

## The Art of Embroidered Paper Dolls



As with most embroidery designs, there is no specific right or wrong way to do embroidered paper dolls. But I have found that some methodologies work better than others.

For the doll, I prefer to hoop a medium weight cut away stabilizer. I then cut a very heavy interfacing, such as Peltex, to fit inside the hoop. If you have the ability to run a basting stitch prior to embroidery, you will be assured that the design will not shift. If you cannot baste the design, a temporary spray adhesive designed for embroidery will also work.

For the clothing, I have found that hooping both organza and a tear away/wash away stabilizer (Floriani makes an excellent one) works the best. For the best result, put the stabilizer on top.

Once the doll and clothing are done, cut closely but not into the stitches. I usually tear the stabilizer away, which allows me to cut very closely to the organza. Some people even use a burning tool to melt the last bit of stabilizer.

On some of the outfits, there may be an open space between an arm and the body. I.E. the arm is bent and the hand is on the hip. In cases like these, please do not cut out the space between the body and the arm.

Aileens makes a product, Tack it Over, that works very well to keep the clothing on the dolls. It looks like white glue but dries with a slightly tacky finish. I don't use a lot, just enough to keep the clothing on. It can be found at most craft stores.

But the most important suggestion is to remember that we are NEVER too old to enjoy paper dolls.

Sandy

All Granny's Girls

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