

Pillowcase Dresses

Supplies: Regular-size pillowcase or purchased fabric
Bias tape: approximately two yards, cut in half
Elastic: 12 to 16 inches of 3/8" or 1/2", cut in half
Sewing supplies: thread, scissors, pins, safety pin

| Size | Finished length | Template for arm opening | |
|------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Infant | 14-16 inches | Infant | 2 1/2" long, 1 1/4" wide |
| 1-2 years | 17-19 inches | Small | 3 1/2" long, 1 1/2" wide |
| 3-4 years | 20-22 inches | Medium | 4" long, 1 3/4" wide |
| 5-8 years | 23-28 inches | Large | 5" long, 2" wide |
| 9-12 years | 29-33 inches | | |

Step 1 Cut armhole template pattern as a rectangle. On one long edge, cut off a curved shape. A J-shaped pattern will remain.

Step 2 Choose the size and length of dress. Add one inch to the finished length. Cut across the closed end of the pillowcase, retaining the hem. (The scrap may be used to make a pocket.)

Step 3 Using the armhole template, cut left and right armholes.

Step 4 Make the casing for elastic. Fold and press about 1/4" of the raw edge. Fold and press another 3/4". Stitch to form front and back casing.

Step 5 Using a safety pin as a "needle," put elastic into front and back casing. Pin and/or stitch ends to secure it.

Step 6 Cut bias tape for binding. Use 24" for infant, 30" for small, 36" for medium, and 38" for larger sizes. Fold each piece and mark center with pin or pencil.

Step 7 Pin center of bias tape to center or underarm. Place pins every inch or so, making sure dress fabric is all the way into the fold.

Step 8 Fold in ends of bias tape. Then sew, using either straight or zigzag stitch. Be sure to catch edges of the dress fabric.

Step 8 Embellish as desired with buttons, rickrack, eyelet, ruffles, lace, or embroidery.

Note: Numerous patterns are available on the internet, some with pictures and additional details.