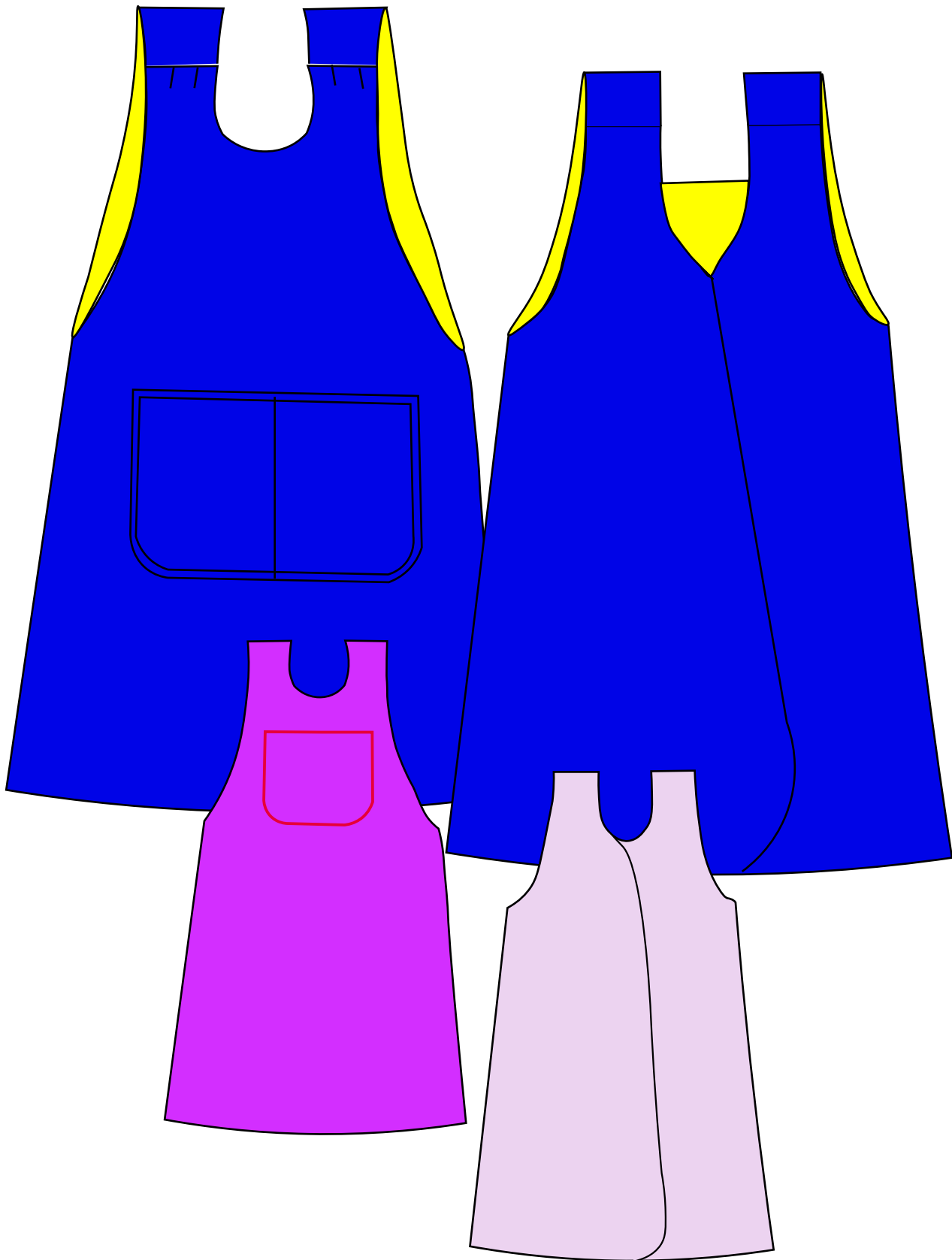


Japanese Inspired Cross Back Pinafore/ Apron

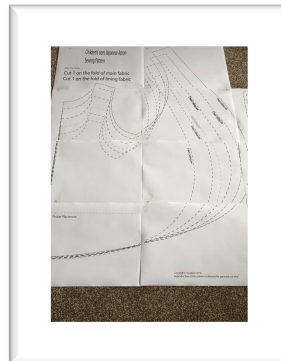
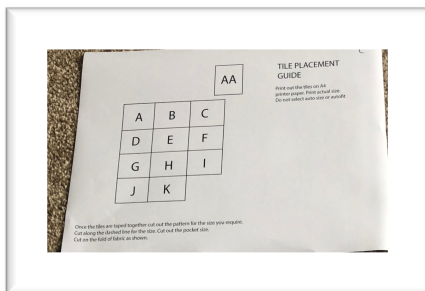


PDF Sewing Pattern Instructions

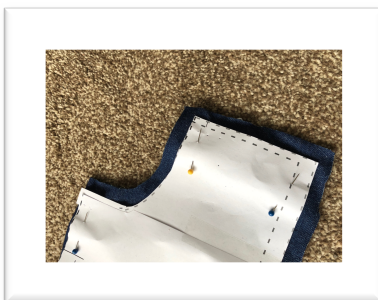
Japanese Inspired Apron Sewing Instructions

The Main Bit

- Start by printing out the tiles (the A4 sheets that make up the pattern) Do NOT select auto fit or fit to page when printing.
- Measure the 10cmx10cm box to make sure the printing is the correct size.
- Use the Tile Placement Guide to fit the pattern together



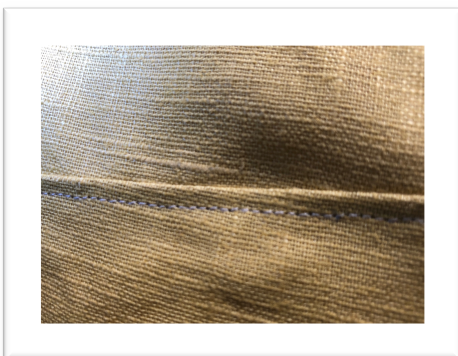
- Join the cutting lines on the pattern. Each tile has a gap around the outside edge that will overlap the next tile.
- Tape together the tiles in the correct positions. Masking tape on the back works really well for this.
- Cut out the size you require.



- Lay the pattern onto the main fabric that has been folded in half and pin in place.
- Place the pattern along the fabric grain with the fold matching the pattern fold line
- If the fabric is not wide enough then you can cut the pattern along the guide line and place the two pieces separately.
- Once you are happy with the placements you can cut out the pieces. **Remember this pattern does not include seam allowances.** This is because everyone has slightly different ways of sewing and this can make allowances not very accurate.
- Repeat the placement, pinning and cutting out in the lining fabric.



- If the pattern pieces were cut to fit the fabric then these pieces of fabric will need to be sewn together.
- Place the pieces right sides together along the lines that were cut and pin them. Stitch on the machine or by hand.
- Zigzag or overlock the edge to stop fraying.
- On the right side overstretch the seam.



- You should now have one main fabric piece and one lining piece as well as two pocket pieces. If you haven't then retrace your steps as you might have missed a bit.
- Press the pieces.
- Now put the main and the lining pieces right sides together and pin.
- This bit is fun! Stitch all the way round the two big pieces using whatever seam allowance and stitch you chose. If you forgot to leave a seam allowance stitch it anyway and it will just be a little smaller than it would have been otherwise. Leave a gap in the stitching of about 10-15cm. Back stitch the start and end of the seam to make it stronger.
- Clip any curved bits, Trim the corners by cutting them into triangles outside the stitching line.
- Zigzag stitch around the edge to stop fraying. Widen the clipped bits as you stitch so they have some 'give'.
- Now turn the pieces the right way round by pushing them through the gap. Use something pointy (I like a knitting needle) to push out corners so they are nice and square. It's a bit like turning a duvet cover inside out.
- You should now have one huge piece of double sided fabric sewn together with its right sides facing outwards.



- Press the piece. (I've just realised it looks like the BAT Signal. Weird!)
- Now stitch the gap closed using small stitches and single thread.
- Top stitch the whole way round.
- It's up to you what the top stitching looks like. You can machine stitch, do something decorative or hand stitch. I've gone for hand stitching in a contrast thread this time.
- Press again.

The Pocket

- Cut out the pattern, pin it in place on the fold of the fabric and cut one main and one lining piece. **Remember to leave seam allowances.**
 - Just like the main piece put the two pocket pieces right sides together and pin.
 - Sew all around except for a gap of about 10cm along the bottom of the pocket. Backstitch the ends of this seam.
 - Clip the corners so that they are square when you turn the pocket the right way round.
 - Zigzag around the edges.
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- Turn the pocket the right way out. Poke out the corners.
 - Press the pocket.
 - Top stitch around the pocket (or bias bind, use ribbon, trim or whatever you fancy)
 - Pin the pocket in place on the main fabric using the placement line from the pattern. If you want to put the pocket somewhere else on the apron now is the time. Experiment a bit!
 - Stitch the sides and bottom of the pocket in place on the main piece. Stitch through all the layers of main and lining. If you want to match thread you can use a top bobbin that matches the main fabric and use a bottom bobbin that matches the lining.

The Fastenings

- This is another chance to customize your apron and decide how you would like the bib to fasten
- Firstly you will need to gather the bib ends where the straps join so they are the same size as the strap ends. Run two lengths of gathering stitches along each of these ends and gather. Match the size with the strap ends so they are the same.
- Stitch along the gathering with the sewing machine using thread that matches the fabric so you can't see the stitches.
- The most simple way to attach the bib to the straps is to put the two pieces of fabric end to end and with right sides facing then stitch by hand with a neat stitch. This makes a simple permanent join. It looks simple and neat (depending on the hand stitching)

- Another way is to use a dungaree buckle, or create button holes and sew on decorative buttons
- Or maybe press studs or velcro. It depends on the finish you are aiming for.

