

Think Spring Annie Doll Pattern
Sew Practical Pattern 008
2007

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Supplies List

Please read entire list of supplies, instructions & doll making tips section before beginning your project.

- 7" Long x 7/16" dowel rod
- Scissors and (optional) pinking shears
- Needle nose pliers
- Fiberfil
- ½ yard tea dyed muslin for doll
- 1/3 yard of cotton fabric for dress
- 25" x 7 ½" piece of white cotton for apron
- Folk Art Maroon paint
- Delta Ceramcoat Black paint
- Delta Ceramcoat Oyster white paint
- Paint brushes
- All purpose thread (neutral)
- 2 Dowel rods or pencils (use eraser end) for turning

Use one rod or pencil for stuffing your doll
White play sand or kitty litter for bottom weight
Funnel or spoon (I find the spoon is easier)
1 sheet burgundy (or similar) felt for hair
matching thread or floss
Very fine sandpaper
Blush for cheeks

Doll Instructions

Cut out the printed doll pattern. Tape the head pattern onto the body pattern where indicated. Trace onto doubled tea dyed muslin. Trace 2 arms and 2 legs onto doubled tea dyed muslin.

Sew around the trace lines leaving open where indicated. Then cut out the doll's body and limbs leaving a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. If you are going to add bottom weight, you will need to box stitch the bottom corners of the doll body. See photo below.



After adding the box stitch, clip corners to $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Cut through one side of the doll's body (this will be the back) as indicated on the pattern so you can turn the body and add bottom weight and Fiberfil.

Snip all inside corners (using pinking shears if you have them). Turn the body, pulling the head through the narrow neck carefully. Turn arms and legs (see tips section).

Use small Fiberfil pieces while stuffing. Use your needle nose pliers to get stuffing into tight spots. Pack the Fiberfil tightly with your stuffing utensil and add more as you pack for a firmly stuffed doll. Yes, this will take a while. Stuff the head firmly. Do not stuff the neck. Add about 1" of bottom weight after stuffing the head.

Insert the 7" dowel rod through the neck and gently push to the top of head. Some excess will remain below the neck. Now, stuff the body firmly being sure to keep the excess part of the dowel rod centered while stuffing. Stuff the arms and legs firmly.

When stuffing is finished, sew body opening closed using an x pattern across the slit. This creates a strong hold. Lightly trace eyes and nose on. Paint nose maroon. Stipple freckles on using the maroon paint. Paint eyes oyster white. Allow to dry for about an hour. Then paint around the eyes and add the pupils with black. Allow to dry overnight. Sand lightly. Blush cheeks.

Lightly trace leg stripes and shoes onto legs. Paint on leg stripes using oyster white and maroon (indicated as red on the pattern) & paint on shoes using black. Allow to dry overnight. Sand lightly. Sew on arms and legs using the pattern as a guide. Point toes inward to sew on the legs.

Fold the hair pieces in half to stitch into place, using the pattern as your guide for placement. Curl the hair by rolling the pieces upward and holding for a few seconds. I used hair spray to hold the do in place but you may prefer another stiffener.

Cut a piece of matching dress fabric 2" W x 8" L. Tie a knot in the center to make the doll's hair bow. Cut bow to the length that satisfies you. Sew or glue the bow into place using the picture for placement.

Dress the doll

Cut out the printed skirt and sleeve patterns. Tape the skirt to the sleeves section where indicated. Trace the skirt onto doubled dress fabric. Sew on the trace line leaving open where indicated. Clip all inside corners and turn the dress right side out. Place the dress on the doll. Turn the collar under and place gathering stitches to pull the collar closed around the doll's neck. Use the doll's "shoulders" to anchor the first and final stitches.

Cut one 25" x 7 ½" white cotton piece for apron. Sew the end pieces of the apron together in the back and place gathering stitches about ½" from the top. Place the apron on the doll just under the arms and pull the gathering stitches until the apron is tight. Sew around the apron to attach it to the doll.

Congratulations! You are finished. Enjoy your new doll. Finished doll will be approximately 19" tall.

Many thanks to Cheryl Sessler of www.raggedyscrappin.com for allowing me to use her graphics as a guide to make this pattern. And thanks to Christy at www.hodgepodgegraphics.com whom I actually purchased the desktop graphic from.

If you have any questions, please contact us. Feel free to make these to sell on auction sites, your website or at craft shows. We would appreciate it if you will give pattern credit to Sew Practical. And we would love to see your finished products! Please do not share our patterns or guides. Our patterns are very affordable so that everyone can purchase them. Thanks!

Doll Making Tips

When turning your long doll arms and legs RSO to stuff, leave the fabric doubled at the "stuff to here" mark. The feet/hands and bottom of legs/arms will be turned RSO with the top of the limbs folded over. Often when stuffing legs & arms, I would lose my fiber fill as I tried to get to the toe section from the completely turned pieces. This way eliminates a lot of travel for the fiber fill (you're avoiding half the journey), therefore reducing the time it takes to stuff each leg & arm. Once you've stuffed to the mark, finish turning the leg or arm RSO & you're finished.

I've discovered that it is easier to turn and to stuff my dolls if I cut the slit running from side to side rather than up & down. Cut the slit on the doll's back close to the neck (unless you're using a dowel rod for the neck then you can cut lower). As you stuff closer to the slit, you may want to sew it up to about 1" and start using smaller pieces of stuffing. If you leave your doll bottoms open to turn and stuff your dolls, you can still cut about a 1" slit running from side to side to add more stuffing to the neck area once you've sewn the bottom of your doll up. Ü

If you stain and bake your dolls, apply your stain. Then before baking rub dry instant unsweetened tea onto the doll instead of cinnamon. The tea is absorbed by the moisture while baking rather than leaving the grit like cinnamon does. The side that bakes upward first will become darker & grungier Ü

Never leave oven unattended or allow yourself to become distracted while baking your dolls.

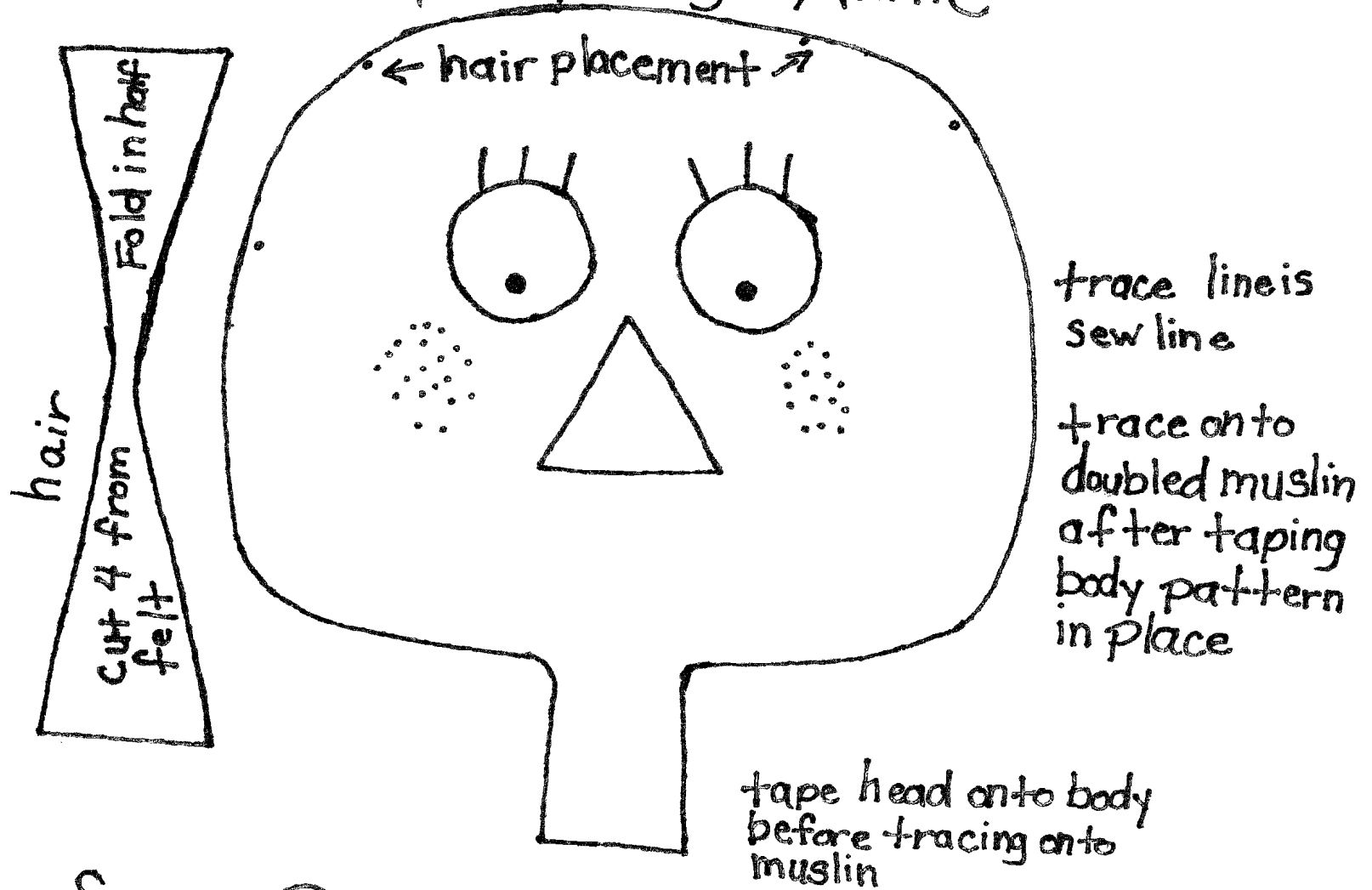
Trace doll legs and arms so that open ends are butted against each other. Open end will be the center of the pair of arms and legs. Sew on trace lines using reinforced stitches where the butted ends meet. Cut so that the ends will be open for stuffing. Great time saver when making doll arms and legs.

Before placing your 1st machine stitch, practice on scrap pieces from your project (including batting if you're using batting) to set the correct machine tension you'll need to use.

If you have any questions, please email us at mkwilson@chartertn.net
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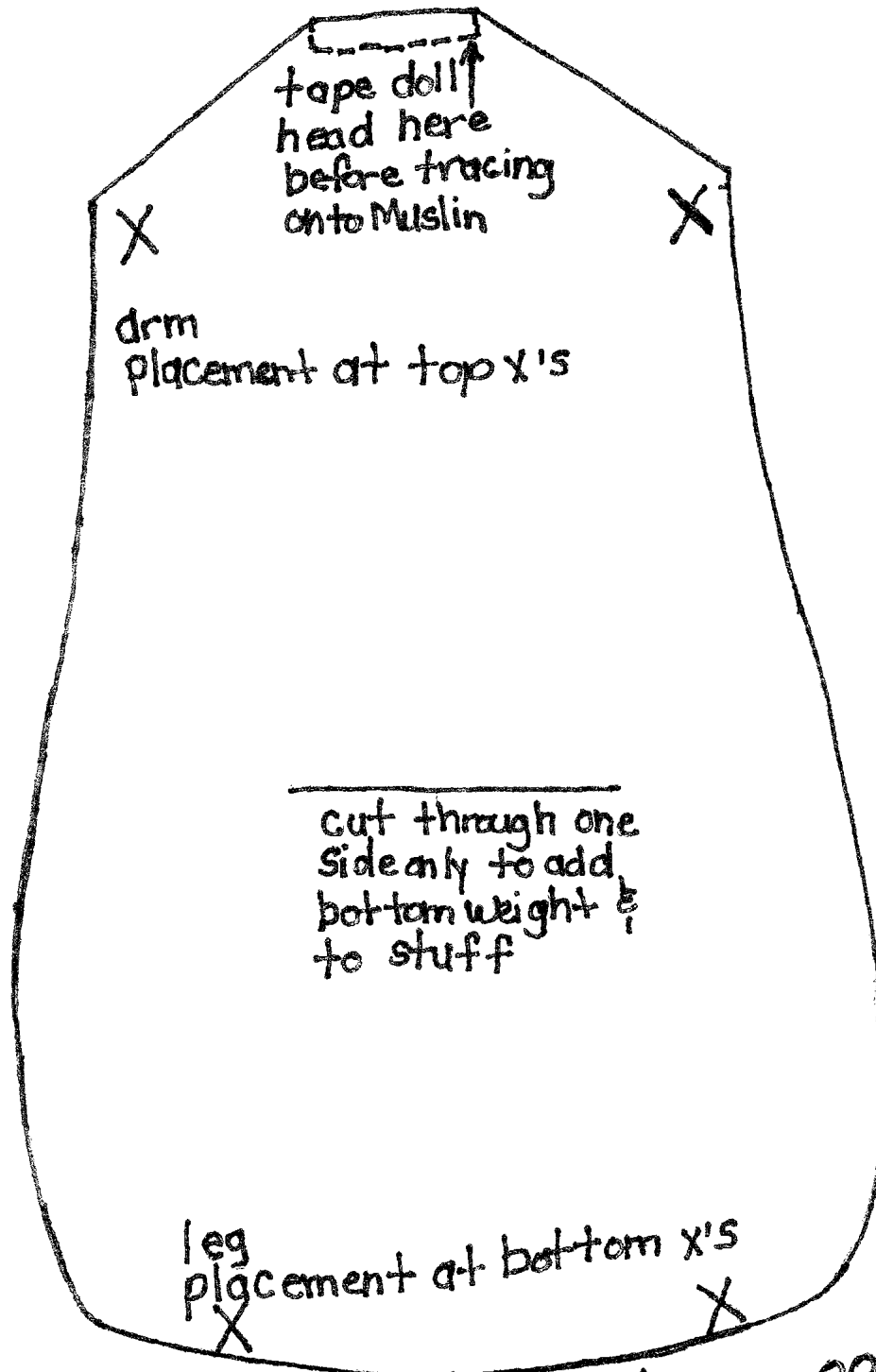
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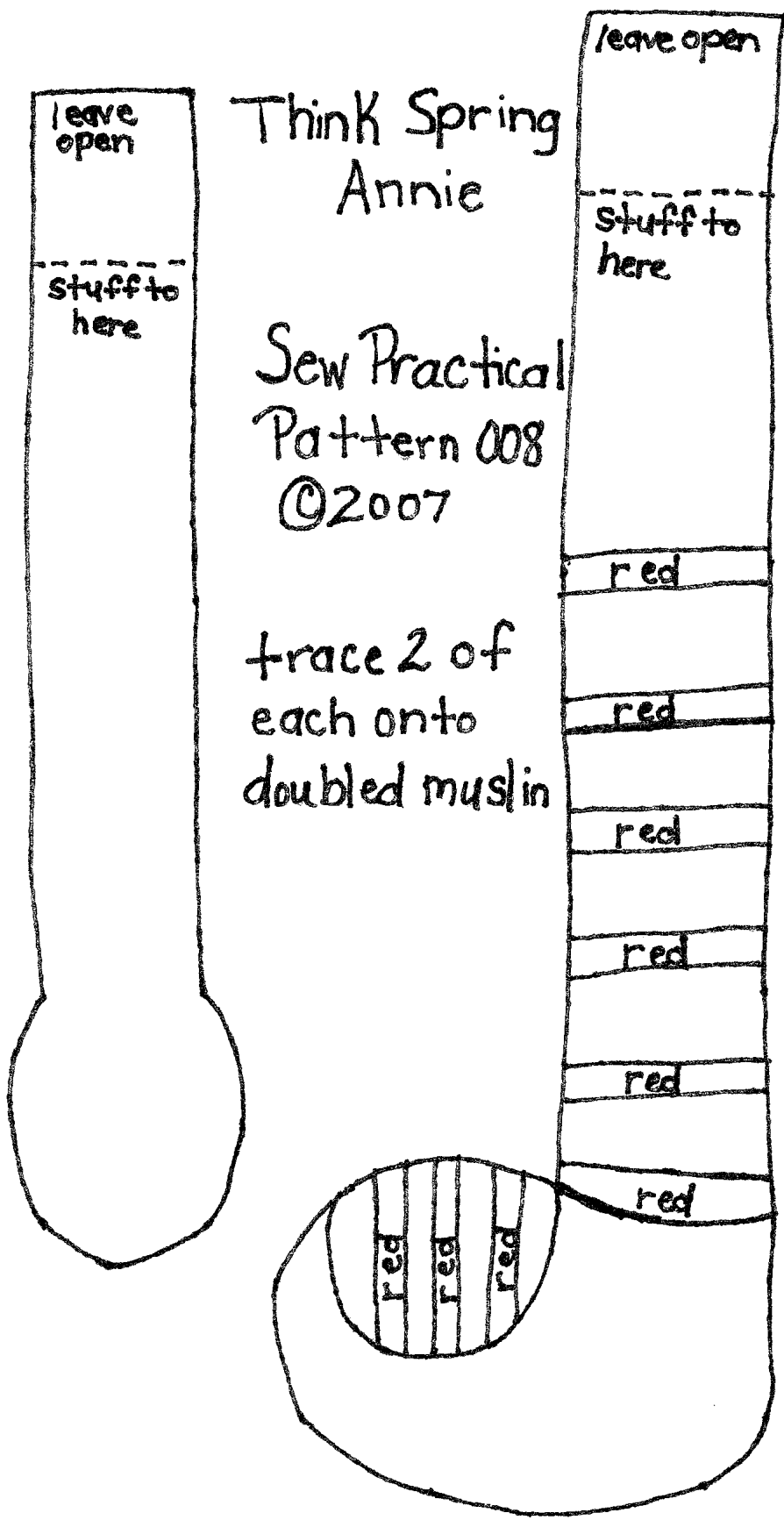
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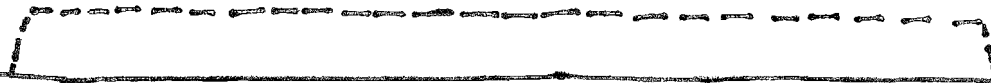
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trace 2 of
each onto
doubled muslin

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| Leave Open |

Sleeves - trace onto doubled
fabric after taping
skirt pattern on below



tape to the top of skirt pattern
with skirt pattern behind sleeve
pattern where indicated above

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tape the section above the line behind the
sleeve pattern where indicated

Skirt

cut or tear apron from white cotton
or muslin 25" w x 7 1/2" L.

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leave bottom open