



Making a Pillowcase Dress with the Get a Grip Armhole Templates

No Slipping ~ No Kidding!

Thanks so much for your purchase! I know you'll have lots of fun with this one~

If you know the Pillowcase dress, it's taken on a life of its own through the Little Pillowcase Dresses for Africa project that Nancy Zieman has done so much to promote.

Below, you'll see a link to Nancy's information but you can also google Little Pillowcase Dresses for Africa to see what others are doing with them not just in Africa but all over the world and probably in your own state!

I'd love to hear what you do with this. Maybe you'll decide to whip a few up for a little girl you know and a few more for some girls you don't! The dress can be made simply & quickly but it can also be embellished to turn into something really special. Pinterest is a great place to find ideas for pockets, embroidery, ruffles and more.

If you use Facebook, I'd love for you to post pics of your dresses on my page. Search for Winner Designs for Sewing & Quilting or go to www.Facebook.com/LindaWinnerDesigns.

BTW - If you post a pic & a comment about the templates on my Facebook, I'll give you a 20% discount on a Winner Designs purchase over the phone or through e-mail (just be sure to remind me!).

Be sure to "LIKE" me on Facebook and look for my monthly "Giveaway" at the beginning of each month! I post new videos, projects, templates, pictures from the tradeshow, etc. so check back often to see what I'm up to.

If you attend any of the quilting/sewing trade shows, please stop by the Martelli booth & say hi! I teach at many of them, so check to see if I'll be on The Stage or at the Spot. Many classes are free and I show projects that can be made with both Martelli and Winner Designs tools and templates~

If you have any questions, please let me know how I can help. Thanks again! ~ Linda

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Directions for the Pillowcase Dress

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. This would be a great project for your local guild or for you and your friends to do. Stitch up a bunch as a great charity project.

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'm providing basic directions for 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.nancynotions.com/text/pdf/LittleDressesforAfrica_pattern.pdf

Are there Videos?

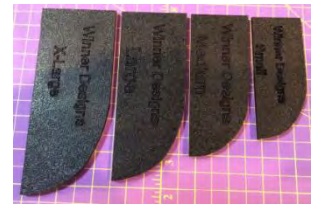
I have 2 videos. I highly recommend watching them so you'll see just how easy it is to cut with the template. Plus, you'll see lots of samples of dresses and several ways of finishing off the arm holes and ties.

To see the videos, go to: www.youtube.com/LindaVideos. Click Playlists, then Winner Designs, then Pillowcase Armholes.

Or, if you're looking at these directions online, simply click on the 2 links below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d6hjqSoUWEo> Pillowcase Dress

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bsvvh8R8wPE> - Winter Giveaway



Armhole Templates



How do the templates work?

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. You'll fold your fabric or pillowcase in half, place a template along the unfolded edge and cut. The Get a Grip ensures that the left and right and front and back arm holes are exactly the same! Fast, easy and accurate – what a deal!

What do I need?

Pillowcase or fabric*

Rotary Cutter & Mat or Scissors

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

Ribbon, Fabric Tie, Pre-packaged Binding

Get a Grip Pillowcase Arm hole Template

*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

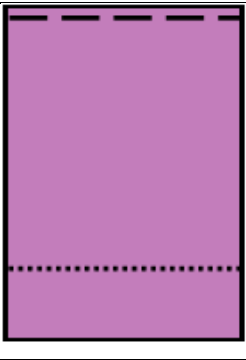
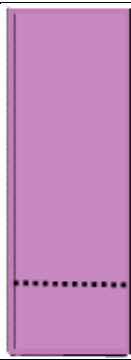


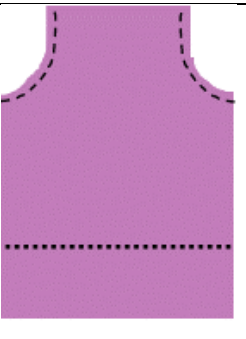
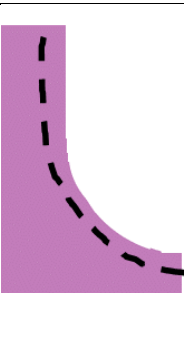
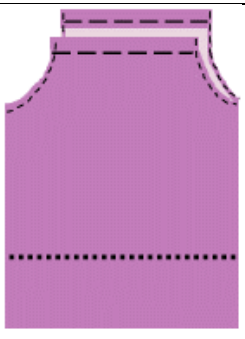
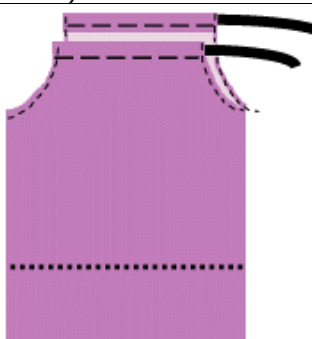
Straight Pins

Matching Thread

Safety Pin

Scissors

Iron

<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. To cut armholes: 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 & back armholes should be exactly the same.</p>
			
<p>6. To stitch armholes: 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. To stitch top casing: Fold front top edge down 1/4" & finger press. Fold down again 3/4" & 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 & red dress below)</p>
			
<p>The ribbons will create gathers & 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 data-bbox="544 457 722 514">Example taken from the web</p>		
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There are so many cute options with this simple dress - Here are some variations -

				
Elastic casing at bottom	Lined & reversable	Recycled from bottom portion of adult dress	2 Tea Towels & tulle	Rose trim at bottom

These examples are taken from samples found online

				
Applique & ric rac	3 layers of fabric	ruffle on bottom	fabric strips & ruffle	shirt rather than dress