

Amy's vintage-style romper

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<http://www.burdastyle.com/projects/amys-vintage-style-romper>



This little playsuit is designed for the crawling age, 6-12 months, with no snaps or buttons. The romper ties at the shoulders for a cute vintage look. The bias tape finish makes it very easy to sew. And guess what? It only takes half yard of fabric!

Materials

half yard of a cute lightweight fabric (44" wide) two yards of matching or contrasting bias tape.
(option 2) 1/2 yard of 1/4" elastic for legs (option 3) Contrasting material for ruffles at leg

Step 1



Check the pattern. To cut out the fabric.. First fold the fabric, matching the two selvages together. So the fold comes at the bottom of the pattern drawing. Arrange the fabric so that RightSides(the good side, the sides with the print on it) are facing each other, that is, they are inside. (If you have fabric with a pattern that has design in one direction, then cut the fabric apart at the foldline and turn both fabric pieces so the design is right side up, or you will have upside down design on half of the romper.) Trace the outline of the pattern on the wrongside of fabric. Cut out at the cutting line through both layers.

Step 2



Stitch the first seam. This will be the center front. You don't need to pin, just hold both layers together and stitch a straight stitch evenly $\frac{1}{2}$ from the fabric edge. Don't pull it out, yet,

Step 3



Turn the fabric around at the end, finish the raw edge. If, like me, you don't have a serger, stitch a zigzag stitch in the seam allowance and trim extra fabric off. While trimming, be careful not to cut the stitches. Stitch the center back seam and finish edges in the same way.

Step 4



Put the front and back pieces Right_sides_together(RST) and pin the side seams if you want. Sew the side seams and finish raw edges.

Step 5



Finish the leg hem.

Option 1— Turn up $\frac{1}{4}$ " , then $\frac{1}{2}$ " , or just fold up twice and sew, you don't need exact measurements here. Sew to finish each leg.

Option 2— If you want elastic at the leg, thread 6 inches of $\frac{1}{4}$ " elastic through this hem and stitch the elastic loop closed.

Option 3— if you want a ruffled look for the leg, sew the elastic on the wrongside, $\frac{1}{2}$ " away from the finished leg hem.

Option 4— To add actual ruffles to the leg, see the ruffles howto.

Step 6



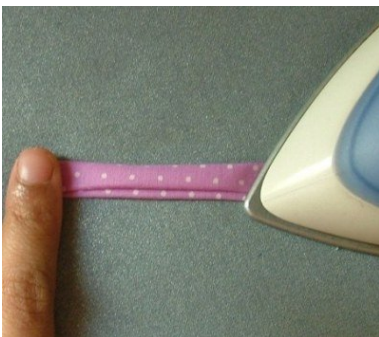
Sew the crotch seam. Finish the raw edges.

Step 7



iron all seams flat, towards whatever side you have sewn it. Pin the seam allowances at the neckline and underarm so that you can keep that direction so the seam lies flat after the top is finished.

Step 8



take your bias tape or make your own.. Make sure you use $\frac{1}{2}$ inch double fold bias tape. That is made from 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch strips. If you use smaller tape like I did, you will have to repeatedly tear out your stitches and your baby will hear many new words.

Step 9



Run a basting stitch at the neckline.

Step 10



Gather the front neckline down to 4 inches.

Step 11



finish the neckline with bias tape. Commercial bias tape has two sides, one longer than the other. Make sure you put the longer side of the bias tape on the inside, so the right side of the fabric and the short side of the bias tape are on top. Clear as mud? Repeat for the back neckline.

Step 12



Pinch-pleat the underarm part, so there are two small pleats on both sides of the side seam. . Pin in place. Size does not matter, nor does direction. This is to reduce the gaping of the armhole. If you have a chubby baby, you will need more room here. So I suggest you stretch a 2â— piece of elastic and sew it down at the very edge of the underarm this makes the underarm gather a bit but will still be loose. Enclose this elastic with bias tape in the next step.

Step 13



Take a 26â— length of bias tape. Pin its middle to the sideseam, enclosing the raw edge of the romper. Make sure the right side of the fabric and the short side of the bias tape are on the outside.

Step 14



Enclose the raw edges of the armscyce in bias tape and pin in place. Use a lot of pins, because without pins, bias tape has a habit of leaving the raw fabric alone outside .That will make you have to pull out all the stitches and re-sew. That is Really Frustrating, so push the fabric edges far into the bias tape as it will go and PIN it in place.

Step 15



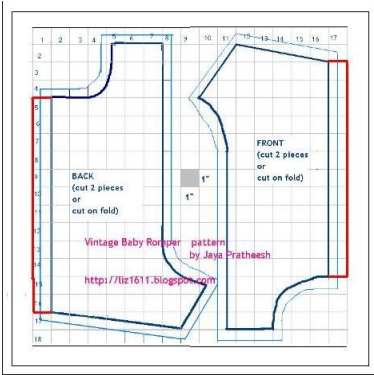
To sew the bias tape, start at the very end of the tape. Open up the tape at the end and fold down the raw edge $\frac{1}{2}$ inch inside, then fold the tape normally. This encloses the raw edge at the end. Lower the needle into the tape about 1 cm ($\frac{1}{2}$ inch) from the end. Pull on the thread ends to help the tape move. Sew forward one inch, then back till the edge and forward again. Pull out the pins just before you reach them, to avoid breaking the needle. Try to keep to the OUTER EDGE of the bias tape, that is, NEAR the fabric. You can see I pulled out a pin and the fabric jumped off the bias tape. This happens when the tape is too thin. At the other end, stop two inches before the end, fold in the raw edge $\frac{1}{2}$ inch and sew till the end. Stitch in place to secure the thread and trim off.

Step 16



you're done! put it on a baby, take a photo and post it here!

Step 17



for those who cannot figure out the original pattern picture. This is the pattern pieces, laid on a one-inch grid. i have given half inch seam allowances all around. the dark blue is the original pattern, the light blue is the cutting line. just draw the curves freehand, the pattern is very forgiving. if you have a chubby baby, (amy is petite) you will need to extend the pattern at the red lines.) that is, dont cut at the light blue line, you have to add another half inch outside the red line and cut. this adds 4 inches around the romper. that is enough ease, i think.

Step 18



another view

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