



## *Petite Dress Canvas*

*By Nancy Maxwell James*

Create these sweet little paper and fabric dresses adorned with various embellishments and showcase them on a lovely altered canvas.

Please read directions thoroughly before starting projects.

## *Supplies*

Canvas  
Old Music or Text  
Matte Gel Medium  
Cheesecloth  
E6000 Glue

Craft Paint  
Mica Chips  
Paint Brush  
Mini Wooden Spools  
Pop Dots

Gesso  
Stencils  
Fabric Scraps  
Wire  
Wooden Mini Spools



### *Canvas:*

(1) Prime canvas with gesso or light base paint. Paint along the outer edge with the color of craft paint you wish to use.



- (2) Add old sheet music or text to the background of your canvas using matte gel medium.
- (3) Cut strips of cheesecloth and apply to canvas using matte gel medium.
- (4) Using stencil, add design to background of canvas using a craft paint color several shades darker than border color.
- (5) Add mica chips to back of canvas by sprinkling into matte gel medium.
- (6) Cut little strips of old music text and add along the edge of the canvas.
- (7) \*Optional wire attachment: I added a long piece of craft wire by drilling two holes in the bottom of the canvas (about ½ inch from bottom and side edges.) The wire was loaded with little scraps of fabric, and mini wooden spools. The wire was inserted into holes and twisted to secure.





## *Attaching Dress:*

- (1) Secure dress to wire hanger with two mini clothespins.
- (2) Using E6000 glue, attach the dress to pop dots. I added bits of the glue to the front and back. This will give the dress that 3-D look. Secure to center of canvas and allow time to dry. You may need to place a heavy object on dress to make sure it secures itself.



## *Supplies:*

Mini Clothespins	Assorted fabrics
Buttons	Beads
Vintage Laces, Old Hankies, Doilies, Tulle	Fabric Transfer Sheets
<a href="#">Beautiful Face Sheet 299</a>	Dress Hangers
Hangers	Needle and Thread
Charms (optional)	Sewing Machine (optional)

## *Dress Technique:*

The little dresses were made using basic stitches on the sewing machine. You can make your dresses as fancy as you wish, adding more elegant fabrics, trims and stitching.

(1) Place dress pattern (provided at the end of this tutorial) on doubled fabric or pattern papers and cut out through the two layers. The dress is made with a front and back. You may use craft batting, felt, calico, chintz, wool, and muslin fabrics.

(2) Set back of dress aside as you begin work on the front. Begin layering lace, tulle, cheesecloth on front. If you want to add more dimension and layers, add trims to bottom of dress.

## *Dress Embellishing:*

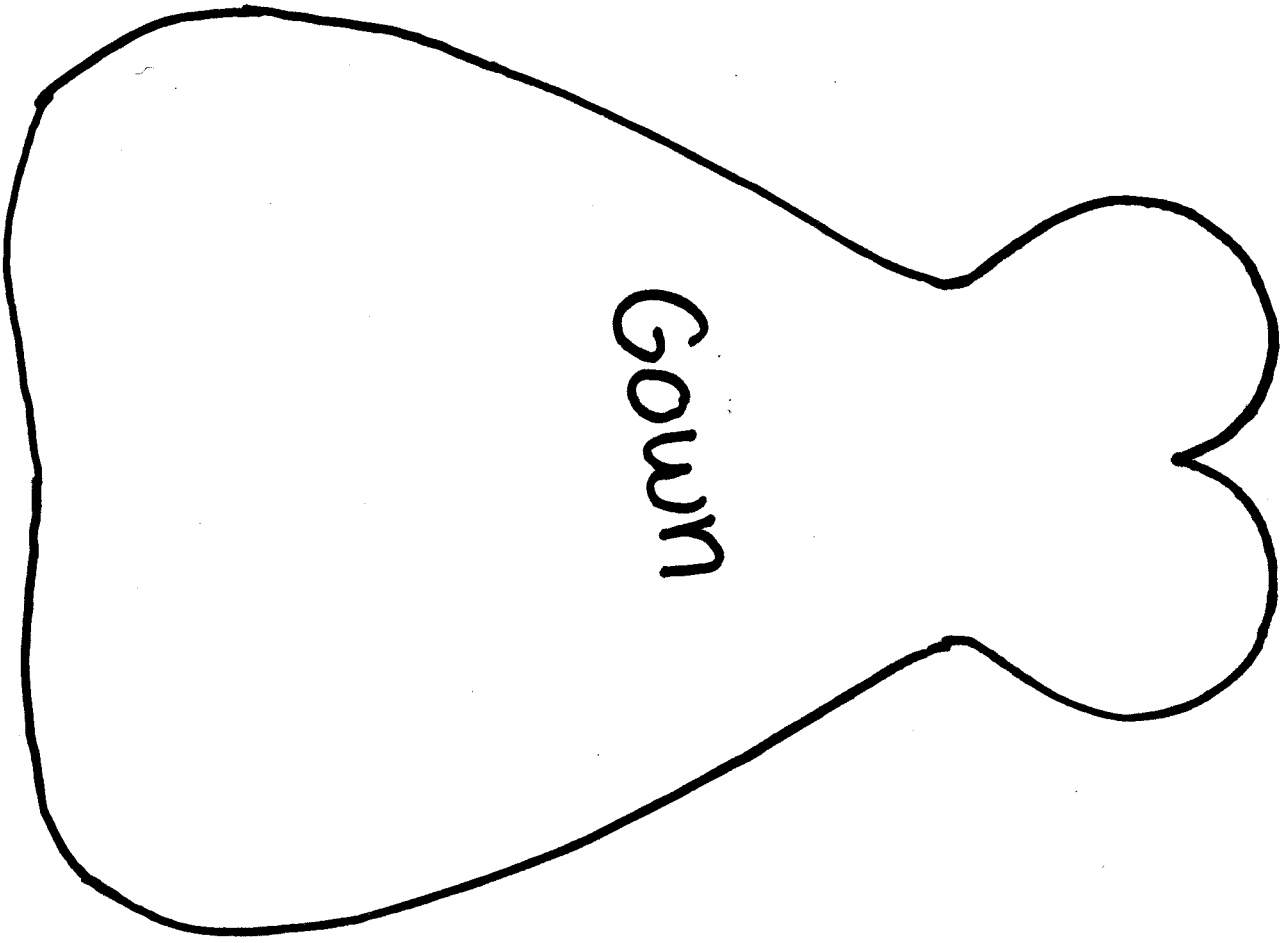
(1) To create a border at the bottom of the dress run a remnant of lace – overlapping the edges of dress and trim. Sew into place using small hand stitches (or machine). Add Mother of Pearl buttons and seed bead embellishments.

(2) Create a double lace edge to the bottom of the dress by layering scalloped vintage lace. Apply a bottom layer, and add the second over top. Embellish the edge with beadwork.

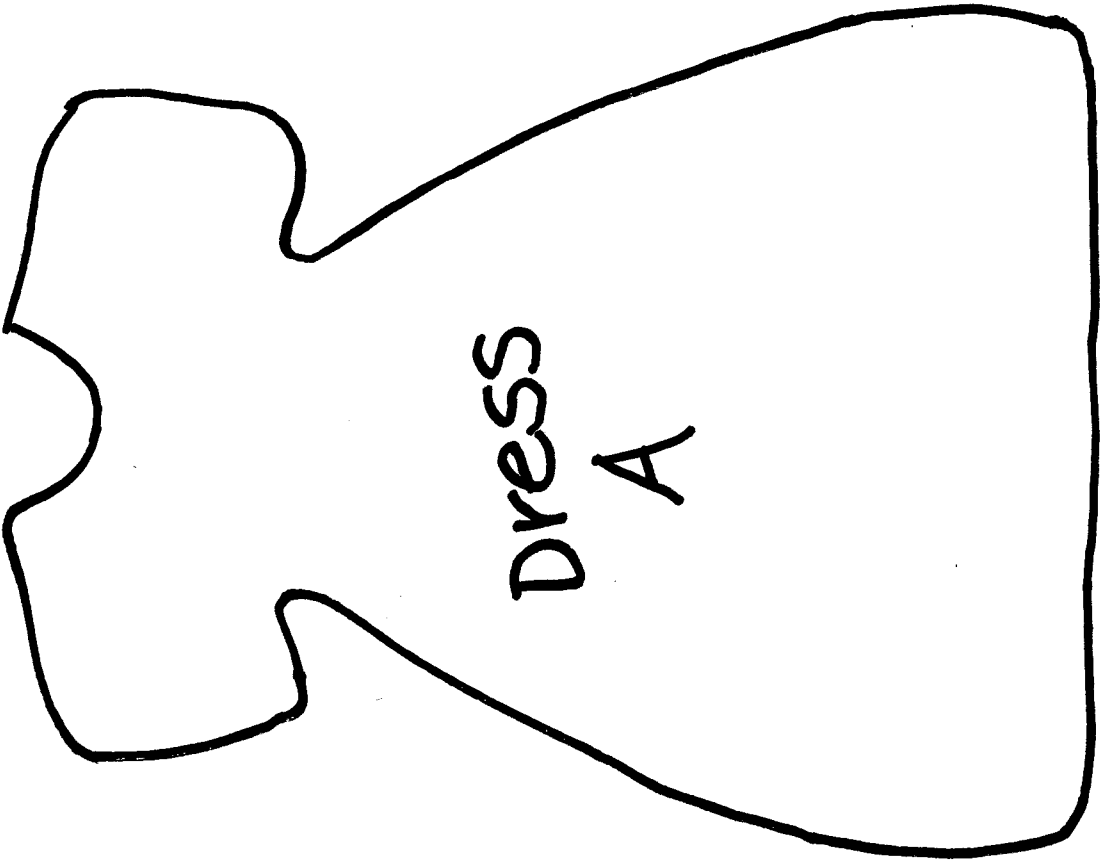
## *Collage Images:*

Add a collage image to the front of this dress by printing out a face onto Fabric Transfer sheets. The collage image was then layered on to a piece of muslin and cheesecloth. This can be sewn on a pattern paper or cloth dress.

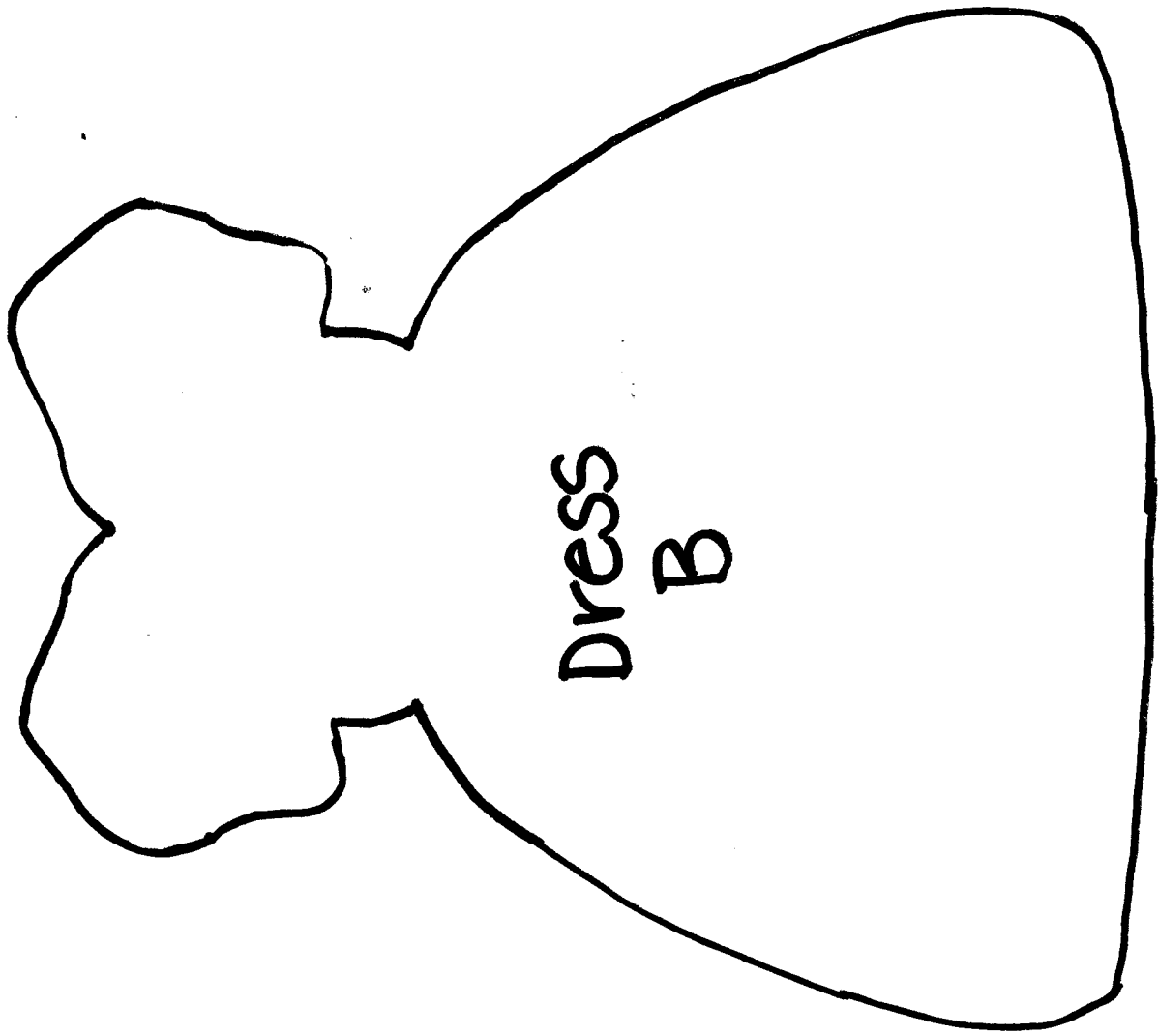




Gown



Dress  
A



Cut 2 of each shape  
(front & back)