## Millie's Schoolhouse Skirt

By: Create Kids Couture



Difficulty Level: Beginner

## Materials Needed:

- Fabric (see chart below for quantities needed)
- Scissors or Rotary Cutter
- Cutting Mat if using Rotary Cutter
- Ruler
- Pins
- Sewing Machine and/or Serger
- 3/4" Elastic
- 1/2"-5/8" Buttons
- Iron

Fabric Requirements:

| Size | Skirt | Skirt Trim | Waistband | Straps | Sash |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{6 - 1 2}$ months | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 8$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $3 / 8$ yard |
| $\mathbf{1 2 - 1 8}$ mos. | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 8$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $3 / 8$ yard |
| $\mathbf{2 4} \mathbf{~ m o s .} / \mathbf{2 T}$ | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 8$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $3 / 8$ yard |
| $\mathbf{3 T}$ | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 8$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $3 / 8$ yard |
| $\mathbf{4 T}$ | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 8$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $3 / 8$ yard |
| $\mathbf{5 T}$ | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 8$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 2$ yard |
| $\mathbf{6}$ | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 8$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 2$ yard |
| $\mathbf{7}$ | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 8$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 2$ yard |
| $\mathbf{8}$ | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 8$ yard | $1 / 4$ yard | $1 / 2$ yard |

The fabric requirements are based on the use of 5 different fabrics. If you decide to make the skirt trim and the waistband out of the same fabrics (as shown in the main picture) you will add those measurements together. The same is true if you decide to make it all out of one fabric.

| Size | Average Waist Size | Approx. Finished Length of Skirt |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{6 - 1 2}$ mos. | $18^{\prime \prime}$ | $6^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $\mathbf{1 2 - 1 8}$ mos. | $19^{\prime \prime}$ | $7^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $\mathbf{2 4}$ mos./2T | $21^{\prime \prime}$ | $8^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $3 \mathbf{T}$ | $22^{\prime \prime}$ | $9.5^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $\mathbf{4 T}$ | $23^{\prime \prime}$ | $10.5^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $\mathbf{5 T}$ | $24^{\prime \prime}$ | $12^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $\mathbf{6}$ | $25^{\prime \prime}$ | $13^{\prime \prime}$ |
| 7 | $26^{\prime \prime}$ | $14.5^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $\mathbf{8}$ | $27^{\prime \prime}$ | $15.5^{\prime \prime}$ |

## Cutting the Fabric:

| Size | Skirt cut 1 Length $\times$ Width | $\begin{gathered} \text { Trim Band } \\ \text { cut } 1 \\ \text { Length } \times \text { Width } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Waistband } \\ \text { cut } 1 \\ \text { Length } \times \text { Width } \end{gathered}$ | Straps $^{*}$ cut 2 Length $\times$ Width | Elastic cut 1 3/4" wide |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6-12 mos. | 5" x 35" | 5.5 " 3 3 ${ }^{\prime \prime}$ | 3" x 35" | 3.5 " 21 " | 17" |
| 12-18 mos. | $6 \mathrm{\prime} \mathrm{\prime} \times 36$ | 5.5 " $\times 36$ | 3" x 36" | 3.5 " x 23 " | 17.5" |
| 24 mos./2T | $7{ }^{\prime \prime} \times 37{ }^{\prime \prime}$ | 5.5 " x $37{ }^{\prime \prime}$ | 3" x 37" | 3.5 " x 24 " | 18" |
| 3T | 8" x 38" | $6 \mathrm{\prime} \mathrm{\prime} \times 38$ | 3" x 38" | 4 " x 25 " | 18.5" |
| 4 T | 9" x 39" | $6 \mathrm{k} \mathrm{\prime}$ x 39 | 3" x 39" | 4" x 26 " | 19" |
| 5 T | 10 " x 40" | 6.5 " x 40" | 3" x 40" | 4" x 27 " | 19.5" |
| 6 | $11^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{x} 41^{\prime \prime}$ | 6.5 " x 41" | 3" x 41" | $4 " \mathrm{x} 28$ " | 20 |
| 7 | 12 " x 42" | $7{ }^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{x} 42$ " | 3" x 42" | $4 " \mathrm{x} 29$ " | 20.5" |
| 8 | 13 x 42 " | 7" x 42" | 3" x 42" | 4" x 30" | 21" |

${ }^{*}$ This is the average length for the straps. Since torso lengths can vary greatly, we always suggest measuring for that perfect fit.

| Size | Sash <br> Cut 2 of each in 2 different fabrics <br> Length $\times$ Width |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{6}$ mos. $-\mathbf{4 T}$ | $3^{\prime \prime} \times 40^{\prime \prime}$ |
|  | $3^{\prime \prime} \times 30^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $\mathbf{5 T - 8}$ | $3.5^{\prime \prime} \times 40^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $3.5^{\prime \prime} \times 30^{\prime \prime}$ |  |

${ }^{* *}$ Note that the seam allowance when sewing will be $3 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ and it is included in the measurements above.
After cutting out all of the pieces you should have a pile similar to this.


## Construction:



Step 1: Take the skirt panel and fold it in half width-wise with right sides together. Match up the two raw edge sides, pin in place, and sew. We should now have one continuous loop. Set aside for now.

Step 2: Take the waistband and fold in half width wise with right sides together, pin the side together, and sew. We should now have a continuous loop. Set aside for now.


Step 3: Take the skirt trim band and fold in half widthwise with right sides together, pin in place, and sew down the short side. We should now have one continuous loop. Set aside for now.

Step 4: Take the trimband and fold it in half length wise with right sides facing out as pictured to the left. Iron to set.


Pin to the bottom of the skirt with right sides together matching up the raw edges. Sew around the the entire skirt to connect the trimband.

Step 5: We can now topstitch our trimband. This step is not necessary, but we feel that it really completes a garment and makes it look more professional. In this trimband in particular, topstitching will help it lay flat. To topstitch, sew an $1 / 8$ " up from where we attached the waistband, being sure to catch the seams.


Step 6: Take the waistband and fold it in half length wise with right sides facing out as pictured to the left. Pin to the top of the skirt with right sides together matching up the raw edges.


Sew around the the entire skirt to connect the waistband being sure to leave a 1 " opening as shown to the right to thread elastic through.

Step 7: Thread the 3/4" elastic through the waist casing making sure that it doesn't twist while doing so. When we reach the end, sew the two elastic ends together again making sure that it is not twisted. Once sewn together, pull the waist and spread the fabric around so it is evenly distributed. We can now sew the 1 " opening close.


Step 8: We can now topstitch our waistband.This step is not necessary, but we feel that it really completes a garment and makes it look more professional. In this waistband in particular, topstitching will help it lay flat. To topstitch, sew an $1 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ DOWN from where we attached the waistband, being sure to catch the seams.

If you are making the sash continue below. If you are making the straps, skip to Step 11.


Step 9: Take two sash pieces (one long and one short) and place them right sides together, sew down one of the short ends. Make sure you grab the matching one. Repeat with the second set of sash pieces.

Place the two long sash pieces right sides together matching up the seams. Sew down all for sides making sure to leave a $1.5^{\prime \prime}$ opening on one of the long sides.


When done, using a dowel or chopstick turn fabric right side out using the opening we left.

Iron the sash so it is nice and crisp making sure to fold under and iron the spot we left open so that it matches the rest of the sash.


Step 10: We may now topstitch our sash. Sew $1 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ in from the ends around the entire sash. Although, we said its not necessary to topstitch the garment it is necessary topstitch the sash because if we do not every time the sash is washed it will need to be ironed. If you are making the straps, continue below. If not you are done!

Step 11: Fold both strap pieces in half lengthwise and sew down the three open sides making sure to leave a $1.5^{\prime \prime}$ opening on the long side.

When done, using a dowel or chopstick turn fabric right side out using the opening we left.

Iron the straps so they are nice and crisp making sure to fold under and iron the spots we left open so that it matches the rest of the
 strap.


Step 12: We may now topstitch our sash. Sew $1 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ in from the ends around the entire sash. Although, we said its not necessary to topstitch the garment it is necessary topstitch the straps they will not lay flat. Also, if we do not every time they are washed they will need to be ironed .


Step 13: We are now going to create our 4 button holes on each end of the straps. To make the button holes we are going to measure $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ up from the bottom center of where the straps are located. Mark this spot with your fabric marker/chalk etc! Repeat with the other 3 ends of the straps.

Following your machines directions sew two $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}-5 / 8$ " buttonholes starting at the four dots we just marked. It should now look like the picture to the left. If you were unable to measure the child's torso, we recommend adding an additional buttonhole $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ up from the
buttonholes we just made for a total of 8 buttonholes.

Step 14 : Now we may attach our buttons. Find the center of the front and the center of the back of the skirt. Mark them both with a pin. Now, measure over the distance specified on the chart below on both the front and back. For example, We are making a size 3 T so we are measuring over $3^{\prime \prime}$ to the right and 3 " to the left (on the front). The buttons will be sewn on directly where the pins are placed.


| Size | Button Placement on Front | Button Placement on Back |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{6 - 1 2}$ months | $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ | $2^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $\mathbf{1 2 - 1 8}$ months | $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ | $2^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $\mathbf{2 T}$ | $2.75^{\prime \prime}$ | $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $\mathbf{3 T}$ | $3^{\prime \prime}$ | $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $\mathbf{4 T}$ | $3^{\prime \prime}$ | $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $\mathbf{5 T}$ | $3^{\prime \prime}$ | $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $\mathbf{6}$ | $3.25^{\prime \prime}$ | $2.75^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $\mathbf{7}$ | $3.5^{\prime \prime}$ | $3^{\prime \prime}$ |
| $\mathbf{8}$ | $3.5^{\prime \prime}$ | $3^{\prime \prime}$ |



Step 15: Hand sew the buttons on in the spot specified.

You are now done and you completed it in less than 15 steps!!! Was that easy or what?!? Here are some more pictures of this shirt completed using various fabric combinations for inspiration.


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