



Jr. Collector

# Pattern for a Little Girl Doll

This charming doll is one of the few patterns for a play doll with removable clothing. She appears here courtesy of Agnes Sura, adapted from *Dolls to Make for Fun and Profit* and used with permission from the estate of Telka Ackley Beal.

**Materials:** 1/4 yard good quality cotton muslin, sewing thread, fiberfill or cotton stuffing, 1/4" dowel cut about 3" long, wool yarn for hair, embroidery floss, cotton fabrics for clothing, narrow lace or ric-rac for trim, small buttons, cotton knit for socks, cardboard and black glove leather or felt for shoes, cord for shoe ties.

**Doll:** Trace the pattern. Cut it out. Take a piece of unbleached muslin twice the size of the pattern and pint it at the corners. Trace the doll onto the muslin with a sharp pencil. *Do not cut the doll out.* With small stitches, sew around the doll just *INSIDE* the pencil line, leaving openings at the top of the head and the side. Cut the doll out, leaving about 1/8" seam allowance. Stuff the legs tightly up to the crotch with cotton or polyfil. (The cotton that upholsterers use for chairs is good for stuffing old dolls.) Sew across the crotch and a little above, as shown on the pattern. Stuff the arms to the stitching line, make a second stitching line, and stuff the body. To reinforce the neck, use a blunt dowel and wrap cotton around it (see diagram). Wind a piece of thread loosely around the bundle, and push the cone up through the neck until it fits snugly, with about half the dowel going into the head. Finish stuffing the body and sew up the side. Place a smooth, thick sheet of cotton between the cone and the face, and stuff in back of it, being careful to keep the cheeks even. At the top of the head, turn the fabric to the inside so it is smooth and round and sew the head closed. Turn up the foot at the ankle and stitch across to hold it in place.

**Hair:** Cut enough 14" strands of wool to cover the head from the forehead to the nape of the neck and use 2 strands of matching thread to stitch in place. Stitch several strands at each side, about where the ears would be, and braid

them. For curls, take a few strands and twist them until they curl back on themselves, tuck the end up under the wool at the side of the head and stitch so it will lay quite flat. Start with the front and work to the back.

**Face:** Transfer the face to the head. The square eyes are typical of Ackley dolls, but you can make a more naturalistic face if you wish. Using one thread of embroidery cotton, make the eyebrows with one small stitch, and embroider the eyes with satin stitch. The nostrils are small single stitches made with one thread of red embroidery floss to match the color of the mouth, which can be made with satin or outline stitch.

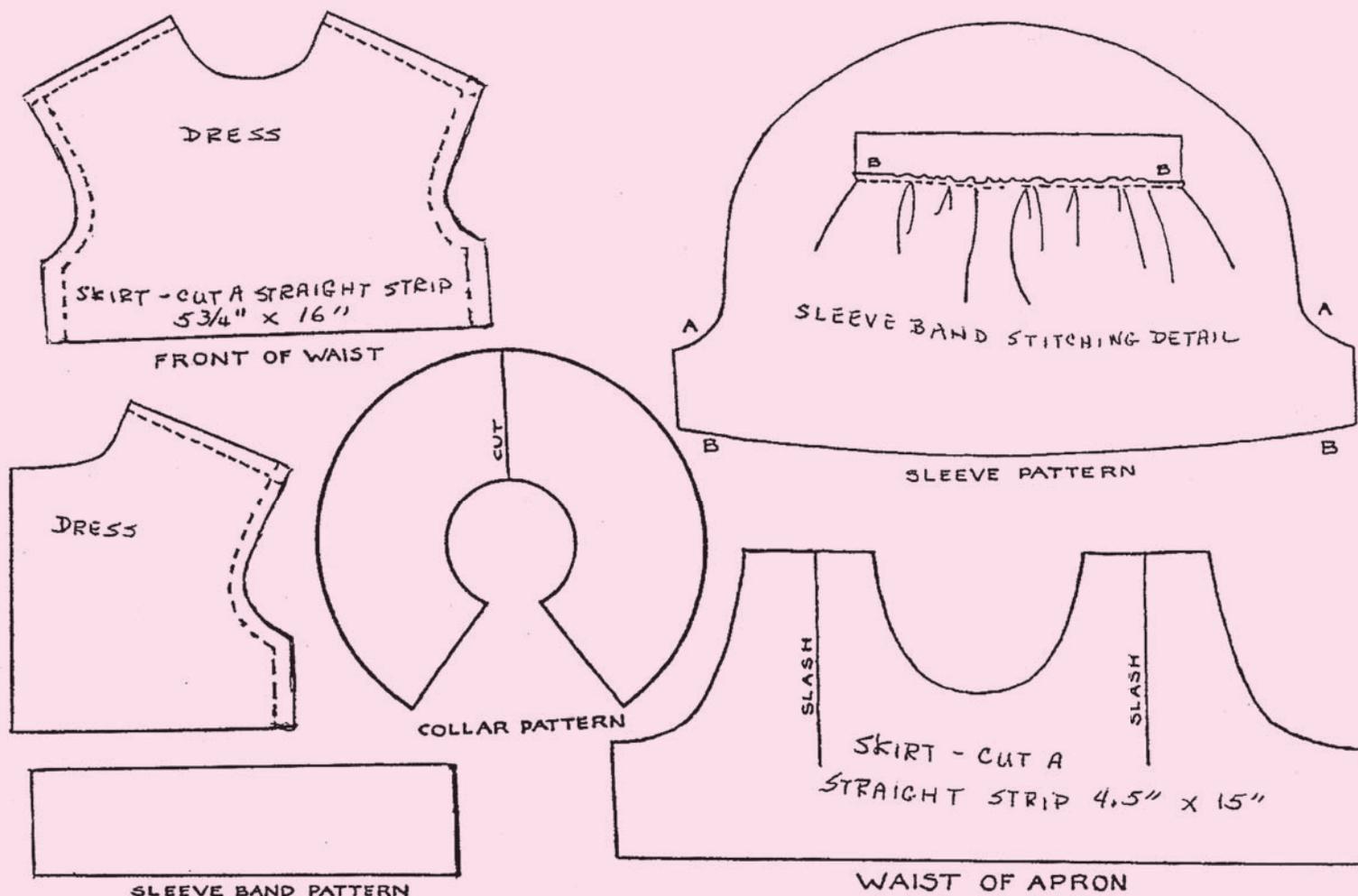
**Panties:** Cut the pattern on folded fine white cotton fabric. Sew one side all the way up and the other as far as the arrow. Slash and sew the inside leg seam. Hem the bottom of the legs and trim with narrow lace, flat or ruffled. Hem each edge of the side opening, then the top to make a casing through which to run a narrow ribbon or tape for a tie.

**Petticoat:** Cut a 1/2" wide band for the petticoat, measured to fit the dolls waist plus another 1/2 inch. At the center back of the petticoat, hem the ends about 2" down from the top and close the rest with a seam. Hem the bottom and trim with lacelike the panties. Gather the top of the petticoat to fit the waistband, turning back the short edges of the waistband 1/4" on each end. Sew petticoat to the waistband in front, turn the waistband over and hem it to the seam on the wrong side. Make a button and loop closure or run a ribbon through the band like the panties.

**Dress:** Trace the collar pattern and cut the center back to make two pieces. Trace these two pieces onto fine cotton (either white or to match the dress fabric) and sew before you cut them out. Turn it right side out.

Fold the dress fabric, and cut one waist front, on the fold, and two waist backs. Sew two small darts about 3/4" high on either side of the center front (not shown on the pattern). Sew the shoulder seams. Cut two sleeves from folded fabric. Check the sleeve band fit on the doll and

## EDITH FLACK ACKLEY-DOLLS TO MAKE FOR FUN AND PROFIT



adjust if necessary; fold sleeve band in half. Gather the bottom of the sleeve to fit the band and sew. Sew sleeve closed from A to B. Gather the top rounded part of the sleeve to fit the armhole and sew it into the armhole.

Baste the two collar pieces to the neck, matching the centers of the collar to the center front of the waist. Cut a narrow strip of bias fabric and sew it on top of the collar and waist; turn it to the inside and hem to cover the seam. Sew the side seams, turn the sleeve band to the inside and hem in place.

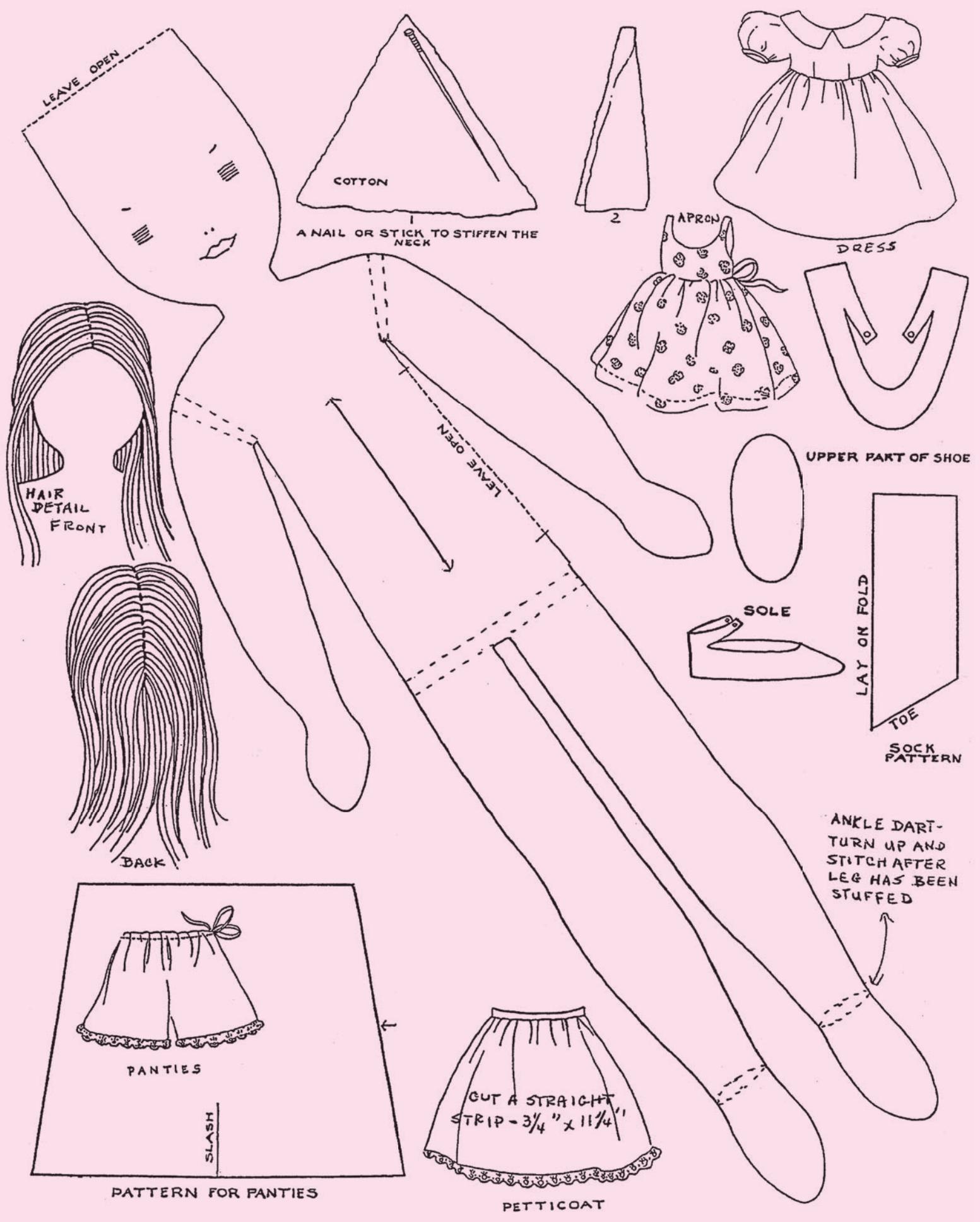
Cut the skirt 5-3/4" by 16". Finish the center back like the petticoat. Gather the skirt to fit the waist and sew it on. Hem the bottom and close the back of the waist with buttons and loops. You can also bind the neck and trim it with small ric-rac instead of making a collar.

**Apron:** Trace the pattern, pin it to the fabric and cut it out. Sew the shoulder seams and hem the backs. Turn or roll a

very narrow hem all around the top of the waist and down the armholes which you have slashed. Trim the edges with buttonhole stitch in a contrasting color, or use narrow ric-rac if you wish. Cut a piece of fabric 4-1/2" by 15". Hem the back openings and gather it onto the waist. Hem the bottom. Use ribbon for the ties. (Ackley tore off a piece of the selvage so she wouldn't have to hem both sides of the tie.)

**Socks:** Trace the pattern and cut it out from fine cotton knit, with the center on the fold. Overcast the seams so they won't ravel. Turn the tops to the inside and hem with a catch stitch so the fabric won't run.

**Shoes:** Trace the pattern and transfer it to heavy paper or light cardboard. Hold the pattern firmly on the leather or felt and draw around it with a very sharp pencil. Overcast the back seam, and overcast the bottom of the upper to the sole. Start at the toe and work to the heel, then start at the toe again. Use a small black cord for a tie.



LEAVE OPEN

COTTON

A NAIL OR STICK TO STIFFEN THE NECK

2

APRON

DRESS

HAIR  
DETAIL  
FRONT

UPPER PART OF SHOE

SOLE

LAY ON FOLD

TOE  
SOCK  
PATTERN

BACK

ANKLE DART-  
TURN UP AND  
STITCH AFTER  
LEG HAS BEEN  
STUFFED

PANTIES

PATTERN FOR PANTIES

CUT A STRAIGHT  
STRIP - 3/4" x 1 1/4"

PETTICOAT