Pelham PUPPETS

Costume Patterns

as featured in Pelpup News

Compiled by David Leech

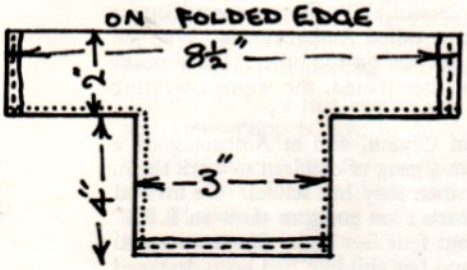
www.pelhampuppets.uk.com

How to make clothes for the Dutch Boy and Girl.

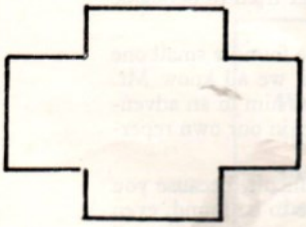
MISS STITCHAM describes how to make clothes for a Dutch Boy and Girl.

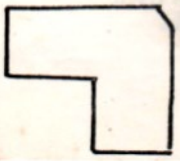
Abbreviations used:—
m/c.—machine
T.r.w.r.—Turn right way round
i.o.—inside out.

The Shirt or Blouse



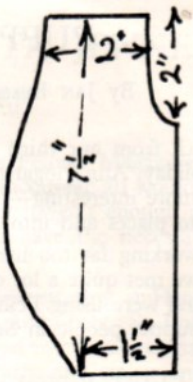
Here is a much more simple design for either a shirt or blouse. Cut out in one piece. First make a paper pattern. Place the pattern along folded edge of material, cut out, it will now look like this when opened out. Now turn back edges and machine, then fold again as before with wrong side out and m/c along seams under arms and down sides, as shown by dotted lines. T.r.w.r. and press. Fold arm to arm and snip corner off at fold for neck hole.



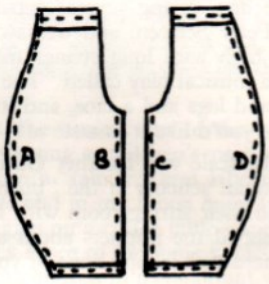


Trousers

Make pattern this shape. Cut four from check material. Turn back top and bottom edges and m/c making two pairs, so—



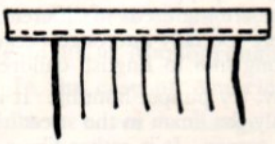
Place together in pairs i.o. and m/c along seams A, B, C, D. Now join each half by machining along centre seam so



T.r.w.r. and iron Do not forget that patch on his knee.

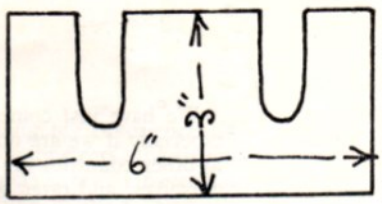
Skirt

A skirt is quite easy. Cut a rectangular pattern 18 ins. long by 6 ins. deep. Turn back top and bottom hem and m/c. Fold across length and m/c join. Run a thread through top edge for drawing in when dressing. A pleated skirt looks better. Cut a band 6 ins. long by 1 in. wide, m/c

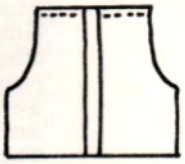


top edge of skirt on to edge of band and pleat as you go along—or hand stitch pleats into position.

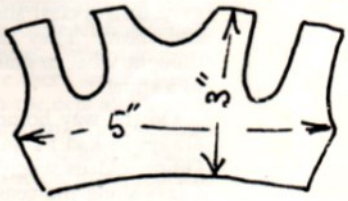
Boy's Bolero—made from felt.



Cut a pattern as above, fold side over and m/c along top. T.r.w.r. Stitch buttons with embroidery silk.



Girl's Bolero



Requires a little more shape. Suggest as above. Fold sides over and m/c along top, T.r.w.r.

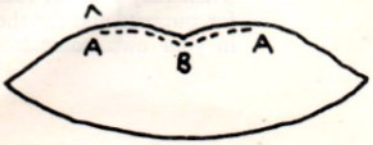
Boy's Hat

Make from 3 pieces of black felt.
(1) Circle 2½ ins. dia.
(2) Rectangle 5 ins. by 2 ins.
(3) Crescent-shape cut from 2½ in. circle for peak.

Join up rectangle, stitch on peak and circle. T.r.w.r.

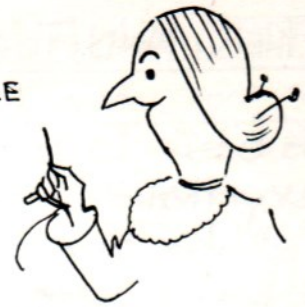
Girl's Bonnet

Draw out a rectangle on a piece of paper 5½ ins. by 3 ins., in it draw this shape:—
Fold across length, matching A to A, and join seam A-B. T.r.w.r.



How to make clothes for the Clown.

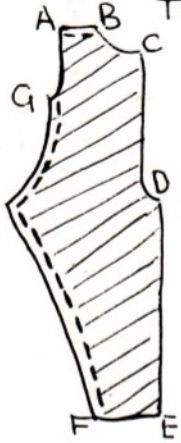
MISS STITCHAM
of 9 THREADNEEDLE STREET
WAREHAM



Explains how to make a Clowns dress

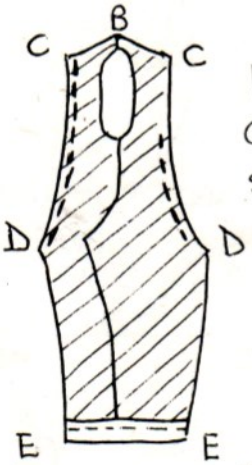
FULL SIZE PATTERNS ON NEXT PAGE
[Trace onto separate paper before cutting out.]

[N.B. Where the patterns are shaded the inside of the material is showing]



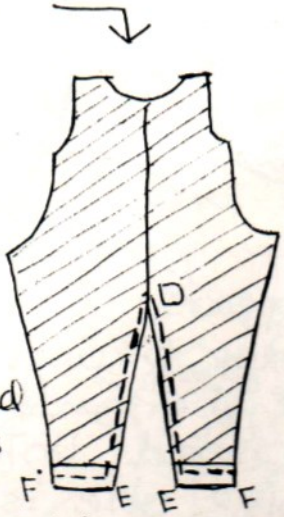
First cut four pieces as pattern on next page Also cut two pieces as arm pattern. Place these body pieces together in pairs, outsides inwards & sew along, in each case seams AB & GF Now open out, though they wont lie flat &

→ turn up trouser bottom & sew along E-E [Make sure both pairs are same length.]

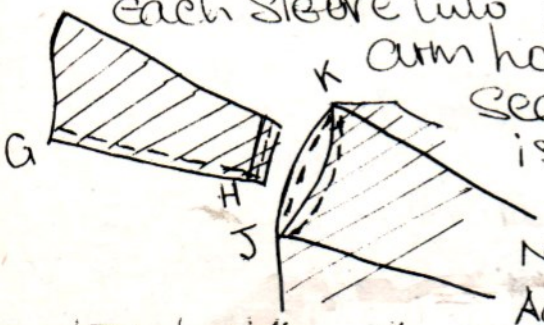


Now, while open, place these two pairs together (with outsides innermost.) & sew along seams CD, one is the centre back seam (leaving top part open) & the other front seam

Next, fold flat like this & sew along the inside trouser seam ĒDĒ.



Cut out the two arm patterns. Hem their cuffs & sew up seam G.H. The sleeves should now be inside out. Pass each sleeve into the appropriate arm hole & sew round seams JKJ This is probably best done with needle & thread.



NOW TURN RIGHT WAY ROUND & PRESS.

Add a ruff — a piece of bright material 2½" x 12" drawn in by thread round neck.

How to make clothes for the Clown.

ARM
PATTERN
CUT 2

CLOWN
DRESS
PATTERN
CUT 4

How to make clothes for the Pop Singer.

It will be necessary for you to trace the patterns on to thin paper, which you can then cut out.

For material, choose a light grey for the jacket and trousers, remembering that it must not be too thick or stiff. The shirt can be white or check.

Cut one shirt back and two shirt fronts. With right side of material facing inwards join top of shoulders (Fig. 1). I am sorry the dotted lines are missing. Cut two collars, join edges—dotted. Turn inside out and press. Open shirt and join collar to neck line (Fig. 2). There is no need to put sleeves in the shirt. Fold again, only inside out, and join to side seams. Turn right way round and press.

When cutting back for jacket, cut straight across neck-line (shown with dotted line). Cut two fronts, fold along dotted line (make sure you make a pair) and join as shown; turn inside out and press. Place both in position on back piece (right side inwards) and join along shoulders as with shirt. Cut two sleeve patterns—white cuffs (or same as shirt), fold over and join to end of sleeve, then press flat, add the black binding (if you are using it round coat). Lay jacket flat and join arms (Fig. 3), working the sleeve pattern round the shoulder opening. Fold jacket together again inside out and join arm and side seams (Fig. 4). Hem round bottom of jacket and add, if you are using it, the thin black tape or bias binding round edge of jacket and along top of pockets.

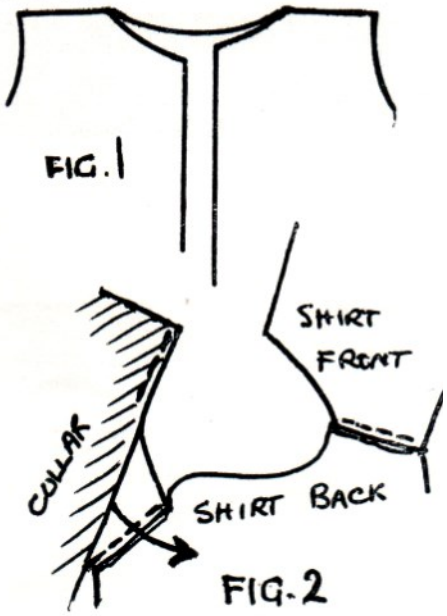


FIG. 2

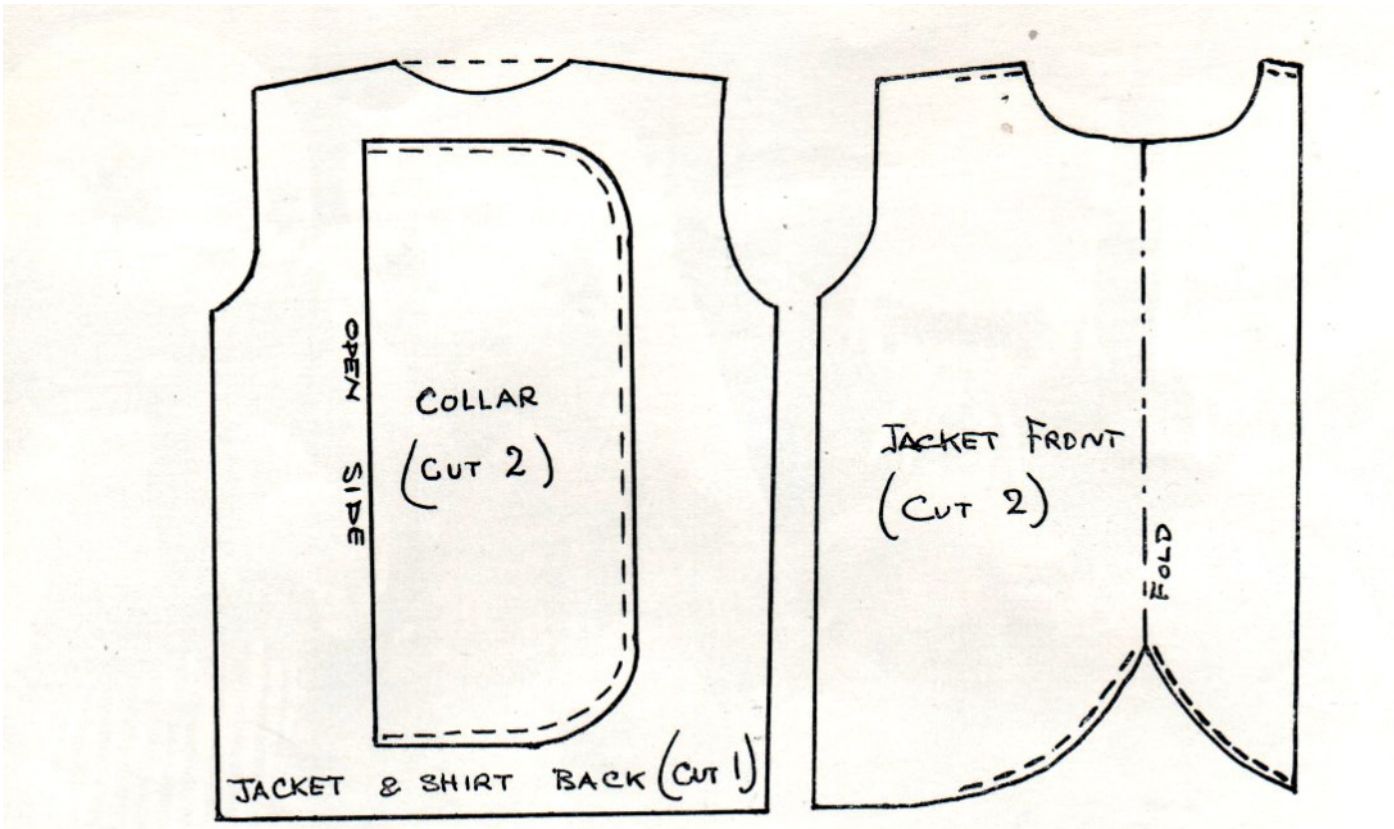
TROUSERS.—The pattern shown is the correct length for our standard puppets, in case you should be re-dressing one you already have. As our puppet kits have slightly shorter legs you will have to cut a little off the length of the pattern. Place the two patterns together outside inwards and join along dotted lines. Open waist, and press with opposite stitch lines together, join seams round legs and hem the bottom of each leg at the correct length. You will notice I have made the shoes look more pointed; this can easily be done with a knife and plenty of care.

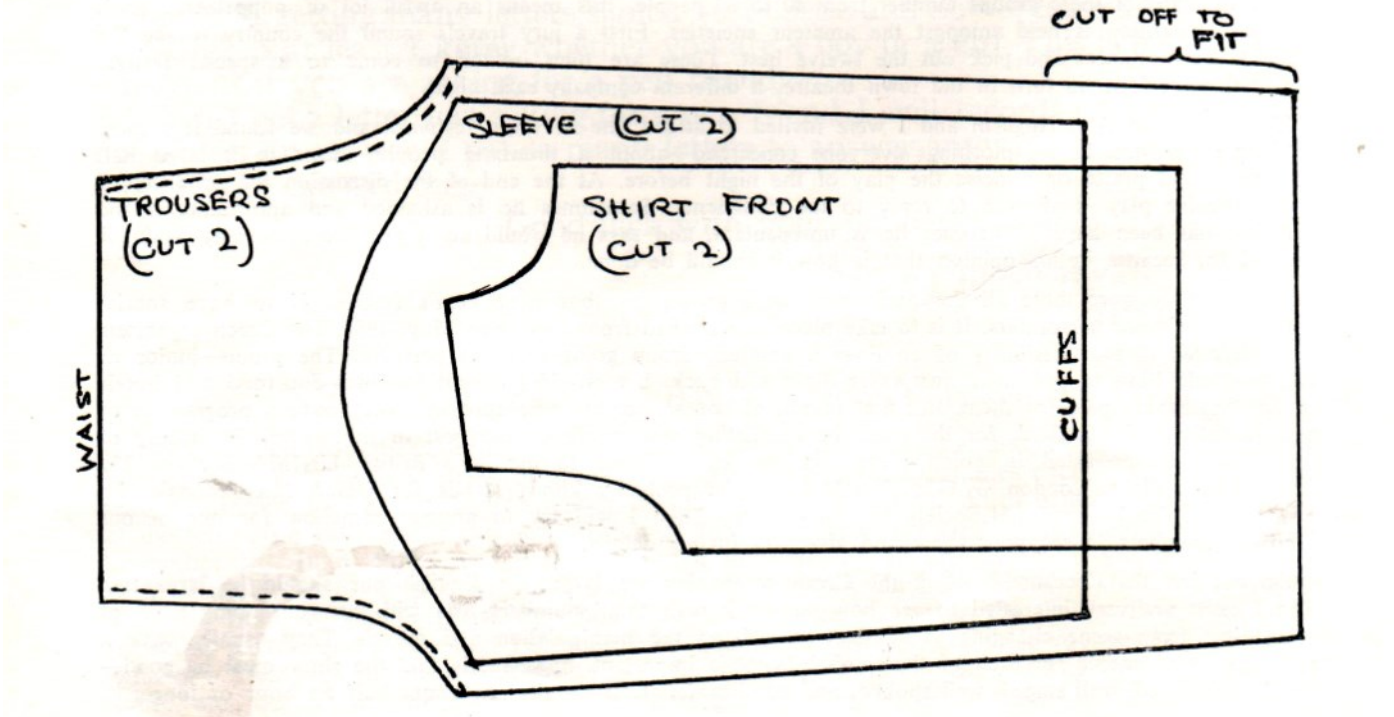
FIG. 3

You will need to make a guitar out of wood; a cord round his neck should hold the box end. A string is attached to the top end of the guitar, which then passes through his left hand and tied to the control. The string to his right hand must be long enough to let this hand hang down below his guitar when the bar to which it is attached is held level with the main bar. (Remember the kit controls are two single bars.) To operate, hold both bars in one hand and draw string back between other hand string and left head string. Move up and down to rhythm of music. Bounce and rock the contro. also to same rhythm. Occasionally kick legs and twist body.

FIG. 4

How to make clothes for the Pop Singer.



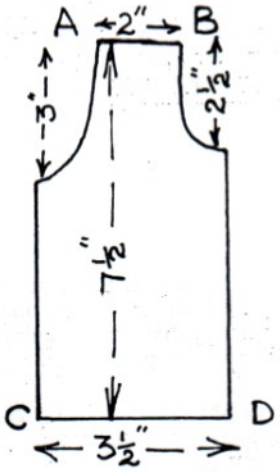


How to make clothes for the Cowboy.

MISS STITCHAM describes how to make clothes for a Cowboy

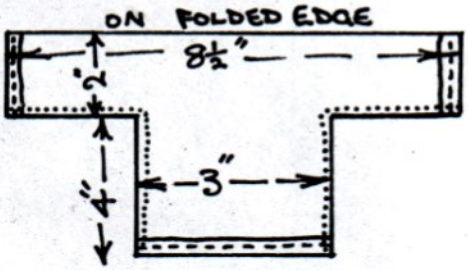
Trousers

Make a pattern this shape. Cut four from suitable material. I suggest brown or green. Hem top side AB and lower side CD.

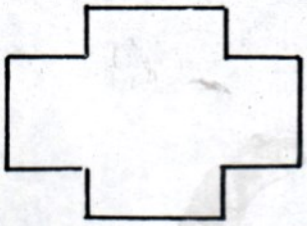


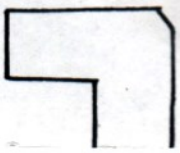
Abbreviations used:—
m/c.—machine
T.r.w.r.—Turn right way round
i.o.—inside out.

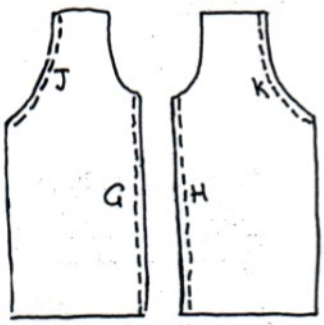
The Shirt



The shirt is the same as the Dutch boys shown in the last magazine. Cut out in one piece. First make a paper pattern. Place the pattern along folded edge of material, cut out, it will now look like this when opened out. Now turn back edges and machine, then fold again as before with wrong side out and m/c along seams under arms and down sides, as shown by dotted lines. T.r.w.r. and press. Fold arm to arm and snip corner off at fold for neck hole.

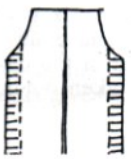




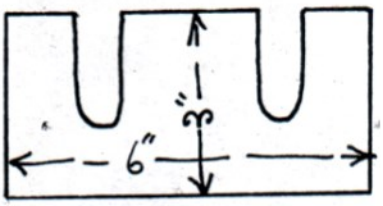


Place together in pairs inside out and machine along seams GH and JK. Now join each half by joining centre seam so—Turn right way round and iron.

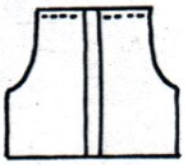
Now join the two outside seams by machining about ¼ in. seam. Use cotton the same colour as material as it will show. Fringe the two outside edges by clipping at short intervals.



Boy's Bolero—made from felt.



Cut a pattern as above, fold side over and m/c along top. T.r.w.r. Stitch buttons with embroidery silk.

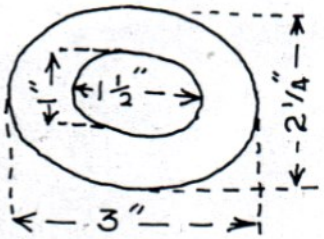


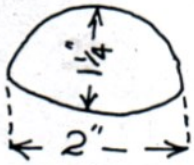
Scarf

A rectangle about 5 in. x 2 in. of some bright material will make him a scarf.

Hat

Cut brim to these measurements. Sew two hat pieces together round top seam.
Turn inside out. Insert hat through hole in brim and stitch round seam. Dent in top and there's your hat.

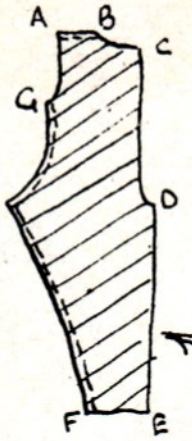




How to make clothes for the Red Devil.

Miss Stitcham explains how to make a ~~dress~~ for a devil

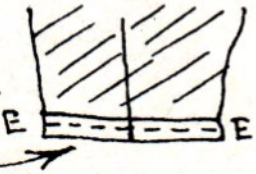
[N.B. Where the patterns are shaded the inside of the material is showing.]

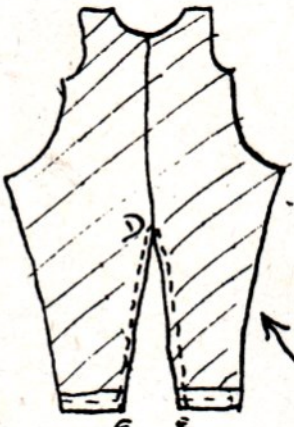


First cut four long patterns as overleaf. Also two arm patterns.

Place these body patterns together in ~~two pairs~~ so, with their outsides innermost, & sew along, in each case, seams A.B. & G.F.

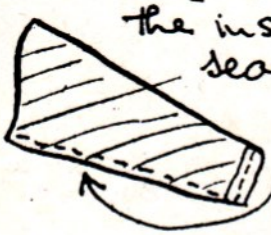
Now open each pair & turn up trouser bottom & sew along EE





Now while open, place these two pairs together (with outsides innermost) & sew along seams CD, one is the centre front seam & the other centre back seam. One of these should be sewn up only half way, so he can get in.

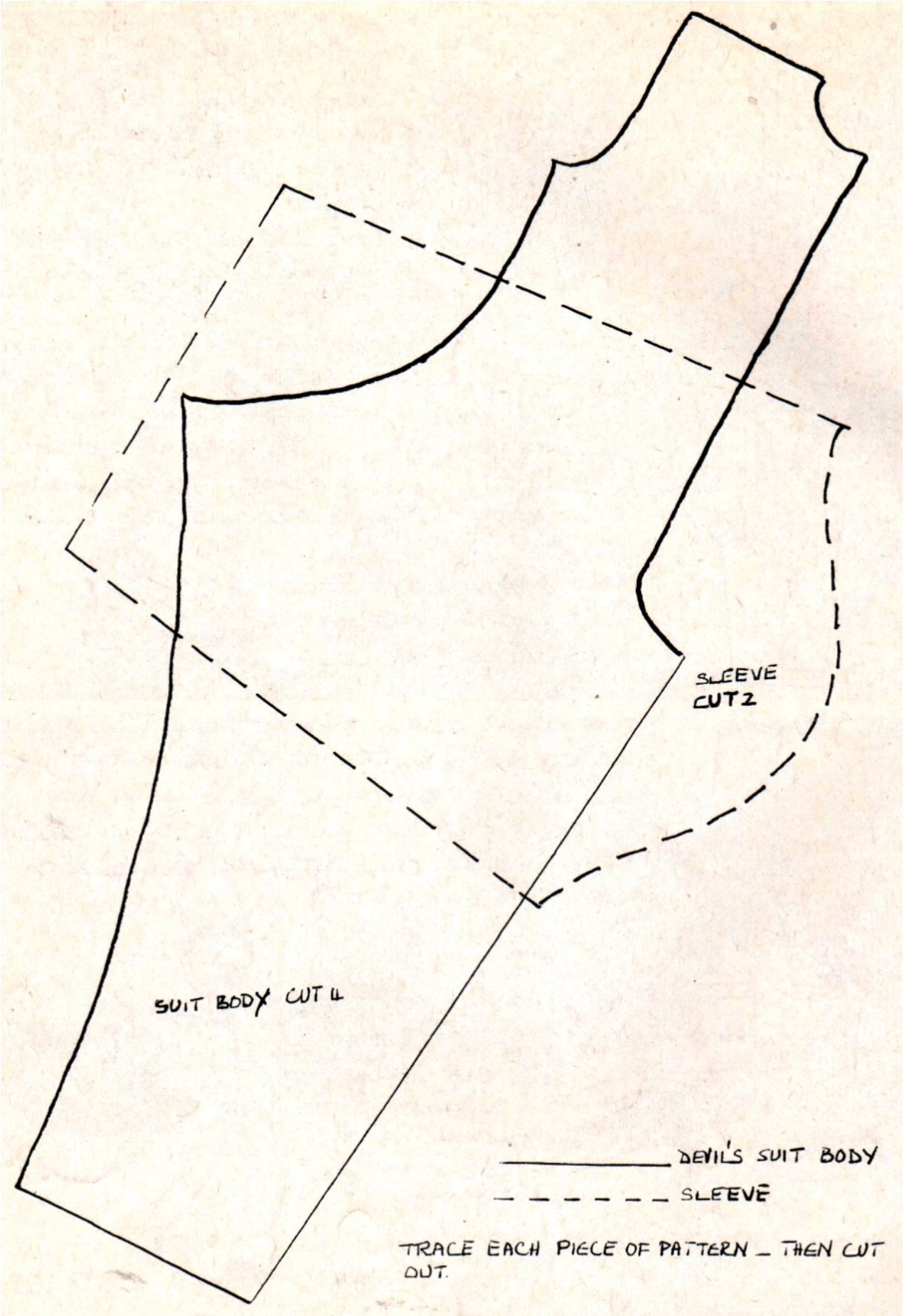
Fold now flat like this & sew along the inside trouser seam EDE.



Sew up sleeve so, & pass through armhole so & sew round seam.

A cloak can be made from a piece about 3" × 5". Suggest a bright red material for the suit, & cloak.

How to make clothes for the Red Devil.

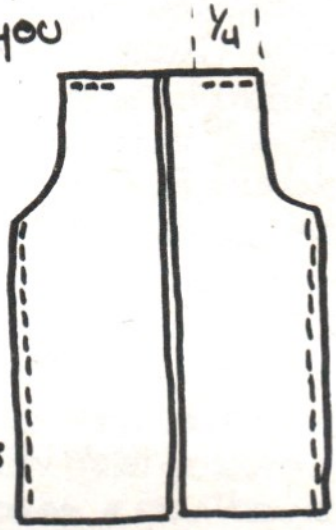


How to make clothes for Father Christmas.

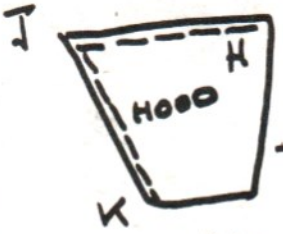
Miss Stitcham
9 Thread Needle
Street
Wareham.

Explains how to make a dress for Father Christmas

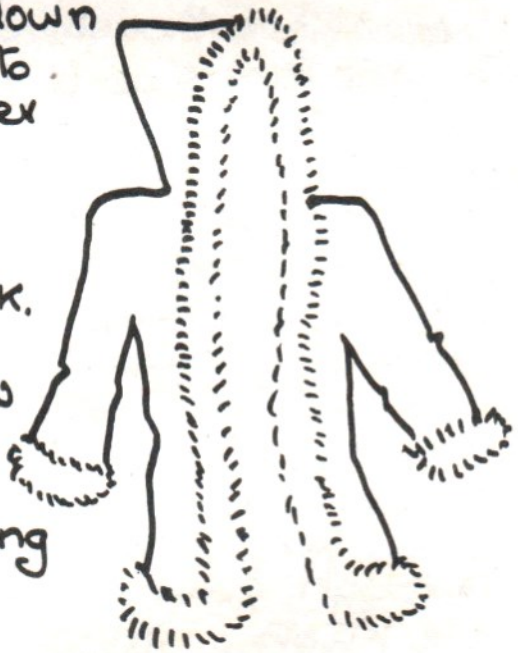
If you have a Gepetto you are half way there. Find some nice red flannel material.



Cut patterns as shown on next page. Lay two front pieces on back piece, sew down side seams & about ¼ way in from either top corner. Fold sleeve & sew down seam DE, Insert into armhole & sew round shoulder seams FG.

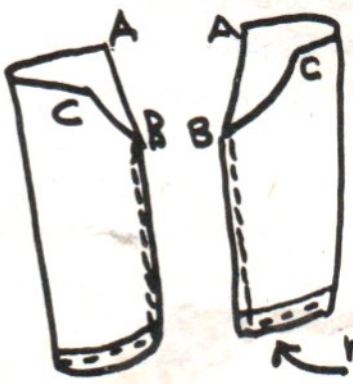


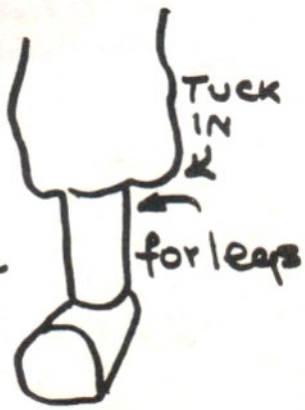
Cut the two hood patterns. Sew along top & back seams HJK. Attach to coat.



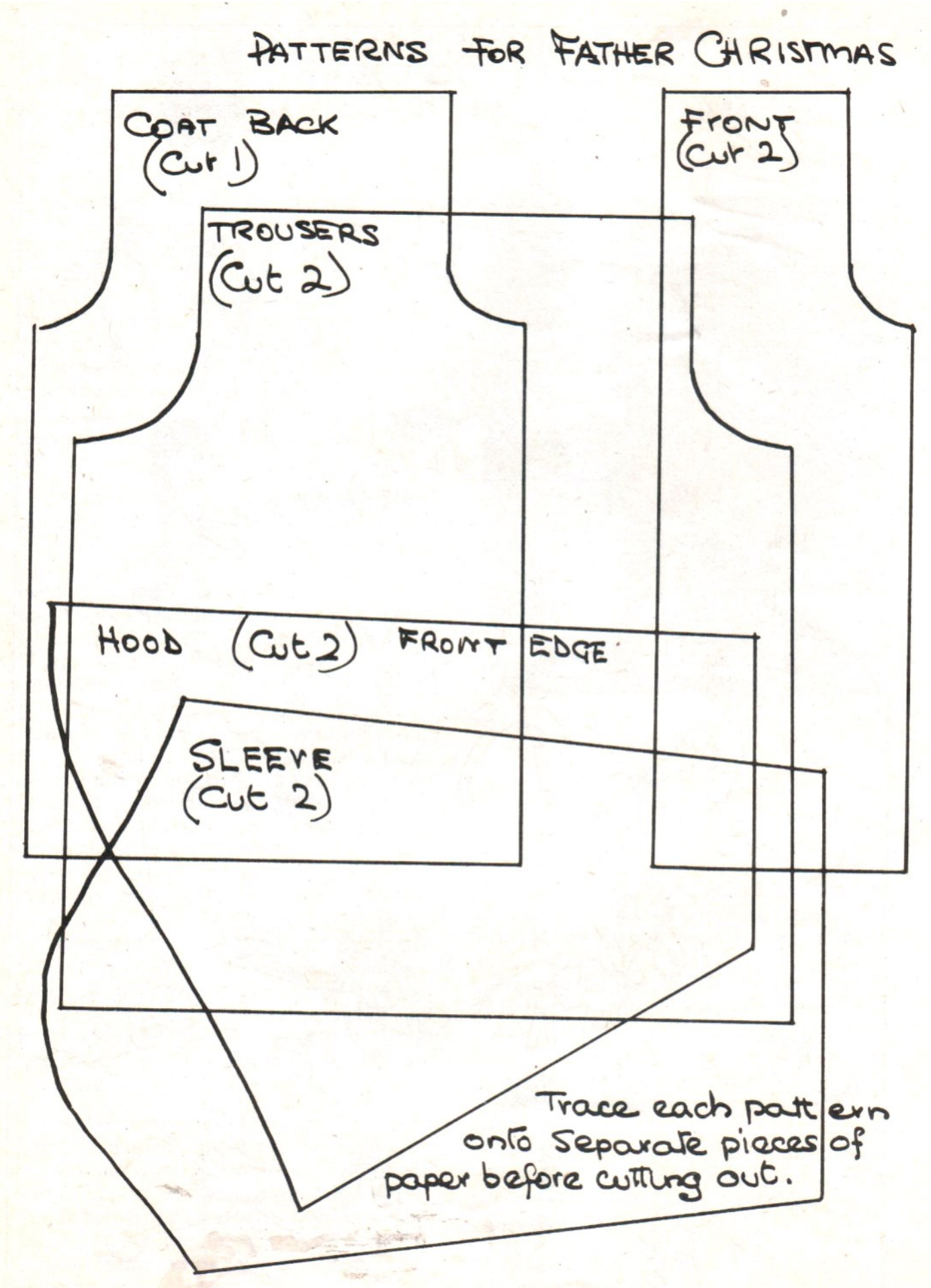
Now cut some long narrow strips of white fur fabric or if you cannot get this use white knit to make a white edging to coat, hood & sleeves.

TROUSERS. Fold each leg & sew down side seams. Place together — A to A, B to B, & C to C. & sew round seam & Turn right way round. Make tube I forgot to mention you must hem bottom of legs.



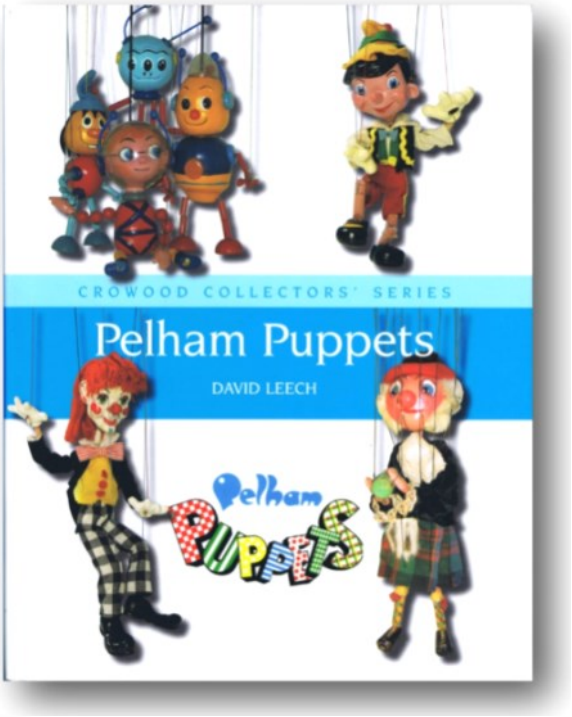


How to make clothes for Father Christmas.



"PELPOP" - The Story of Pelham Puppets by David Leech

Documents the history of Pelham Puppets from 1947 to 1987. The book also features a tour of the original puppet factory and a section detailing hundreds of the puppet characters that were produced. Everything you probably want to know about Pelham Puppets can be found within its pages.



All the patters contained in this booklet are taken from issues of PELPUP NEWS published between 1961 and 1983.

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Front cover puppet photographs by Imogen Parfitt
Vintage Pelham Puppet Shop - https://pelhampuppets.weebly.com

Compiled by David Leech

www.pelhampuppets.uk.com