

## Cross over Bodice dress (2 to 6)



### Stage 1

1. Sew centre back seam of dress (most have selvedge's so sew using this as a guide – if not you will need to do a French seam \*\* (see flutter sleeve dress)
2. Hem the bottom of the dress  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch allowing the centre back seam to go in the same direction (important)
3. With a gathering thread start at centreback and stitch around the top of the dress  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch around (this will form your sewing line)
4. Join the shoulder seams of the bodice together using a  $\frac{5}{8}$  seam, there will be two – one of the main fabric and one of the lining – they may be of different or the same material)
5. With right sides together, pin armholes and sew with a  $\frac{5}{8}$  seam, clip curved edges and pin
6. Sew pocket  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch seam allowance leaving 2 inches of bottom edge open, turn to right side and pull out corners with a pin

### Ironing

1. Sew centre back seam flat and turn hem 1 inch, iron flat
2. Iron armholes flat
3. Iron the pocket and iron on the patch about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the way down on the right hand side and close to the edge of the pocket

### Stage 2

1. Hem up the bottom of the dress – sewing over the stitches you previously made
2. Pin bodice together, trimming if necessary and using a French seam \*\* sew the underarm seam

3. Apply bias binding to the wrong side of the bodice turning the bias over to the right side for a contrasting edge, securing with stitches on the outside of the bodice
4. Mark the skirt into quarters (I snip the quarters with a small cut)
5. Mark the centre front and centre back of the bodice with a pin
6. With the bodice on the inside and right sides together, pull the gathering threads so that the skirt fits the bodice
7. Pin the skirt to the bodice and sew, completing two rows of straight stitching close together, then zig zag to neaten
8. Pin the age label to the bottom edge of the pocket so when you sew the pocket on the dress it peeks out
9. Add a trim to the pocket overlapping the sides (you will catch these in when you stitch around the pocket) sew around the label and the trim to secure the top and bottom edge
10. Stitch around the pocket tucking under the trim as you go and ensuring that you reverse at top on both sides to secure firmly
11. Cut all hanging threads and fold the undies to pop into the pocket