



VARIATION DRESS WITH DIFFERENT COLLAR AND SLEEVES

To make a dress with a pointed collar and puff sleeves, follow these instructions:

Step one Cut out the dress pieces in the same way as the main dress, but replace some of the pattern pieces with the alternative pieces on the template sheet, as follows:

- Replace the Curved Sleeve pieces with the Puff Sleeve pieces
- Replace the Sleeve Facing pieces with the Puff Sleeve Cuff pieces
- Replace the Collar pieces with the Pointed Collar pieces

You'll also need to apply interfacing to the WS of the cuff pieces.

Begin assembling the dress in the same way as the main dress, in *Simply Sewing* issue 1.

MAKE THE COLLAR

Step one Using the Pointed Collar pieces, make the pointed collar in the same way as for the main dress, but before turning the collar RS out, cut diagonally across the corners to help reduce bulk. **01**

Turn RS out and press the collar pieces flat. Then attach the pointed collar in the same way as for the main version.

MAKE THE SLEEVES

Step one Take the Puffed Sleeve Cuff pieces and press each one in half lengthways, with WS facing. Unfold and press another 1.5cm (5/8in) to the WS along one edge. **02**

Open out all folds and place the short ends together, with RS facing. Pin and sew together. Press the seam open.

Step two Stitch two rows of gathering stitches between the notches on the bottom edge of the Sleeve and another two rows of gathering stitches between the two dots on the sleeve head, in the same way as for the main dress. **03**

Fold one Sleeve piece with RS together so that the underarm raw edges meet. Sew together. Repeat with the other Sleeve. Press the seam allowances open and finish them off with a zigzag stitch.

Pull up the gathers along the lower edge of the sleeve. With RS facing, pin the Sleeve to the flat edge of the Cuff, matching up the notches and adjusting the gathers evenly to fit the Cuff. Tack in place if you wish, then stitch the seam –

this will be tricky because you'll have to sew around the cuff in a circle, repositioning and moving the fabric to the side as you go. Press seam allowances towards the Cuff.

Fold the Cuff piece along the fold you pressed earlier, so it meets the inside of the Sleeve, then fold under the 1.5cm seam allowance you pressed earlier. This fold should meet the seam used to join the Sleeve and Cuff.

Hand-stitch the cuff in place using ladder stitch. To do this, fasten your thread and bring the needle up close to the starting point in one section or fold of fabric. Insert it directly across into the other section to make the first rung of your ladder. Bring the needle up a short way along in the second section and take it across to the first section to make the next rung. Repeat this process, snaking back and forth from one side to the other, gently pulling the thread to bring the two fabrics together.

INSERT THE SLEEVES

Step one Turn the bodice WS out and turn the Sleeves RS out. Insert one Sleeve into one armhole. Pin it in place, matching up the notches and dots, and pull up the gathers and distribute them evenly. Tack the Sleeve in place and then stitch the seam. Finish the seam allowances together and press them towards the Sleeve. Repeat with the other Sleeve.

Complete this version of the dress by following the remaining steps of the main dress, in *Simply Sewing* issue 1.



This dress is one of 20 projects in *Learn to Sew with Lauren*, £25, by Lauren Guthrie, finalist on the BBC's first series of *The Great British Sewing Bee*. To find out more, go to www.octopusbooks.co.uk