

EXPRESSIONS®

Original Designs for the Doll Industry, Inc.

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18" Elder Elf

by Dianna Effner

Supplies Needed:

1/2 yd. Windsor comfort Donte Fabric 100% Polyester (hvywt #86156 Flesh)*
18-20 gauge copper wire
75" – 12 gauge insulated copperwire (armature)
14" – 1/8" Round Elastic (head connection)
Polyfil
Low Temp Glue gun and Sticks
Needle Nose Pliers
Heavy Duty thread and needle
Fired and Painted porcelain parts
Leather or felt lining cut to fit neck indentation in s/p to prevent grinding

*C & R Crafts

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Body Pattern and Construction

Cut out all pattern pieces, you will have:

Body Back – Cut 2

Body Front – Cut 2

Cloth Arms – Cut 2

Breasts – Cut 4



Body:

Stitch darts and leg tucks on body back pieces. Lay body back pieces right sides together stitch center back seam, clip curves.

Lay body front pieces right sides together stitch center front seam, clip curves.

Matching side seams sew from dot to bottom of leg opening. Matching center seams, stitch in seam.

Arms; Fold one arm piece right sides together lengthwise, sew up to dot only – repeat for other arm piece.

Breasts: With right sides together stitch around breast piece leaving top open for stuffing. Trim around seam to $1/8''$.

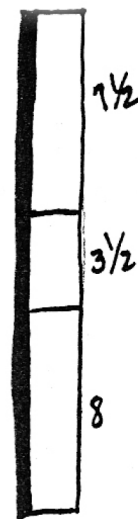
Armature Construction:

Cut 2 -19" lengths of 10 gauge insulated wire. Following your armature pattern, twist the two lengths of wire to form a central sphere.

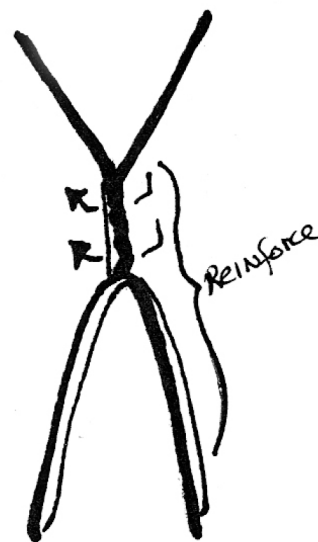
Cut a $3\frac{1}{2}''$ piece of 12 gauge insulated wire place on spine section and wrap with tape for reinforcement. Cut 2 – 15" pieces and fold in half to fit legs – wrap with tape to reinforce legs. See figs 1 & 2

Bend links at shoulders and hips checking the shape against the diagram provided (see armature insert) trim as necessary.

Leaving armature over diagram, slip fired and blushed arms and legs into position. Check with diagram to see if wires are cut to proper length. Check against diagram until everything is in correct alignment and proportion.



(fig. 1)



(fig. 2)

Basic Body Construction:

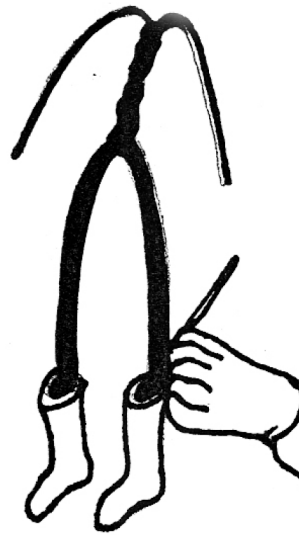
After construction your armature, attach feet. (fig. 3) Keeping body shell inside out, slip feet into leg openings. Pull leg opening up to top of leg matching the casing line to the groove in top of legs.

Line up inside leg seams of cloth body to inside of porcelain legs, and leg back tucks along center back of legs.

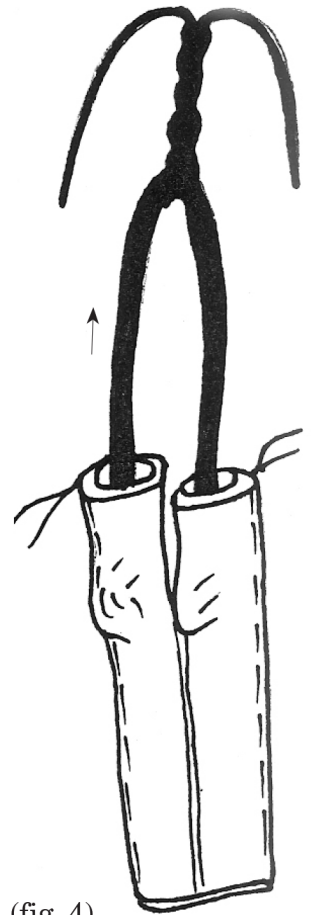
Cut 2 – 5" pieces of 20 gauge copperwire. Position wire around leg openings so that it lays in the groove. Secure by twisting ends of wire together tightly with needlenose pliers. Cut off excess leaving 1/4" tail, fold flat against leg. Repeat for the other leg (fig. 4).

Turn body shell right side out over legs and armature. Stuff legs and body with polyfil, pack around armature keeping wire in center of body. Stuff a bit more in derriere area. Before closing top of body, loop 14" length of 1/8" elastic for head attachment over wire armature. (shoulder section)

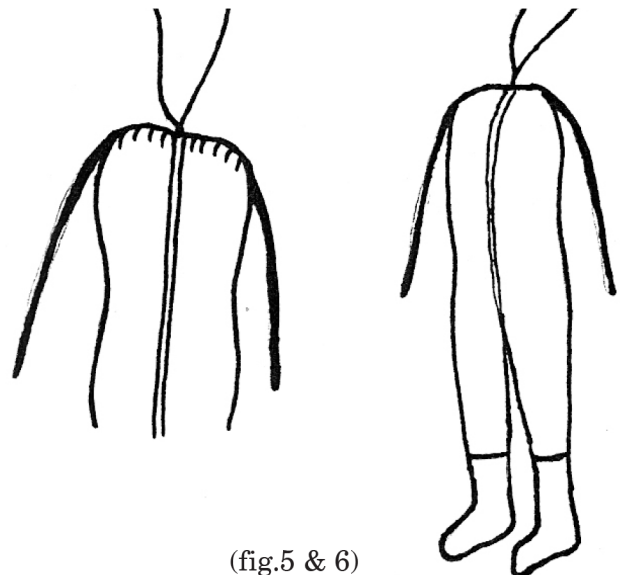
Add a small amount of stuffing over shoulder area then fold over edges of body top and stitch shut with heavy thread (fig. 5 & 6)



(fig. 3)



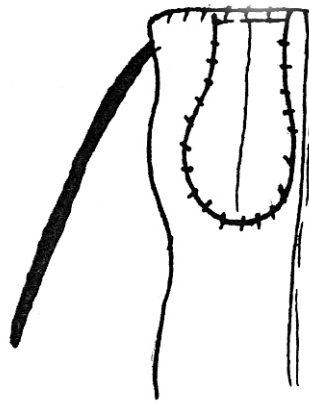
(fig. 4)



(fig.5 & 6)

Breast Attachment:

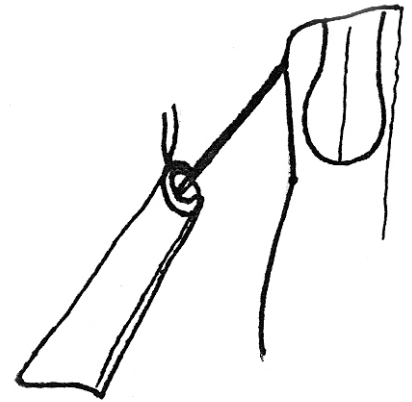
Turn breast pieces right side out stuff lightly and fold in half, seams going down the middle (fig. 7) pin on body, making sure the front of breast is facing out. Hand stitch into place.



(fig.7)

Arm Attachment:

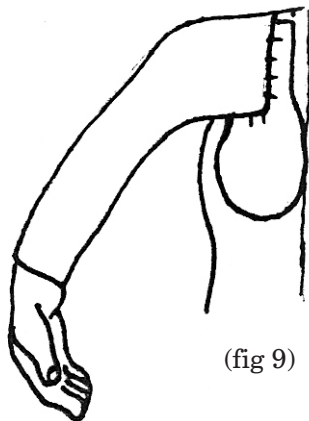
Slip cloth arm inside out over porcelain hands, seams lined up with palms of hands. Cut 2 -4" pieces of 20 gauge copper wire, place in groove and secure with needlenose pliers, leaving π" tail. Fold flat against arms. Using your armature pattern for proper placement, attach arms with low temp glue gun (fig. 8)



(fig.8)

Stuff arms with poly fil, taking care to keep the armature wire well padded and in the center of arm. Fold under edges of shoulders and pin in place. At this time it is a good idea to set your shoulder plate on the body to be sure of proper fit. Add or remove stuffing from shoulder area.

Once you are satisfied with the fit, stitch cloth arms to body using heavy duty thread. (fig. 9)



(fig 9)

Place shoulder plate on body, pull strands of 1/8" elastic up through neck of s/p and one strand of elastic through each hole in top of head, tie securely, head should be adjustable but not loose. (fig. 10)



(fig 10)

