

Sewing short cuts are no longer the prize possession of the couture designer. With a few of the speedy new sewing methods set out in this upcoming new series of articles, you will soon be making delightful articles of popular apparel for your fashion doll! We'll start with some of my favorite accessories.

Long looked upon as a chore, mitt style glove making for your doll can now be a new favorite activity; taking minutes instead of the hours it previously took working with those tiny pieces of fabric. Let's make it easy! You won't cut out the gloves until AFTER they are sewn!

First you need a simple pattern of course, so choose a size from among the four offered here that would fit your doll. Keep in mind that the fabric will be very stretchy and you don't want your gloves to fit loosely. The glove lines shown on the pattern are the sewing lines, not the cutting lines! Do not cut out the pattern after tracing it on to your tissue paper. The paper will tear off the fabric after sewing.

Materials:

Swimwear, sheer swimwear, lycra-spandex, or stretch lace

White tissue paper for tracing

A pen or pencil to do your tracing

A sewing machine (or you could sew by hand if you like)

A hand-sewing needle

Thread to match your fabric color

To make one pair, cut a piece of fabric with the stretch along the longest edge:

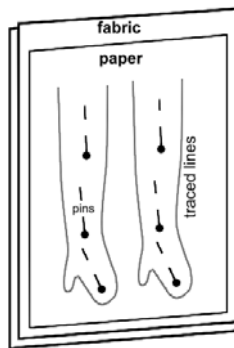
Tiny Kitty or Barbie - 4 1/2" x 8"

Gene, Tyler, Alex, etc. - 6" x 9"

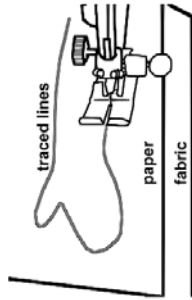
Kitty - 6 1/2" x 10"

Cissy - 8" x 11"

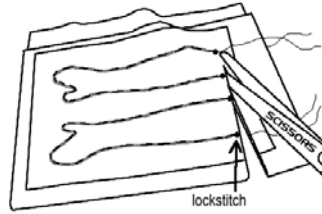
1. Choose the length you want. Trace the glove pattern on to white tissue paper, wax paper (shiny side up), or tracing paper. Leave a 3/4" to 1" space between the two gloves and all around the edges.
2. Right sides together, fold the fabric in half to form a square. Pin the paper tracing to the fabric. The stretch of the fabric will go along the top of the fabric. You want your glove to stretch to fit around the arm, not down the length of the arm.



3. Starting at the far right, take a lockstitch at the top (use a small stitch length) to secure the stitching. Stitch on the tracing line and through both layers of fabric. Remove the pins as you sew if they get in the way. Work slowly around the hand and thumb and keep to the lines. Take another lockstitch when you get to the top end on the other side seam. Stitch across to the second glove and repeat. Tip: if you are using a loosely woven stretch knit or stretch lace, you may want to go over the stitching lines a second time to secure them. That is usually not necessary with swimwear knits.



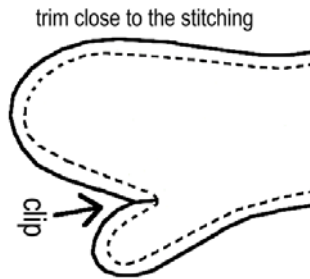
4. Trim off the paper and fabric across the top edge directly above the lockstitches.



5. The paper is easily removed by pulling firmly on either side of the stitched lines. The stitching has perforated the tissue and the paper will fall apart on those lines. Remove all the paper and discard.

6. Trim away the fabric as close to the stitching lines as you can without cutting into the stitches.

7. Make a tiny clip up to the stitching at the thumb junction to eliminate any tiny folds when you turn the glove.



8. Turn the top edge of the glove down 1/2" to the inside and tack down with a few hand stitches only at each side seam so the rest of the hem retains the stretch needed to fit the arm.

9. To turn the glove right side out roll it up over your finger. Use the blunt end of a crochet hook or something similar to turn out the thumb. Press flat with a steam iron.

Voila! Perfect gloves in minutes!