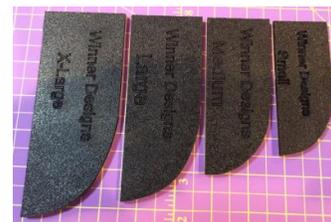




# Making a Pillowcase Dress using Get a Grip Armhole Templates

**No Slipping ~ No Kidding!**



Armhole Templates

Directions & videos can be found at:

[www.WinnerDesigns.com](http://www.WinnerDesigns.com) [www.youtube.com/LindaVideos](http://www.youtube.com/LindaVideos)



If you haven't made a Pillowcase Dress, then these 'get a grip' templates will make it simple by taking out all of the guesswork. Whether using a pillowcase or fabric, these templates are placed on the edges of the rectangle fabric to ensure that the left and right and front and back arm holes are exactly the same! Fast, easy and accurate – what a deal!

There are 4 sizes: small, medium, large and X-Large. Made to fit girls from 6 months on up to early teens, these templates can even be used for adults. There are so many cute fabrics and holiday fabrics make this a great gift. And if you don't know about the Little Pillowcase Dresses for Africa project spear-headed by our favorite Nancy Zieman then you'll want to learn more. This would be a great project for your local guild or for you and friends to do. So stitch up a bunch as a great charity project.

Starting with 1 or 2 fabric rectangles, you'll place the Arm Hole Templates along the folds of the fabric. The Get a Grip Armhole template lets you make sure that the right and left sides and front and back are all the same. Fast, easy and accurate – what a deal!

**Here are some variations –** (some of these examples are taken from the web)

Applique, fabric & ric rac

3 layers of fabric

ruffle on bottom

fabric strips & ruffle

shirt (dress cut short)



## Directions:

Nancy's Notions has some great directions that give sizes and fabric length and width so I highly recommend going to the website below. I am providing basic directions that are based on using an actual pillowcase. (You can use the same directions with fabric. Just cut your fabric to the same size as a pillowcase and add a hem at the bottom.)

[https://www.nancysnotions.com/text/pdf/LittleDressesforAfrica\\_pattern.pdf](https://www.nancysnotions.com/text/pdf/LittleDressesforAfrica_pattern.pdf)

## Materials Needed:

Pillowcase\*

Ribbon or Fabric Tie

Rotary Cutter & Mat or Scissors

Embellishments: Ric rac, lace, applique, buttons, pockets, flower, etc.

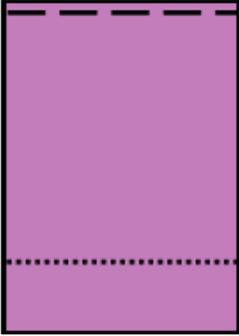
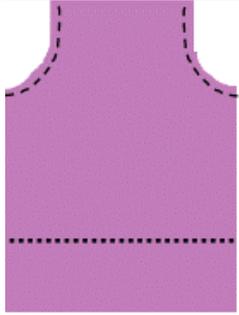
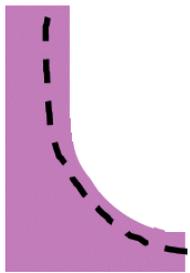
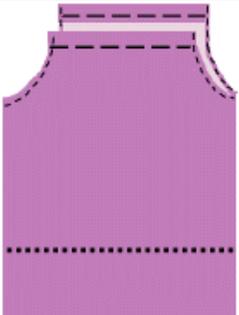
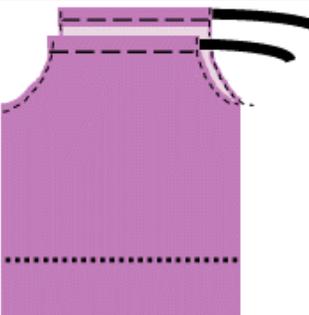
\*If you'd rather use fabric, cut 2 rectangles using pillowcase as a guide (or see measurements provided from Nancy's Notions). Sew side seams together. Hemming can be completed at the end to be able to adjust length.

Basic Sewing Supplies:  
Sewing Machine  
Straight Pins

Matching Thread  
Safety Pin

Scissors  
Iron

### Directions using a Pillowcase

<p>1. Cut off closed end. This will be the top of the dress. Open end will be used for hem of dress.</p>	<p>2. Fold in half right side to left side.</p>	<p>3. <b>To cut armholes:</b> Line straight edge of template up with sides.</p> <p>4. Using rotary cutter or scissors, cut around template, cutting all 4 layers.</p>	<p>5. Unfold dress. Left, right, front &amp; back armholes should be exactly the same.</p>
			
<p>6. <b>To stitch armholes:</b> On 1 armhole, fold 1/4" of front fabric to the inside. Finger press. Fold over another 1/4" and pin in place. Repeat for the other side.</p>	<p>7. At the sewing machine, stitch this down.</p>	<p>9. <b>To stitch top casing:</b> Fold front top edge down 1/4" &amp; finger press. Fold down again 3/4" &amp; press then pin. Stitch in place to form a casing for ribbon or fabric tie. Repeat process for back.</p>	<p>10. Using a safety pin, feed the ribbon through the casings. Note: You can use 2 pieces of ribbon or 1 long ribbon that ties only on 1 side. (see B/W &amp; red dress below)</p>
			
<p>The ribbons will create gathers &amp; can be adjusted. Add any embellishments you like: ric rac, pockets, lace, appliques, etc.</p>	<p>Here is a dress with 1 long ribbon that ties only on 1 side.</p>		
	 <p style="text-align: center;">Example taken from the web</p>		