

# Adams-Harris Pattern Company

Christmas 2016

Designed and fitted for Effner's Little Darling

## Yardage and Notions:

Yardage: Top: ¼-yard rayon jersey, or cotton jersey with Lycra. Knit should have nice stretch in both directions.

Bottom: ¼-yard or large scrap of medium lightweight woven fabric. I used a plain weave type canvas. Lightweight denim, seersucker or cotton broadcloth will work.

Notions: For Top:

1/3-yard of 1/8<sup>th</sup> inch satin ribbon

1 small about 5/8<sup>th</sup> inch square embroidered applique

20-inches of Cluny lace edging about 3/8<sup>th</sup> inch wide

4 tiny snap sets

For Bottom:

About 8-inches of 3/8-inch elastic

1/3-yard of 1/8<sup>th</sup> inch gross grain ribbon for leg cuffs

## General Cutting and Marking Directions

1. I highly recommend you take the time to glue or trace your pattern pieces on to card stock.
2. Lay out all pieces following the grainlines on the pattern. Trace pattern on to the fabric and cut the number of pieces indicated. Check pattern before cutting to see if you will need to paste large pieces together first.
3. All seam allowances are ¼ inch in less otherwise indicated in the sewing directions. Cut notches no deeper than 1/8 inch or mark with chalk. It is not recommended to cut notches on knits.
4. All garment pieces are sewn with the right sides together in less otherwise noted.
5. When interfacing, use fusible and press to fabric before cutting out pattern.
6. With smaller patterns I do not recommend serging seams as this creates bulk. I use a fray-checking product as needed. If you are serging use a smaller width on your machine, I use 2mm. You will have to determine if you want to serge/zigzag or not.
7. As with all sewing projects, you will get better results if you press as you go, fit as you go and tie-off your thread ends rather than back stitching.
8. When talking about left and right, it always means the left or right as the garment is worn.

## Sewing Terms:

There are many sewing terms used in the fashion industry. Some differ by region. I will be using the following when writing directions:

Crimp: This is a technique for easing fabric into a seam. The larger piece is run through the sewing machine with no thread, while you keep your finger firmly behind the presser foot. This forms small crimps in the fabric making it easier to ease into a smaller space.

Bust: this means to press the seam allowance open.

Understitch: this means to sew the seam allowance to one side of the seam, usually done on neck facings and collars, but can be used at waistlines and with insertion lace.

Edgestitch: this means to stitch close to the edge or seam.

Edge Finish: means to serge or zigzag the raw edges.

### Knit SwingTop:

Note: I used rayon jersey which has a lot of drape and hangs well and has a lot of stretch. As with all knit patterns it will depend on you knit as to how this fits. I also didn't serge or otherwise edge-finish the seams on this top. Do not cut notches on knit mark all notches with chalk or pencil on the wrong side of the fabric.

1. Join the bottom front and the top front with right sides together.
2. Join the back and top back with right sides together. Bust the seams.
3. Press the collar along the center fold line with the wrong side together.
4. Match the notches to the shoulder seams and pin in place. You will need to stretch the collar to fit the front neckline. I like to hand baste them together before I sew on the machine.
5. Trim the neckline seam allowance down to  $1/8^{\text{th}}$  inch.
6. Press the hem up on each sleeve using the pattern as a guide and matching wrong side together. Then topstitch the hem in place.
7. Match sleeve notches to the front and back yoke seams with right sides together. Again hand basting is recommended before sewing by machine.
8. Trim the armholes down to  $1/8^{\text{th}}$  inch.
9. Join the side seams matching the sleeves at the hem, the armhole seams and the bottom hem keeping the right sides together.
10. Topstitch the Cluny lace to the right side of the top, about  $3/8^{\text{th}}$  inch from the bottom of the top. See pattern for placement and note the direction of the lace is pointing up toward the body of the top.
11. Next press up the hem to the wrong side of the top and letting the lace show from the bottom of the hem on the right side of the top. Topstitch the hem in place.
12. Fold over the center backs on the fold line to make the placket and press. I didn't add any interfacing but you can if wanted. I also didn't bother to top stitch the plackets in place.
13. Sew one snap set at the collar, one set just above the yoke seam and space the other two evenly on the skirt.
14. Make a bow with the  $1/8^{\text{th}}$  inch satin ribbon, and then glue the applique to the center of the bow. You can sew or glue this to the front of the top at the yoke seam on the left side.

## Bloomer Bottom:

1. Fold the leg cuffs in half and press. Use pattern as guide.
2. Topstitch the gross grain ribbon to the cuffs just above the fold as shown on pattern. I stitched this through the bands while they were folded catching both layers.
3. Sew a large running stitch at the bottom of each bloomer leg, mark the notch with a straight pin so you can find it when the leg is gathered.
4. Join the center front and then edge-finish.
5. I sewed the elastic to the waistline with a large machine stitch while pulling it as far as it would stretch on the wrong side of the bloomer waistline.
6. You can edge-finish the waistline if wanted.
7. Pull the threads on the legs and gather to fit the leg cuffs matching notches with right sides together. Adjust the gathers evenly and sew in place.
8. Join the center back with right sides together.
9. Edge-finish the center back and cuff seams.
10. Fold the elastic to the inside of the waistline and then topstitch the elastic about ¼ inch from the top.
11. With the bloomers inside out join the crotch being sure to match the crotch, cuffs and bottom hem. Edge-finish the seam allowance and turn right side out.