Paper Fan Dress
by
Anna Maria Horner
for Janome

sizes 2-8
Materials Needed:
*Woven Cotton materials from light to medium weight are perfect for this little frock.
Bodice: 2/3 yard all sizes
Bodice Lining: 2/3 yard all sizes
Skirt: 1 yard for sizes 2-3, 1 ¼ yards for size 4, or 1 ½ yards for 5/6-7/8

Notions Needed:
two 1” buttons, coordinating spool of Coats ® Dual Duty Thread

Cutting:
The pattern pieces for the bodices need to be printed out at 100% which you can ensure after printing by using the provided measuring bars on each paper piece. You can then follow the tiling instructions on the B piece pages to tape together and create the full size B pattern. Then cut pattern pieces A & B along the lines of your chosen size.

Using the provided pattern pieces in your chosen size:
1. Cut one Front Bodice (A) on fabric fold from outer fabric
2. Cut one Front Bodice Lining (A) on fabric fold from lining fabric.
3. Cut two Back Bodices (B) from outer fabric, one right side and one wrong side.
4. Cut two Back Bodice Linings (B) from lining fabric, one right side and one wrong side.

Use the following dimension chart for your specified size to cut the Front Skirt & Back Skirts:
*Note: It's a good idea to pin a note to identify each of the skirt pieces as you cut them, and even to note the top edges, based on your fabric placement preference. This will help as you begin to mark and sew pleats and construct the dress.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>size</th>
<th>Front Skirt</th>
<th>Back Skirt Right</th>
<th>Back Skirt Left</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>cut one from outer fabric</td>
<td>cut one from outer fabric</td>
<td>cut one from outer fabric</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>29”wide x 15”tall</td>
<td>16”wide x 15”tall</td>
<td>11” x 15”tall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>29.5”wide x 16.5”tall</td>
<td>16 3/8”wide x 16.5”tall</td>
<td>11 3/8”wide x 16.5”tall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>30”wide x 20”tall</td>
<td>16 5/8”wide x 20”tall</td>
<td>11 5/8”wide x 20”tall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,6</td>
<td>30.5”wide x 22”tall</td>
<td>17”wide x 22”tall</td>
<td>12”wide x 22”tall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7,8</td>
<td>31”wide x 24”tall</td>
<td>17 1/4”wide x 24”tall</td>
<td>12 1/4”wide x 24”tall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prepare Bodice:

1. With right sides together and using a 5/8” seam allowance, attach the Bodice Front to the Bodice Back one shoulder seam at a time and making sure that the Bodice Back pieces are oriented so that their angled neck edges are overlapping each other. Press both shoulder seam allowances open.

2. Repeat Step 1 with the Bodice Front Lining and Bodice Back Linings.

3. With right sides together and using a 5/8” seam allowance, attach the joined outer bodices to the joined lining bodices around the neckline starting at the bottom edge of one Back Bodice, continuing across the Bodice Front neckline and finishing at the bottom edge of the other Back Bodice piece.

4. Use the Bodice Back pattern piece to mark the start/stop dots on the Back Bodices. Open the outer and lining bodices apart from each other, and understitch the neckline seam allowances to the bodice lining about 1/8” away from the neckline seam starting at one marked dot and stopping at the other.

5. Return bodices to be right sides together before sewing each armhole edge using a 5/8” seam allowance.

6. Clip and notch all curved seam allowances, and bring each of the Back Bodices through to the right side by pulling them through each of the shoulders, and continue to smooth seams as you turn the entire bodice right side out. Press well.

7. With one stitch line you will be making the side seams of the bodice lining and the outer bodice. On one side, begin by aligning the front and back bodice linings to each other with right sides together, and pin in place. Then turn the front and back outer bodices up towards each so that their right sides are also together and pin in place. Be sure that you are aligning the armhole seam in this pinned path. Now sew using a 5/8” seam allowance from the bottom edge of the outer lining bodices to the bottom edge of the outer bodices and keeping the armhole seam allowances turned down towards the outer bodices. Press seam open before returning the outer and lining bodices so that their wrong sides are together.

8. Repeat Step 8 on the other side of the bodices.

9. Use the Back Bodice pattern piece to mark the button hole placement for the right-hand back bodice. (The button hole placement on the pattern is set for the size 2, as the pattern grows in size, the buttons may look best to be positioned farther apart from the center line. Just use your best judgement to reposition.) Make the buttonholes through both the outer and lining layers according to your sewing machine's buttonhole process and corresponding to the size of your chosen buttons. (You may also first
choose to add a small layer of interfacing between the outer and lining pieces where the buttonholes will be made for extra stability.) Press finished buttonholes to set them. Set Bodice aside.

**Prepare Skirt front:**

*Note: the longer side of Front Skirt is the width and the shorter side is the height.*

1. With **wrong sides** together, fold the Front Skirt in half on the width aligning side edges with each other. Press a crease on the fold then draw a line on the crease measuring 2” from the top edge.
2. You'll now use that center fold line as a reference point to draw 2 more vertical lines on each side of it. To do so, measure 5” to the right of the center line and make a mark at the top edge, then again 5” to the left of the center mark. Make another mark 10” to right of the center line, and then 10” to the left of the center mark. With each of your markings, draw a line from the top edge that is 2” in length. You should now have five 2” lines extending down from the top edge.
3. With **wrong** sides together fold the width of the Front Skirt in half so that the first mark you made is right on the fold's edge. Use a 1 1/2” seam allowance to machine baste the first box pleat, and back stitch the seam after sewing for 2” of length. (The folded edge should be where you are measuring the seam allowance from. If your sewing machine does not have a marking for 1 1/2”, simply mark the distance on your fabric before you begin.)
4. With **wrong** sides together fold the Front Skirt on the next marked line, either to the left or right of the center, and repeat Step 3 to create another pleat that is 1 ½” deep and stitch line that is 2” in length. Continue with the remaining markings until you have made all pleats.
5. To press the box pleats in place, disperse the seam allowance of each pleat equally to either side of the pleat seam (which will align your marked line with the seam, and now is a good time to give it a little spritz of water so the lines will disappear) and press to create two crisp creases for each pleat. How far down the skirt you make these creases is up to you, but do so for at least 6” or so.
6. Continue pressing until all box pleats have been completed and set aside.
**Prepare Skirt Back:**

*Note: because the ratio of width to height of the Back Skirt pieces fluctuates depending on what size you’ve cut, simply compare the Back Skirt pieces to the Front Skirt to determine which edges of the back pieces are the widths and which are the heights. The skirt front and skirt back pieces will have the same height.*

1. You will be making knife pleats on only the Back Skirt Right piece, and none of the Left. Find the top edge of the Back Skirt Right, and begin to measure pleat marks from the left side edge. Mark the top edge 2” from the left side edge, and then make four more consecutive marks at every 1 1/2” towards the right side. You should now have five marks that are one inch apart, and you can now draw vertical lines at each mark that are 2” in length extend down from the top edge.

2. With wrong sides together, fold the Back Skirt so that one of the marked pleat lines sits right on the edge of the crease, and machine baste with a seam allowance of 1/2” away from the folded edge. Make this stitch line 2” in length extending down from the top edge and backstitch at the end.

3. Repeat Step 2 with the remaining four pleat lines until you are ready to press them in place.

4. These pleats will be pressed into a knife pleat style, so lay all the folded seam allowances towards the left side edge of the and press to make five pretty creases.

**Assemble & Finish Skirt:**

1. With right sides together and using a 5/8” seam allowance, sew the Front Skirt to the Back Skirt Right at the side seam. (The side of the Back Skirt Right to include in this seam is the side that does not have pleating next to it.) Press seam allowance open.

2. With right sides together and using a 5/8” seam allowance, sew the Front Skirt to the Back Skirt Left. (The Back Skirt Left is the same on both side edges, so how you orient this piece only depends on how you’d like for the fabric to be oriented.) Press seam allowance open.

3. Now finish side and hem edges of the skirt. Begin by making a 1/4” rolled hem (folding edge over 1/4” towards the wrong side and then again) on the raw side edges of the Back Skirt pieces. Press both.

4. Make a 1/4” rolled hem on the bottom edge starting at the lower corner of the Back Skirt Right continuing around the Front Skirt and finishing at the Back Skirt Left lower corner. Press hem edge well all around.
Attach Skirt to Bodice:

*Note: when attaching the joined bodices to the joined skirts, you will be treating the bodice and its lining as one piece.

1. Lay out the top edge of the joined skirts with the bottom edge of the joined bodices *wrong* sides together (*wrong* side of skirt to lining side of bodice) and compare them to be sure that their finished total length around the circumference of the dress matches and that the side seams are in line. If some adjustment is necessary, take up or let out the side seams of the skirt to accommodate a matching size to the bodice. Then with *wrong* sides together, pin their top edge of skirt to bottom edge of bodice.

2. With a 1/4” seam allowance, sew the skirt to bodice beginning at one finished edge around to the other finished edge to finish. Be sure that the pleats are all laying down in the correct orientation within this sewn line. This is easiest to keep an eye on if the *right* side of the skirts is facing up as you sew.

3. Press the seam allowances from the waistline seam made in Step 2 up towards the bodices. Then use a clear measuring device to mark a line on the skirt that runs parallel to the waistline seam and that is 1” below it. Continue marking all around the skirts and be sure you are doing so with a marking tool that will disappear.

4. Now fold the skirt up at the waistline seam towards the bodice, and then fold it back down again at the marked line from the previous step. Press these folds carefully all around, making sure your pleats retain their pressed creases appropriately.

5. Pin the newly folded and pressed waistline edge in place through all layers around the waistline of the skirt as you prepare it for a final topstitching. Once all is pinned in place topstitch through all layers about 1/2” below the top folded edge of the skirt. This will encase the raw edges of the first 1/4” waistline seam. You may choose to switch to a heavier machine needle for this step. Make sure that the pressed pleats stay folded in the correct manner in this topstitching.

6. Clip out all the basting seams from the pleat preparations that are visible from the *right* or *wrong* side of the dress. This will give the skirt a little more movement and swing.

7. Now that all the machine sewing is complete you can hand sew the buttons into place. To do so, layer the right side of the dress back over the left side of the dress back and align the waistline seams and the center back lines (use the Bodice Back pattern piece for reference). Mark through the center of the button holes to make a dot on the Bodice Back Left piece for the buttons. Hand sew each into place centering them over the marks. Press well and enjoy!
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A
BODICE FRONT
&
BODICE FRONT LINING
*Overlap the "center back" line with the same from the B-1 piece and tape together to create a full Bodice Back pattern piece.

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B
BODICE BACK
&
BODICE BACK LINING

mark for button
and adjust as desired
for different sizes
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*Overlap the "center back" line with the same from the B piece and tape together to create a full Bodice Back pattern piece.

center back

B1

mark for button and adjust as desired for different sizes