

Ballerina Baby Shoes

3-6 months

Created by Aimee Larsen www.homespun-threads.com

Materials:

2-3 coordinating fabrics

appliqué adhesive

pattern

below materials are optional

trim and bonded fusible fleece interlining



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Step 1: Cut out all your pieces. 2 outside soles, inside souls, inside top and outside top. You will box pleat the outside top from the center. You can use the lines on your pattern as a guide. Experiment and try different pleats. I box pleat the center and the side pleat two times on each side of the box pleat. Or you can create a few pleats all in one direction as shown

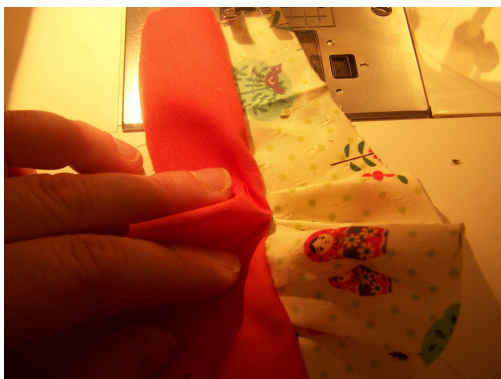
above. Stay stitch your pleats to make sewing easier and close to the edge. The key is to keep your pleats from end to end 4.5 cm. My middle box pleat is 1.5 cm wide at the top.



Please experiment with this on useless fabric until you get the hang of it. To the right is an example of my favorite style of pleats. Once you get the hang of it. You're pleats will be

stunning and fun!

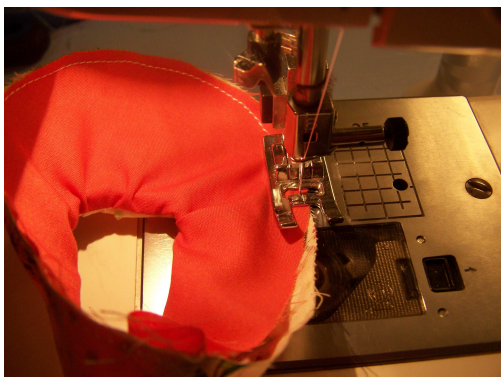
Step 2: Sew right sides together of the outside top and inside top pieces. Sew that your stay stitches do not show, about 3/16" in. Start in the middle at your mid points and sew to one end, go back to the middle and sew all the way to the other end. Ultimately, you want the square ends to line up and be very even. If you use batting or fleece lining cut it the size of your inside top and sew it along with the other pieces.



Step 3 : Sew your heel ends together. Open up your outside pieces as shown and lay over the heel ends right sides together. See picture below. Sew about 3/16" in.



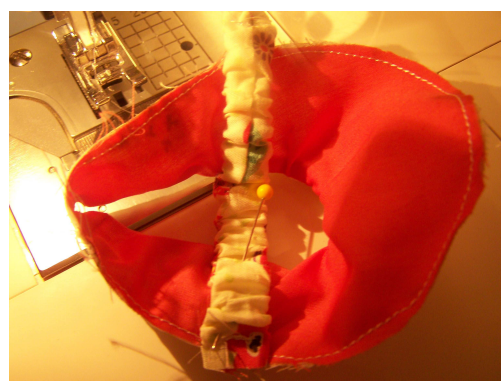
Step 4: Stay stitch wrong sides together of your shoe top. Sew close to the edge so that you'll be



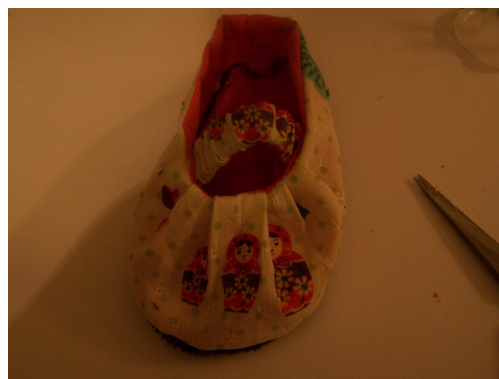
able to hide the stitching. You may then trim with pinking shears or overcast the stitches to help with raveling. You will now do the same with the sole. With soles pieces, put wrong sides together and any lining you prefer between and stay stitch them. You can then trim with pinking shears or use an over casting stitch to prevent raveling. Now for the finishing touches.



Step 5 optional: Now that you've stay stitched all your pieces you are ready to assemble. Now, this shoe is completed with a strap, you don't have to do the strap. You may skip this step if you like. Cut a piece of $\frac{1}{4}$ " elastic or slightly wider by 8 cm. Then cut a piece of coordinating fabric 13 cm by 3 cm and sew up one side of the strip right sides together, turn out to form a tube. Insert elastic, stay stitch on end and then continue pulling elastic through to the other side and stay stitch the other end. You will attach this piece to the inside of the top of your shoe. Stay stitch on the previous stitching lines as shown.



Step 6: Now attach the sole of the shoe to the top of the shoe. Sew from the midpoint of the heel with the bottom sole and top outside together. When sewing stitches you should be looking at your inside fabric top, carefully follow the curve of the sole around while adjusting the placement to the top as you sew in $\frac{3}{16}$ ". Turn out and your shoe should look like this.



Now remember, this may take practice so make sure your first couple of pair of shoes are on fabrics that are okay to mess up. Have fun with it and add embellishments and don't forget to send homespun-threads.com pictures of your creations!

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