



# Li'l Luvs Unicorn

a Gingermelon design

## ♥ Supplies needed to make the Li'l Luv Unicorn ♥

### Doll

- \* Sewing supplies: dressmaker's scissors, pinking shears, embroidery scissors, pins, needles, long doll needle
- \* Sewing machine and thread to match fabrics
- \* Disappearing ink marker and ruler
- \* Stuffing (polyfil) and stuffing tools such as a wooden spoon, orange stick or chopstick
- \* 2 sheets 8 x 12 felt for the main body
- \* 3 x 4 inch pink felt for inner ears and unicorn's horn
- \* Embroidery thread to match felt as well as black and white for facial details
- \* Coloured metallic embroidery thread for eyes (regular works fine too)
- \* 2 x 2 inch card stock for inner foot pads
- \* 3 Ply yarn (sock yarn or similar) for hair
- \* Clear-drying craft glue, Q-tips
- \* Pink coloured pencil
- \* OPTIONAL: Glitter felt, or glitter to make your own glitter felt (for Unicorn horn)

### Felt Sundress, Undies and Shoes

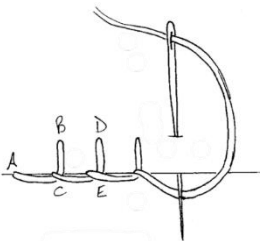
- \* 3.5 x 5.5 inch polka dot felt for dress skirt and pocket
- \* 6 x 8 inch white felt for dress bodice, scalloped outer pocket, shoes and undies
- \* Scrap of coloured felt for flower petal buttons
- \* 3x 5mm or 6mm snaps
- \* 2 x 2 inch card stock for inner shoe soles

### Fabric Dress

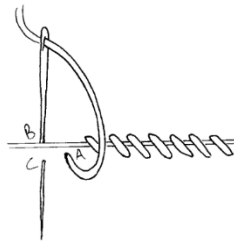
- \* 10 x 20 inch main fabric for dress (bodice, straps, middle layer of skirt)
- \* 3 x 12 inch fabric in contrasting colour for top layer of skirt
- \* Two pieces 3 x 10 inch netting fabric or tulle for bottom layer of skirt
- \* 1x 5mm or 6mm snap
- \* Drinking straw (for turning straps)

### Stitch Guide

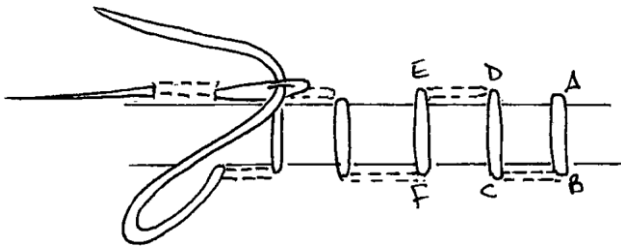
Blanket Stitch



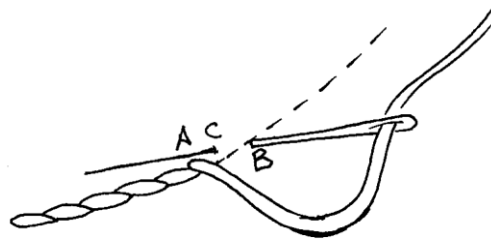
Whip Stitch



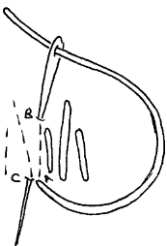
Ladder Stitch



Stem Stitch



Straight Stitch



Lazy Daisy Stitch



*\* Please read through the instructions carefully before beginning \**

**Please Note:**

- \* All seams on the doll, felt sundress, undies and shoes are sewn by hand. There's no need for you to add a seam allowance or to turn the pieces inside out after sewing.
- \* Use one strand of embroidery thread/floss for all seams and facial features (unless otherwise directed) and try to keep your stitches small, neat and evenly spaced. This will ensure a nice, clean finish and prevents the stuffing from escaping from the seams.
- \* If you cannot find glitter felt for the Unicorn's horn, you can easily make your own: Spread a thin layer of clear-drying craft glue onto a piece of felt with the tip of a Q-tip and generously sprinkle glitter onto the glue. Allow to dry thoroughly, then gently tap off excess.

**Layout and Cutting (Felt Pattern Pieces)**

- \* Print pattern pieces onto regular printer paper. There is no need for re-sizing. Cut out all paper pattern pieces.
- \* Pin felt pattern pieces onto the corresponding felts. Carefully cut around each pattern piece, using a pair of dressmaker's scissors to cut out the larger pieces and a pair of embroidery scissors to cut out the smaller ones.

\*To mark the grid and dot markings on the Unicorn's Head Sides, keep each pattern piece pinned in place and gently lift the outer edges, using your disappearing ink marker to mark the beginning of the lines onto the felt.

\*Next, remove the pattern piece and use the ruler to connect the lines. The grid will help with the placement of the facial features.

\*Trace the Horn pattern piece onto the BACK of the glittered felt with your disappearing ink marker and cut out.

## Sewing the Unicorn (felt)

### Head Sides

: Position one Head Side so that it's facing to the right and the other so that it's facing to the left.

: Using black embroidery thread, outline the inner curve, eyelid and lashes on each eye with stem stitch.

\* Optional: There is a tutorial at the end of the pattern if you'd like to apply false eye lashes onto your doll's eyes. If doing so, please omit embroidering them on while you are embroidering the eyes.



: Continuing with the black embroidery thread, fill in the eye with straight vertical stitches, spacing each stitch about 1 - 1.5mm apart and keeping them neat and even along the rounded curve of the eye as shown below. As you near the outer curve of the eyeball, sew your stitches a tiny bit closer together.



: Using a double strand of white embroidery thread, fill in the tiny round area inside each eye, placing each stitch in between the stitches you're sewn in with the black thread. This will give the illusion of light reflecting off the eye.



: Switch to a coloured embroidery thread or metallic embroidery thread and fill in the spaces between each black vertical stitch, beginning just below the white stitches and continuing till you've filled in about 2/3rds of the eye.

: Embroider nostril on each side, using tiny stem stitches.



### Assembling the Head

: To insert the Gusset, align the dot on the Head Gusset with the dot at A. on one of the Head Sides (I began with the left-facing piece), making sure that the edges of the felt are even.

: Begin blanket stitching the gusset to the head side, working around the bottom curve of the head, to the base of the snout. Do not end off thread.

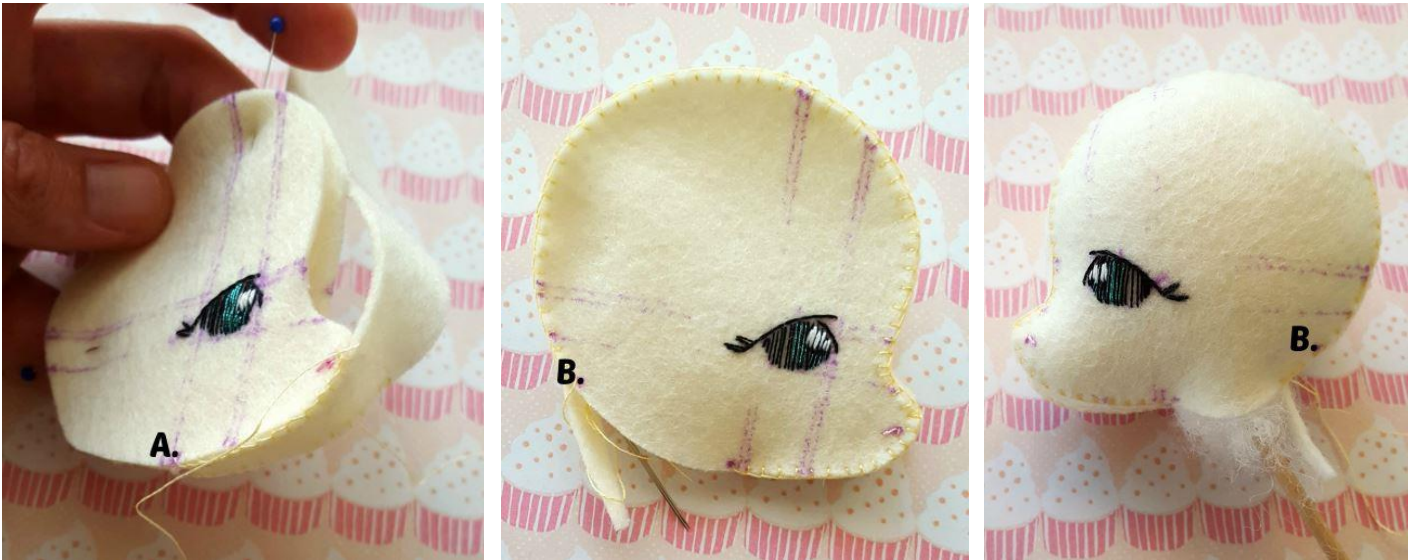


: Now repeat the process with the right-facing Head Side, blanket stitching the gusset to the head as you did with the left side.

: Blanket stitch around the head, alternating the stitching on either side until you reach the dot at B. To help keep the gusset centered and aligned as you work your way around the head, you may find it helpful to pin the gusset to the sides.

: Add stuffing to the top of the head, making sure it's full and rounded.

: Continue adding more stuffing to the rest of the face, filling up the snout and bottom area before blanket stitching the remaining length of gusset to the head sides. The head should be full and rounded and quite firm, but not to the point of



: To close the tiny hole at the base of the head, stitch opening closed with straight stitches, keeping your stitches close together.

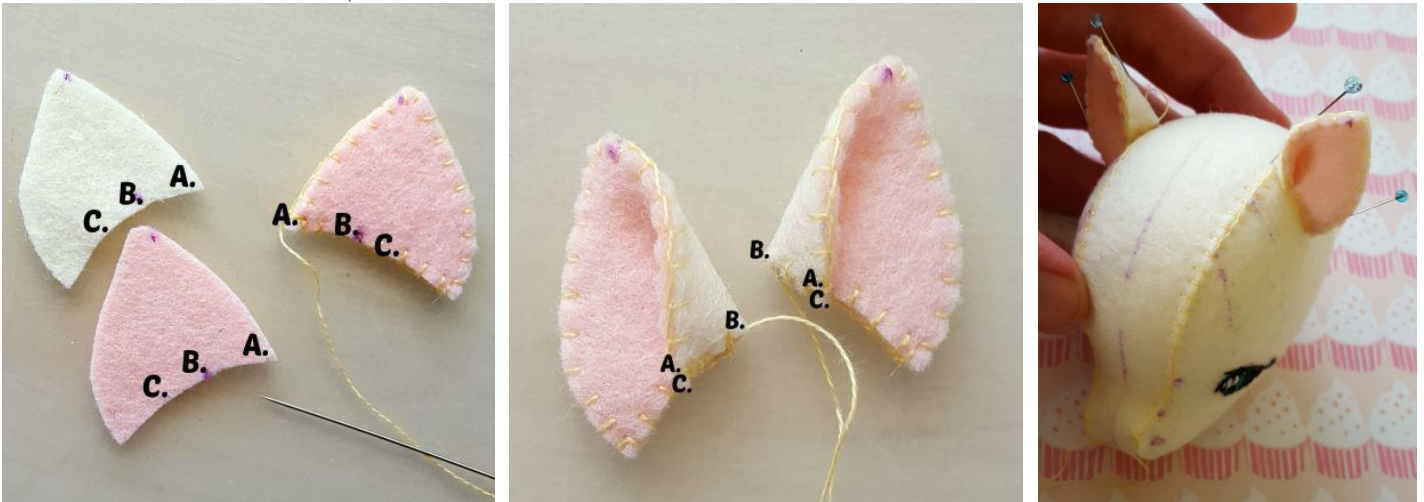


## Ears

: Position Inner felt ear (pink) onto Outer felt ear and blanket stitch around entire ear, beginning and ending at dot at A.

: Fold bottom corner of ear so that the corner at A. aligns with the dot at C. then blanket stitch the bottom edge down.

: Position ears on either side of the head, checking all angles to make sure that they're even. Pin in place. Ladder stitch front and back of each ear in place.



## Unicorn Horn

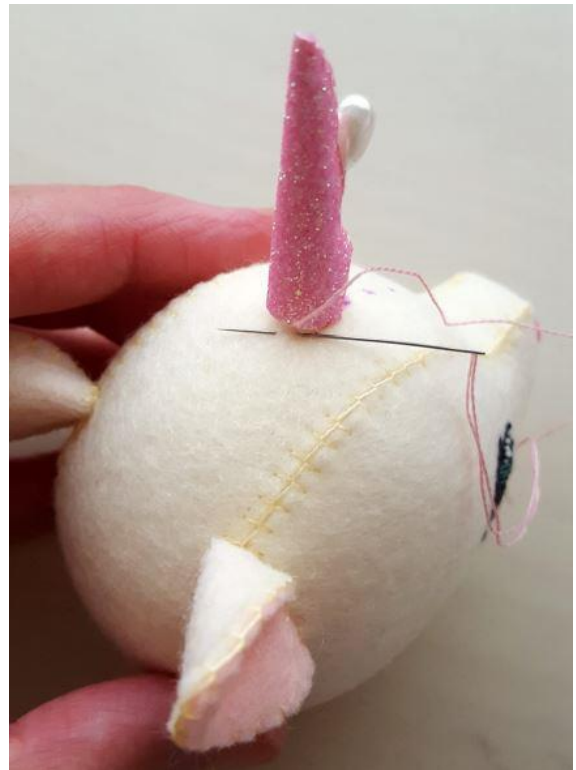
: Fold the Unicorn Horn in half lengthwise, **wrong** sides facing. Beginning at the narrower end, blanket stitch up towards the wider edge. Do not stitch the end together and don't end off your thread yet.

: Use the tip of a Q- Tip and/or Orange Stick to gently push stuffing up in to the tip, filling out the rest as you go.





: Center the horn onto the front of the head, taking time to decide how high up you'd like it to be and pin in place. Ladder stitch the base of the horn onto the head, going around a few times to secure it into place.



## Body

: Fold one Body Side in half, **right** sides facing. Whip stitch darts at top and bottom of piece. Repeat on other body side.

: Turn right side out. Pin body sides together, **wrong** sides facing. Make sure that the tummies and backs match. Blanket stitch around the body, leaving an opening between the dots. Stuff body, filling up the bottom, tummy and chest area. Blanket stitch opening closed adding stuffing to fill the area below opening.



## Arms

: Blanket stitch around Arm, leaving an opening at the back. Add stuffing and blanket stitch opening closed.



## Legs

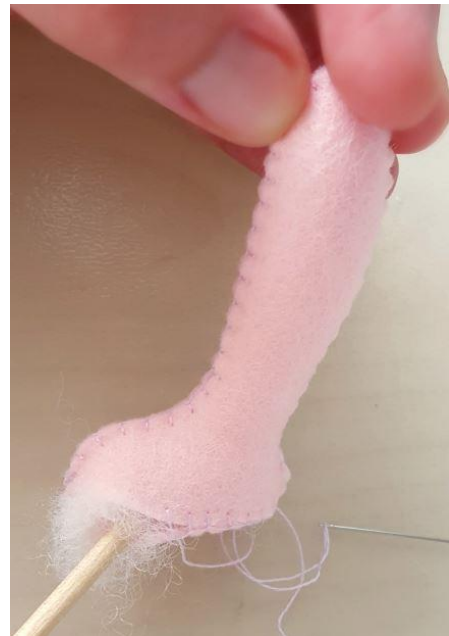
: Trace outline of Inner Foot Pad pattern piece onto card stock (x2), mark dots at toe and heel. Cut out each piece. Apply a thin layer of craft glue onto the back of each cut out and position one onto each felt foot pad, aligning dots at toe and heel. The card stock will add some stiffness to the bottom of the foot which will aid in allowing the doll to stand on its own.

: Blanket stitch around Leg, beginning at the heel (A) and working around to the toe (B). Stuff leg and foot area firmly.



: Center foot pad onto bottom of foot, matching dots at toe and heel with seams on the front and back of the leg.

: Beginning at the toe, blanket stitch to attach the pad onto the foot. Just before closing, add more stuffing to fill the foot.



### Attaching Head to Body

: Position head onto neck, centering it so that the seams from the head match the seams at the front and back of the body. Pin the head onto the neck.

: Ladder stitch around once and then on the next few rows, take the ladder stitches a teeny bit lower down on the neck and a teeny bit higher on the face. This will bring the head closer onto the neck and will ensure that the head is anchored on securely. Keep your ladder stitches very tiny and straight as you go around as this will give a nice finish to the seam.



### Attaching Arms to Body

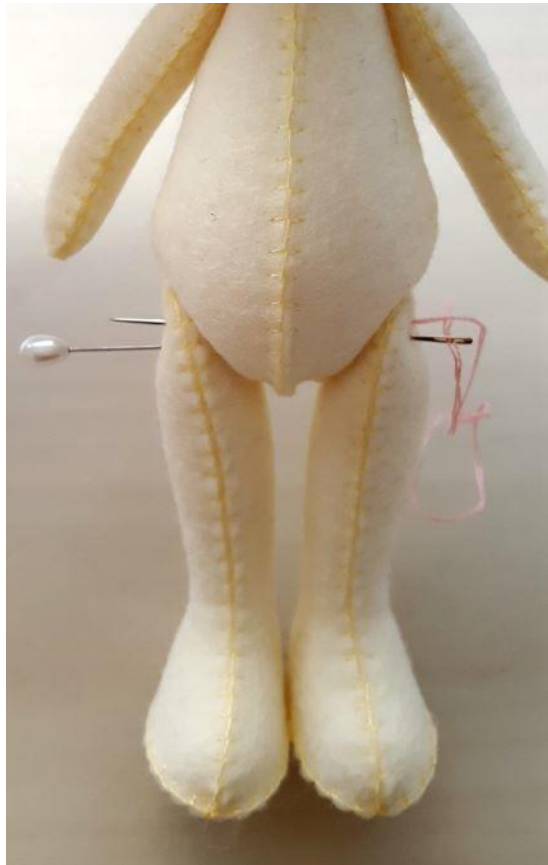
: Pin arms to sides of body, centering them just below the darts on either side of the body. Using the long doll needle threaded with two strands of embroidery thread, insert underneath one arm and bring it through the body and out through the other arm. Insert needle into the same arm, imagining if you will, that you are sewing two-holed buttons on at the top of each arm. Slide needle through the body again and out through the other arm in the same manner, repeating the process a few more times to secure arms in place and end off underneath an arm.



## Attaching Legs

: Use a sturdy pin (I like to use hat pins as they're thicker and longer than regular pins) to pin one leg onto the side of the body, centering the middle of the top of the leg against the dart stitches on the hip area of the body. Repeat the process with the other leg, making sure to check the position from all sides, ensuring that both feet are lining up together when the doll is in a standing position. Take time to check the alignment, making sure that the tops of the legs are even and that they're in the same position on either side of the body. It may take a few tries to get the placement of the legs exactly right.

: Sew the legs onto the body in the same manner that you sewed the arms onto the body, taking the thread through the body and top of the legs a few of times, each time gently but firmly tugging on the thread to bring the legs closer together. I tend to sew my dolls' legs on quite firmly, but not so tight that they're hard to move.



## Hair

\*To make my Unicorn's hair, I used a combination of 3 ply and 4 ply yarns in various colours along with a sequined tinsel yarn to give it some sparkle. You can use any type of yarn, though I would recommend using the thinner plys of yarn as they're not too bulky looking.

: You'll need to make about 7 yarn bundles. Each bundle requires 9 – 10 strands of yarn, each strand measuring about 15 inches in length (you may determine whether you want your Unicorn's hair to be longer or shorter and adjust length accordingly).

: Once you've made one bundle, use a short piece of contrasting yarn to tie the bundle together in the center, do not knot the center piece of yarn. Fold bundle in half. Repeat process until you have 7 bundles.



: Position the first yarn bundle directly behind the Unicorn's horn, slightly to the left of center.

: Position second bundle directly behind the first bundle, placing it slightly to the right of the center.

: Continue in this manner, placing the next one directly behind the second bundle, just left of center, the next, just right of center and repeat until all bundles have been pinned onto the head. They should have a staggered, zig-zagged appearance instead of being in a straight line.



: To attach each yarn bundle onto the head, double thread a needle with embroidery thread to match the colour of the hair. Insert needle through the felt just below the yarn bundle and bring it out through the felt at the front of the bundle. Secure bundle onto head with a few tiny stitches in the center of the bundle. To secure the next bundle, insert needle into felt below the bundle and repeat process, removing yarn ties in the center of each as you work your way to the last bundle. End off thread below the last bundle.



: To trim the ends of the hair, carefully 'comb' the yarn strands down with your Orange Stick so that the strands are evenly distributed around the head. Determine how short you'd like it and carefully trim the ends of the hair, starting at the center back and working out towards each side.



## Felt Sundress, Shoes and Undies

### Sundress

: Position Dress Bodice onto Dress Skirt overlapping the scalloped bottom edge of the bodice onto the wide 'v' area along the top center of the skirt. Pin in place.

: Position Pocket Top onto Pocket Base so that the top edges are aligned.



: Stitch scalloped edge of bodice onto top edge of skirt. You can use a decorative 'v' stitch in a contrasting embroidery thread, or a tiny running stitch to stitch it in place.



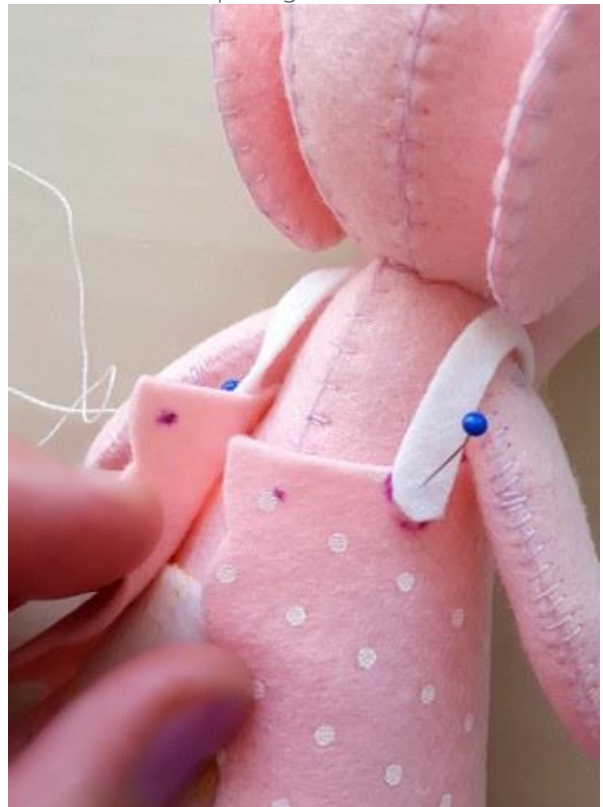
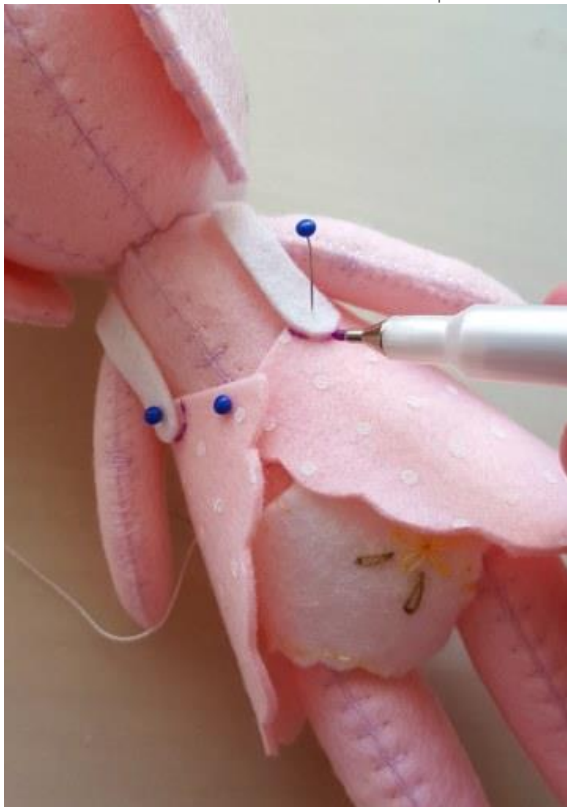


: Blanket stitch top edges of pocket top and base together, leaving thread attached for sewing pocket onto dress.



: Place dress onto doll, wrapping sides of dress around the body and placing straps over the shoulders. Pin straps onto the back of the dress and use your disappearing ink marker to mark the outline of where the straps will be sewn on.

: For the dress closure, mark dots for the snap closure one either side of the back opening.



: Position pocket onto the front of the dress and pin in place. Carefully remove the dress from the doll and hand stitch straps and snap closure onto the back of the dress. Stitch pocket onto the front of the dress with tiny stitches.



## Shoes

: For each shoe, cut out two Soles from felt, then cut one Inner Sole one from card stock. Use your disappearing ink marker to transfer the dots at heel and toe onto these pieces.

: To make the sole, apply a little bit of craft glue onto one side of the card stock sole, then use a Q-tip to spread the glue in a thin layer on the sole. Using the dots marked at the heel and toe as a guide for alignment, fix this slightly smaller card stock sole on top of the outer felt sole.

: Now apply another thin layer of glue onto the upper side of the card stock sole and position the second felt sole on top, making sure that everything is centered and the dots are aligned. Repeat procedure for the second sole.



: Blanket stitch around the inner curve of each Shoe Front and around the sides, tops and straps of each Shoe Back (leave the bottom edge unstitched).

: Position the Shoe Front onto the sole, aligning the dot at the center of the shoe front with the dot at the center of the sole at toe and pin in place. Working from the center dot and around to dot B, blanket stitch the shoe front onto the sole, then repeat on the other side.

: Position the Shoe Back onto the sole, aligning the dot at the center of the shoe back with the dot at the center of the sole at heel and pin in place. Working from the center dot and around to dot B, blanket stitch the shoe back onto the sole, then repeat on the other side.

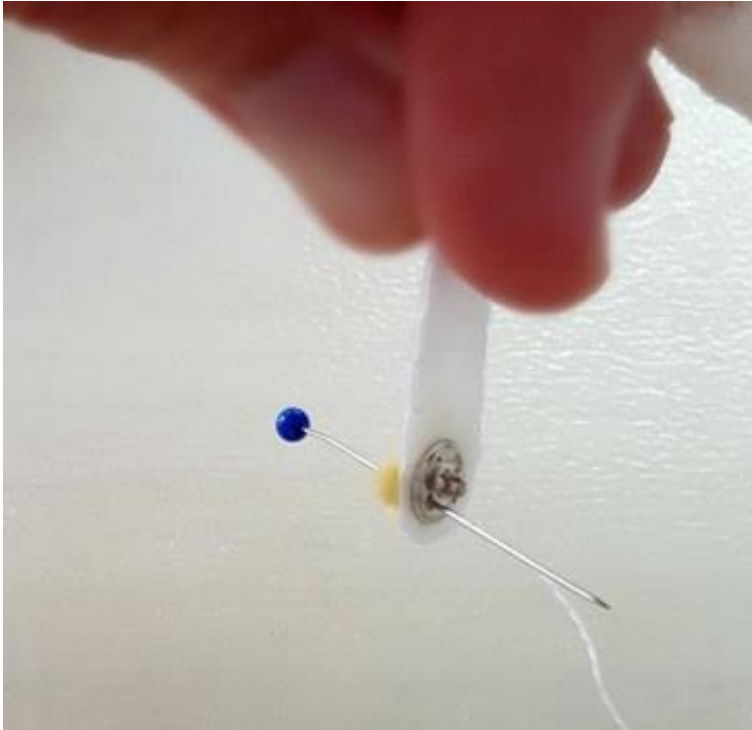


: Place shoes onto doll, wrap strap around ankle to determine the placement for the snap closure. Mark dots on the underside of the strap and outer side of the shoe with your disappearing ink marker.



: Sew female side of snap onto the little tab area on the side of the shoe back.

: Position the male side of the snap closure onto the marked dot on the underside of the shoe strap, then place the tiny cut out felt flower on the opposite side of the strap so that the felt flower faces the outside. Carefully sew the snap and flower in place.



### Undies

: Fold Undies in half and blanket stitch sides together. Blanket stitch around the waistband and along the inside of each leg opening with a contrasting embroidery thread. I used a decorative 'v' stitch to accent each tiny scalloped edge, but you can continue blanket stitching the scalloped area if preferred.

: Transfer marking for the little flower onto the back of the undies with your disappearing ink marker and embroider a tiny lazy daisy flower and a couple of leaves.



### Layout and Cutting (Fabric Pieces for Dress)

\*Pin each layer of the Dress Skirt pattern pieces onto the corresponding fabrics (Top Layer on **contrasting fabric**, Middle Layer on **main fabric** and Bottom Layer on **tulle** – tulle layer has 2 layers), placing fabric on fold and cut out with pinking shears. Alternatively, cut out the pieces with a pair of dressmaker's scissors and zig-zag around the edges with your sewing machine.

\*For the Dress Bodice, you'll need a piece of fabric measuring about 2.5 x 4.5 inches in length. Fold the fabric in half lengthwise, right sides facing and trace the outline of the Dress Bodice directly onto the wrong side of the fabric with your disappearing ink marker. Pin together.

\*For the shoulder straps, fold fabric in half lengthwise (right sides facing) and place pattern piece on fold. Trace outline of strap directly onto the wrong side of the fabric (see photo below for placement). Pin together. Use your pinking shears to cut along the bottom edge of each strap (open end of strap).

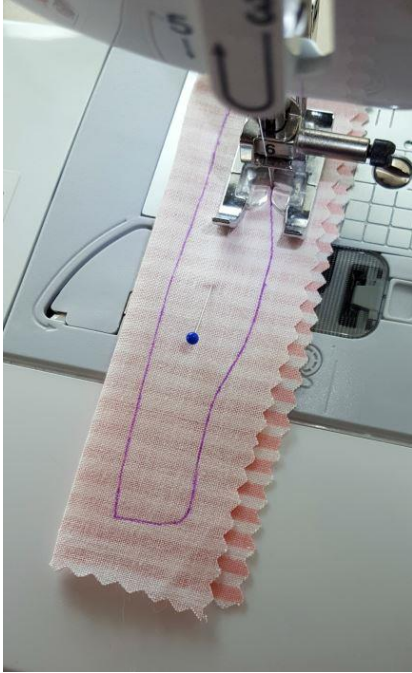


### Sewing the Dress

#### Bodice and Shoulder Straps

: To stitch the bodice, place fabric onto the bed of the sewing machine, centering the needle at the bottom edge of one short side of the bodice. Stitch up the side (begin with a few back stitches), around the top and down the opposite side, sewing directly on the marked line. Once you reach the end at the opposite side, back stitch and end off thread. Use your pinking shears to cut directly along the bottom edge of the bodice. Trim excess fabric around sewn edge.

: Follow the same procedure to stitch across top edge (short side) and down the long side of each Shoulder Strap, leaving the bottom short edge open. Trim excess fabric around sewn edges.



: To turn the little straps, I found it helpful to cut one end of a plastic straw on a 45 degree angle. Insert angled side of straw into the opening of one strap and then insert an orange stick or chopstick into the straw through the sewn edge of the fabric. Gently push the stick down into the straw to turn the strap right-side out.



: Turn bodice right side out, using your orange stick to gently push out the corners. Press flat. Pin bottom edges together, then machine sew bottom edge closed with a small zig-zag stitch.

: Press shoulder straps so that they lay flat, then run a tiny zig-zag stitch along the short open end of each strap.



### Dress Skirt

: Fold short sides of the Top Layer (**contrasting fabric**) of the Dress Skirt in on either side of the fabric (wrong sides facing), about ¼ of an inch and pin. Machine sew folded edges down on either side. Repeat this step on the short sides of the Middle Layer (**main coloured fabric**), but do not sew the edges of the Bottom layers (**tulle**).



: Now arrange the layers of the skirt on top of each other, right sides of fabric facing up. Begin with the Bottom **tulle** layers (x2), making sure that they're evenly aligned, next place the Middle layer (**main fabric**) on top of the tulle, aligning edges of the fabric with the edges of the tulle, then position the Top layer, (**contrasting fabric**) on top of the middle layer, making sure all sides are even. Pin along top edge.

: Set machine stitch on longest stitch setting (gathering stitch) and sew two rows of gathering stitches about ¼ inch below top edge of skirt, leaving long threads on either side for pulling up the gathers later on.



### Attaching Bodice to Skirt

: With your disappearing ink marker, mark the center line at the bottom edge of the bodice. Then fold one corner of the bodice to align with the center dot and place another dot at the fold in the middle. Repeat on the opposite side. You should now have 3 dots along the bottom edge.

: Repeat the process on the top edge of the skirt, marking 3 dots in the same manner.





: With right sides of fabric facing, match center dot on the bottom edge of the bodice with the center dot on the top edge of skirt and pin at center.

: Pin left edge of bodice to left edge of skirt then match the dots in the center and pin. Repeat on the right side.

: Gently pull gathers on either side of the skirt until the width of the skirt matches the width of the bodice. To ensure that your gathers are even, use the back of a needle to spread the gathers evenly across the top edge and only pull the top layer of threads from either side.



: Set machine stitch on regular stitch and position fabric so that the needle is about 1/4 of an inch away from the top edge of the skirt. Stitch bodice to skirt then remove gathering threads and press.



: Fit dress onto the doll and turn it around so that the back of the doll is facing you. Determine placement for the snaps. Mark spots with your disappearing ink marker and hand sew snaps in place.



: To position the shoulder straps, place the sewn edge of one strap onto the front of the bodice, just in front of the arm. Pin in place. Fold the strap over the doll's shoulder and tuck the opposite end of the strap underneath the back side of the bodice as shown below. Pin in place. Repeat with the second strap.



: Remove dress and hand stitch straps in place.



### False Lashes (Optional)

\*If you'd like to create lovely long lashes for your little doll, you can do so quite easily by using a pretty pair of false lashes. A regular pair of lashes will probably be a smidgen too wide, so to determine the right length, place the lashes along the top curve of the lid, then cut off the excess length. **▣ Please Note:** I used a pair of lashes with hairs that were slightly shorter at the inner corners which then fanned out to longer hairs towards the outer corners. I cut the excess length off on the end with the longer hairs.



: To begin, thread a long doll needle with one strand of black embroidery thread, making a tiny knot at the end of the thread. Insert the needle up through the seam at the base of the back of the head where the head and neck meet and out through the inner corner of one eyelid. The knot at the end should be hidden in-between the seam.

: Pin lashes onto the top curve of the eyelid, placing the shorter lashes at the inner corner of the eye with the longer lashes positioned so that they're towards the outer corner of the eye.



: Switch to a regular sewing needle and whip stitch the base of the lashes onto the stitches on the lid of the eye, sewing each lash strip on with tiny stitches.



: Once both eyes are completed, use your thumb to gently push the lashes up and out.



## Finishing Touches

### Blush

: To add a rosy glow to your Unicorn's cheeks, gently rub a pink coloured pencil into the cheek area, gradually adding layers of colour. Use your finger to smudge it in for a softer look.



### Hairstyling

\*There are many fun ways in which you can style your little Unicorn's hair! Here are a couple of suggestions that you may want to consider.

: Twist two sections of hair together on one side (I've pulled a few hairs from the right side of the horn and wrapped them around the front of the horn, then joined them with a few strands from the left side and twisted them together). Then twist two sections together on the opposite side and connect them together at the back of the head. You can use a tiny hair clamp to hold the twisted sections together, or tie them together at the center as shown.

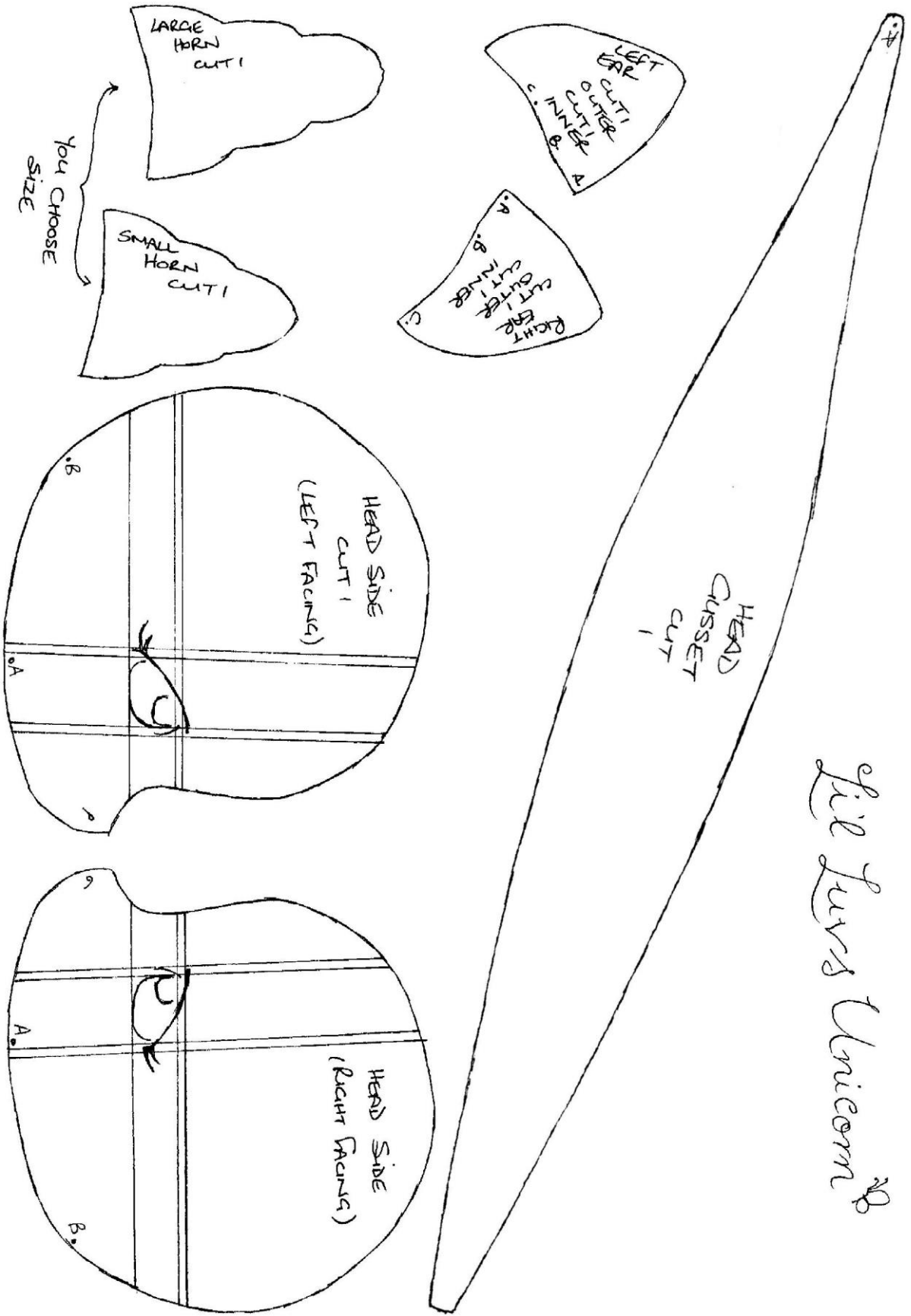


: Alternately, you could braid a section as shown below.

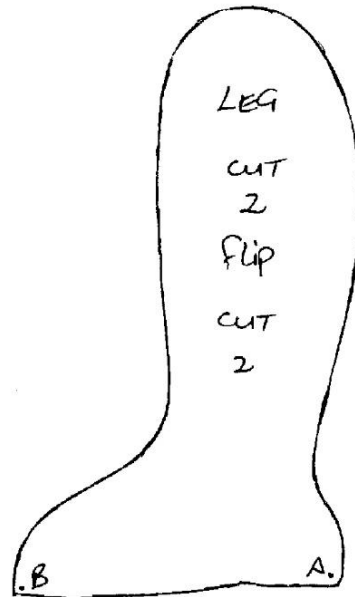
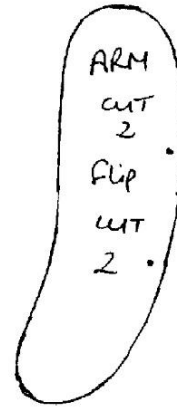
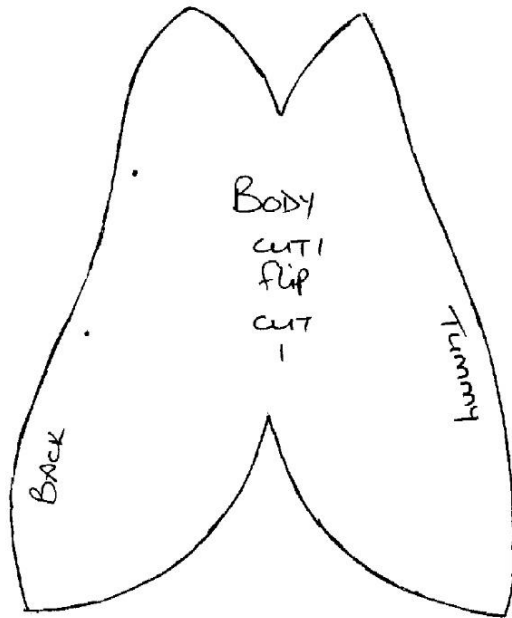


♥YAY!! You now have an adorable Li'l Luv Unicorn, isn't she just the sweetest little thing? I hope you loved making her and I'd love to see some pics of how she turned out!! Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions along the way, either by email: [md1911@shaw.ca](mailto:md1911@shaw.ca) or through Etsy: <https://www.etsy.com/ca/shop/Gingermelon>

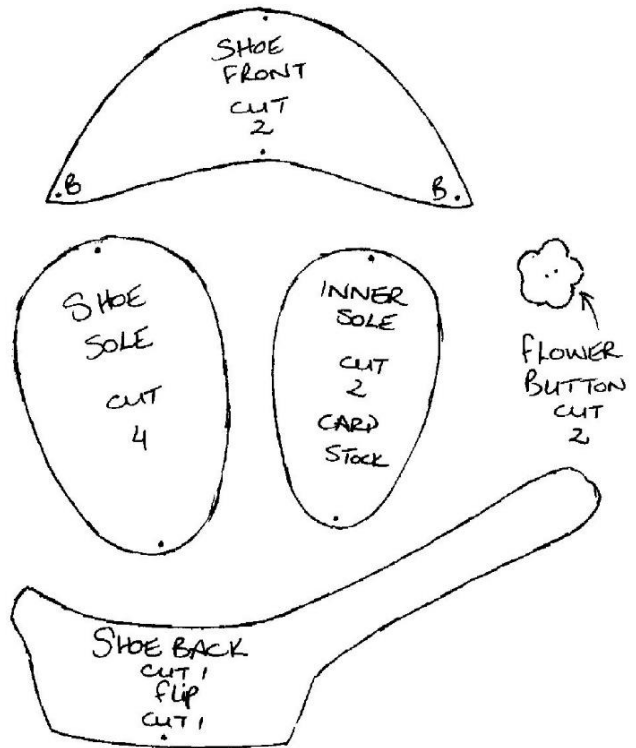
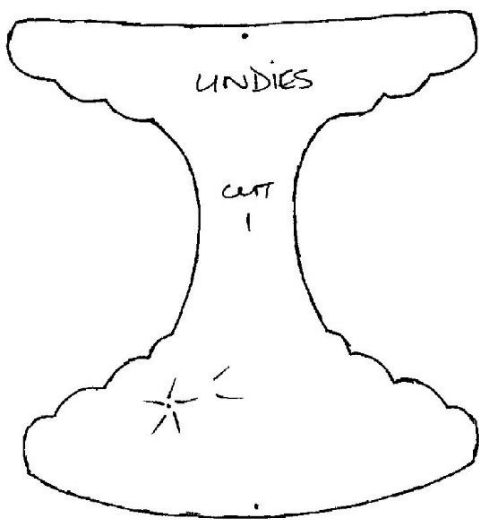
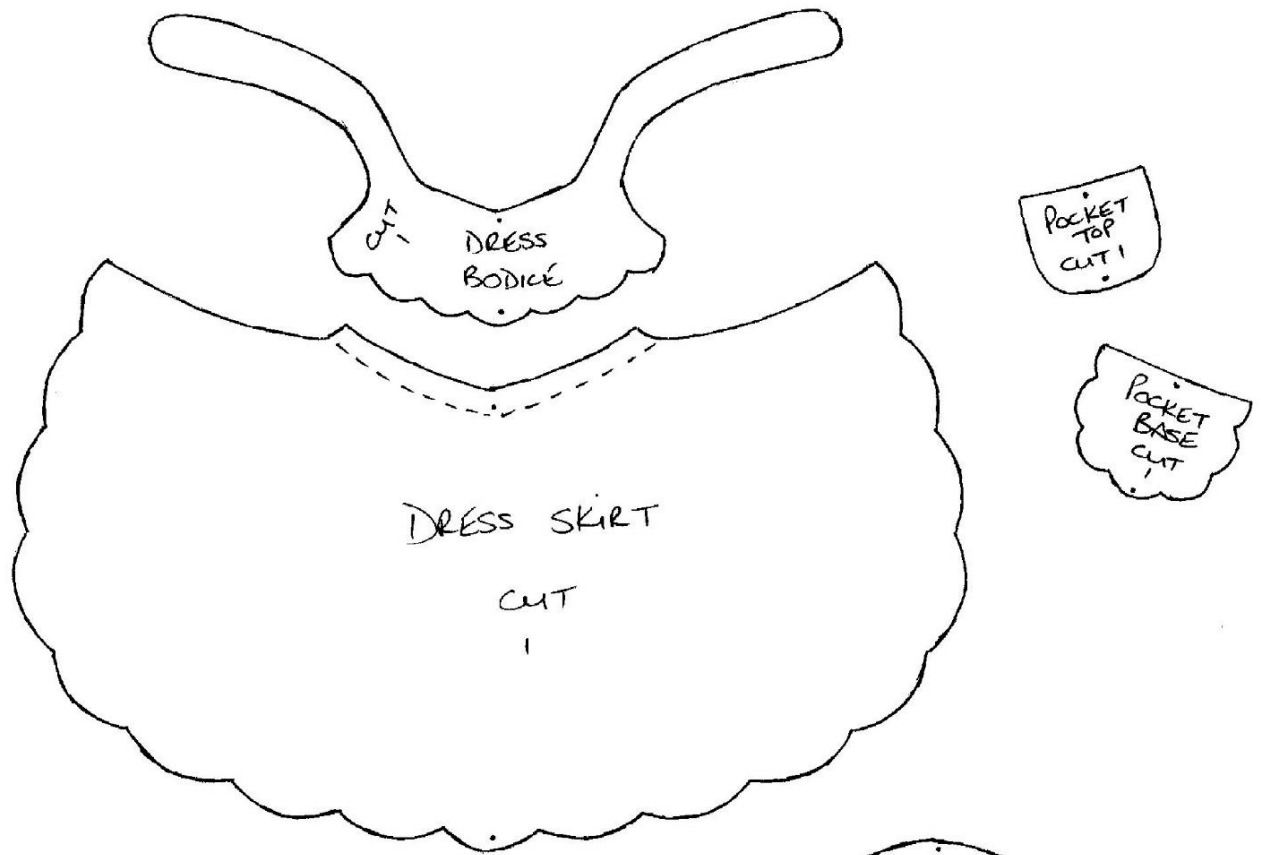
# Lil Luv's Unicorn







# Felt Sundress, Undies and Shoes



# Fabric Dress

