



Lace Papillon
Sundress



Vintage Shop Savvy meets French Country Charm, while a host of pretty summer butterflies frolic about the unpressed lace panels of her skirt. Impeccably detailed with images of dijon netting lace on a dove gray background, you'll sew this dress from lightweight cotton fabric that you print yourself on your inkjet printer from the included artwork. In this project, you'll 'make the grade' to flatten those bulky layers of linings, trims and multiple seams.

Papillon Sundress

for 11 1/2 inch fashion dolls such as Barbie®
and 16 inch fashion dolls such as Tyler Wentworth®

Materials

You may either print your own lightweight cotton fabric using our artwork or you may use a similar fabric of your choice. Please see "Printing on Fabric", a separate document in this download called: dbc_printingfabric.pdf. Then follow manufacturer's instructions to prepare and print your fabric.

For one dress you will need:	11 1/2" doll	16" doll
If printing your fabric:		
8 1/2" x 11" sheets of prepared fabric	2	4
or, if using your own fabric:		
Fashion fabric: Lightweight cotton fabric (such as cotton batiste):	9" x 45" (1/4yd)	12" x 45" (1/3yd)
and:		
Lining fabric: China (habotai) silk or polyester lining:	9" x 45" (1/4yd)	12" x 45" (1/3yd)
Accent trim fabric: Lightweight cotton fabric (such as cotton batiste):	8" x 8"	10" x 10"
Optional: 1" x 10" bias strip of a sheer fabric (such as organza) to finish back edges		
Fade away marker or other appropriate marking tools		
Sewing thread to match		
Seam sealant (such as Fraycheck™)		
3 hook and eye sets		

We suggest either 60wt cotton thread or transparent thread for this projects. Both are finer than regular sewing thread and this reduces bulk in seams on doll clothes. If you cannot find these threads, you can use regular sewing thread. We also suggest a fine machine needle - size 60 or 70.

Instructions

The instructions are written for 11 1/2" dolls. Changes necessary for 16" dolls will be written thus (). This is a very fitted garment. Seams are stitched using a scant 1/4" seam allowance unless otherwise specified.

1. Print out pattern pieces on page 8 (pages 9 and 10).

Before proceeding and/or printing your fabric, please double check that:

- a. your pattern has printed to size.

- b. the grain on your prepared fabric sheet is correct. For the 16" doll size, it was necessary to turn the pieces sideways so that the skirt front would fit onto the fabric sheet. If you are using commercially prepared fabric sheets, this will likely mean that your 16" size dress will be printed on the crosswise, rather than the lengthwise grain. This is fine for this project.

If you are printing your fabric from our artwork:

Print pages 11 and 12 (pages 13 to 16) onto your prepared fabric sheets. After printing, leave fabric sheets to set for at least 24 hours and then remove paper backing. If desired, rinse fabric in setting solution, such as C. Jenkins Bubble Jet Rinse to set the ink. Let dry and press before proceeding.

This is a very fitted dress. We suggest you cut out the pieces just outside the marked lines, to account for any frayed edges as you work.

Before cutting out, pin the printed sheets to a single layer of lining. Then, cut out the printed fabric pieces together with the lining (with the exception of the bias trim piece). You may wish to leave the printed name on each piece for now, to avoid confusion as you work. Mark all pieces as indicated on patterns. Cut away the printed names as you work with the pieces.

Cut out the bias accent trim piece and set it aside for now.

If you are using your own fabric:

This is a very fitted dress. We suggest you cut out the pieces just outside your marked lines, to account for any frayed edges as you work.

Place your fashion fabric over printed pattern page(s) and check if you can see the printing through your fabric. If you can, simply trace around the pieces using your fade away marker, as described on the patterns. Where 2 pieces need to be cut, flip fabric over, to reverse the right side, and trace the 2nd piece.

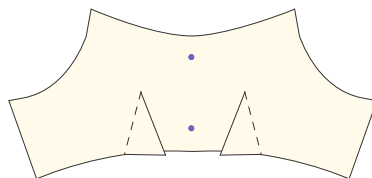
Before cutting out, pin the traced fabric pieces to a single layer of

lining. Then, cut out the fabric pieces together with the lining. Mark all pieces as indicated on patterns.

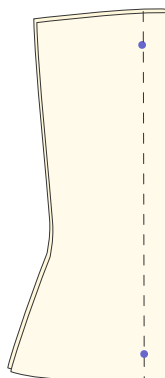
If you cannot see through your fashion fabric, cut out the paper pattern pieces. Lay them on your fabric and trace around them using your fade away marker, as described on the patterns. Where 2 pieces need to be cut, flip the pattern over, to reverse the right side, and trace the 2nd piece.

Before cutting out, pin the traced fabric pieces to a single layer of lining. Then, cut out the fabric pieces together with the lining. Mark all pieces as indicated on patterns.

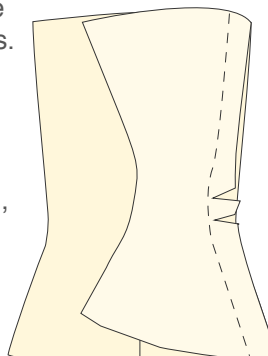
2. Set up your machine for a straight stitch with a stitch length of 2.0mm. Thread on top and in the bobbin with the matching sewing thread. Stitch bodice bra darts. Press towards center front.



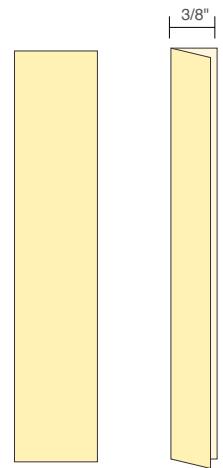
3. With right sides together, stitch bodice center front seam. Press flat to set the stitches, then press seam open.



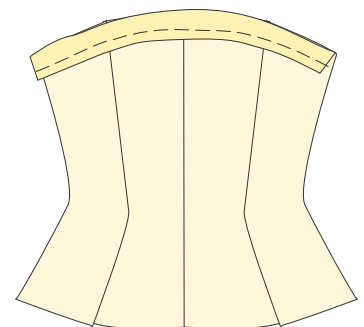
4. Stitch bodice front to bodice side front pieces. Press flat to set the stitches, then press seam open, clipping seam only as necessary.



5. Cut a bias strip of accent trim fabric 3/4" wide x 3" (4") long. Fold in half, with wrong sides together. Check that the folded width is exactly 3/8".

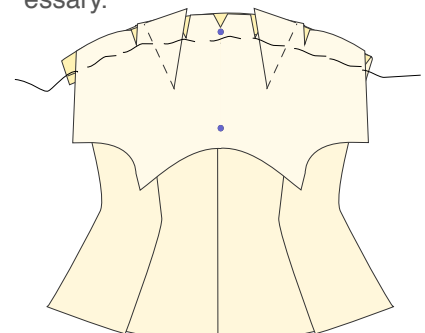


Position the cut edges of the trim along the top edge of the bodice front/side front piece. Hand or machine baste along the stitching line. The folded area below the stitching line should measure an even 1/8" wide. Trim excess even with the bodice.

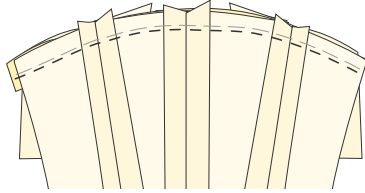


The folded area below the seam line will become the contrast trim. It is not as important that the width be exactly 1/8", as that it be as even as possible.

6. With right sides together, pin the lower edge of the bodice bra to the top edge of the bodice front /side front piece. Hand baste in position along the seam line. Carefully clip inside the bodice bra seam allowance, only as necessary.



Turn your work over, so that you can see the basting on the bodice front/side front piece. Stitch seam, stitching just outside of the basting stitches. Press seam flat to set the stitches, then press seam towards bodice bra.



We are working with many layers here and so it is important to "grade" your seams to eliminate some of the bulk. Here is a quick lesson on grading:

Fibre and thread ends along the cut edge of a piece of fabric cause bulkiness along that edge. When you stack up a number of cut edges, the bulkiness increases, becomes more noticeable and more difficult to press flat.

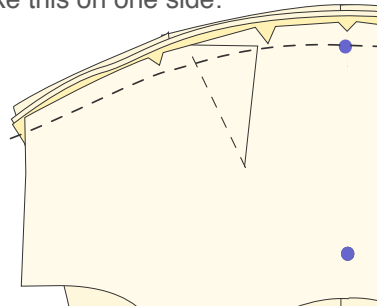
The technique of "grading" a seam is used to lessen and distribute this bulkiness. A seam is graded by trimming away the seam allowance in varying widths. There are a few easy rules to grading:

- Keep the seam allowance that will ultimately rest closest to the outside of the garment (fashion fabric) the widest and grade to narrower widths on the inside. This allows the wider seam allowance to cushion and keep the multiple cut edges from showing on the outside.
- Darts should be trimmed at a diagonal from the fold of the dart to the end of the dart seam.
- Where seam allowances intersect, trim away the corner of the seam, from the end of one seam to where it crosses the other.

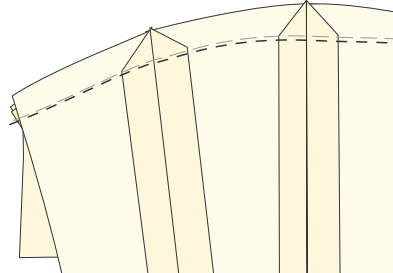
We know what you are thinking: Normally, we would have a 5/8" seam allowance to work with, giving us plenty of room for grading.

On our doll dress, the seam is only 1/4" wide. However, we are using a short machine stitch and this allows us to trim surprisingly close to the seam on the shortest layer - as close as 1/8".

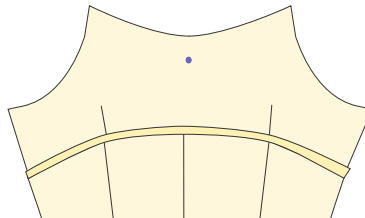
Grade the seam you just stitched as described above. It should look like this on one side:



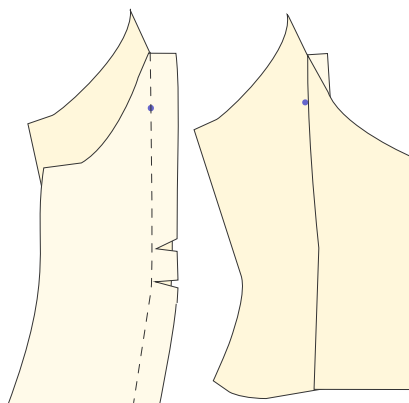
and like this on the other:



Press smooth!

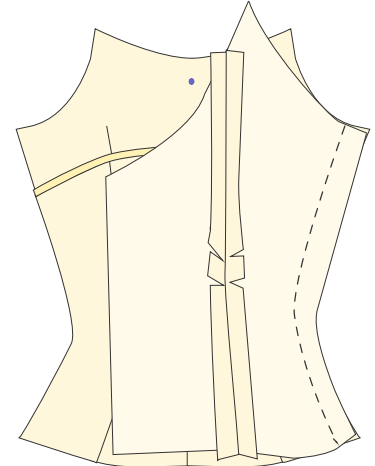


- With right sides together, sew the bodice backs to the bodice side back pieces, matching the "•" markings at the tops of the seams. Press flat to set the stitches, then press seam open, clipping seam only as necessary.



- With right sides together, sew the bodice backs to the bodice front.

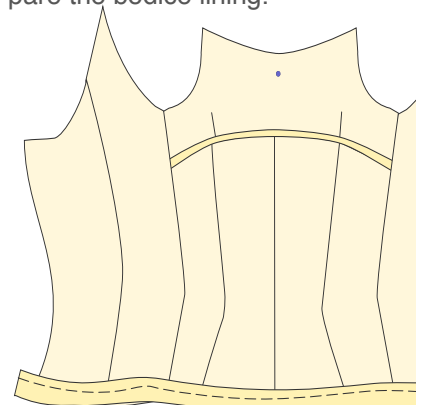
Check the fit on your doll by wrapping the bodice around her. Pay close attention to be sure that the center backs match up. The slightest variation in seam widths could make a difference in the fit. Adjust the side seams if necessary, before proceeding.



Press flat to set the stitches, then press seam open, clipping seam only as necessary.

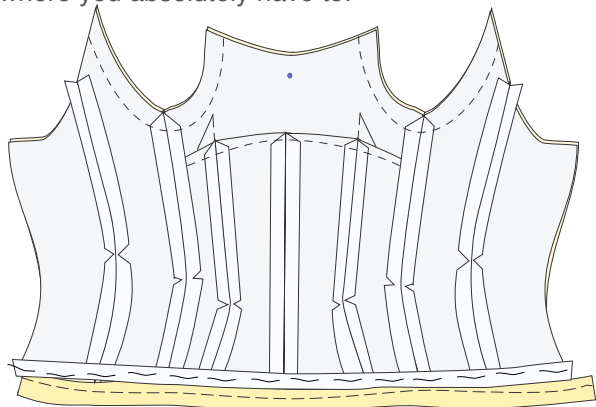
- Cut a bias strip of accent trim fabric 3/4" wide x 7" (9") long. Fold in half, with wrong sides together. Check that the folded width is exactly 3/8", as before.

Position the cut edges of the trim along the lower edge of the bodice. Hand or machine baste along the stitching line. The folded area above the stitching line should measure an even 1/8" wide. Trim excess even with the back edges. Set piece aside, while you prepare the bodice lining.

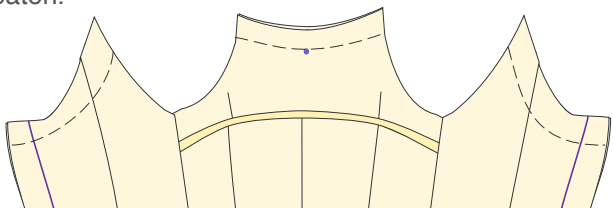


10. Assemble the bodice lining as described for the bodice, omitting the accent trims and pressing the darts towards the sides, rather than center front. Remember to duplicate any adjustments you made. Fold up 1/4" along the lower edge. Hand or machine baste in place. Press.

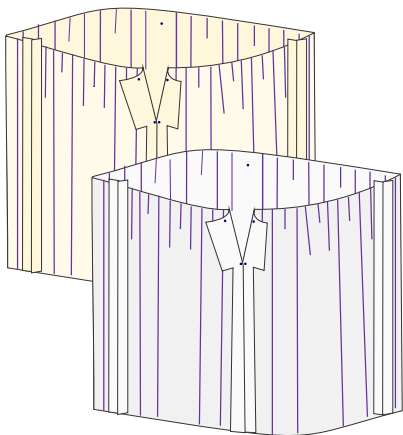
11. With right sides together, pin the bodice to the lining around the armhole edges only. Stitch armhole seams. Trim seam allowance to 1/8" wide. Clipping should not be necessary, but if you must, clip only where you absolutely have to.



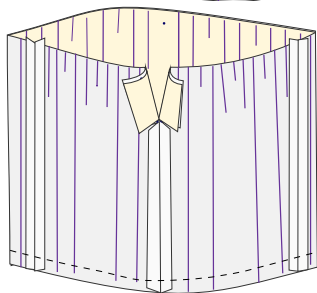
Turn to the right side. Press. Stitch along front and back neck edges, just inside seam line. Trim edges to neaten.



12. With right sides together, pin and stitch the skirt side seams. Stitch the center back seam up to the lower "•" marking. Repeat with the skirt lining.



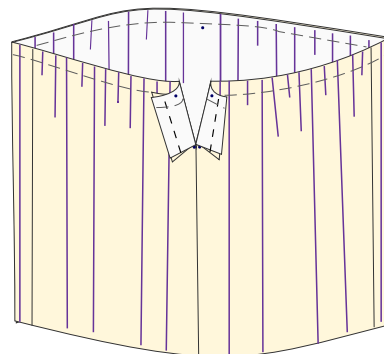
With right sides together, position the skirt and lining one inside the other, matching seams. Stitch around the lower (hem) edge.



Turn to the right side and press, rolling lining slightly to the inside (you can edge stitch the lining in place if you like).

At the center back seam, clip both fabric and lining to the "•" marking. Push center back extensions to the right side as shown.

Stitch skirt extension edges to corresponding lining extension edges, 1/8" from edge. Machine baste upper edges of lining and fabric together.



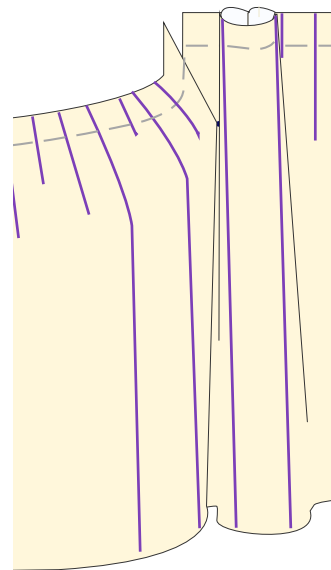
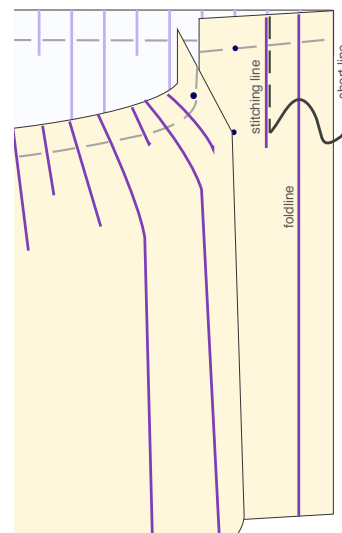
13. Referring to the diagram below, create unpressed pleats in skirt as follows: Fold first pleat on right back skirt along the short line between the 2 marked foldlines and match up the 2 stitching lines that are on either side of the foldlines. Machine baste along the stitching lines from the top edge, down for only about 1".

Do not back stitch or cut thread ends - this is temporary stitching and you will need to remove it later.

Open out the pleat as if you were pressing the basted seam open, and fold along the marked fold lines - the stitching line will fall down the center of the pleat. Pin in place.

Repeat around the skirt to create 8 pleats, noting that the side seams also serve as the stitching lines on the 2 side front pleats. Lightly press around the upper edge of the skirt to a depth of only about 1/2".

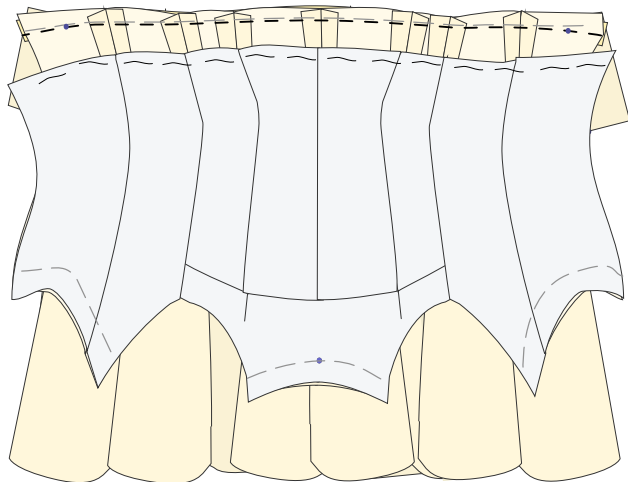
Machine baste around the top edge of the skirt.



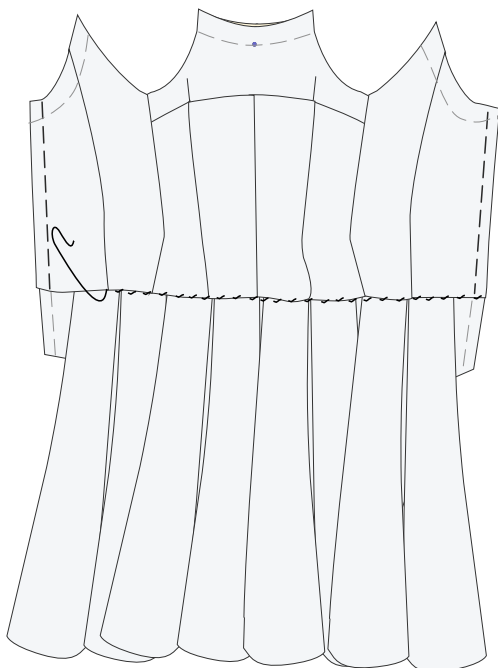
14. With right sides together, pin the bodice to the skirt, matching "•" markings.

We have flattened out the following diagrams to try to give you a better look. Yours will be in-the-round of course, because the center back seam is sewn.

Machine or hand baste the bodice to the skirt, moving the lining out of the way for now. Stitch from the bodice side, so that you can follow along the row of stitching that holds the accent trim in place, as you did with the bra trim earlier.



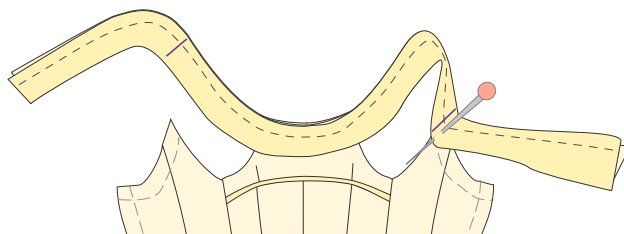
Press seam flat to set the stitches, then press toward bodice. Grade seam as outlined in step 6 on page 4. Position folded edge of lining over seam. Slip stitch in place. Pin bodice and lining back opening edges together. Machine stitch 1/8" from edges. Remove basting stitches.



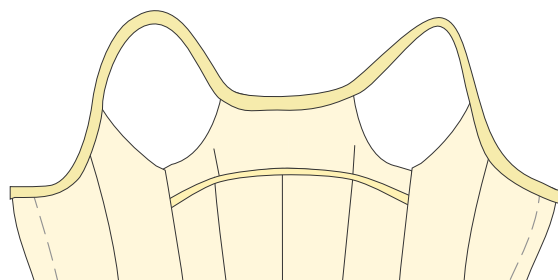
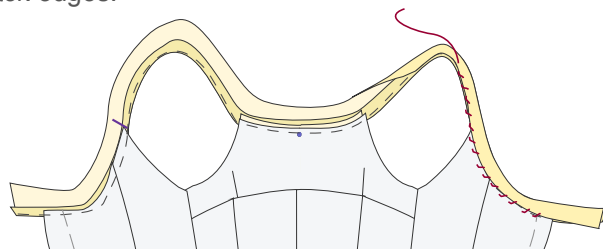
15. Cut a bias strip of accent trim 1 1/4" wide and 8" (10") long. (If you are using our printed fabric art, cut the bias as long as possible and piece together if necessary). Fold the trim in half and press well. Trim to an even, scant 5/8" wide.

Pin the cut edges to the front neck edge, centering the length of bias trim with equal lengths extending past the neck on each side (this length will be used for the shoulder straps and the back neck trim). Stitch along the entire length of the trim with a 1/4" seam. The folded area below the stitching line should measure an even, scant 3/8" wide. Press seam towards trim.

Try dress on doll to measure for the shoulder straps. Pin the dress up the center back, noting any last minute adjustments. Wrap the accent trim extensions firmly over each shoulder and mark the trim where it meets the back armhole edges. Remove dress from doll. Check that the shoulder straps are the same length. If not, select the shorter length and try the dress on the doll again to be sure.



With right sides together, match the marked points on the accent trim with the back armhole edges. Pin the remainder of the trim to the back neck edges. Stitch, along the back neck edges, over previous stitching. Press seams toward trim. Trim seams to 1/8" wide. Fold trim over to encase the seam allowances on all neck edges. Slipstitch in place. Trim excess even with back edges.



16. To finish the back extension edges apply a "Hong Kong" finish: Cut 2 bias strips of the sheer fabric, 1" wide x 4" (5") long.

Alternatively, you can use a strip of lining fabric. We prefer the organza fabric because it is easy to work with.

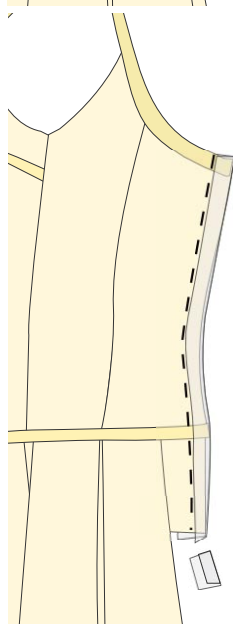
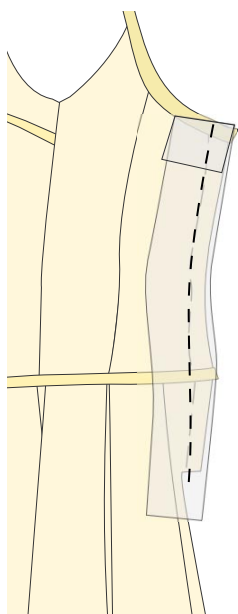
Press 1/4" to the wrong side at one end of each of the strips. With right sides together, pin a strip to each of the back extension edges, aligning the folded edge with the top edge of the bodice.

Stitch the strip to the back extension with a scant 1/4" seam.

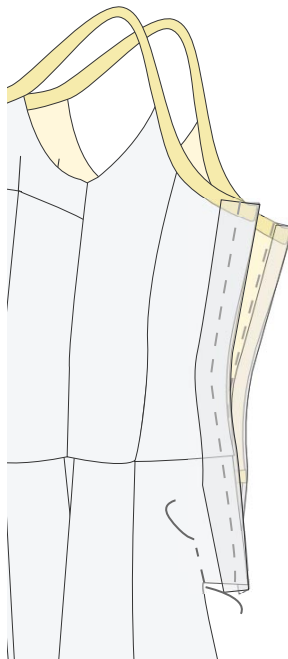
Fold the bias strip to the inside, wrapping it around the seam.

On the right side, stitch in the ditch along the seam line.

On the wrong side, trim excess strip to 1/8" from seam. Trim the excess strip from the lower edge of each extension.



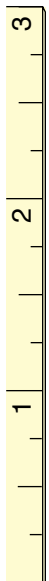
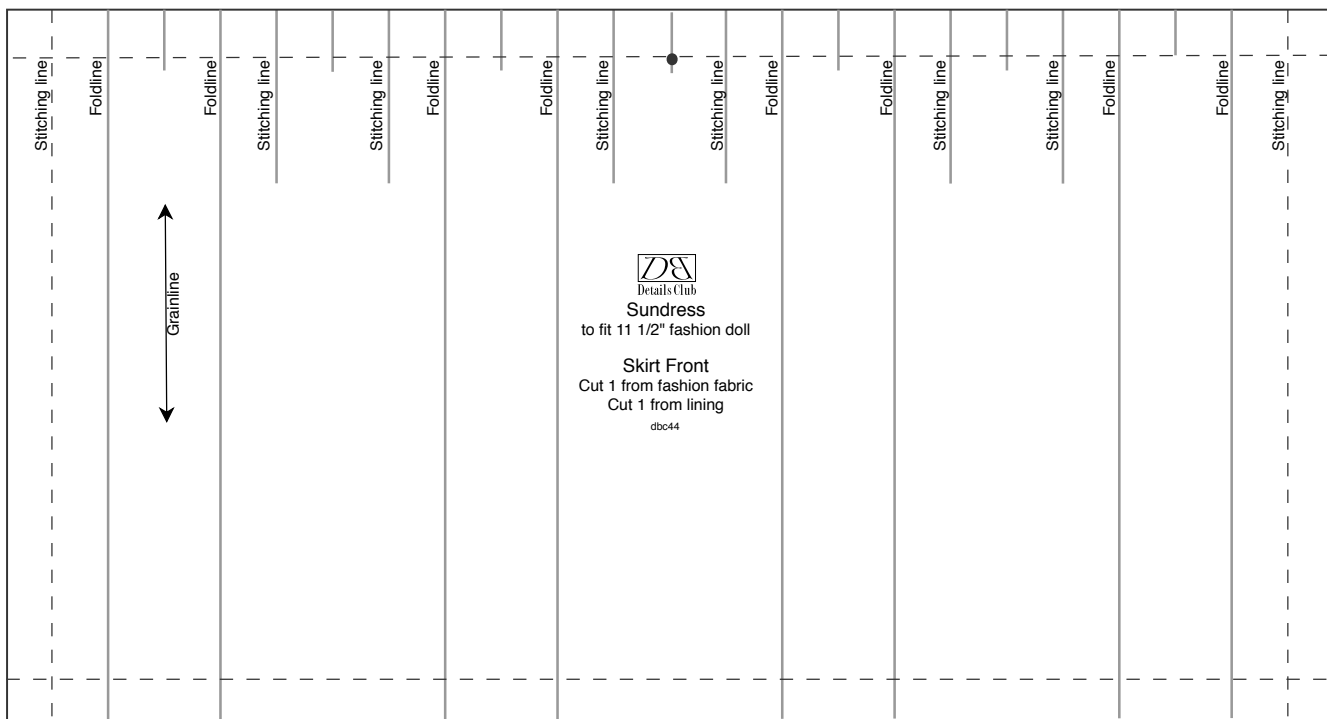
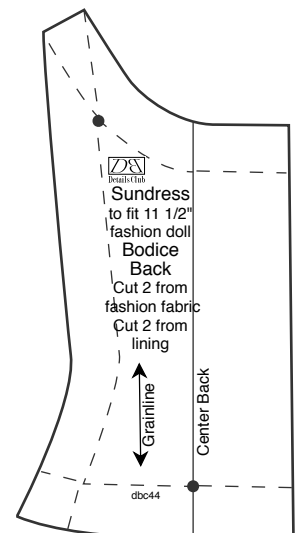
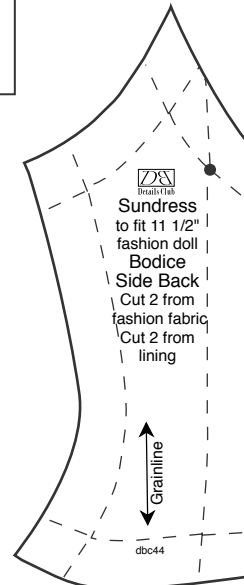
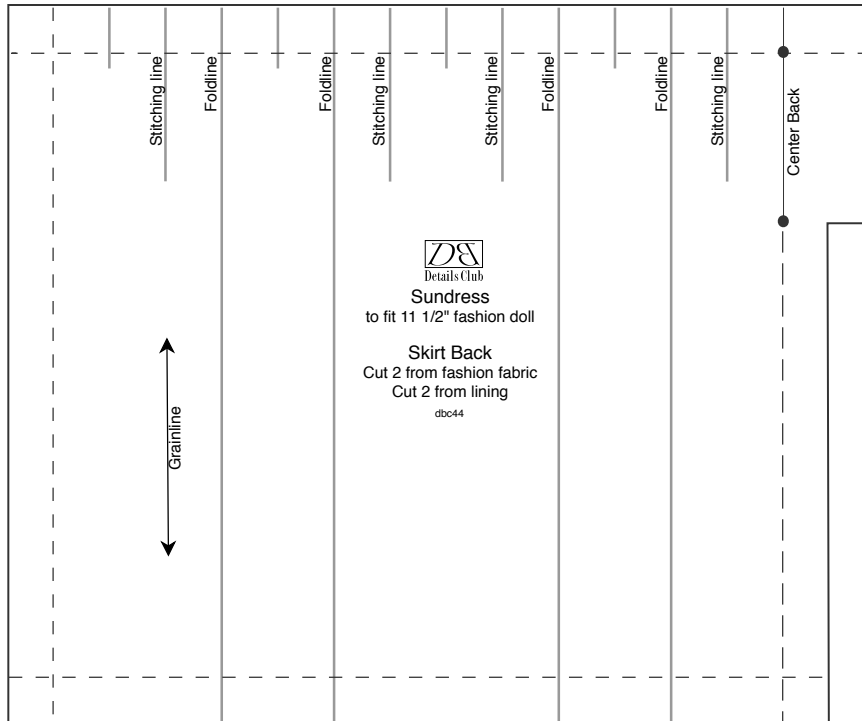
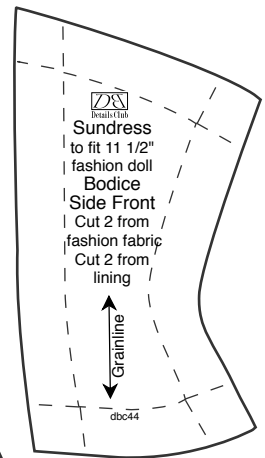
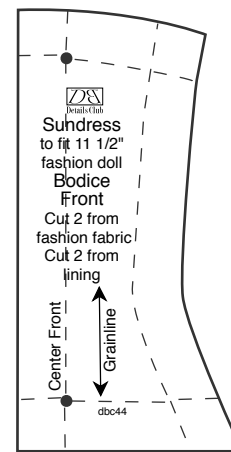
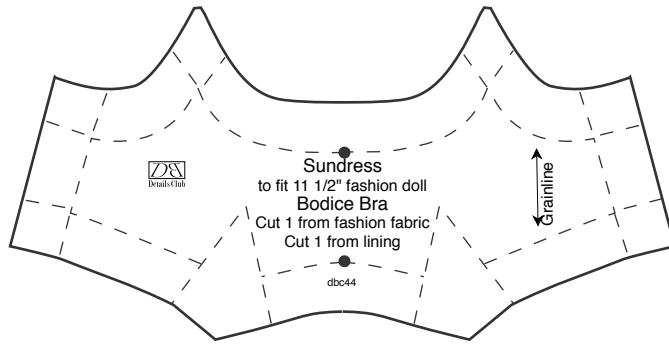
17. Turn dress inside out. Fold dress along center back seam and align the back extension edges. Stitch a short seam, 1/4" to 3/8" long, above the "•" marking. Backstitch to secure.



This will extend the center back seam and reinforce the lower back extensions. It should not be noticeable on the right side.

18. Fold left back extension to the wrong side along center back. Tack extension in place at top and at skirt/bodice seam.

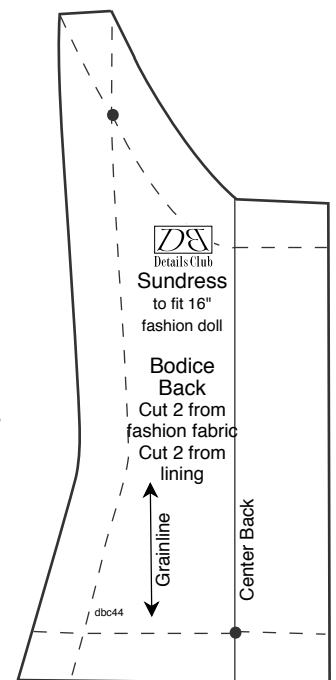
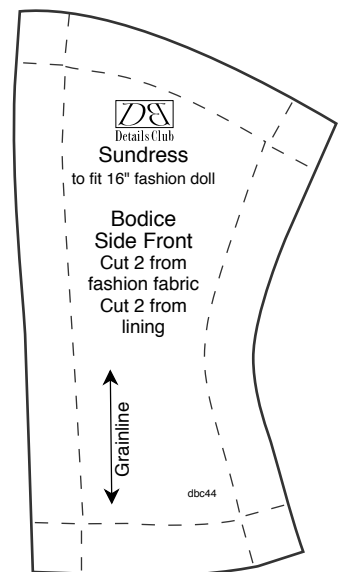
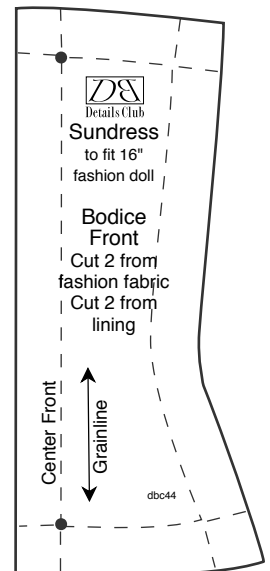
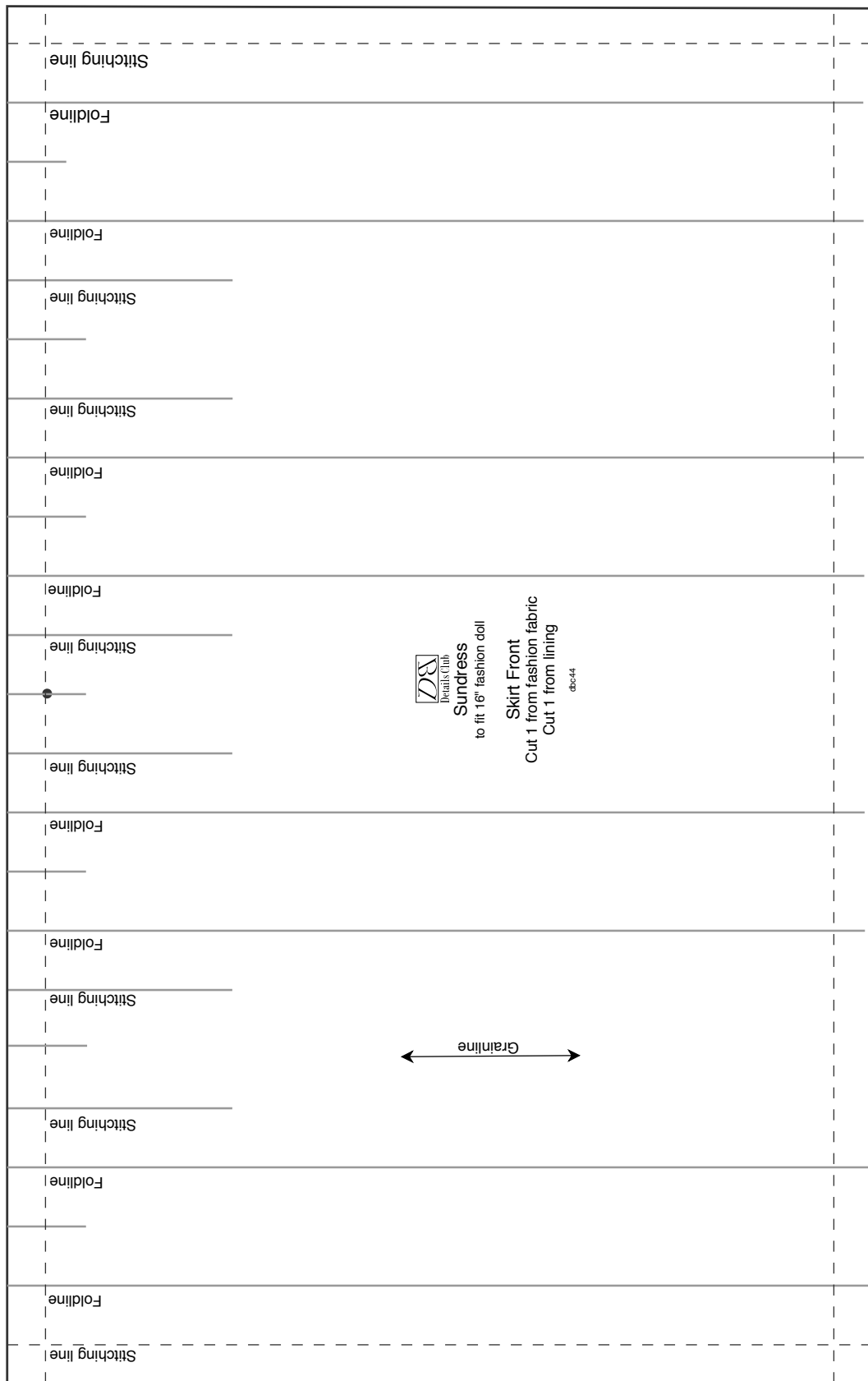
Sew a hook and eye set at top of bodice, a 2nd set at the waist and a third set just below the skirt/bodice seam.



Important: To make sure that your pattern pieces have printed to correct size, compare this ruler to one that you have. The markings should match. If necessary, adjust your printer settings.

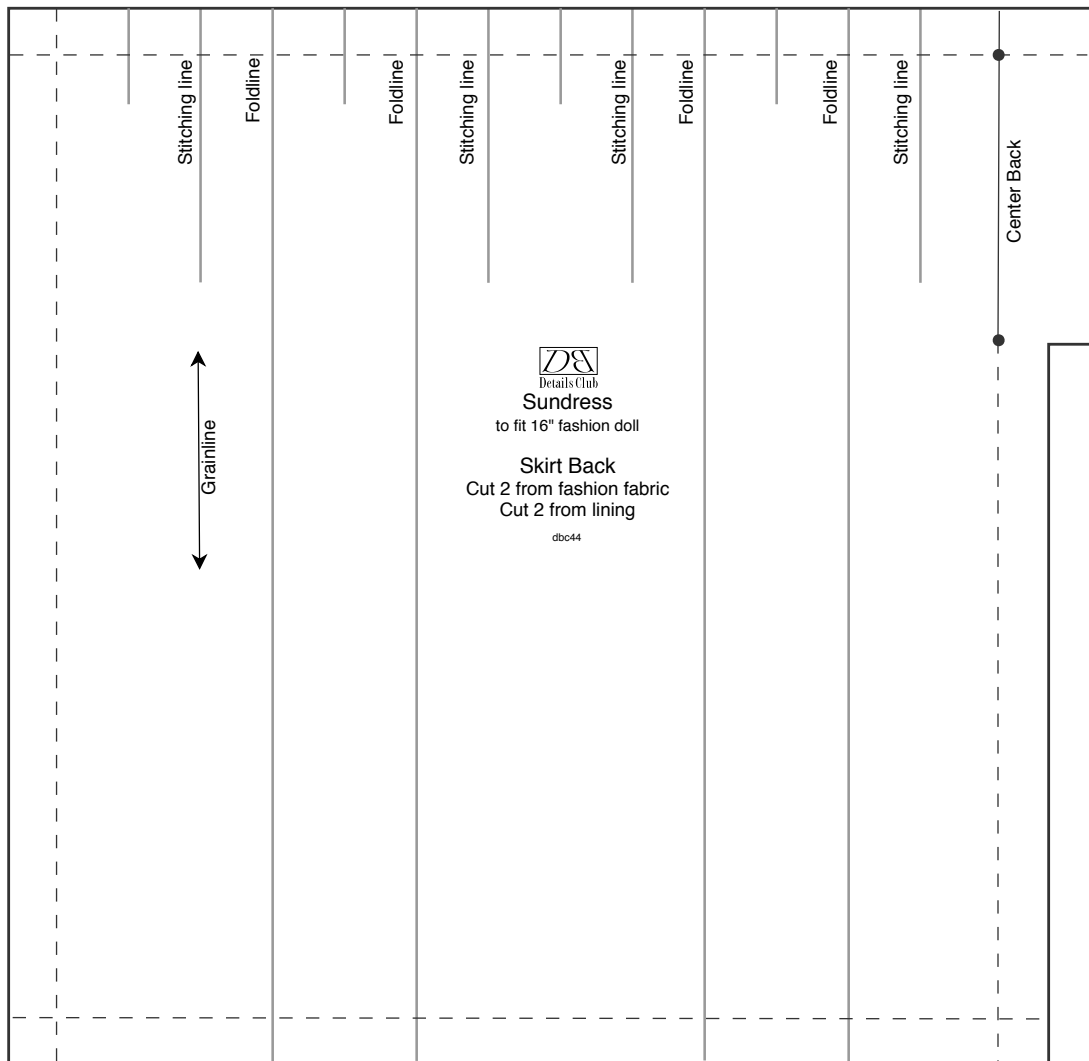
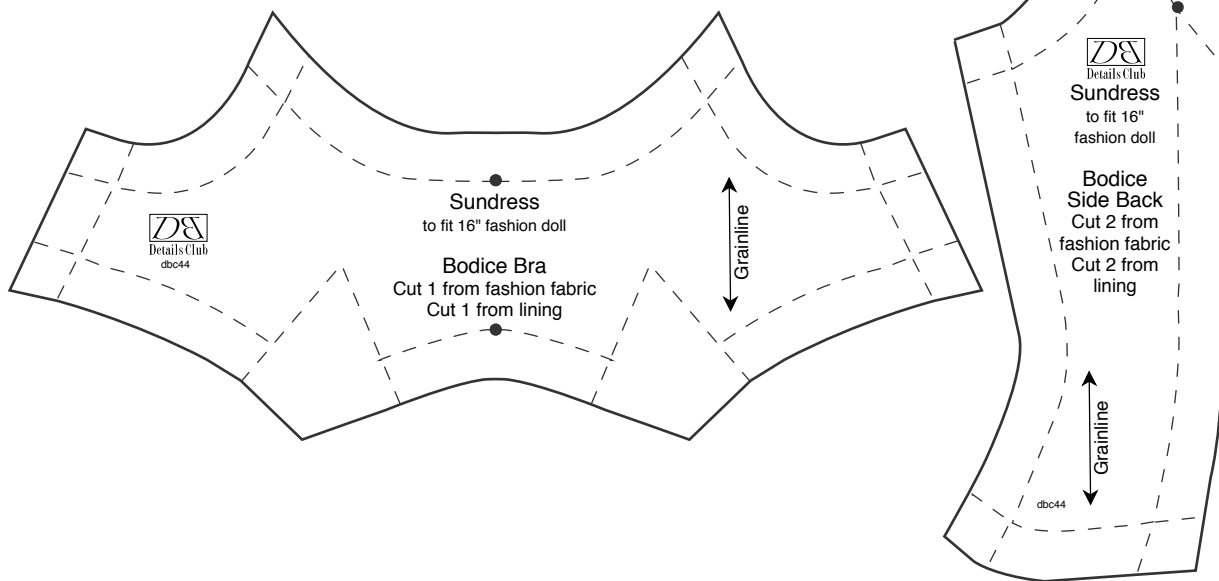


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Skirt Front



Skirt Left Back



Bodice
Left Side Back

Bodice
Right Side Back

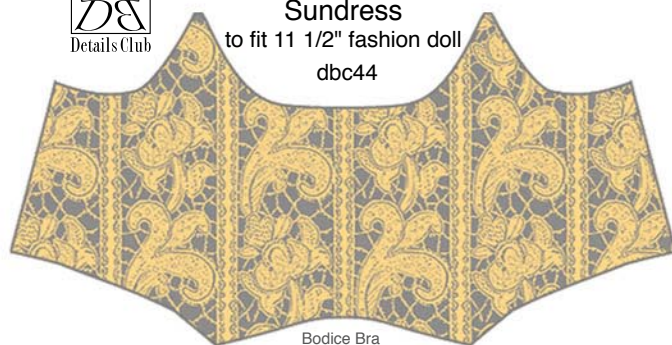


Bodice
Left Back

Bodice
Right Back



Sundress
to fit 11 1/2" fashion doll
dbc44



Bodice Bra



Sundress

to fit 11 1/2" fashion doll
dbc44

Bias Accent Trim



Bodice
Left Side Front



Bodice
Right Front



Bodice
Left Front



Skirt Right Back



Bodice
Right Side Front



 Barbie®

 Surfidesse

 to fit 16" fashion doll

 dbc44



Skirt Left Back

Bodice
Left Back



Bodice Right Front



Bodice
Left Side Back



Bodice Right Side Front





Details Club

Sundress

to fit 16" fashion doll

dbc44

Bodice
Right Side Back



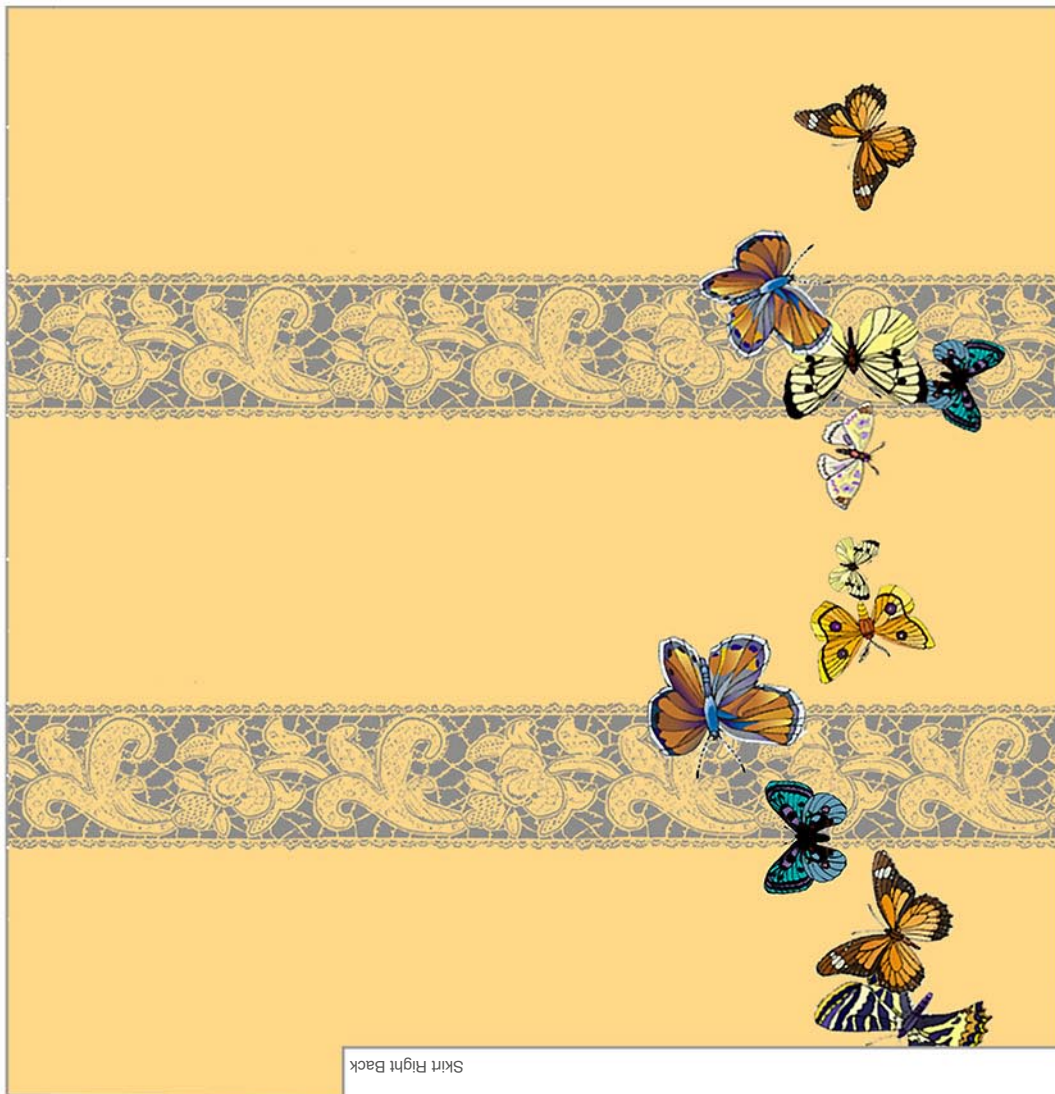
Bodice Left Side Front



Bodice
Right Back



Bodice Left Front



Skirt Right Back



Details Club

Sundress

to fit 16" fashion doll

dbc44



Skirt Front

Bias Accent Trim



Bodice Bra



Sundress
to fit 16" fashion doll
dbc44