

Classic Sleeveless Dress for 18" Dolls

From *Doll Dress Boutique*

By Erin Hentzel

Class Description:

Learn to sew a lined, sleeveless bodice while making a classic dress for 18" dolls. Learn a variety of sewing techniques that make constructing miniature fashions easy and fun.

Great for beginners and up, this class is excellent for learning how to sew with trims and embellishments, simple hand embroidery, gathering, or raw-edge appliqué. Students should leave with at least one completed doll dress.

Class Length:

There are three options for class length, as described below.

1. Single class session of 3 hours for simple dresses (View A or View F): class covers gathering, hemming, and collar construction.

2. Single class session of 4 hours (View B): class covers basic piecework (skirt), sewing with trims, and embellishments. Great for featuring several dramatic pieces of a fabric collection, using a fat quarter pack.

3. Single class session of 6 hours: class covers raw-edge appliqué in the morning (View D, View E, bonus dress designs on p. 35, or bonus design, made without sleeves, found on the author's blog:

<http://averylanesewing.com/2018/11/21/doll-dress-boutique-bonus-design/>).

The remaining class time is devoted to constructing the dress. Students making View D will also learn to hand sew embellishment details.

NOTE: For all classes, the students must bring their project cut out and ready to start construction.

Class Supply List:

- Required text: *Doll Dress Boutique* by Erin Hentzel
- Fabric and notions per project requirements
- Fusible web, embroidery floss or 12-wt cotton thread, and hand embroidery needle (for the appliqué class)

Other Product Sales Opportunities:

- Fabric marking tools: disappearing ink for View D
- Small sharp-pointed scissors for trimming threads and cutting out appliqués
- Sewing machine needles—students should change their needle regularly
- Mighty Mini ironing board by Clover (see p. 8)
- Perfect Piecing Seam Guide by Perkins
- Sewing Edge by Marci Baker
- Alex Anderson's 4-in-1 Essential Sewing Tool
- Acrylic rulers
- Super-fine glass-head pins
- Pinking shears
- Fusible web for appliqué
- Ultra-thin, double-sided Velcro
- Trims and buttons
- Hand-sewing embroidery needles

Classroom Preparation:

Set up ironing stations. Have safety pins on hand for turning lined bodices. A lightbox or sunny window is helpful for tracing appliqués (see p. 21).

Class Agenda:

Student Homework Before Class:

1. Choose and purchase fabrics and trims.
2. Print or trace patterns and cut out project.
3. Pre-wind bobbin.
4. Pack machine and sewing supplies.

Class:

1. For View D, demonstrate how to hand sew the running stitch design before the appliqués are fused to the fabric
2. For appliqué class, demonstrate how to trace, fuse, and stitch appliqué designs to dress fabric pieces.

3. Demonstrate using the Perkins Perfect Piecing Guide to set the machine needle and Sewing Edge adhesive strip to sew an accurate 1/4" seam.
4. Demonstrate/assist students in construction of bodice.
5. Demonstrate how to construct collar and how to use the 4-in-1 Essential Sewing Tool to poke out corners of collar (View A).
6. Demonstrate how to hide the collar seam when attaching the collar to the bodice. See bonus design tutorial:
<http://averylanesewing.com/2018/11/21/doll-dress-boutique-bonus-design/>
7. Demonstrate sewing gathering stitches and evenly distributing the gathers for skirt pieces.
8. Demonstrate using a sewing gauge to press accurate hems.
9. Demonstrate how to bind the hem (for the bonus design, see <http://averylanesewing.com/2018/11/21/doll-dress-boutique-bonus-design/>)
10. Demonstrate sewing the back closure.

For examples of student work:

- Go to <http://averylanesewing.com>
- Look at #DollDressBoutique and @AveryLaneSewing on Instagram

Encourage your students to post pictures of their work to social media with these tags and your shop's tags.