Wren ★ Feathers

Nancy 1960s A-line Week 3

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

Quarter inch seams are allowed unless otherwise specified
Dolls are repro Nancy Famosas - “Romántica” (in blue) and “Comunión” (in red)
Another dress included with Nancy’s trousseau was the blue one above with a unique collar/scarf combo called “De manaña” (See an original one in 2 different colors here: [https://www.pinterest.com/pin/7677206770090831/]

The original had a metal clasp that held the pieces together, but I couldn’t find anything in my stash that looked nice. A large, decorative button was my alternative, or hunt around for a vintage costume jewelry pin.

I chose a very thin, stretchy knit fabric which was tricky to work with on its own in another project, but not problematic at all when lined. If you are sewing with a knit, my tip would be to keep the woven lining fabric down toward the feed dogs for easier sewing. Obviously since I did line this with a woven fabric, you can use that for the dress instead; there’s no specific reason it needs to stretch. If you are using wovens, you still do want something on the thin side and make sure you cut the collar/scarf pieces ON THE BIAS for the best drape.

If you’d like an easier version, this works as “De tarde” pictured above in red, although not part of the trousseau set that I’m aware of. See an original here: [https://www.pinterest.com/pin/52606431483701210/]

Yet another option would be... OK, many more original dress options are possible with this pattern with changes to collar and sleeves! They might appear once I’ve done next week’s coat.

My “de tarde” dress was much simpler to make, a warm flannel with a few additions of trim and hemmed edges perfect for the changing weather right now. I have also seen versions of the red dress with a separate scarf – you could easily do that by hemming a long rectangle, or for a little more of a challenge cutting the scarfy collar pattern piece on a fold instead of as two pieces and hemming or lining it.
These are both very simple dresses to construct for experienced seamstresses – either lined or hemmed will work.

My entire dress blue was lined with voile, the neckline was finished by folding the lined scarf pieces over it, similar to how you might bind a raw edge with some kind of non-fray binding. After sewing the first half of the collar by hand separately on the inside and outside, I realized it would have been faster to sew it to the inside first by machine and then invisibly slip stitch just on the outside. There is enough allowed to give you a choice of having the scarfy pieces fall directly in the center OR offsetting them slightly to the right as I did.
Last week there was a request for a body comparison and resizing info – here is Nancy along with other dolls you might be more familiar with. She is actually most similar to Toni in shape even though she’s closer to Sasha in height. I was pleasantly surprised to find out the dress I had made for Toni for the SSA in 2017 actually fits Nancy pretty well, although the armholes were a little tight:
Quarter inch seams allowed on all pieces

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De Mañana
for dolls like Nancy Famosa
(c) 2020 Jennie Bagrowski
Scarf cut 2 main
and 2 lining on bias

Collar cut 1
(c) 2020 Jennie Bagrowski
for dolls like Nancy Famosa
De Tardo and
Wren ★ Feathers
Wren Feathers
De Tarde and De Mañana
for dolls like Nancy Famosa
(c) 2020 Jennie Bagrowski
Quarter inch seams allowed on all pieces