

## Made to Love Vintage Rag Dolls



Updated by  
Elizabeth Hill

<b>Technique:</b>	Machine Sewing
<b>End Use:</b>	Toy
<b>Brands:</b>	Dual Duty XP
<b>Skill Level:</b>	Easy to Moderate
<b>Crafting time:</b>	An Evening

**“Made to be Loved”** was a leaflet published by Coats & Clark in 1955. We are sharing one of the original dolls, “Betty Ann” from the leaflet. We are also including an updated version of the original pattern that takes a little less time to complete, but is just as cute!

**Finished size:** 15 inches

### Doll Supplies:

- Coats and Clark Dual Duty XP® All Purpose Thread to match fabrics
- Coats and Clark Plus Button & Craft Thread® to match muslin
- J & P Coats® Embroidery Floss, black, blue, brown, red, and pink, 1 skein each
- Red Heart® 4 ply yarn for hair, approximately 16 yards
- Muslin, ¼ yard

### Tools

- Water soluble marking pen
- Hand Embroidery Needles
- Embroidery hoop, 6”
- Crayon, light pink
- Transparent Tape
- Sewing Machine

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# Made to Love Vintage Rag Dolls

## Instructions

All seam allowances are ¼" unless otherwise noted.  
Reduce stitch length to 12 stitches per inch (2mm)

### Original Vintage Rag Doll:

1. Trace and cut out body pattern pieces.
2. Before cutting head pieces, trace facial features to a 6" x 6" square of muslin with a water soluble marking pen. Embroider features as directed. Give the cheeks a little blush with light circular motions with a pink crayon.

### Black floss:

Eyebrows and eye outlines – use the outline stitch with one strand of floss.

Eyelashes – take one long stitch for each eyelash with double floss.

Nose – take two tiny stitches.

### Red or pink floss:

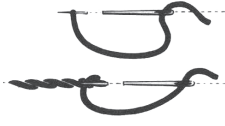
Mouth – outline stitch with two strands of floss.

### Brown or blue floss:

Pupils – fill pupils with a satin stitch using two strands of floss.

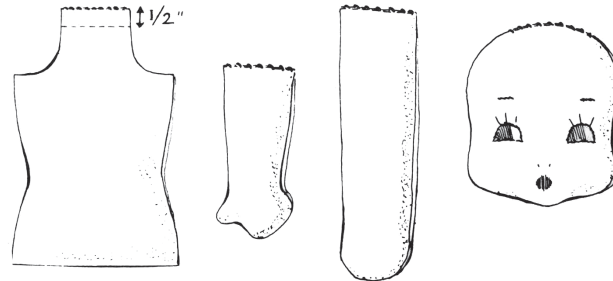


SATIN STITCH



OUTLINE STITCH

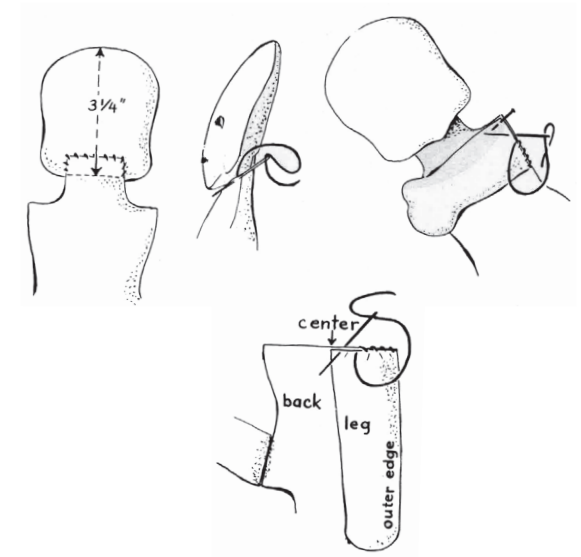
3. Remove any markings with a damp cloth. Allow to dry.
4. Pin pattern pieces to muslin. For the head match facial features to the paper pattern. Pin and cut. Transfer pattern markings on leg with water soluble marking pen.
5. Right sides together sew body pieces. Back stitch at the beginning and end of seams. Leave an opening at the top of each piece for turning. Trim corners and clip curved edges before turning.
6. Stuff each body part with polyester fiber fill. Work with small bits of stuffing. Stuff the body pieces until firm. Be sure to get stuffing into all corners.
7. Stuff neck only to stitching line (1/2" below top of neck). Close neck opening on this line with backstitches.



8. Turn in raw edges on head, arms, legs, and neck. Overcast the edges together with small, close stitches.
9. Use Duty Plus Button & Craft® Thread to assemble doll. To attach head to body, overcast unstuffed neck section to the back of the head chin and neck overlapping. The top of the head should be 3 ¼" from the neck stitch line.
10. Attach arms to body with small overcast stitches.

Align upper arm with top shoulder edge. Place the arm with thumb facing upward.

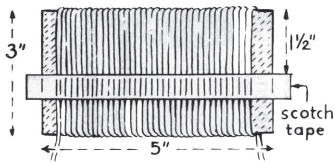
11. Sew legs on to body with small overcast stitches. With outside leg markings facing outward place legs flush with hip bottom.



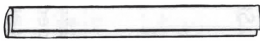
# Made to Love Vintage Rag Dolls

## Making the Hair

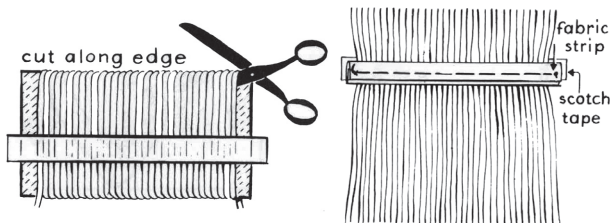
**1.** Cut a piece of cardboard 3" x 5". Wrap yarn closely around cardboard pushing it together. Place a strip of transparent tape across yarn with the top edge of tape 1½" from the top of the cardboard. Carefully cut yarn along one edge. Remove cardboard.



**2.** Cut a strip of muslin 5" x 1". Fold ¼" under on each long edge and press forming a strip ½" wide.



**3.** Place muslin strip over yarn. The yarn will be between the muslin strip and the scotch tape. Hand baste through center of fabric strip, yarn and tape. Set the sewing machine to a long basting stitch. Slowly sew through tape, yarn and muslin to secure hair. Gently remove tape from hair. Clean the sewing machine needle after this step to remove any residue left by the tape.



**4.** To attach hair to head pin the fabric strip over the seam at the top of the head. Stitch along the length of both edges using small hem stitches. Tack hair to sides and back of head if necessary. Trim ends to shape hair as desired.

**5.** Headband: attach a strip of ¼" wide satin edge ribbon over the hair seam line. Tack in the center and at both ends behind the hairline.



## Updated Vintage Doll Instructions:

In this version of the doll, the head and body are made in one piece.

- 1.** Trace and cut out body pattern pieces.
- 2.** Before cutting head and body piece trace facial features to a 6" x 12" piece of muslin with a water soluble marking pen.
- 3.** Embroider features using J. & P. Coats Embroidery Floss®. See original doll pattern for stitch guidelines. Remove any markings with a damp cloth. Allow to dry. Highlight cheeks with a pink crayon.

**4.** Pin pattern pieces to muslin. For the head and body match facial features to the paper pattern. Pin and cut. Transfer pattern markings on leg as noted.

**5.** Right sides together sew body pieces. Back stitch at the beginning and end of seams. Leave a 2-inch opening on the bottom of body for turning. Leave an opening at the top of arm and leg pieces for turning. Trim corners and clip curved edges before turning.

**6.** Stuff body parts with polyester fiber fill. Use small bits of stuffing at a time. Stuff the body pieces until firm. Be sure to get stuffing into all corners.

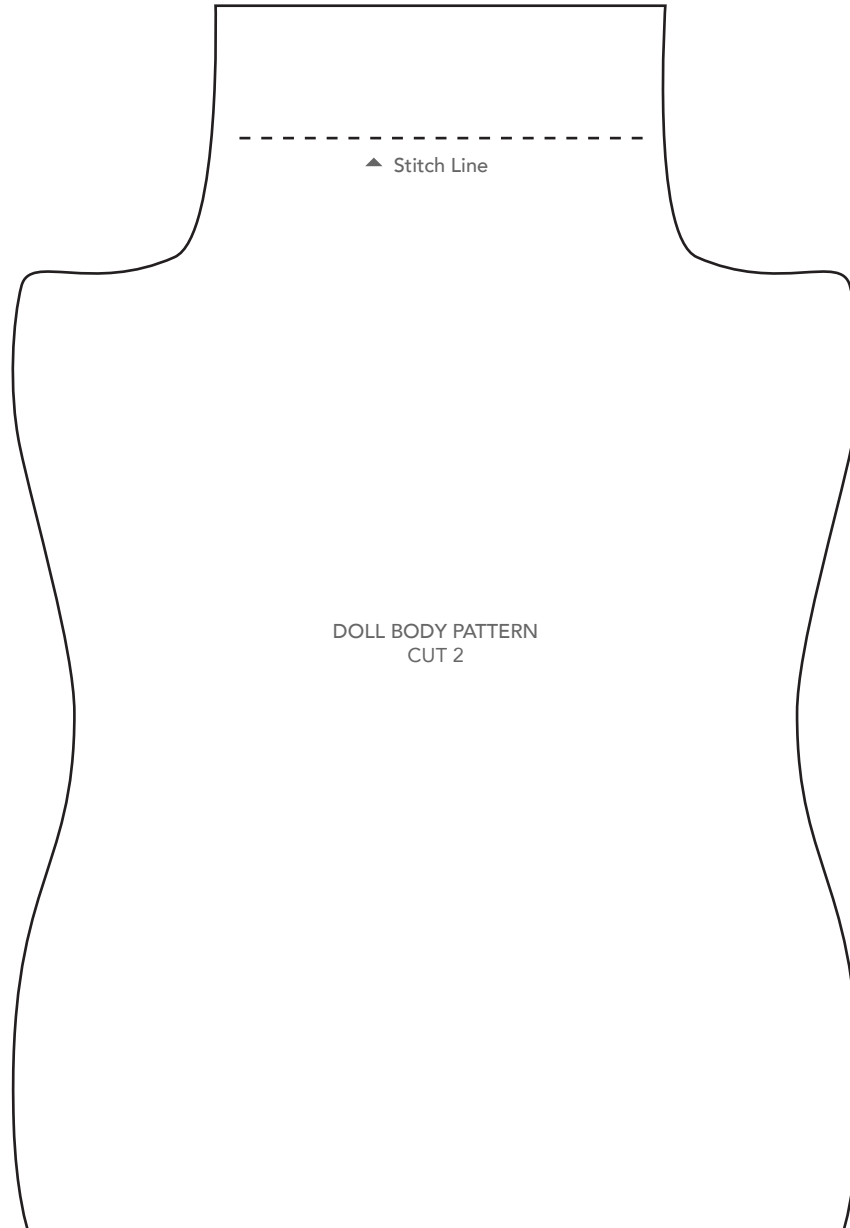
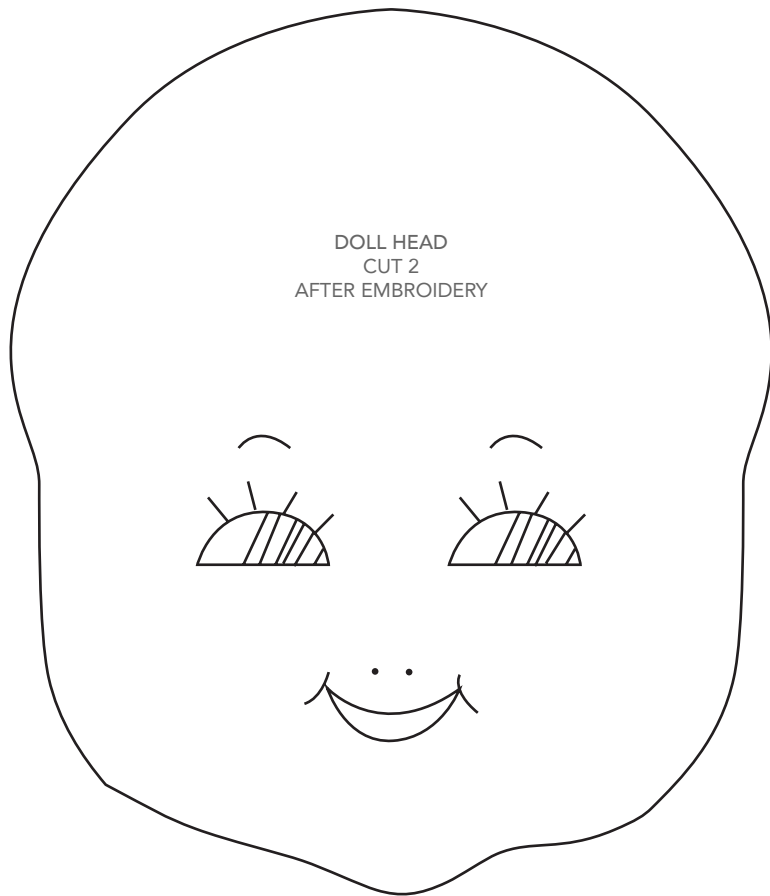
**7.** Turn in raw edges on body, arms, and legs. Overcast the edges together with small, close stitches.

**8.** Use Dual Duty Plus Button & Craft® to assemble doll. Attach arms to body with small overcast stitches. Align upper arm with top shoulder edge. Place the arm with thumb facing upward. Refer to the original pattern illustration.

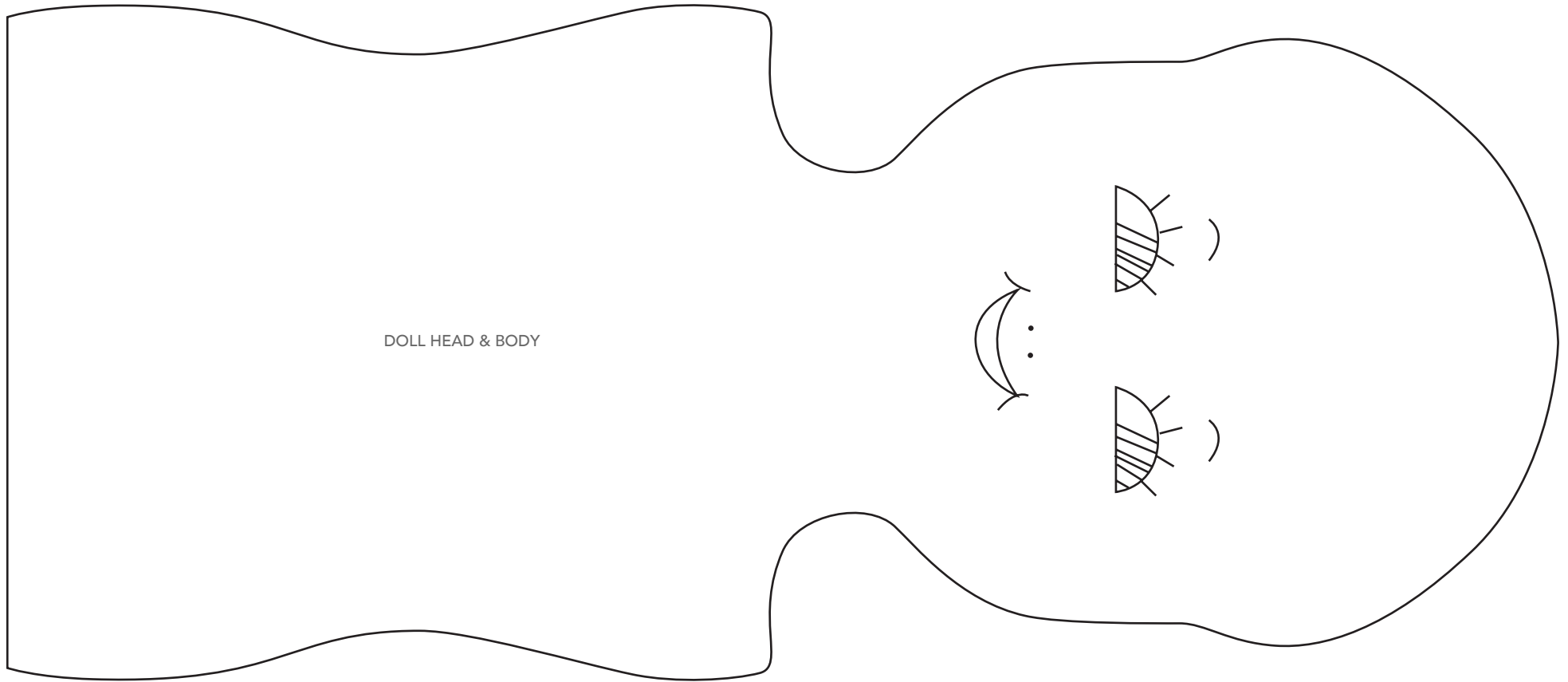
**9.** Sew legs on to body with small overcast stitches. With outside leg markings facing outward place legs flush with hip bottom. Refer to the original pattern illustration.

**10.** Add hair following the instructions for "Making the Hair."

## Vintage Version - Two Piece Doll Pattern



Updated Version - One Piece Doll Pattern



Updated Version - One Piece Doll Pattern

