



CHILDREN'S FASHION
1860-1912

1,065 Costume Designs
"La Mode Illustrée"



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Free Spirit Basic Edwardian Dress

baw 9-15-2009

This pattern is for a basic Edwardian dress than can be embellished in a variety of ways. Two variations are included in this pattern. The picture at the top of the page shows the basic dress with full sleeves gathered into fitted cuffs, and basically no embellishment. At the end of the instructions, the above dress with bretelles is shown, and the alternate dress with a deep bodice ruffle and different color scheme is shown. Instructions for this alternate dress are given in italics in the body of the instructions.

Hopefully you will dream up different ways to embellish this dress :-)

Materials:

- size 10 crochet cotton in one to three colors (the model was made with MC-DMC 762, CC1-DMC224, and CC2-Black (*alternate color scheme is MC-DMC 524, CC1-DMC712, CC2-DMC754*))
- size 5 steel hook or size need to achieve gauge
- five 1/4 inch buttons

Gauge: 8sc = 1 inch

1 Rib = two rows of sc worked in back loops only.

Link = ch3, dc in third ch from the hook

BLO = back loops only

FLO = front loops only

Bodice: this bodice is worked from side to side in the back loops only (BLO). It falls slightly lower than the natural waistline.. It is slightly stretchy and forgiving.

1. With Main Color (MC) ch17, sc in second ch from hook and each ch across, ch1, turn. 16sc

2-44. Working in BLO, sc in each sc across, ch1, turn. 16 sc

Turn the work so you are now working across the bottom of the bodice. In the end of each rib work two sc. 44 sc.

Turn the work so you are now working up the side of the bodice in the beginning chains. Ch1, sc in first st, ch3, skip next two sts, sc in next four sts, ch3, skip next two sts, sc in next four sts, ch3, skip next two sts, sc in last st, ch2. Three buttonhole loops made.

Turn the work so you are now working across the top of the bodice. In the end of each rib work two sc. 44 sc., ch1, turn.

In FLO, sc in next seven sc, work four links, skip next seven sc, join with a sc in FLO of next sc, sc in

next 15 sc, work four links, skip seven sc, sc in FLO of remaining seven sc. Armhole openings made

For neckline:

1. Join Contrast Color 1 (CC1) in back loop of first sc at neck edge, ch3 (counts as first dc), (dc next two sts tog, dc in next st) twice. Two sc in the first link, three sc in each of the next two links, two sc in the last link, skip the next sc. In BLO (dc next two sts tog, dc in next st) four times, dc next two sts tog, skip next sc. Two sc in the next link, three sc in each of the next two links, two sc in last link. In BLO, dc in next sc, (dc next two sts tog, dc in next st) twice, turn. 39 sts.
2. Sc in FLO of each st across, ch1, turn.
3. In BLO, (dc in next st, dc next two sts tog) across, dc in last st, ch1, turn. 27 sts
4. (Sc in next seven sts, sc next two sts tog) across, ch2, turn. 24 sts
5. In BLO (dc in first five sc, two dc in next) around. ch1, turn. 28 dc
6. At this point you can make the standup neckline as frilly as you like. Work (sc, ch1) for an understated look, or work (sc, ch3) for a more lacy look, in the front loop of each st around. Finish off. The model was done with (sc, ch1) look.

Alternative neck edge, replace round 5 and 6 as follows:

5: In BLO (sc in first st, ch3, dc in top of sc just made, skip next two sts) around. At end of this round skip three sts and sc in last st, ch1, turn.

6: In each link work (sc, ch3, sc, ch5, sc, ch3, sc) around. Finish off.

Sleeve: this sleeve is a slightly full long sleeve that is 'gathered' into a deep cuff of Contrasting Color 2 (CC2).

1. Join CC1 with sc in the first sc at the side of the underarm just before the first link over the armhole. Five dc in each link across armhole, sc in next sc, ch1, turn. 22 sts
2. Sc in each st around and in the next sc under the arm, ch1, turn. 23 sc
- 3-6. Repeat row 2. At the end of row six there will be 27 sc; join to the first sc, ch1, turn.
- 7-18. Sc in each sc around, join, ch1, turn. At the end of round 18, join CC2.
19. Working in the BLO, (sc next two sc tog) 13 times, sc in last sc, join, ch1, turn.
- 20-26. Sc in each sc around, join, ch1, turn. At the end of round 26, finish off.

Alternative Sleeve 1: Straight Sleeve

1. Join MC with sc in the first sc at the side of the underarm just before the first link over the armhole. three dc in first link, four dc in next two links, three dc in last link, sc in next sc, ch1, turn. 16 sts
2. Sc in each st around and in the next sc under the arm, ch1, turn. 17 sc
- 3-6. Repeat row 2. At the end of row six there will be 21 sc; join to the first sc, ch1, turn.
7. Sc in each sc around, join, ch1, turn.
8. Sc in each sc around, decreasing one sc at top of the sleeve, join, ch1, turn. 20 sc
9. Sc in each sc around, decreasing one sc at bottom of sleeve, join, ch1, turn. 19 sc
10. Repeat round 8. 18 sc

11. Repeat round 9. 17 sc
12. Repeat round 8. 16 sc
- 13-18. Sc in each sc around, join, ch1, turn. At end of round 18 join CC1 .
19. Working in the BLO, sc in each sc around, join, ch1, turn.
- 20-25. Sc in each sc around, join, ch1, turn.
26. In BLO loosely work sl st in each st around, join and finish off

*In free loops of round 18 join CC2 with sl st and work (sl st, ch1) in each loop around, finish off.
In free loops of round 25 join CC2 with sl st and work (sl st, ch1) in each loop around, finish off.*

Waistband and Skirt: the waistband is done in CC2, the skirt in MC

1. With the right side of the bodice facing you, join CC2 in the back loop of the first sc at the bodice bottom edge. In BLO sc in each sc across. In last sc work a dc, ch4, turn (this creates a buttonhole loop at the end of the waistband).
2. Sc in each sc across, changing to MC in the last st, ch3, turn.

Skirt:

1. In BLO work (four dc in first st, dc in next) across, ch1, turn.
2. [(sc, two dc) in first st, skip next two sts] around, join to the top of the beginning sc, ch1, turn.
3. [(sc, two dc) in next dc, skip next two sts] around, join to the top of the first sc, ch1, turn.
- 4-8. Repeat round 3.
9. Repeat round 3 in BLO
10. Repeat round 3 in both loops. Finish off.

For bottom skirt trim, join CC2 in back loop of first sc and work (sc, ch1) in BLO around skirt. Finish off.

For second row of trim, join CC2 in any free loop of round 8 and work (sl st, ch1) in each free loop around. Finish off.

Alternative Skirt pattern:

1. In BLO work (four dc in first st, dc in next) across, ch1, turn.
2. [(sc, two dc) in first st, skip next two sts] around, join to the top of the beginning sc, ch3, turn.
3. Dc in each st around, join to top of beginning ch3, ch1, turn.
4. [(sc, two dc) in next st, skip next two sts] around, join to the top of the first sc, ch3, turn.
5. Repeat round 3.
6. Repeat round 4.
7. Repeat round 3.
8. Repeat round 4. At end of this round, join CC1.
9. Repeat round 3 in BLO
10. [(sc, three dc) in next dc, skip next two sts] around, join to the top of the first sc . Finish off.

Skirt trim: join CC2 in any free loop of round 8 and work (sl st, ch1) in each free loop around. Finish off.

At this point, the basic Edwardian dress is complete. By leaving all those free loops when doing the bodice in back or front loops only, you can add any number of different types of trims. You can add Bretelles up the front and over the shoulders of the dress, you can add a deep lacy trim around the bodice, you can add sleeve caps, lacy or otherwise. You can also shorten the bodice if you like, work it in both loops, work it in one color or more than three. Add ribbon and bows. Whatever!

I will include here instructions for adding bretelles,

Bretelles: work in the verticle free loops of the bodice. You can choose to set them very close to the side edges of the dress, or move them more toward the center. I chose to place them close to the side.

1. For the right side bretelle, join MC with a sc at the free loop at the waistband front. Sc in each free loop up the front of the bodice to the shoulder; work two sc in the last verticle free loop of the bodice, sc in next two free loops of the CC1 part of the bodice. Work four links over the top of the sleeve, skip first free loop of the CC1 part of the bodice, sc in next two free loops on the opposite side on the CC1 part of the bodice, two sc in first free verticle loop down the back side of the bodice, sc in each free loop down to the waistband, sc in free loop at waistband, ch1, turn.
2. Skip first sc, sc in next four sc, hdc in next six sc, dc in next four sc, 2dc in next four sc, 6dc in each link across top of sleeve, 2dc in next four sc, dc in next four sc, hdc in next six sc, sc in next four sc, sl st in last st.
3. Skip first sc, (sc in next st, skip two sts, six dc in next st) across. sl st in the last sc, fasten off.
4. Four trim, join CC2 with sl st at the waistband, ch1 (sc, ch1) in BLO of each st across, sl st in waistband, finish off.

For the left bretelle, begin at the waistband at the back of the dress and repeat rows 1 through 4.

See the picture below for dress with bretelles.

Sew buttons to the back of the dress. At the CC1 bodice/neckline, sew a button opposite one of the DC rows and use the last dc as a buttonhole loop.

Alternative finishing: deep bodice ruffle

1. Join CC1 with a sc in first round of unused loops that go all the way around the bodice. Work 3dc in the same st, [skip the next st, (sc, 3dc) in the next st] around, sc in last st, ch1, turn.
2. (sc, 3dc) in each sc across, ch1, turn.
3. Sc in first sc, (ch4, trc in top of sc just made, sc in next sc) across, ch1, turn.
4. Sc in first sc (sc, ch3, sc, ch5, sc, ch3, sc, ch3) in each ch4 loop across. sc in last sc, finish off.

