



Etta Mae

*a simple fabric doll -
suitable for beginners*

This pattern assumes that the user is familiar with a sewing machine and the supplies needed in order to complete a project. Other requirements are listed below.

Supplies

1 fat quarter cotton for Etta Mae's head - I used a light hand dye fabric, you can also use a skintone cotton or a small tone on tone print

Mix and match the following fabrics for a pleasing look

1 fat quarter cotton - Arms

1 fat quarter cotton - legs

1 fat quarter cotton - body and skirt

1-1/2 yd. 1/2" ribbon

Polyfil stuffing

upholstery thread

embroidery thread or perle cotton in choice of color for hair

Acrylic paint for shoes in color of choice (optional - dimensional paint for shoe embellishing, Gesso for paint preparation)

11.5 gauge aluminum sculpting wire or suitable substitute (3-4 chenille stems)

White paint pen, colored pencils for eye color, lip color and cheeks, black & red gel pen

Tools

Freezer paper

Stuffing and turning tools

paintbrush

embroidery needle, John James Darners (I use #7 and #9) for hand stitching

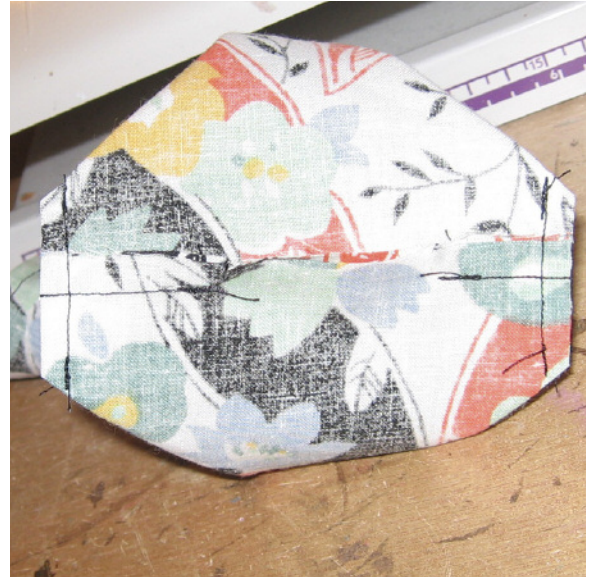
Floral or masking tape

Sew all body pieces with a 1.5 stitch, backstitching at openings to secure. Some pieces are patterns, meaning they have a seam allowance included; some pieces are templates which will have to be transferred to freezer paper and ironed onto the fabric before sewing. Read all directions first to familiarize yourself.

This pattern will provide general construction directions only. Any extra embellishing or changes are left up to you. This pattern is meant to be played with and passed around. She would make a wonderful gift for a child or a great addition to a quilt project using the quilt's fabrics for her.

Have fun! Let's make a doll!

Body: This is a pattern piece with seam allowance included. Cut 2 from fabric chosen for body. Starting at opening at bottom, sew all around body ending at the other side of the opening. Bring corners together into a triangle and sew a straight line across the triangle about 3/4" in from the edge. Clip excess. (this creates a paperbag bottom) Turn body right side out.



Cut a piece of 11.5 gauge wire and bend it in half. Wrap the wire with floral tape or masking tape leaving the bent end free of tape. Insert the bent end of the wire into the neck and secure with a few overcast stitches. Stuff firmly around the wire and down into the body. Make sure body is firm at neck and shoulder area. Ladder stitch opening closed. Set aside.

Legs: Transfer the leg piece to freezer paper, make two, and cut out and iron onto the wrong side of doubled fabric. Starting at the top opening, sew completely around the leg right next to the edge of the freezer paper. End at the top opening. Cut out with a 1/8" seam allowance. Turn right side out. Stuff foot and leg firmly to mark indicated on pattern. Turn raw edges in about 1/4" and matching seam to seam, overcast the opening closed.

Shoes: With a pencil or pen, lightly draw the shoe lines on the leg. Paint the shoes with acrylic paint, you may need two coats. You may also want to prepare the fabric prior to painting with Gesso. If doing this, paint the shoes with Gesso, allow to dry thoroughly then paint with acrylics. Once the shoes are dry you may embellish them with the dimensional paint or glue on trim, add no-sew beads or whatever your heart desires, well actually, what Etta Mae desires. Allow thorough drying time for whatever additional decoration you may do.

Attaching the legs: The legs are whipstitched to the body at the seam line at the bottom of the body. Line up one leg, making sure toes are facing up and whipstitch, add second leg and whipstitch.



Arms: Transfer the arm piece to freezer paper, make two, and cut out and iron onto the wrong side of doubled fabric. Starting at the back opening, sew completely around the arm and hand right next to the edge of the freezer paper. When stitching the fingers, make sure to take at least two stitches between each finger. Use the needle down, lift and turn method to sew the small curves on the fingers. End the stitching at the back opening. Carefully turn fingers and arms right side out. Turning tools are especially helpful when turning fingers. Once arm is turned, stitch across the top of the arm so no stuffing can go into the tab. Stuff the fingers and arms, close the opening with a ladder stitch.



Attaching the arms: Place the tab down against the body, with the arm up, at the base of the neck. Whipstitch the tab to the body.

Head: Cut 6 head pieces on the bias of the chosen fabric. Using a scant 1/4" seam, sew all the pieces together. Turn right side out. Stuff firmly.

Face: Etta Mae's face is a simple one. Using one of the seams on the head as a guide, take the black gel

pen and place two dots for nose approximately 1/4" from seam on each side and at middle of face. Take a red or pink colored pencil and lightly make 2 small circles touching each other about 1/4" below nostril dots. Make a larger circle below these. The circles create the mouth. Darken the edges of the circles by applying

more pressure on the pencil. With a red gel pen, draw a curved line between the circles to define the upper and lower lips.

With the white paint pen make two circles approximately 1/2" from the seam and 1/2" to 1" above the nostrils. The circles will be a bit smaller than a dime. Outline the circles with a black gel pen. With colored pencil chosen for eye color, draw circles within the white circles defining the iris. Placement of these circles helps to define character in the face. Notice the two examples to the right. Color in the iris, using lighter pressure at the bottom of the iris and hard pressure at the top of the eye. This will give a nice blended look. Define the iris by tracing around the outside of the iris with a deeper color of the chosen eye color. With the black gel pen draw pupils within the iris, once again paying attention to placement. When dry add a small dot of white paint pen for the highlight. Using the black gel pen go around the entire eye placing dots or small lines to simulate eyelashes. You may add eyebrows if desired.

With a pink colored pencil lightly define cheeks, harder pressure in the center and blending to lighter as you go out. You may also use regular blush for this.

Hair: Etta Mae's hair is embroidered with 3 strands of embroidery floss or 1 strand of perle cotton. Use the color of your choice. With a mechanical pencil lightly draw strands of hair all around Etta Mae's head. Knot your thread and starting at the top of the head, use a stem stitch to embroider her hair. Try to knot off at top of head where the knots will be hidden with



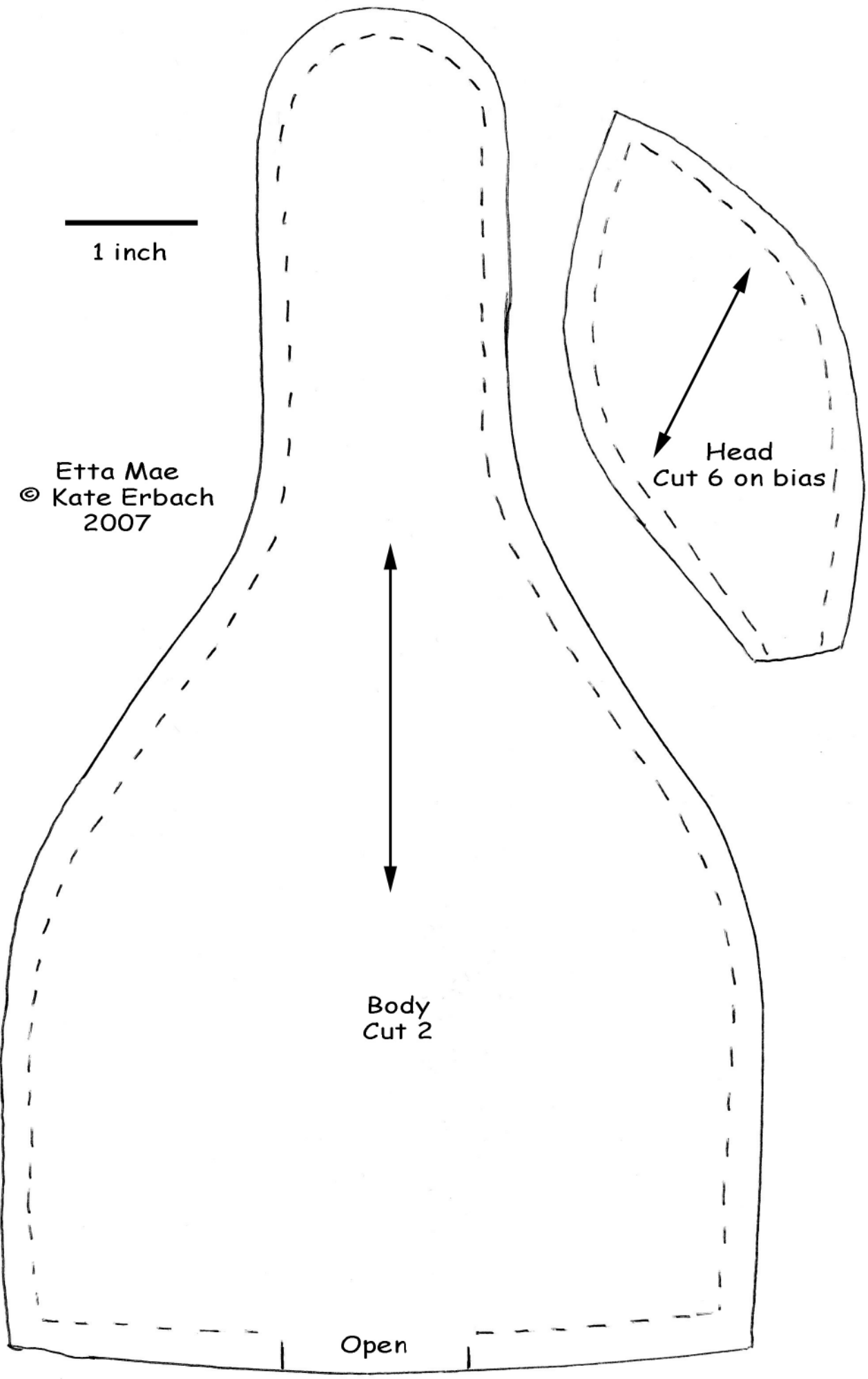
the bow later. When you have finished the hair, burrow a hole into the center of the head through the opening at the bottom. Using a screwing type motion, screw Etta Mae's head down onto her neck. Ladder stitch in place with small stitches.

Make a large bow with the ribbon and tack to the center top of her head.



Clothing and finishing: Etta Mae's skirt is made by cutting a piece of fabric 4" x 36". Sew the two short sides together. Make a small hem on one side. Run two rows of gathering stitches along other side. Pull up gathering stitches to fit around Etta Mae's body about 1" from the bottom. Tack skirt in place. Take more ribbon or you may wish to use bias tape to cover over the raw edges of the skirt. Add a small piece of trim to her neck where the head joins the body. Make sleeves by cutting fabric 2" x 10", seaming the two short sides, gathering the open ends to fit her arm and tacking in place. Embellish Etta Mae in other ways using trims, ribbon flowers, tulle, no sew beads or whatever suits her.





1 inch

Etta Mae
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Head
Cut 6 on bias

Body
Cut 2

Open

