

*Faerie Rags 'n' friends*  
*Pattern by Sinéad Cannon*



*Simple Sheath Dress*

## **Materials List**

\*Light weight jersey: enough to cover your doll

\*Thread to match

\*Optional ribbons or lace

## **Tools**

\*Scissors

\*Sewing needle

This tutorial can be used for any doll. I used a back stitch for my seams, but a running stitch can also be used and is much easier for the beginner. Try not to bunch up your fabric with your seam, at least when your just beginning. Later when you're more comfortable with your sewing you can use a gathering stitch on the seam for a ruched style if that's what you want, put the seam in the front and you're really stylin' 😊



You'll need a rectangle or trapezoid of jersey, depending on the shape of your doll. ie: if you're sewing for Barbie or a similar shapely doll, you'll want a rectangle. If, like the doll pictured, your doll has a small chest in comparison to their hips, you'll want a trapezoid. ( you can use a rectangle initially and it will be modified in the next step)

Pin fabric around doll snugly, but make sure it's not too tight and even if your doll comes in at the waist, resist the urge to pin it tight there, keep a straight seam line. Remember, this dress doesn't have an opening and will need to slide on over the hips. So, if it won't slide off, it's too tight.



Trim away excess fabric. I've left a 2mm seam allowance, but leave the amount of seam allowance you're comfortable with. The pins in this picture will be your seam line.



I've reoriented my pins for ease of stitching. You may want to mark the line you'll be following with a pencil or a disappearing ink pen. I've added the line in red, so that you can see what I mean.

I also don't plan to stitch all the way to the bottom, You can, of course.

And instead of fighting with getting your knot the right size to hold in the fabric, you can stitch through both layers, in a loop, three times in the same place and it will hold as good as, if not better than any knot. Repeat the same triple stitch at the end of your seam.



If your doll's chest needs more coverage above the arm pits, where this will naturally stop, you can take a snip in the armpit area or remove a rounded shape, as pictured.



Cut out demonstrated on doll



This is the simplest dress and you can consider it finished at this stage.



But, if you would like to add ribbon or lace straps, you can. Pin the ribbon or lace where you'd like it, keeping in mind ease of removal. I pinned mine at chest center and lower on the back, to give me more room for dressing and undressing. Then stitch in place with the triple stitch.



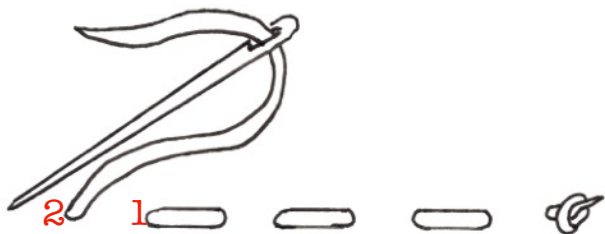


Using the same basic method and elastic lace or more jersey, you can create a mini skirt and halter top. Use a back stitch to attach narrow pieces together to make a wider piece so that it maintains it's stretch. And add a piece to the front of the top instead of snipping the armpits.

There are stitch guides below and you can use the names of the stitches to look up video how to's on YouTube. It help's to use the word sewing in your search terms, as well. There are several helpful videos on how to knot your thread, but I couldn't find anything showing the triple stitch anchor. I think I learned it from an older sewing book.



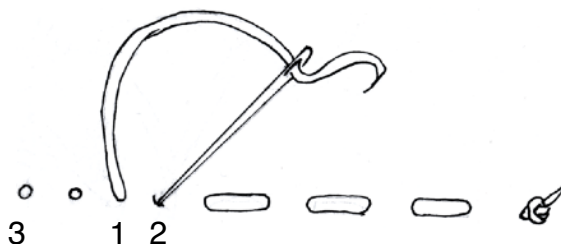
## Stitch Guides



### **Running Stitch**

Insert your needle down at 1 and come back out at 2.

2 becomes 1 and you repeat.



### **Back Stitch:**

\*Bring your needle up at 1

\*Insert your needle down at 2, bringing the tip back up at 3.

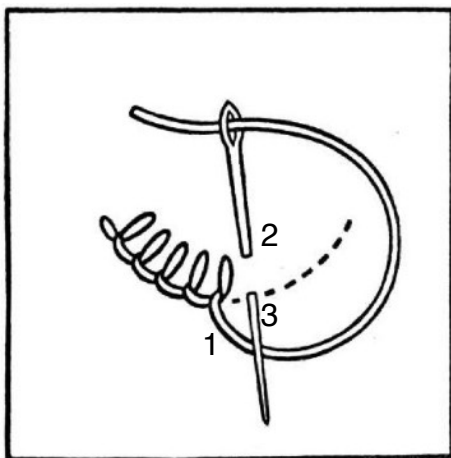
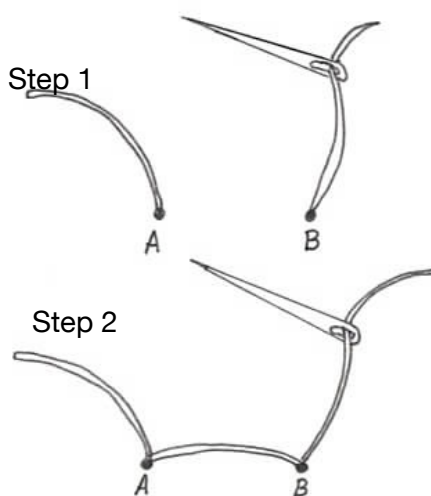
\*3 becomes 1 and repeat.

### **Triple Stitch Anchor**

Insert your needle at A and come out at B, leave a tail at A.

Insert your needle at A again and come out at B

Repeat A to B to A a total of three times.

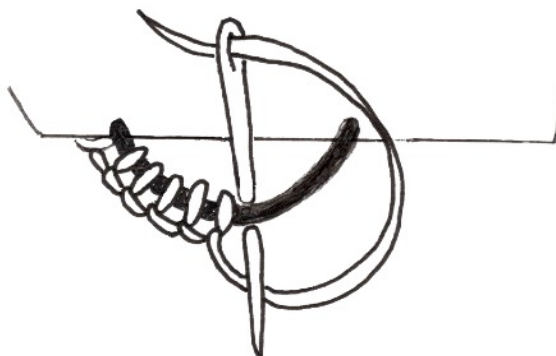


### **Blanket Stitch:**

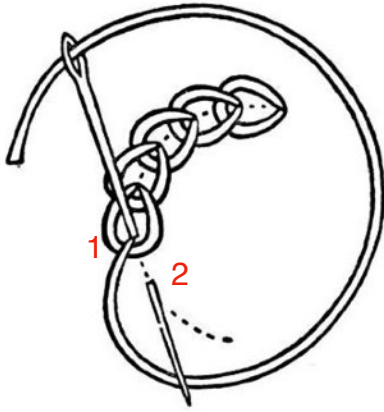
\*Anchor your thread on the back coming out at 1

\*Insert your needle down at 2 coming out at 3, with the working thread behind your needle.

\*3 becomes 1, and repeat



**Button Loop:** Create a loop at the edge of your dress opening that will fit over your button. Stitch over the loop, covering it using the blanket stitch.



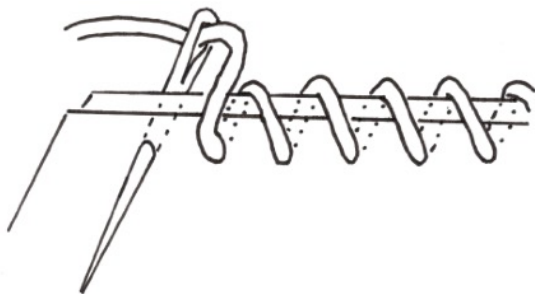
**Chain Stitch:**

- \*Bring the needle up at 1.
- \*Insert the needle again at 1, and bring the needle tip up at 2, with the working thread behind the needle, and pull the needle through the loop.
- \* Repeat, anchoring with a small stitch at the end.

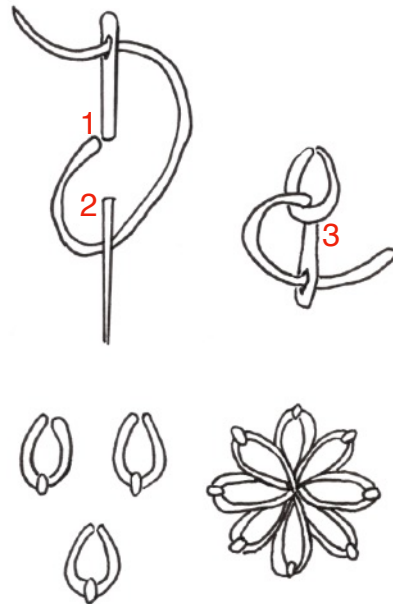
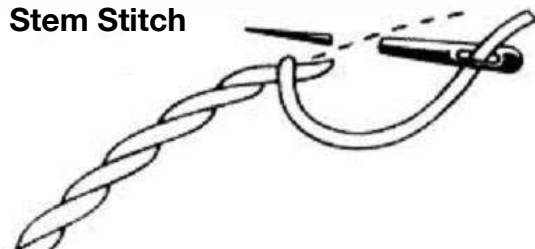
**Hem Stitch**



**Whip Stitch**



**Stem Stitch**



**Lazy Daisy:**

- \*Bring the needle up at 1.
- \*Insert the needle again at 1, and bring the needle tip up at 2, with the working thread behind the needle, and pull the needle through the loop.
- \* Anchoring with a small stitch at 3.
- \* Repeat for chosen design