



Photo by: [Celina Bailey, Petit a Petit & Family](#)

Braided Dress PDF Pattern

sizes 2T thru 6T

Braided Dress

Pattern by Jess Abbott || sewingrabbit.com

Braided Dress:

The braided dress is a full gathered skirt kids dress with a braided neckline. A classic pattern silhouette with a comfortable fit, that little kids will love. A cute every dress for more casual fabrics, or can be dressed up for that special occasion. The braided neckline, with optional back-weave, gives this dress a truly unique look sure to make your little girl smile.

SIZE CHART:

Age	2T	3T	4T	5T	6T
Chest	21"	21.5"	22"	23.5"	25"

SEAM ALLOWANCE:

The pattern includes a 1/2" seam allowance.

FABRIC RECOMMENDATIONS:

This fabric was intended for use with **Woven Fabrics** - cotton & cotton blends, seersucker, muslin, broadcloth, lined eyelet, lightweight denim, linen & linen blend, velvet, satin

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- 1.5 yards of fabric
- coordinating thread
- Pattern pieces found [HERE](#)
- 2 - 3 buttons

ADDITIONAL PATTERN PIECES NEEDED:

Skirt Panel

Age	2T	3T	4T	5T	6T
Cut (2)	13L" x 22W"	13.5L" x 22.5W"	14L" x 23W"	15L" x 24W"	16"L x 26"W

Braid Straps: Cut (3) 44"L x 3"W pieces of fabric

SEWING INSTRUCTIONS:

Sew the Skirt Bottom

Finish all raw edges of the skirt with a serger, zig zag stitch or pinking shears.

Place (2) skirt pieces right sides together matching up side seams. Sew (1) side seam fully from top to bottom. On the other side seam sew almost all the way to the top, leaving 2" unsewn from top edge.

Press seams open.

Turn bottom hem under $\frac{1}{4}$ " towards the wrong side of the fabric and Press. Turn under again $\frac{1}{4}$ ", enclosing raw edge, and Press. Sew hem.

Sew a line of gathering stitches along the top edge of the skirt and set aside.



Sew the Bodice

Take the front bodice and back bodice and sew right sides together at ONE side seam. Repeat for mirror image lining. Be sure to sew on the same side seam for both fabrics!

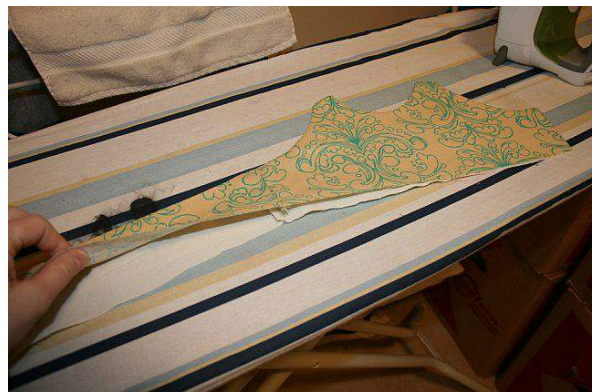


Place the exterior bodice and the lining bodice right sides together, sew open side seam and upper edge, using a regular straight stitch, leaving the bottom edge open.

Turn right side out and press.

DO NOT EDGE STITCH (yet).

Turn bottom edge of bodice $\frac{1}{4}$ " towards the wrong side (inside) and press.



Gather the stitches along the top of the skirt until they are the same width as the bodice.

Slip gathered edge inside the bodice and pin, matching up the open side skirt seam with the open side edge of the bodice. Sew.



Sew buttonholes along one side of opening in bodice, spaced evenly. Sew buttons on other side to match up.



Sew the Braids

Taking the 44" x 3" piece of fabric, start rolling on one side, pinning as you go, until you get to the end. It helps to roll it in cycles, little by little, pinning and unpinning.

When you get to the end and it is all pinned up, gently put a thin strip of fabric glue at the end of each roll along the entire strip.

For a thicker, more firm roll, wrap fabric around piping and glue at the end.

Repeat for all 3 strips.



Once the fabric glue is all dry, with the three pieces all lined up, take a piece of tape and stick them together to a surface you can work on.

Start braiding, being sure to keep the braid even and consistent. When you reach the end, secure the bottom with tape as well.

Wrap the tape around the top and bottom of your braid to secure.



Finding the middle of your braid, attach to the top front center of your bodice and pin in place

**I found it easier to push the pins through the back.*



Sew by hand (unless you have a heavy duty sewing machine).

Attach braid to top of dress. As you can see, I hand sewed all along the back, whipstitching it on top, and kind of just securing the bottom.

****Optional step - if you want the braid to join together in the back.***

Try the dress on your child at this point, and decide where you want the MIDDLE braid to come together for your child in the back bodice.



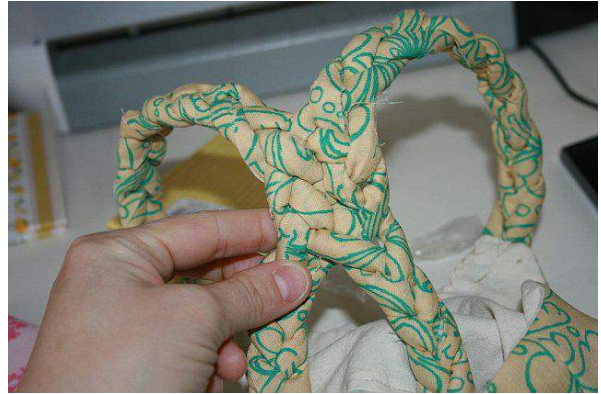
The braids will be approx. this long (from front bodice to back middle:

2T = 5.5" || 3T = 6" || 4T = 6.5"
5T = 7" || 6T = 7.5"

Undo the bottom of the braids, at your marked point braid length, and start weaving them together.

Continue weaving for 1 - 2", then separate braids, and re-braid as normal straps again for 2 - 3". See Photo:

****A good weaving tutorial can be found [HERE](#).**

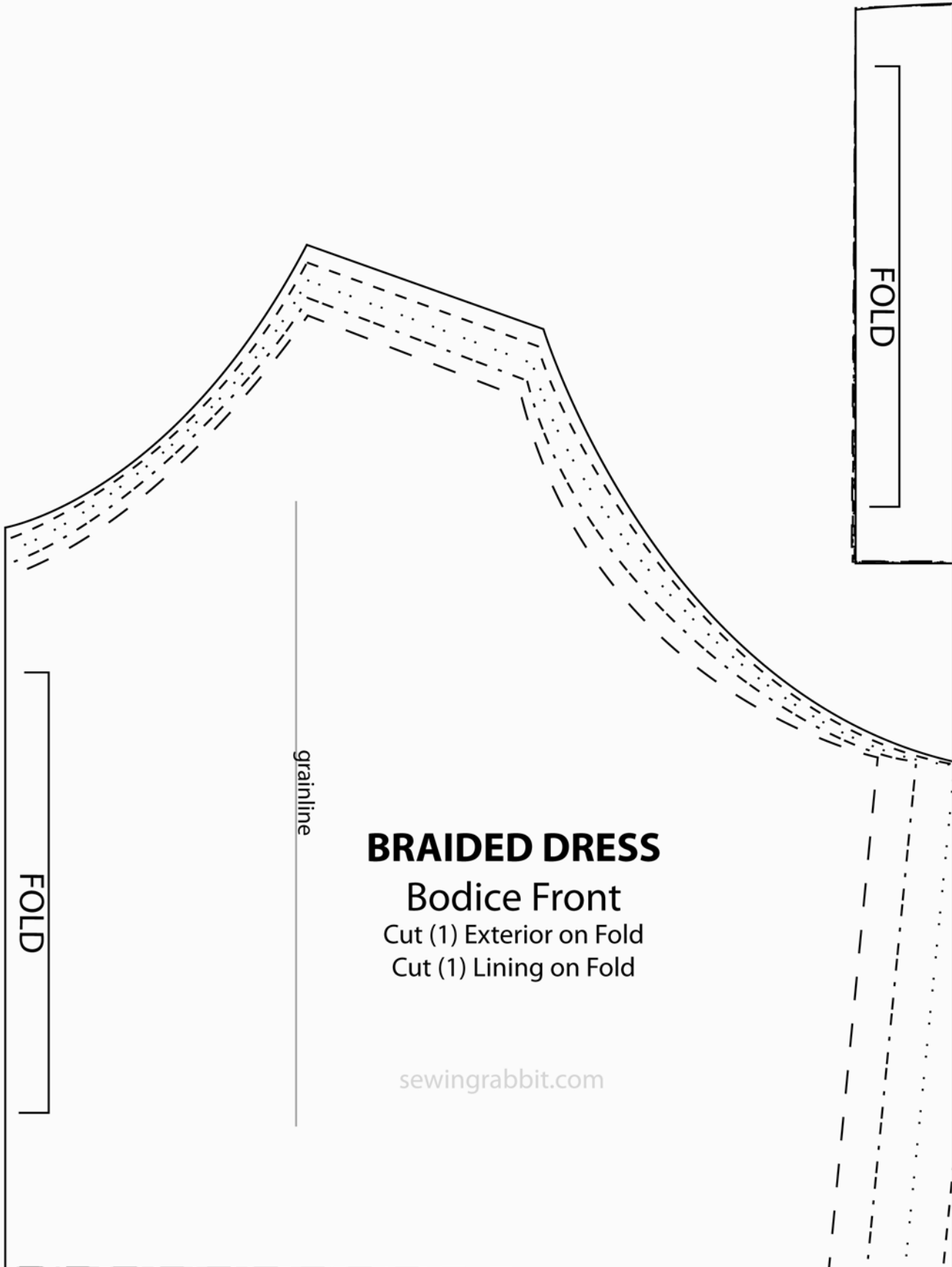


Fold your back bodice in half, determining the very center of your back bodice. Measure 1" on either side of the center, and carefully using your seam ripper - create an opening in the top back bodice upper edge seam 1" wide on either side.

Slip braids ends inside, pin and very carefully sew closed.

And you are finished!





BRAIDED DRESS

Bodice Front

Cut (1) Exterior on Fold

Cut (1) Lining on Fold

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grainline

BRAIDED DRESS

Bodice Back

Cut (1) Exterior on Fold

Cut (1) Lining on Fold

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2"
Test
Square

SIZE GUIDE

— — —	2T
- - - - -	3T
.	4T
- - - - -	5T
—————	6T