

Threads of Love – Diaper Shirt Modification to a Dress

By using the diaper shirt pattern and adding a ruffle to the lower edge, a dress may be made. Cut diaper shirt and lining as usual, small, medium, or large.

For ruffle:

For Small: cut a 3"-wide strip of the print fabric by 22" long

For Medium: cut a 3 1/2"-wide strip of the print fabric by 26" long

For Large: cut a 4"-wide strip of the print fabric by 32" long

Sew a narrow hem at both ends and along bottom of ruffle strip. A serger rolled hem may be used. Run two rows of gathering stitches (long machine stitches) at the top edge. A purchased pre-ruffled eyelet edging 2 1/2" – 3" wide may also be used. Measure the pattern to determine length of pre-ruffled edging to fit. Hem or serge the ends.

Mark the ruffle into 4 equal sections before pulling the gathering threads. Do this by folding in half and then in half again. Mark the bottom edge of diaper shirt into 4 equal sections by folding as on the ruffle. Pin ruffle strip to edge of shirt, right sides of fabric together at the markings. Ends of ruffle should be pinned 3/8" from the front edges of the shirt. Pull up gathering stitches on ruffle and adjust gathers to fit the shirt. Pin as needed. Sew ruffle to shirt bottom using a 1/4" seam. Fold back and pin the ruffle ends to avoid sewing into lining seams.

Pin lining to shirt fabric, right sides together. Wrong side of print fabric will be facing up so that in pinning and subsequent sewing, the original line of stitching along the ruffle can be followed. Sew (1/4" seams) all around the shirt with ruffle sandwiched between the lining and print fabrics. Be sure to avoid sewing the ruffle into any other seams. Leave an opening about 4" long at the bottom edge for turning. Clip corners and curves. Turn to right side and work out the corners, curves, and ruffle. Press. Topstitch all around being sure to catch the opening in the stitches. Remove any visible gathering stitches.

Follow Velcro application as directed on diaper shirt pattern, but add one more piece to front closure near bottom seam, just above the ruffle. Sew Threads of Love label near bottom seam. Thank You! for sewing a tiny dress that is sure to impress!

