## Wren ★ Feathers

## **Pearl Harbor Dress**

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Quarter inch seams allowed on all pieces unless otherwise specified.

I assume you have basic sewing knowledge and the explanation should suffice, but if you need help please email me!



Today is Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. Although Nanea's book was not super engaging for me as an adult, the event did play an important part in her life, and marked the beginning of WWII for the US. See more here:

## http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/pearl-harbor-bombed

This pattern is actually from 1944, which is a little late for Nanea's time, but similar versions of what makes it unique (the pointy yoke) can be found in commercial patterns from both earlier and later. This one seems to only have been available in sizes for toddlers. That's not necessarily a bad thing, because I feel AG bodies are very well suited to those styles, but if you want to make something similar for a smaller size doll, check out this post which has something similar but a little easier for Sasha and Hearts for Hearts sizes.

What makes the dress stand out for me is the use of contrasting fabrics. It both emphasizes the unique yoke and adds a bit of sophistication. As an added bonus, the two fabrics mean you don't need as much of each one and you can use up scraps! Varying the fabrics could dress it up or down as needed; as a modern dress it would be a great place to mix fun fat quarter leftovers or showcase a unique conversational/holiday print paired with a solid. What about a layer of lace over the yoke for a special occasion dress or in a pale pastel/white batiste combination with hand embroidery on the yoke for an heirloom version? The original pattern showed another version with all one fabric and some seams outlined in lace. This outlining would be crucial to make the details stand out, as I learned with the "Stella" dress here.

Since I don't own the actual pattern, the construction details are a mystery, but I'd be willing to bet there's an actual seam that attaches yoke and skirt. It would be do-able at child size, but pretty challenging to do correctly at doll size, especially with the complication of the pleats, so I made a lined yoke and topstitched it to the skirt pieces. The construction is similar to the dress in this post. If you'd like to add a sash, you can make one and insert it in the outside pleats on the front while topstitching.

Be warned – this is not a "quick and easy" project and I wouldn't attempt it unless you have at least intermediate sewing skills. Leaving off the collar and points and gathering the skirt to a raw edge on the yoke instead of stitching pleats and topstitching on the yoke would make construction faster and easier.















