

Smocked Baby Girl Bonnet

Preemie Size

Materials:

6" x 22" strip batiste

¾ yd. 1/8" ribbon

2/3 yd. ¼" lace edging (optional)

Lightweight sewing machine thread

Floss

Directions:

Press batiste strip and spray starch lightly. Lay strip out flat and make a mark one each end ¾" from the top edge. Mark the center and draw a line from the mark on each end to the center. (This tapers the front of the bonnet around the baby's face and eliminates a too wide ruffle at the cheek.)

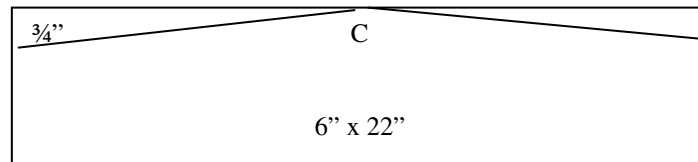
Lay straight edge of lace against marked line, wrong side of lace to right side of fabric and stitch lace with a short straight stitch. Press fabric under lace to the wrong side of the bonnet and go over the edge again with a narrow, close zigzag. Trim excess fabric close to stitching. (Optional edge treatment: stitch along the marked line with a machine embroidered scalloped edge stitch and trim close to stitching for an embroidered edge.)

Pleat with 8 half-spaced rows. The first row of pleating should be ½" from finished edge of bonnet. Pull pleating threads out from each end ½". Narrow hem each end with a double ¼" hem.

Make a narrow casing along the back edge. Pull up pleating threads and tie off to smock.

Cut ribbon into two 8" pieces and one 11" piece. Thread the longer piece into the casing and draw up the back of the bonnet. Tie into a bow. Make a small loop on one end of each of the shorter pieces and tack to sides of bonnet.

Variation: Unsmocked bonnet may be made by simply stitching beading over smocking guide threads and inserting ribbon through the beading eyelets, thus creating the ties & finishing the bonnet all at once. Anchor ribbon with bullion roses.



Linda Richards
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