



Fairytale skirt, blouse, and apron

Size: Sized to fit American Girl and other similarly sized 18" dolls

Blouse, Apron Gauge: 30 sts over 4 inches in stockinette

Skirt Gauge: (optional) For a slightly firmer fabric, use one size smaller needle than used to get gauge for blouse.

Recommended Needle size: US 2.5 - 3/3.0mm-3.25mm or size needed to get gauge for the blouse. Use one size smaller for the skirt. You will need circular and/or double pointed needles to work in the round. You will need a crochet hook (2.75mm/US1) to make drawstring for blouse.

Yarn: Skirt uses approximately 62 grams fingering weight such as Knit Picks Palette (model uses 175 yards/160 meters blue, 35 yards/32 meters fuchsia, 80 yards/73 meters French lavender). Blouse uses approximately 23 grams fingering weight such as Knit Picks Palette. (model uses 110 yards/100 meters white)

Difficulty Level: Elementary

Construction notes: The skirt is knit in the round from the bottom up, with a colorwork bottom border, and a heavy gathers into the waist band. The blouse body and sleeves are also knit in the round, then joined and knit together for the yoke. The underarm stitches are grafted together at the end, using kitchener stitch. The sleeves and yoke are drawn up with a crochet chain drawstring. The apron is knit flat from the bottom up. I-cord apron strings are knit on from both sides of the apron.

Skirt: (worked in the round)

Cast on 240 stitches in French Lavender. Knit 5 rows flat (garter st). Join in a round, and continue to knit in the round.

Knit 3 rounds.

Knit color work border. (Use chart or other color pattern of your choice.)

Knit 3 rounds in French Lavender. Purl 1 round. Knit 1 round.¹

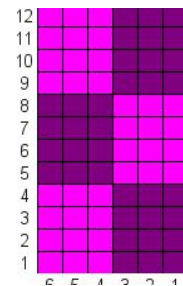
Switch to blue. Knit until the skirt reaches mid calf on your doll, or desired length. (On AG doll, total skirt length = 7in/18cm)

To work the decrease round: *k1, k2tog, pass knit stitch over and off* repeat around. (80 sts)

Knit 7 rounds.

Purl 1 round.

Knit 7 rounds. Bind off, and leave a tail long enough to sew down the hem. Sew down the hem on the inside, catching the purl side of the decrease stitch on the skirt (makes a neat hem) Just before sewing the hem down completely, insert a piece of 1/2in/1.25cm or narrower elastic into the waist band. Adjust to fit and sew the elastic into a band. Complete the hem. Sew up bottom garter stitch rows.



1 Model photo shows a slight color variation here, but I think this will look nicer

Suggestions for skirt modifications

This skirt pattern is very easy to modify. To modify the skirt for other dolls, cast on three times as many stitches as you will need for the doll's waist. Use any color work pattern that will work evenly into the number of stitches you are using in the skirt. Knit the skirt to the desired length. I hope you will post and share your new skirt patterns!

Blouse

Sleeves: Cast on 48 sts. Join in a round. Knit 1 round.

Next round: *K2tog, YO* around.

Knit 10 rounds.

Knit 4 stitches past start of round, then place last 8 sts on a stitchholder or scrap yarn. Break off yarn leaving a 20in tail. (you will use this later on to graft the underarm sts) Set sleeve aside and work a second sleeve in the same way.

Body: Cast on 100 sts. Join in round. Purl 1 round.

Knit 3 inches (or as long as you want).

Stop 4 sts before the end of a round. Place next 8 sts on a stitch holder.

Pick up and join one sleeve to the body as follows: With same yarn knit all sts on the sleeve, knit next 42 body sts. Place next 8 sts on a stitch holder. Knit all sts on the second sleeve. Knit remaining body sts.

The sleeves are now joined to the body. Continue to knit around for 1.5 inches.

Starting on the top of one shoulder, *K2tog, YO* around.

Knit 1 round.

Bind off all stitches. Use kitchener stitch to graft underarm stitches. (alternatively, you can use 3 needle bind off on the inside of the blouse.)

Drawstrings: Crochet a chain for each sleeve drawstring, and for the neck drawstring. It is better to make the chains longer than needed, because after you insert and tie them into a bow, you will tie an overhand knot at each end of the strings, and cut off any excess. 10in/25cm will be plenty for each sleeve. You will want the neck drawstring to be at least the doll's head circumference plus 6in/15cm so it won't come unthreaded when you are dressing the doll. For an American girl doll, you should make the neck drawstring at least 18in/45 cm. If you are making this for young children, you may wish to make the strings a little longer or use elastic to make dressing easier.

Tip: If there is any risk of the color bleeding, wash the drawstrings separately so they won't bleed on the blouse.

Apron

Cast on 51 sts.

Row 1: Knit

Row 2: Knit

Row 3: K2, P47, k2

Row 4: Knit

Row 5: Knit

Row 6: *k2tog, YO* 25 times. K1.

Row 7: Knit

Row 8: Knit

Row 9: K2, P47, k2

Repeat Rows 8 and 9 until apron is 4.75in/12cm or desired length.

On right side, work decrease: *k1, k2tog, pass knit st over and off* Repeat across. (17 sts)

Knit next row. On next 3 rows, k1, p1 across (end k1) = seed st. Bind off, but do not break yarn.

Apron string: (1 st is already on rt needle) Pick up and knit 2 stitches from the side of the waist band. (3 sts) Work [i-cord](#) for 10in/25cm. Bind off and break yarn.

On other side of waist band, pick up and knit 3 stitches, and work i-cord for the other apron string. Bind off and break yarn.

Abbreviations

Sts	stitches
RS	right side / outside
WS	wrong side / inside
stockinette	when working flat: knit one row, purl one row when working in the round: knit all rounds
garter	when working flat: knit all rows when working in the round: knit one round, purl one round
k	knit
p	purl
k2tog	Decrease by knitting two stitches together. (right leaning)
SSK	Decrease (left leaning)
yo	Yarn over
M1	Increase: Pick up the thread that runs between the stitch you just knit and the next one, and knit it through the back side, so it twists. Details here.
* * Repeat	Work the instructions given between the * as often as indicated.