

WHITE

Easy-wrap, Fleece Baby Jacket



Serge or sew up this colorful fleece jacket for your favorite little girl or boy. Add a ruffle to the edge for a little girl or serge the edges with bright decorative threads for a little boy. Soft and cozy, this fully-lined jacket would be just warm enough for crisp fall days!

NECESSARY SUPPLIES:

Jacket pattern (e.g. Baby Wrap Jacket,
Gooseberry Hill patterns or
1/2 yard of fleece
3/4 yard of cotton lining fabric
Two decorative buttons
Pearl Crown Rayon, Designer 6 or other
heavier decorative threads
Polyester sewing thread

Spray adhesive
Water-soluble stabilizer
Gathering foot or ruffler attachment
Button sew-on foot
White Superlock 1934D serger
White Quilters' Star 1780 sewing machine

DIRECTIONS:

1. Select the size desired from your pattern pieces and cut both fleece and lining for each.

2. Following the pattern instructions, all seams allowances are 1/4" wide.

3. For the girl's jacket, cut a 2"-wide bias strip to create the ruffle for the edge. Measure around the edge of the jacket and double that length for the ruffle. With wrong sides together, fold the strip in half lengthwise and using either your sewing machine or serger, gather the edge.

SEWING MACHINE: Attach the gathering foot to your machine, select a straight stitch, and adjust your stitch length to the longest length. Tighten the thread tension to a higher number depending on the fullness desired. With wrong sides together, fold the strip in half lengthwise and place the fabric along the right edge of the foot. Gather the two edges together.

If you would prefer using a ruffler attachment, screw the attachment to your sewing machine. Select a straight stitch and a long stitch length. Following the instructions with the attachment, set the adjusting lever to gather at every stitch. Make any necessary adjustments to the fullness on the attachment as you sew.

SERGER: Gather a ruffle on your serger quickly and easily. Set up your machine for a 4-thread balanced overlock stitch. Increase the differential feed to the highest number and lengthen the stitch. Begin serging.

If additional gathers are desired use the "ease-plus" method by placing your finger behind the presser foot as you serge. Your finger should slow down the movement of the fabric under the foot increasing the gathers. Or pull the needle threads to pull up more fabric for fuller gathers.

4. Sew the shoulder seams. Using the flat construction method, attach the sleeves across the crown. Sew the side seams and sleeve seams in one step.

5. For the lining, sew the shoulder seams. Sew in one sleeve and side seam. Sew the other side seam only. The second sleeve will be sewn later.

6. Baste the ruffle to the outer edge of the girl's jacket and at the cuffs being very careful not to stretch the fleece.



7. Pin the lining to the jacket, right sides together. Stitch around the wrist seam on the one sleeve and around the edge of the jacket, making sure the ruffle is to the inside.
8. Stitch the remaining sleeve seam leaving a 6" opening in the middle.
9. Stitch the sleeve at the wrist with right sides together making sure the ruffle is to the inside.
10. Pin the sleeve to the lining at the armseye and carefully stitch in place.
11. Pull the sleeve through the hole in the sleeve and pin the opening closed.



NOTE: For the smaller sizes, stitch the sleeve in entirety and slipstitch in place by hand after sewing the wrist seam.

12. For the boy's jacket, the fleece and lining are stitch together very quickly using a balance 3-thread wide overlock stitch. Sew the shoulder seams on both the fleece and lining.
13. Sew the sleeves into both pieces and then in one step sew the sleeve seams and side seams. You will now have a complete fleece jacket and a complete lining.
14. Thread your serger for a balanced 3-thread reversible overlock stitch placing the heavy decorative thread in the upper and lower loopers. Thread the needle with the polyester sewing thread. Clip into the fleece and trim away about a 3" section of the 5/8" seam allowance.
15. Using spray adhesive, with wrong sides together, place the lining inside the fleece matching the edges. Baste around the curved edges. Round any sharp curves or corners to make it easier to serge around gradual curves. Be sure to sew a test sample using both the fleece and lining fabric to check the thread tensions and stitch length desired.



16. Position your fabric, in the middle of the cutaway seam allowance, under the foot up to the needle and so the remaining 5/8" seam can be trimmed away. Serge slowly around the wrists and outside edge. Stop about 1-1/2" before you overlap your original stitches and inadvertently cut the decorative threads. Lower the blade and carefully begin to stitch over the first stitches.
17. Mark the placement for the buttons and buttonholes. Before stitching the buttonholes, stabilize the area with a water-soluble stabilizer on top. Thread your sewing machine with the polyester sewing thread and increase the stitch length to accommodate the bulk.

18. Mark the placement for the buttons. If possible sew on the buttons by sewing machine using the button sew-on foot.

