

## How to Sew a Diaper Shirt for Threads of Love

### General Instructions:

Print the appropriate size pattern and assemble according to instructions.

Use cotton prints (no Santas, witches, metallic threads or yellow fabric) for the garment with a coordinating solid cotton for the lining. To streamline the cutting process, you can stack the fabric and lining so you can cut them both out at the same time.

Sew using  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch seam allowance.

Use only sew-on Soft and Flexible Velcro. IMPORTANT NOTE: Please reference "Method for Sewing Velcro to Infant Garments" for instructions on how to cut and attach the Velcro.

### Construction:

With right sides together, sew the garment and lining together, leaving a 3-4" opening at the bottom of the back of the diaper shirt for turning. Remember to backstitch at the beginning and the end of your stitches.

Clip the corners and underarm curves.

Turn right side out and carefully press the diaper shirt.

Topstitch near the edge all around the shirt, being careful to close the bottom opening as you stitch.

Sew on the Velcro tabs at both shoulders and at the front opening. You may find it necessary to add a second Velcro tab at the front opening for larger sizes. NOTE: The loop (soft) side of the Velcro is sewn to the lining. The hook (rough) side of the Velcro is sewn on the fabric print. To ensure you have sewn it correctly, open the diaper shirt as if you were laying a baby on it to dress. The lining will be facing up. Only the soft side of the Velcro should be exposed. This is to protect the baby's tender skin.

Sew on the Threads of Love label near the hem edge of the overlapped front piece. When sewing the label, be sure to turn under the raw edges and stitch around all four sides.

Always check the finished garment for any pins or pet hair—both can harm the babies.

## Threads of Love — Method for Sewing Velcro to Infant Garments

- The preferred type of Velcro is the 'Soft and Flexible'. It is sold as product #90316. Look for the purple box. The roll is 5/8" wide.
- Cut the Velcro tabs about 1 cm., or 3/8" wide. Blunt the corners by cutting with sharp scissors.
- Never use glue for premie garments.
- Sew the Velcro on by machine, stitching all around each tab as close to the edge as possible. Do NOT sew in a line through the middle, or in a 'W' or 'X'. Refer to illustration below as your stitching guide.
- Note that stitches fall off the Velcro and into the garment fabric at the blunted corners.
- Overlap the stitches to make them very secure.
- The soft (loop) piece is always positioned on the lining side.
- Think about it! When the garment is laid open, you should find only soft Velcro. That is what is next to baby's tender skin.
- The rough (hook) side of Velcro is stitched to the outer fabric.
- Enlarged View of Velcro with stitching:

