

This adorable heart-trimmed apron dress can easily double as a dressing-up outfit! Kids will love the shaped pockets and rickrack trim

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QUEEN OF HEARTS

dress

Fabric shopping:
WE USED



Flurry 2000 in Poppy
by Dashwood Studio,
£12 per metre,
www.plushaddict.co.uk

Easy fit!

FABRIC REQUIREMENTS:

	6 months – 3 years	3-5 years
45" and 60" fabric	70cm	80cm

SIZING:

Size	Length from SNP*	Chest
6-18 months	44cm	55cm
18 months-3 years	49cm	60cm
3-5 years	55cm	66cm
5-7 years	62cm	71cm

*SNP= Side neck point (measured from point on garment closest to neck)

Notes

- ✓ Seam allowances are 1cm unless otherwise specified

Skill level ♥

MATERIALS:

- ♥ 115cm-wide or 150cm-wide dress fabric for outer skirt (see Fabric requirements table below)
- ♥ FQ plain fabric for pockets,
- ♥ 50cm fusible interfacing (optional)
- ♥ 30cm 2.5cm-wide elastic
- ♥ 2 buttons
- ♥ jumbo rickrack for the bib trim
- ♥ co-ordinating thread
- ♥ templates downloaded from www.lovesewingmag.co.uk

How to make:

- 1 Cut two waistband fronts and two waistband backs.
- 2 If your fabric is lightweight, you may wish to strengthen the waistband with an 8cm-wide strip of fusible interfacing, cut to the same length as the waistband.
- 3 Cut a skirt front and back following the dimensions of your child in relation to the size chart.
- 4 Pin the patterns for the bib and straps in place then mark around the pattern using tailor's chalk, adding 1cm all around for the seam allowance. Cut out a bib front and a bib back, making sure the grain lines are parallel to the selvedge. Also cut out two straps.
- 5 Using the heart pattern, cut out four pocket pieces.



- 6 Pin two pocket pieces with RST, and stitch all the way around, leaving a small opening at the lower edge through which to turn or bag the pocket through. Snip the centre of the heart at the seam, turn through and press.

- 7 Pin in position on the skirt, and top-stitch along the sides, leaving the top open and back-stitching at the start and finish.

- 8 Press under 1cm on both long edges and one end of each strap. Fold the straps in half lengthwise, WST, and top-stitch close to the edges, leaving the unpressed end on each open.

- 9 Add the rickrack trim to the edges of the heart-shaped bib by trapping it between both layers. Trim the curves, including the point at the centre of the heart, then turn through and press. Sew away the excess rickrack at the centre front on the inside, as shown. (See Pic A.)

- 10 Overlock both skirt pieces at the sides and hem. Assemble the front waistband by placing the bib between the inner and outer waistband as marked on the pattern. Gather the top of the front of the skirt to size.

- 11 With the RS of the inner waistband facing the inside of the skirt, sew along the top to join the two layers. Now bring the waistband forward, press the remaining raw edge inward by 1cm. Pin to the front face of the skirt and top-stitch to assemble.

- 12 Assemble the back waistband by placing the premade straps between the inner and outer waistband, as marked on the pattern. Overlock the inner waistband raw edge.

- 13 Place the dress front and back together and sew the side seams. (At the waist sides, the inner back waistband will be loose.) Bring this around so that all of the raw

edges are trapped inside, as shown. Press the seams open.

- 14 Take the length of elastic and sew each end to one of the waist sides on the inside. Pin the waistband back into place. (See Pic B.)

- 15 Now with the RS of the skirt uppermost, gently stretch the waistband, and top-stitch through to close the waistband along the entire back. There will be sufficient stretch for your child to easily pull the skirt on.

- 16 Press under a 2cm hem on both the outer skirt and the underskirt, and stitch. Stitch rickrack trim to the hem of the outer skirt if desired.

- 17 Try the dress on your child, crossing the straps at the back. Add a buttonhole to the end of each strap, and sew buttons to the inside of the waistband.

