

Wren ★ Feathers

Little Darling in Japan: Hippari and Monpe

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If you downloaded this elsewhere it was stolen from: <http://jenwrenne.wordpress.com>

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

Quarter inch seams allowed unless otherwise specified.





If you made the karate pants, you will see these are quite similar. In Japan they are called もんぺ (only written in hiragana, there is no kanji) and in romanji may be spelled “monpe” or “mompe”.

There is a type of monpe that is made more modern, using a pattern similar to the karate pants but with an elastic waist. For the more traditional ones like these, the legs are usually wider, and fullness is taken in either with pleats or elastic. Whenever possible, I try to avoid elastic on my doll clothes, since it eventually “dies” and ruins your work. I gathered these to a band instead, but if you want, you can pleat yours or add length for a casing and put elastic in the ankles.

The hippari and monpe are traditional peasant clothing worn by farm workers and such. They are perfectly suited to the boro style of quilting, but if you don’t like that look, this pattern would also make really cute PJs in a sweet floral print.

Boro quilting

I bet you're familiar with sashiko (if not, wait till next week!)

Whereas traditional whole-cloth sashiko is very mathematical and precise, there is a lesser-known type of quilting in Japan called boro. It consists of pieces stacked on top of one another, for an effect like patching patches. Originally, that's what it was...rags were used to patch over worn spots in clothing, blankets, etc. White sashiko-style stitching was used, but mainly in straight lines.

For examples, see <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/241364861255488234/> and <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/241364861255466464/>

Here's how I replicated boro for my hippari:

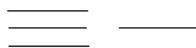


Strips of cotton were ripped on the straight grain, then overlaid on a flannel base and pinned in place.

I tried to use the sewing machine to simulate sashiko-style stitching. You can too, but I warn you the monofilament thread breaks about every 45 seconds and every time you re-thread you're forced to ask yourself if it wouldn't be faster to do it by hand! You'll notice that at the end I gave up, and some of the patches are hand-quilted.

Simulating hand-quilting by machine

Thread your bobbin with regular white thread, and the top with monofilament thread. Set your machine to do a stitch like this:



It needs to go over one stitch 3 times and then do one single stitch. If you have a slow-down function, it helps a little to prevent breakage. Sew slowly and steadily on the top of your fabric, and the white bobbin thread should get pulled up to the top during one of the 3s. If not, experiment with increasing top thread tension. A walking foot may be helpful too.



It's easier to gather these, more traditional to take in fullness with lots of tiny pleats



Make separate fronts and backs first, then sew together at side seams



Crotch seam is last

わらじ (Waraji)

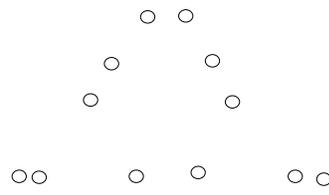
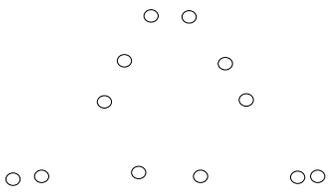
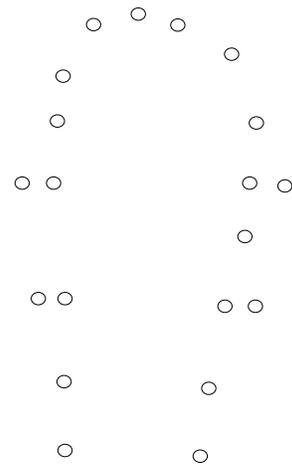
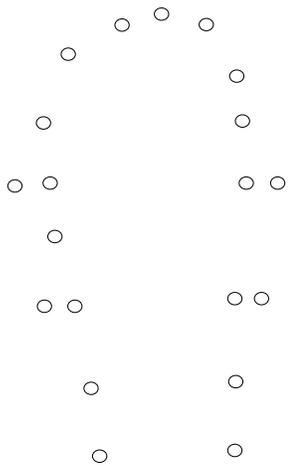
There are two main types of Japanese sandals traditionally woven by hand, waraji わらじ and zori. For this peasant-style outfit, I chose waraji, which are more rustic, and have the advantage of having lacing and ankle ties, which means they stay on a doll better.

This is the tutorial I used:

<http://heythisismyjob.wordpress.com/2013/08/30/how-to-weave-japanese-waraji-sandals-for-bleach-cosplay/>

along with the pattern on the next page that I created. It will fit most 13"-14" dolls. Instead of nails and wood, stick pins into cork or something similar. Weave it in cotton/linen/hemp yarn that looks like straw. Make sure to pull your yarn tightly around the pins to make a firm "warp" to weave through. Put your weaving yarn through a plastic tapestry needle and it will go quickly. Plan on making 3; your first one will probably not be as perfect as you'd like, but by the second one you'll have the hang of it!

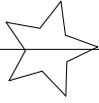






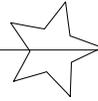
Shorten the sleeves and pants and turn this pattern into a jinbei, a light summer outfit or PJs.
From the book 甚平と浴衣 (Jinbei to yukata)

tape to the box at right, lining up on star
before cutting



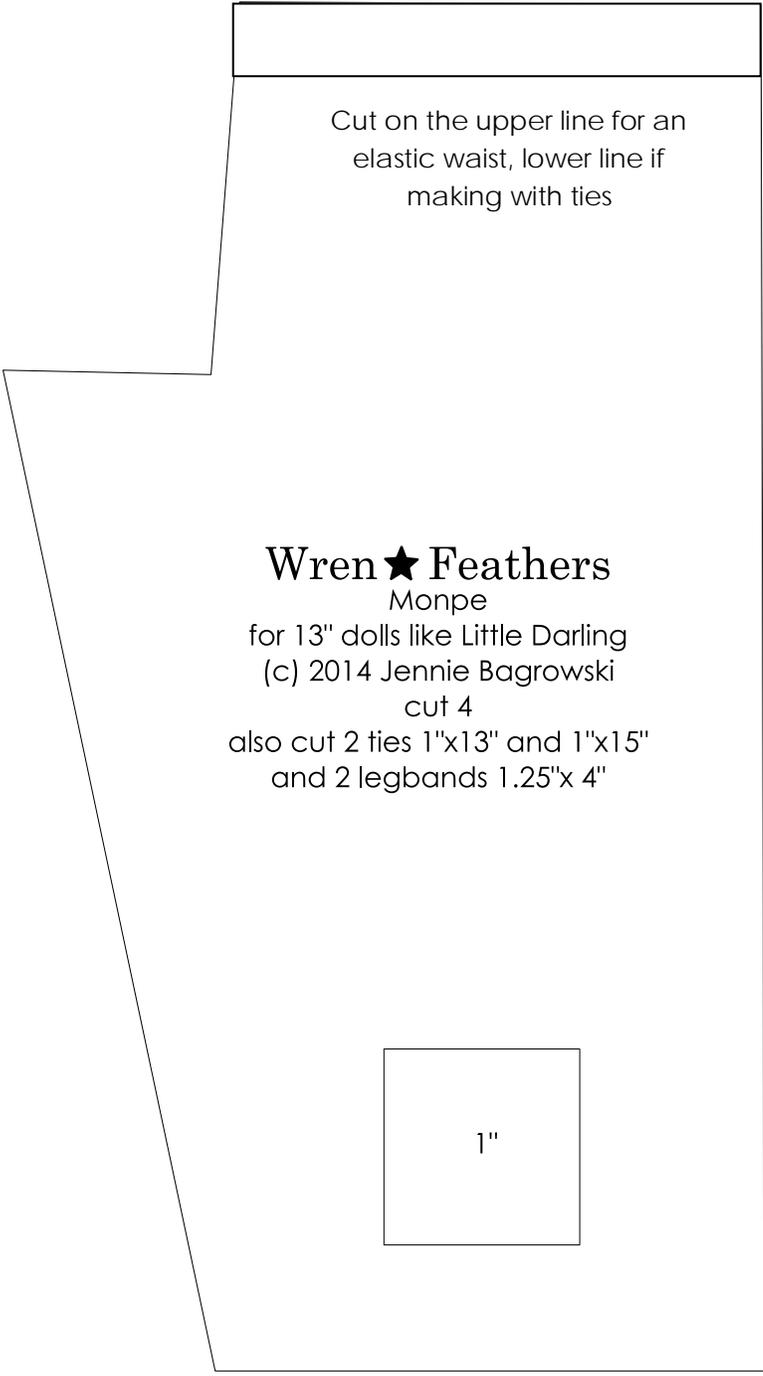
Wren★Feathers
Hippari
for 13" dolls like Little Darling
(c) 2014 Jennie Bagrowski
Main cut 2
Neckband is 1.5"x

tape this piece to main, lining up on star
before cutting



Wren★Feathers
Hippari
for 13" dolls like Little Darling
(c) 2014 Jennie Bagrowski
sleeve cut 2 on fold

1"



Cut on the upper line for an
elastic waist, lower line if
making with ties

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Monpe

for 13" dolls like Little Darling

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cut 4

also cut 2 ties 1"x13" and 1"x15"
and 2 legbands 1.25"x 4"

1"