

## ***Le Semaine de Suzette, 1910 #22***

### **Robe de Dessous**

This garment is extremely necessary to dress well little girls and dolls; their hips being little pronounced, underskirts are always likely to fall or hang. With dresses that have shoulders, a similar nuisance is not to fear any more.

One needs six patterns of which you will find the layout on the page opposite: back, front, side, skirt, large flounce and small flounce.

The two overall sketches show you the finished dress, back and front.

*Back.* – One needs two similar sides, naturally. Before cutting, recopy the pattern onto a piece of percale having 14 centimetres by 10 and do the embroidery, the edge festoons and the eyelets, which will be used to pass the ribbon. While transferring and embroidering the second side of the back, you will pay attention well to put them face to face, in order not to have two halves for the same side of the back, and nothing for the other.

*Front.* – Have a piece of 14 centimetres by 12; fold it in half, so as to have in hand a rectangle having still 14 centimetres in height, but not having more than 6 centimetres in width, and mark well the fold with the [finger]nail. The fold of fabric indicates the center of the front. On each side of this, fold just until the end of the shoulder, copy the embroidery and embroider.

Then, replace your pattern on the fabric folded into two, and cut on the lines *a*, *b* (armhole), *b*, *c* (side seam) and *c* (bottom line). Do not cut on the side with the dotted line. Open your fabric: you have in hand the front made of a single piece.

Same thing for the back

*Side.* – Copy the pattern of the side and cut the fabric folded double. I draw here your attention to an important point. Notice the gray background on which is placed this pattern "side". This background is outlined on the left and the bottom by two straight lines. These lines represent the straight grains of the fabric. It is necessary, so that your small side goes well, that it is cut, compared to the straight grains of percale, exactly as it is placed compared to these two black lines.

To be sure of the cut, you will thus take a rectangle of percale having a little more than 8 centimetres by a little more than 4 centimetres, and straight grain on the four sides. On this rectangle, you will place the cut out pattern as the drawing is on the gray background. Without that, if you place the pattern on the first fabric as it comes, without assuring yourself of the straight grain, good-bye! Everyone will grimace and write to me: "My poor Aunt Jacqueline, it does not go at all!"

Same recommendations for the back and the front.

Assemble the body of the dress for the back and the front by the seams *d*, *f*, with the front, by the seams *b*, *c*. Join together the back with the front by the small shoulder seam.

*Skirt.* – A band 40 centimetres in length by 8½ wide. Transfer the copy of the festoon around [the edge]; form the band into a circle with a seam; taking care to connect the festoon skilfully, then embroider.

The first flounce will be 45 centimetres in length by 4 in height; the second, 30 centimetres; it is not put in front.

Copy the festoon and embroider. The largest flounce is also decorated with a row of eyelets which is used to pass an ornamental ribbon.

You will place initially the first flounce on the skirt, putting it flat on the front and slightly gathered on the remainder of the circumference. The second flounce is placed only on the sides and behind. It is also slightly gathered.

The skirt, once furnished with its two flounces, you will assemble with the bodice of the dress, flat on the front and gathered behind.

Hem the two sides of the back of the bodice. Make four buttonholes on the right, and place four buttons on the left.