Pocket Spirit Link Bodice  

Materials:
- Size 20 crochet cotton or size 8 perle cotton, main color and contrasting color if desired
- Size 7 or 8 steel crochet hook

Gauge: 10sc = one inch

BLO = back loop only
YO = yarn over
Link = ch3, dc in third ch from the hook

Bodice: start at the neck edge

Design by Beth Webber, please do not copy or sell
1: Work eight links, ch1, turn
2: Work six sc in each of the next eight links, ch1, turn. 48 sc
3: (Sc in next two sc, two sc in next) across, ch1, turn. 64 sc
4: Sc in first sc, (skip next sc, two sc in next sc) across to the last sc, sc in the last sc, ch1, turn. 64 sc
5: Repeat row 4
6: Armhole Row. Working in the BLO, sc in first sc (skip next sc, two sc in next sc) three times, sc in next sc, ch4, skip next 16 sc, sc in next sc (skip next sc, two sc in next sc) seven times, sc in the next sc, ch4, skip next 16 sc, sc in next sc (skip next sc, two sc in next sc) three times, sc in last sc, ch1, turn. 40sts
7: Sc in first sc, (skip next st, two sc in next st) across to the last sc, sc in the last sc, ch1, turn. 40 sc
8-9: Repeat round 7
10: Sc in first sc , [(skip next st, two sc in next st)twice, skip next st, three sc in next st] across to the last sc, sc in the last sc, ch1, turn. 46 sc
11: Repeat round 7
12: Sc in first sc, [(skip next st, two sc in next st)three times, skip next st, three sc in next st] across to the last sc, sc in the last sc, ch1, turn. 51 sc
13: Repeat round 7 to the last two sc, sc in each of the last two sc, ch1, turn. 50 sc
14-xx: Repeat round 7 to the desired length of the bodice.
Last round: (Sc, 2dc in first sc, skip next sc) across. Finish off and leave a long tail if you will be sewing a fabric skirt to the bodice.

Buttonhole loops: Join thread at the bottom of one edge of the bodice, sc in same st, ch3, skip two stitches, sc in the next few stitches to just shy of the center back of the bodice, ch3, skip two stitches, sc in the next stitches to within three stitches of the top of the bodice, ch3, skip two stitches, sc in the last stitch. This will give you three fairly evenly spaced buttonhole loops.

Sleeves:

1: Join thread with a sc in first ch at the underarm. Work six dc in each of the three links across the top of the armhole. Sc in the next ch of the underarm and in the remaining two ch, join to first sc.
2: (Sc, two dc in first st, skip next st) nine times, sl st in the next sc, finish off.

Fabric Skirt:

Cut a piece of fabric for the skirt 10" long by 3" wide. Finish all four edges with a narrow zig-zag stitch (I use a stitch length of 1.5 and a stitch width of 3 for this). Turn under the hem of the skirt 1/2" and press (use steam or a mist of water to make a nice, sharp hemline). Turn under 1/4" on the two short edges and press. By hand or machine stitch two rows of gathering threads at the top of the skirt, one 1/8" of an inch from the edge, and the other 1/8" of an inch from the first gathering row.

Gather the top of the skirt to match the bottom edge of the bodice. With the long tail left at the end of the bodice, stitch the skirt to the bodice making sure the bottom of the bodice covers the bottom row of gathering stitches. Stitch by hand with small back stitches.

Open up the pressed over short edges of the back of the skirt and hand stitch the back opening closed,
up to an inch of the bodice. Leave the rest open so the dress will slip easily onto the doll.

Sew three 1/4" buttons opposite the buttonhole loops.