

Lesson 3 – THE BODICE

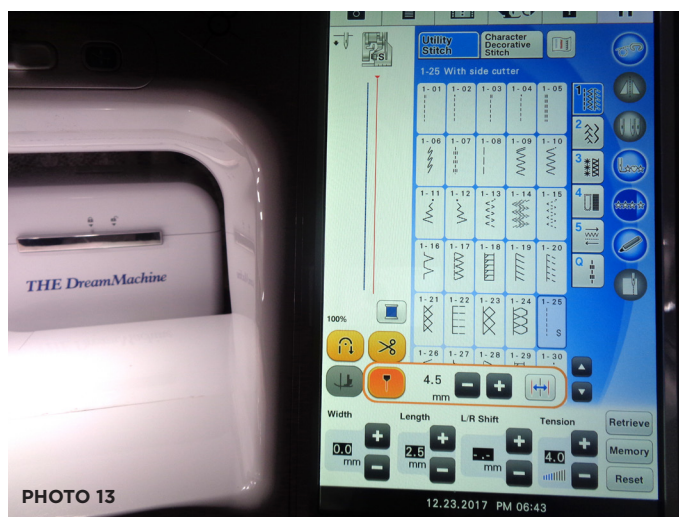


PHOTO 13

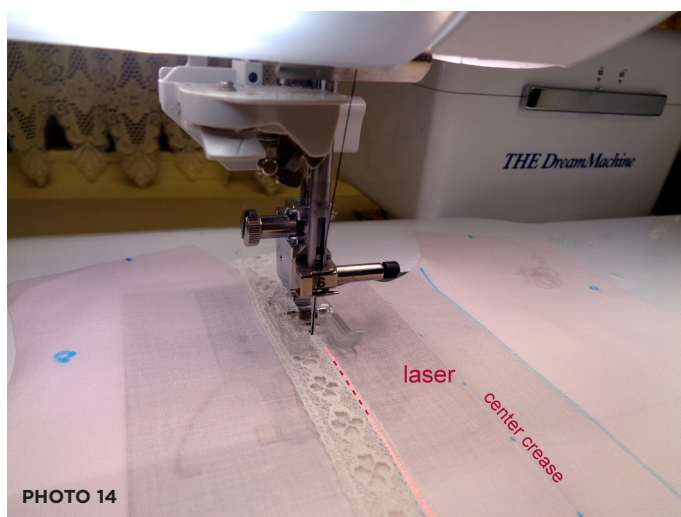


PHOTO 14



PHOTO 15



PHOTO 16

EMBELLISHING THE BODICE

1. If you have not already done so, cut out the two bodice fronts on the fold (one lining and one outer) and four bodice backs (two lining and two outer).

2. On one front bodice (outer bodice), stay stitch around neckline $\frac{1}{4}$ " from neck edge as shown on guide sheet. This is the bodice that will be embellished with lace and embroidery.

3. Finger press a light crease in the center front bodice and mark a lace placement line 1" to each side of the crease with a wash-away marker.

4. Starch lightly and press two lengths of lace insertion long enough to extend beyond the upper and lower edges of the bodice by at least $\frac{1}{2}$ " beyond the 1" lines. **BEFORE CUTTING LACE PIECES, PLEASE NOTE:** Most laces

have a motif of some kind creating a pattern in the lace, like a flower or scroll. Make sure you take note of the lace pattern when attaching straight pieces of lace close together, as in this bodice front. Make sure you have enough length to adjust the laces so that the patterns in the lace match each other on the bodice.

5. Place tear-away stabilizer under the marked lines.

6. Pin each inner heading of lace to the marked line. There should be 2" of bodice fabric between the two lace pieces. Straight stitch or tiny zigzag all four headings in place (this is the same technique used when applying the lace to the skirt). **NOTE:** Using the built-in laser on a machine like THE Dream Machine 2 is very helpful in keeping the lace straight and your stitching straight. (photos 13 and 14)

7. Once both pieces of lace insertion have been stitched in place along both headings, remove the stabilizer.

8. Carefully slit center of fabric behind lace between the stitching lines and press the fabric away from lace. Baste the turned back fabric in place, if desired. (photo 15)

9. Using a large needle, pinstitch each side of the lace. This is the same technique used when pinstitching the lace to the skirt. The needle should be the same size and the stitch settings should be the same as those used for the skirt.

10. Repeat steps 8 and 9 for the other lace strip. (photo 16)

11. Trim lace strips even with top and bottom edge of bodice following the shape of the fabric bodice.

12. Set bodice aside.

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ADDING EMBROIDERY – BODICE & SKIRT

Use your favorite embroidery method to stitch all embroideries. PES format is given for both embroidery designs: the single flower and the flower cluster.

1. Embroider three single flowers along the center front bodice. NOTE: *The embroidery is placed to fall a little below the neckline because baby's chin often covers the top edge of the dress. The embroidery in the dress shown is 1 $\frac{3}{8}$ " from the cut lower edge of bodice and flowers are placed 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " apart. Adjust as desired.*
2. Embroider a single flower on the skirt at the peak of each scallop.
3. Embroider floral cluster in center of lace loop on the skirt.

CONSTRUCTION

1. Refer to pattern directions Page 2 of 4, DRESS A, B.
 - a. The ties were made in Lesson 1.
Baste ties to the side of bodice as directed in step 3.
 - b. Refer to step 4. Join outer front bodice to outer back bodices at the shoulder seam. Trim seam allowances to $\frac{1}{4}$ " and press toward the back.
 - c. With ties basted in place, stitch side seams. Trim seam allowances to $\frac{1}{4}$ " and press toward the back.



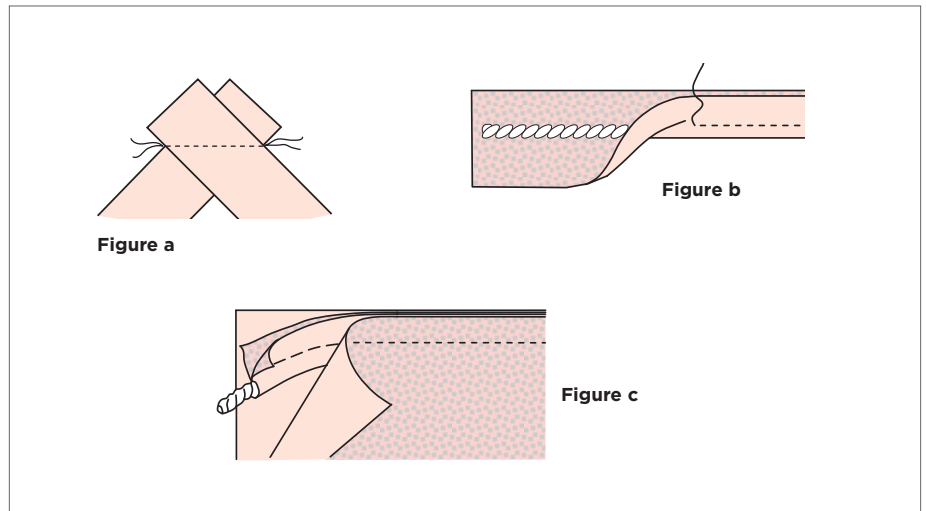
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PIPING

1. Measure the lower edge of the bodice from back edge to back edge.
2. Cut a piece of ready-made piping or create a piece of piping 2" longer than the measurement. Directions for Creating Piping are included below.
3. Pin baby piping along bottom edge of bodice. Stitch, using an adjustable zipper foot or 5-groove pintuck foot, to maintain a $\frac{5}{8}$ " seam allowance.

Creating Piping

- a. Cut a bias strip of fabric measuring approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ " by the desired length.
- b. If strips need to be joined to create a longer length, place two bias strips together at a right angle with the ends of the strips extending slightly. Stitch, from point to point with a straight stitch (fig. a). Press the seam open.
- c. Fold the bias strip in half with wrong sides together. Cut a cord to fit the length plus 1" extra on each end. Place the cord inside the fold (fig. b).
- d. Using a 5-groove pintuck foot or an adjustable zipper foot, stitch close to the cord. For the 5-groove foot, place the piping under the foot with the cord in the center groove. Adjust the needle position to straight stitch right next to the cord, creating piping (fig. c). For the adjustable zipper foot, place the piping under the foot with the cord against the side of the foot. Adjust the needle position to straight stitch right next to the cord, creating piping (fig. c).
- e. Trim the seam allowance of the piping to $\frac{5}{8}$ ".



CONSTRUCTION CONTINUED

1. Stitch bodice front lining and bodice back lining together at the shoulders and sides. Trim seams to $\frac{1}{4}$ " and press toward the bodice front.
2. Set bodice, bodice lining and skirt aside.