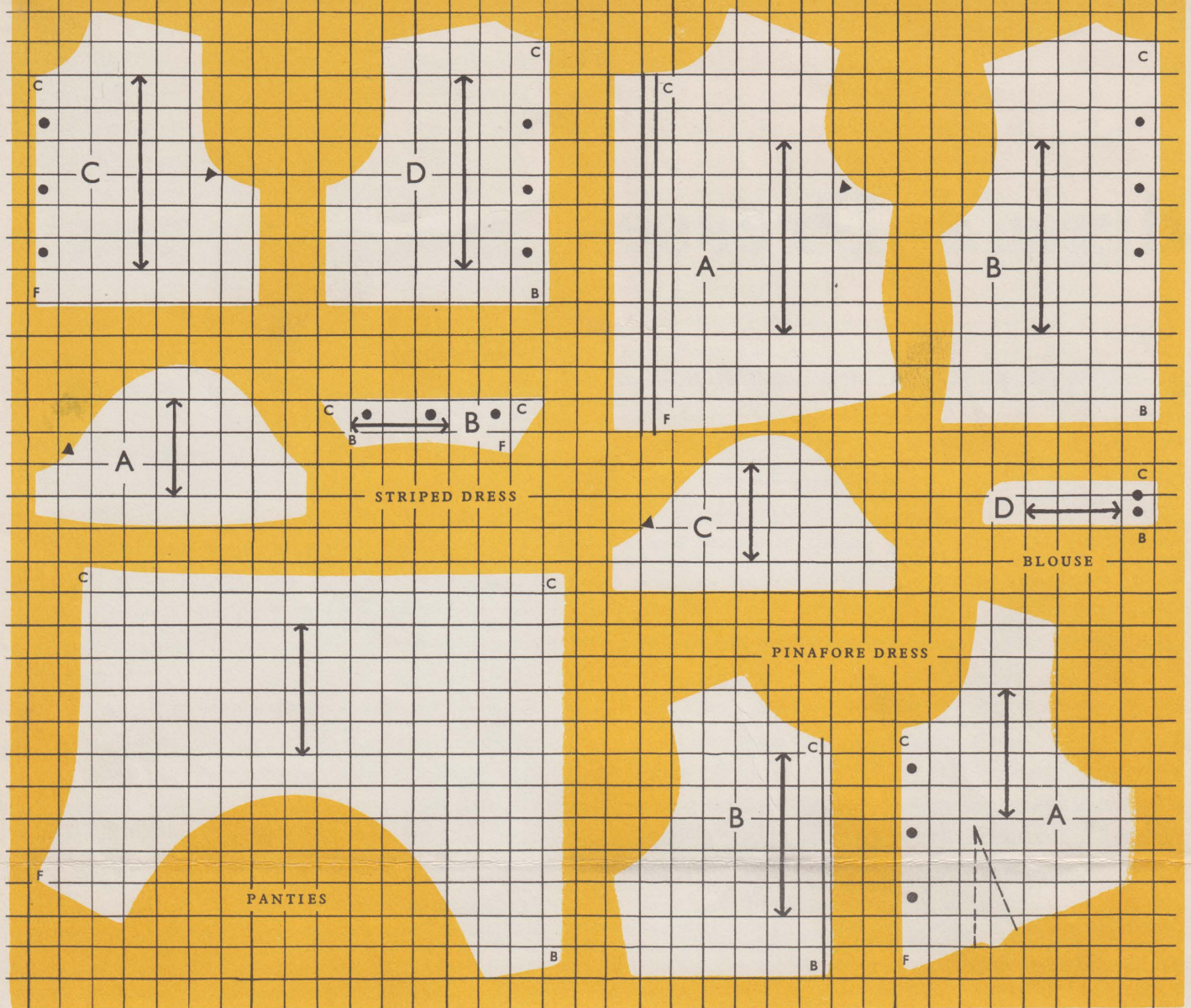
Materials: $\frac{1}{2}$ yd. checked wincey, 36 in. wide; one 21 in. piece, $\frac{1}{4}$ in. wide elastic; one reel mercerised sewing cotton No. 40 to match; one Sharps needle No. 7; one machine needle No. 14.

Pattern: Make this from diagram, 1 sq. = 1 in. Arrow marks the straight grain. CF marks centre front, CB marks centre back.

Cutting Directions: Allow $\frac{1}{2}$ in. for seams except at the waist, where 1 in. should be allowed. Panties. Cut two pieces by pattern. Leg facings. Cut two crossway strips $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. by 17 in.

Sewing Directions: (1) Tailor tack round the pattern pieces to mark the stitching lines. (2) Join the centre back edges with a french seam; repeat with the centre front edges. (3) Join the underleg seam with a french seam. (4) Fold the top raw edge to the wrong side for 1 in. and machine stitch just below the fold. Turn in the raw edge $\frac{1}{4}$ in. Baste and stitch in position,





leaving 1 in. open at the centre back. (5) Thread the elastic through the casing; sew the ends securely. Stitch the opening. (6) With right sides together, baste and stitch the short ends of each facing strip. (7) Place each facing to a leg edge, right sides together, raw edges even. Baste and stitch. Trim the seams; turn the facings to the wrong side. (8) Turn in the remaining long edges and slipstitch in position.

BLOUSE

Size: Chest, 24 in.

Materials: $\frac{3}{8}$ yd. white wincey, 36 in. wide; crossway strips of checked wincey for neck and sleeve bindings; five buttons; one hook; one reel white mercerised sewing cotton No. 40; one Sharps needle No. 7; one machine needle No. 14.

Patterns: Make these from diagram, 1 sq. = 1 in. Solid spots mark the edge to be laid on the folded edge of the fabric. Arrows mark the straight grain. CF marks centre front, CB marks centre back.

Cutting Directions: Allow $\frac{1}{2}$ in. for seams on all pattern pieces. Pattern A (front). Cut two pieces. Pattern B (back). Cut one piece. Pattern C (sleeve). Cut two pieces. Pattern D (collar). Cut two pieces. collar Binding. Cut

one crossway strip of checked fabric $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. by 14 in. Sleeve bindings. Cut two crossway strips of checked fabric $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. by 10 in. Neck facing. Cut one crossway strip of plain fabric $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $13\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Sewing Directions: $\frac{1}{2}$ in. has been allowed for seams on all crossway strips. (1) Tailor tack round the pattern pieces to mark the stitching lines. (2) Run a basting thread down the centre back and centre front of bodice sections. (3) Pin, baste and stitch side and shoulder seams, using french seams. (4) Fold the left front facing to the wrong side. Turn in the seam allowance on the long raw edge and stitch $\frac{1}{8}$ in. from the fold. Trim the raw edge close to the stitching. (5) Fold the right front facing to the wrong side and stitch along fitting line at neck edge for $\frac{1}{2}$ in. Trim the seam, turn the facing to the right side and press. (6) Turn in the long raw edge of facing $\frac{1}{2}$ in., baste in position and topstitch $\frac{3}{16}$ in. from the long edges. (7) Lay the collar sections wrong sides together, raw edges even; baste. (8) Place the right side of the collar binding strip to the curved edge of the collar, centres matching, raw edges even. (9) Baste and stitch, leaving the neck edges open. Trim the seam

to just under $\frac{1}{4}$ in.; turn in the remaining long raw edge and slipstitch in position just above the machine stitching. (10) Pin and baste the collar to the right side of the neck edge, raw edges even and centre backs matching. (11) Place the neck binding strip to the neck edge, right sides together, raw edges even and centres matching, with the binding extending $\frac{1}{2}$ in. at each end. Baste and stitch through all thicknesses. Trim the seam. (12) Fold the strip to the wrong side, turn in all raw edges and slipstitch in position. (13) Join the underarm seam of each sleeve with a french seam. (14) With right sides together, stitch the short ends of each sleeve binding strip. Bind the lower edge of each sleeve as for collar. (15) Insert each sleeve into the corresponding armhole, matching notches and seams. Baste and stitch in position with a french seam. (16) Make a $\frac{3}{8}$ in. hem round the lower raw edge. Baste and slipstitch in position. (17) Mark position of buttonholes, having the first $\frac{1}{2}$ in. down from the neck edge, and the remainder at $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. intervals. (18) Work buttonholes and sew the buttons in position to correspond. (19) Sew the hook on the wrong side of the neck edge and work a buttonhole bar to correspond.