

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SEWING A CLOTH DOLL



- Cut the parts of the cloth doll along the inner edge of the outlines.
- Place the outermost limbs with the right sides facing each other and the innermost limbs with the right sides facing each other. Hold them against the light when pinning the limbs to align the outlines properly.
- Sew the limbs. If you do not want the outlines to show, make sure the stitch runs inside the outline on both sides. Make small notches on the curved parts, but do not cut too close to the stitch. Turn the limbs right side out using a blunt, long tool like a flat-head screwdriver. This step requires some patience!
- Start stuffing with cotton wadding. Fill the legs from the foot to the knee first, making sure both are stuffed to the same height. Sew the knee joint so that the seam of the leg comes to the center of the leg. Finish stuffing the leg and sew the top closed.
- Fill the arms from the fingers to the elbow. The seam on the arms should be on the sides. Sew the elbow joint at the same height on both arms. Finish stuffing and sew the top closed.
- Sew the braids with the right sides facing each other. Before turning the work, make sure the stitch runs within the printed part of the braid to avoid any white showing. Make small notches on the curved parts. Turn the work. Fill with cotton wadding. Topstitch the braid lengthwise up to the ribbon. The topstitching should be in the center of the braid.
- Pin the body with the right sides facing each other. Start sewing from the shoulders and head. Leave small gaps where the braids will be, as the braids will be sewn to the head by hand later. Again, ensure the stitch runs within the printed part of the head to avoid any white showing.
- If you plan to sew the arms by hand later, you can sew the side seams of the body now, leaving gaps for the arms. Alternatively, if you prefer to sew the arms to the body by machine, do this before sewing the side seams. Place the arms inside the doll with the right sides facing the upper shoulder part. Pin or baste and sew from the upper shoulder to the lower body.
- Cut small notches on the curved parts of the body and head, and at the base of the neck. This will help the work sit better after turning. Be careful not to cut too close to the stitches. Turn the work right side out.
- Now you can sew the braids to the head by hand using invisible stitches and attach the arms if you left them unsewn.
- Start stuffing from the head. Use a long blunt tool to help. Fill the neck as tightly as possible to ensure it stands upright. Stuff the body halfway.
- Pin or baste the legs to the back of the body. Make sure the feet are facing the right way. Sew them on. Finish stuffing the body. Fold the front fabric of the body inwards by about a centimeter, pin or baste, and topstitch by machine very close to the edge.
- Cut out the dress along the inner edge of the outlines. Make notches at the neckline and waistline. Finish the edges with a serger or zigzag stitch. You can slightly stretch the notched areas during finishing to make turning the neckline easier.
- Place the dress with the right sides facing each other and sew the shoulder seams first, then the side seams, leaving openings for the arms. Turn the armholes and neckline about 1 cm to the wrong side and topstitch. Sew the hem. Iron the dress and now you can dress the cloth doll.

Enjoy your cloth doll sewing time!

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