

Dresses for Africa Instructions

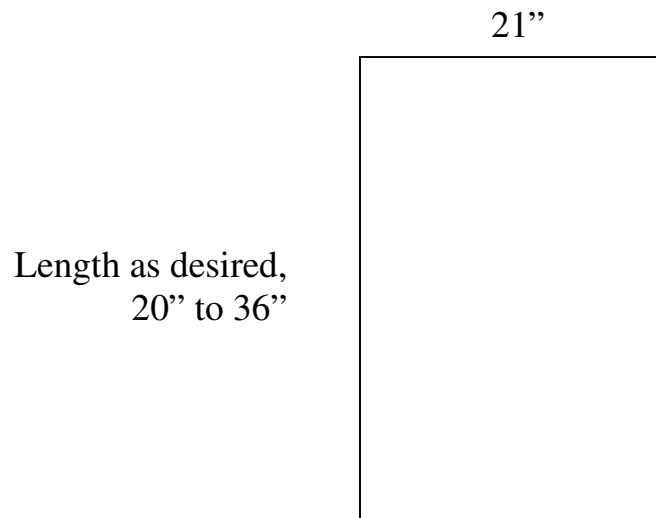
Materials:

1 yard (or less) pretty/children's fabric (or combine two to make this amount)
1 yard wide or extra wide double fold bias tape (or make your own)
About 2 yards of ribbon (or sewn closed bias tape, or ribbon made from fabric)
Embellishments (if desired), for pockets, ruffles, etc.

Instructions:

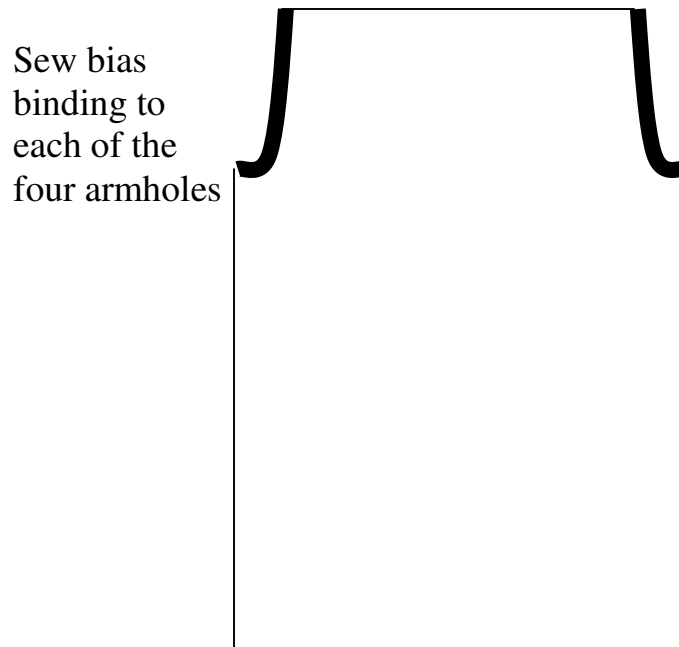
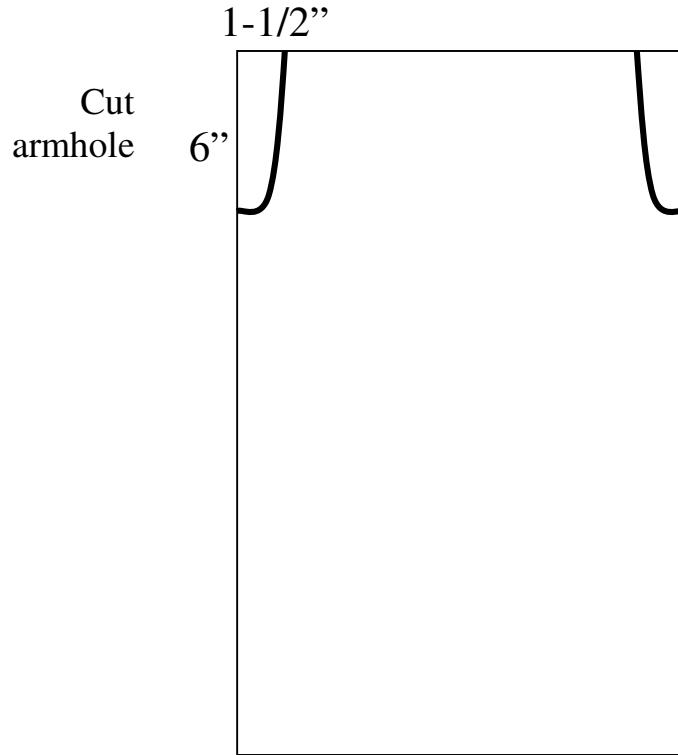
Cut two pieces of fabric ~ 21" wide by (desired length). These form the back and front of the dress (they are identical, except possibly for embellishments added later).

Cut two:



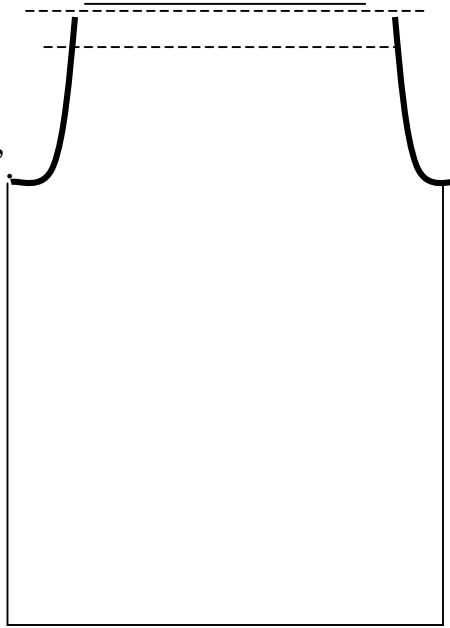
Both front and back:

Cut rounded triangle out of top two corners, 1-1/2" wide by 6" long (for armholes)



Fold over top about 1/4" and then again about 3/4" - 1". Press if desired, then sew along bottom fold. This makes the casing for the ribbon.

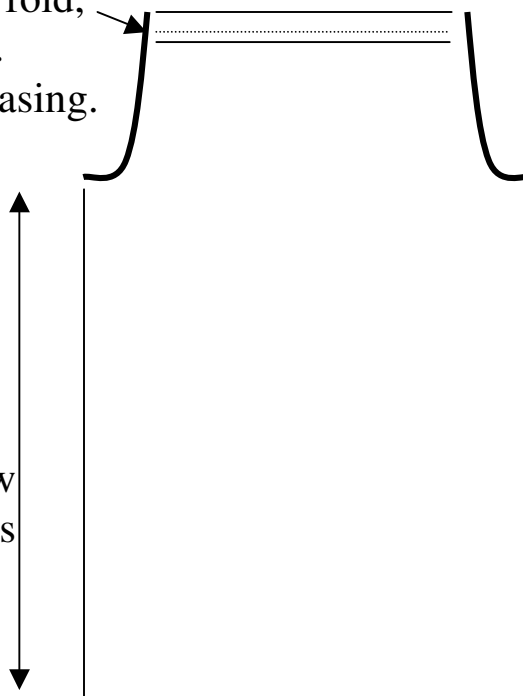
Fold down 1/4"
Then fold down
at least another 3/4"
Press.



Insert a 6" piece of elastic through the casing and secure with machine stitching at each end so it doesn't come out.

Stitch above fold,
close to fold.
This forms casing.

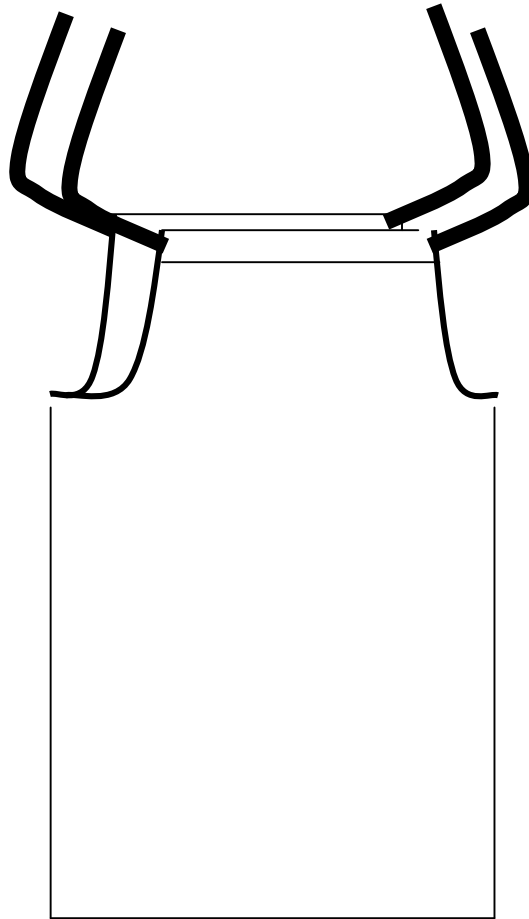
Then sew
side seams



Sew side seams (I allowed about ½” seams). Don’t sew up the arm holes! It helps to lock stitches at the top of the seam.

Use about 1 yard of ribbon in the front casing and another 1 yard in the back casing. Secure the ribbon with stitching in the middle so it doesn’t come out.

Insert a ribbon through
front and back casings.



Hem bottom
and embellish
as desired.