

A SMOCKED SUMMER FROCK FOR A SMALL GIRL

NOTHING is fresher for a small girl's summer wear than a smocked washing frock. Whether checks, spots, stripes, or sprigged materials are chosen, the pattern should be small and dainty. Gingham is an all-time favourite, for its washing and wearing qualities are undisputed. With the advent of summer a small daughter will require several frocks of the type described in this article by Eva Topping, Rural Sociologist, Department of Agriculture, Auckland.

THE pattern illustrated has simple lines and an easily-worked but effective smocked front. If the checks of the material are small enough—about $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{16}$ in. square—no transfer is required. Pin-spotted or striped material with the spots or stripes $\frac{1}{2}$ in. apart does not need a transfer.

The size of the finished frock is:—
 Length from shoulder to hem 17 in.
 Width across front chest over smocking 10 in.
 Length of sleeve seam 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.
 Width of sleeve at bottom 7 in.
 Round neckline when fastened 10 in.
 Width at lower edge about 1 $\frac{1}{3}$ yds.

Materials required are: 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ yds. of 36 in.-wide cotton material; $\frac{1}{2}$ yd. or a piece about 9 in. x 18 in. for the collar in white or a plain colour to match the frock material (calico, haircord, and boiling silk are all suitable, and the rag-bag probably will supply a large enough piece); 2 skeins of white or coloured stranded cotton; 3 small buttons, and $\frac{1}{2}$ yd. of narrow tape.

Cutting a Paper Pattern

First study the diagrams to become familiar with the shapes of the pattern. Then take sheets of paper, a pencil, and a tape measure or ruler and make a pattern as follows:—

Back (Fig. 1)

Size of paper 18 in. x 13 in.; mark the corners A, B, C, and D as on the diagram.

From A measure 9 in. toward B and mark a. From B measure 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. toward D and in 2 in., and mark b. Join a and b as shown for the armhole.

From D measure up 1 in. and mark c. Join b and c for the side seam.

Join c to C for the hemline. Measure 4 in. down from A and mark "Cut to here for back opening."

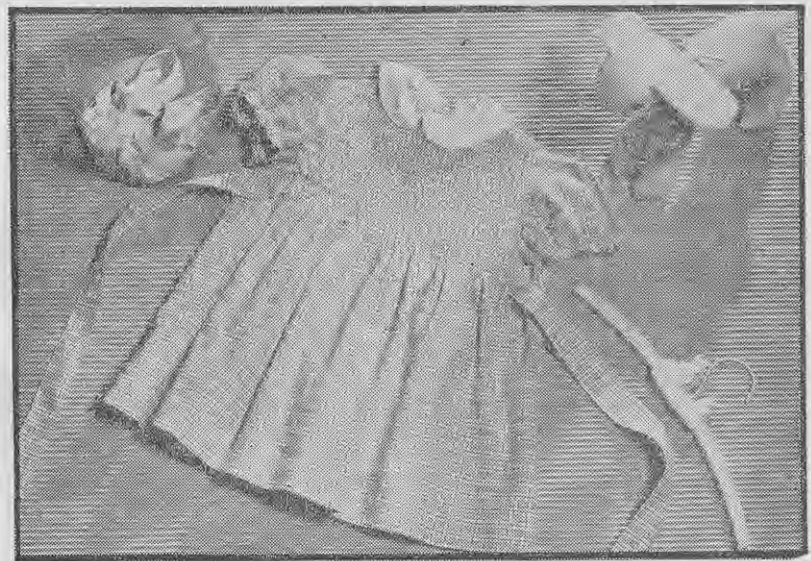
Mark the pattern "Back." Write "Gather here" along the line A-a and "Fold" at the centre back.

Front (Fig. 2)

Size of paper 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; mark the corners E, F, G, and H.

From E measure 2 in. toward G and mark e. From E measure 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. toward F and mark f. Join e and f as shown for the neckline, which is straight for almost 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. at e.

From E measure 11 in. toward F and down 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in., and mark g. Join f and g for the shoulder seam.



(Sparrow Industrial Pictures Ltd. photo.)

From F measure 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. toward H and in 2 in., and mark h. Join g and h as shown for the armhole.

From H measure 1 in. toward F and mark i. Join h and i for the side seam.

Join i and G for the hemline.

Measure 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. from F toward E and down 7 in. From there draw a line 1 in. down and mark it "Stitch tie belt."

Mark the pattern "Front." Write "Gather here" along the neckline (e-f) and shoulder line (f-g) and "Fold" at the centre front.

Back Yoke (Fig. 3)

Size of paper 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; mark the corners I, J, K, and L.

From I measure 1 in. toward K and mark k. From I measure 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. toward J and mark l. Join k and l as shown for the neckline.

From J measure 2 in. toward L and mark m. Join l and m for the shoulder seam.

From L measure $\frac{1}{2}$ in. toward K and mark n. Join m and n for the armhole.

Write "Back yoke, cut 4" on the pattern.

Sleeve (Fig. 4)

Size of paper 17 in. x 6 in.; mark the corners M, N, O, and P.

From M measure 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. toward N and mark o.

From M measure 4 in. toward O and mark s.

From O measure $\frac{1}{2}$ in. toward P and mark p.

From P measure $\frac{1}{2}$ in. toward O and mark r.

From N measure 4 in. toward P and mark q.

From O measure 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. toward P and up 1 in.; mark t.

Join s-p and q-r for the sleeve seams.

Join p-t-r with a gentle curve for the lower sleeve edge.

From M measure 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. toward N and down 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; mark with a dot.

From M measure 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. toward N and down 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; mark with a dot and cross.

From M measure 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. toward N and down 2 in.; mark with a dot.

From M measure 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. toward N and down 2 in.; mark with a dot.

From M measure 6 in. toward N and down $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; mark with a dot.

Join these dots to o with a smoothly-curved line.

From N measure 1 in. toward M and down 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; mark with a dot.

From N measure 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. toward M and down 3 in.; mark with a dot.

From N measure 4 in. toward M and down 1 in.; mark with a dot.

From N measure 5 in. toward M and down $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; mark with a dot.

Join the dots to o as before.

Mark a cross between the second and third dots to correspond with that on the other side of the sleeve top, and write "Gather here" along the top edge between the two crosses.

Make two crosses on the lower edge about 1 in. in from the side seams and write "Gather here" between them.

Write "Sleeve, cut 2" on the pattern and "Place to back yoke" on the right-hand side as shown.

Collar (Fig. 5)

Size of paper 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; mark the corners Q, R, S, and T.

From Q measure 3 in. toward R and mark u. From Q measure 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. toward S and mark v. From S measure $\frac{1}{2}$ in. toward T and mark w. Join u, v, and w with a curved line as shown.

From r measure 3 in. toward T and mark x. From T measure $\frac{1}{2}$ in. toward S and mark y. Join y, x, and u with a curved line.

From S measure 3 in. toward T and up 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; mark z. Join w, z, and y with a curved line.

Mark the pattern "Collar, cut 4" and write "Back" on the right-hand side as shown.