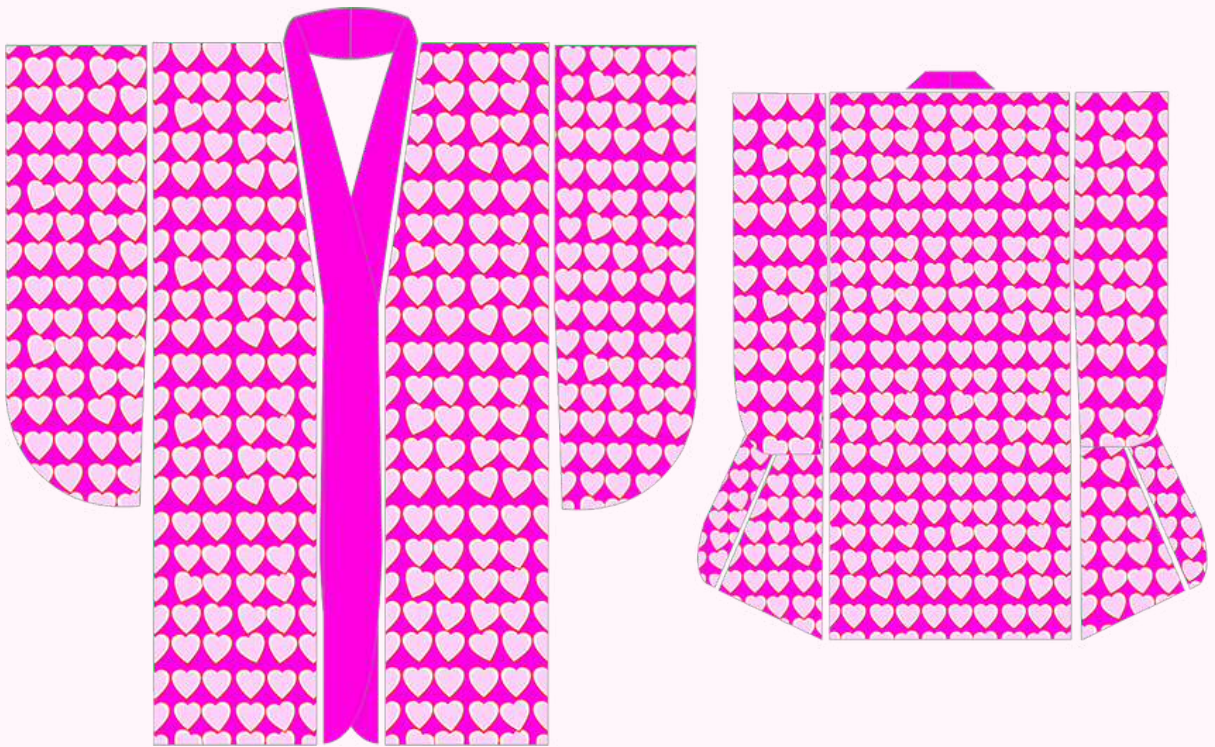




Kimono Making Guide



わびさび
wabi-sabi



Gather together everything you need

2 A sewing machine (optional)

A hand sewing needle.

Some good quality sewing thread.

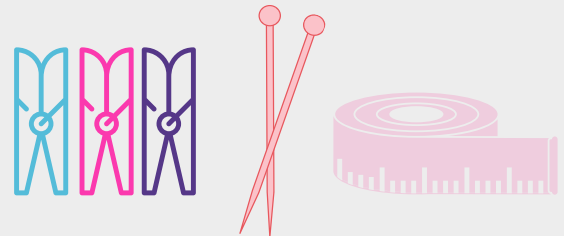
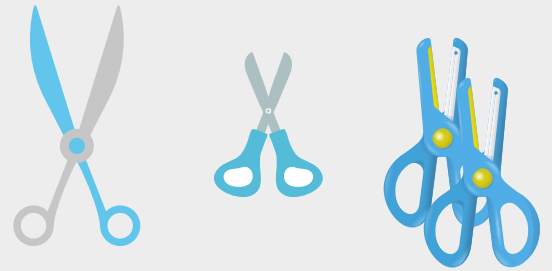
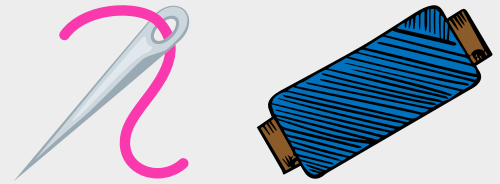
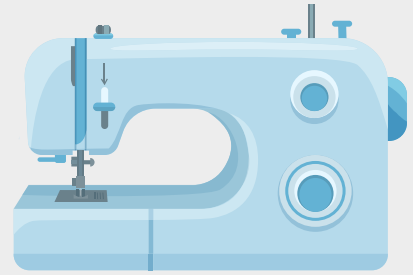
You can sew our projects together by hand or use a machine - it's up to you!

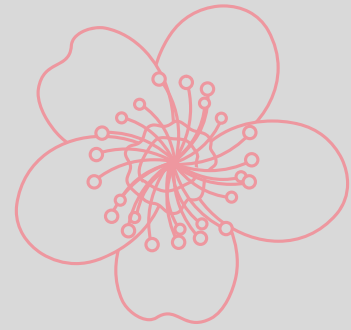
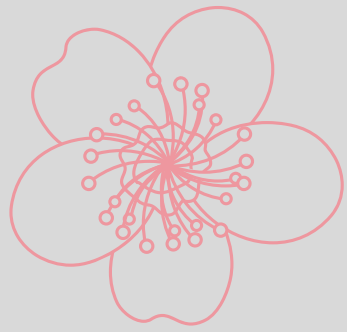
You will also need some fabric scissors for cutting out your pieces, snips for cutting loose threads are useful but not essential. If you are cutting out the paper pattern pieces you will also need some paper scissors.

Fabric clips are best to hold the layers of fabric as you sew. A tape measure is also useful when making clothing.

Note we do not recommend using pins if you are making for or with a child - disappearing fabric marker pens are also useful but not essential.

A pressing station to press your seams as you go along and again please make sure children are supervised at all times.





Cutting out

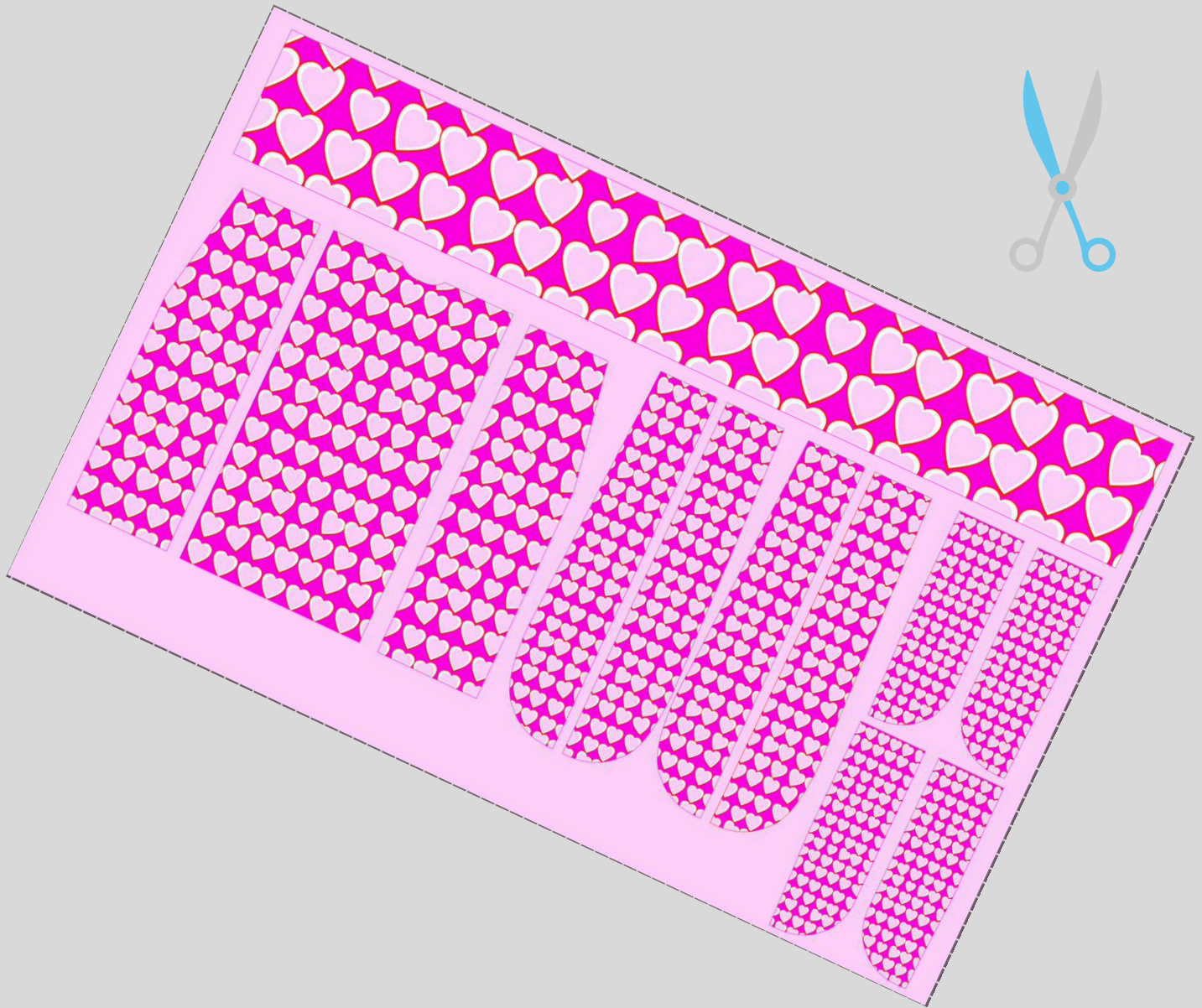
3

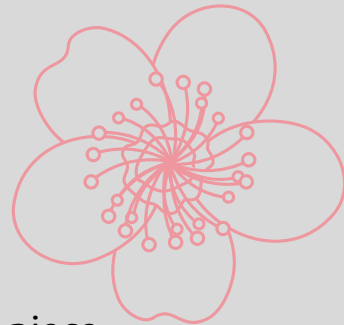
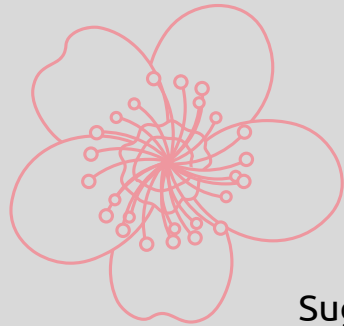
You may want to press your fabric before you start to cut out.



If you have our kit then go ahead and carefully cut out your kimono pattern shapes - take your time.

If you purchased the pattern on its own or you are using a fabric of your choice please follow the guidelines on the following pages for cutting out.





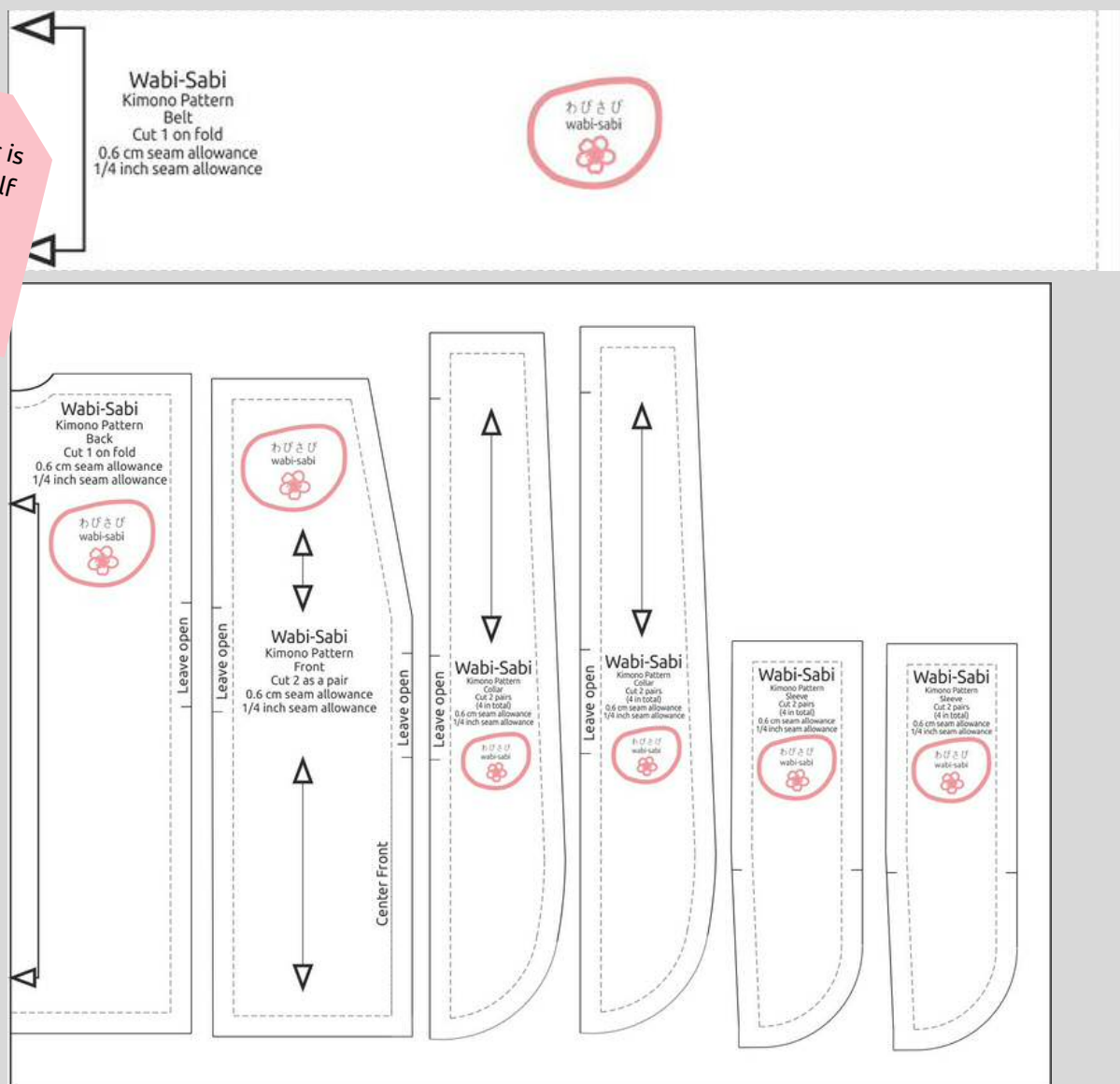
Cutting out continued

3

Suggested lay plan guide for cutting on a folded fabric piece - without obi (belt).

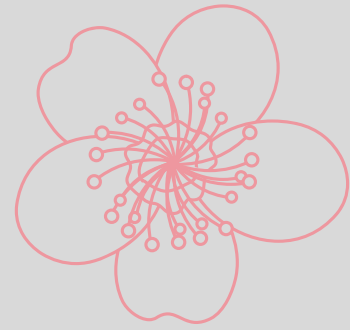
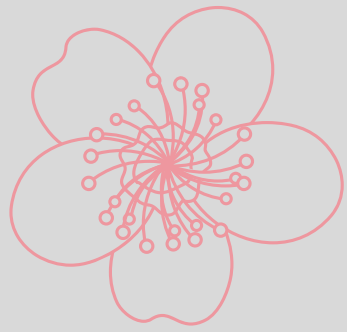
If you are cutting out your pattern pieces and plan to use a contrast fabric for the obi then lay the fabric out as indicated below. Place the back pattern piece on the fold of the fabric - You will need 25 cm x 50 cm

Note: the fabric is folded and in half here making a double layer



If you are cutting out the obi in the same fabric as the kimono then you will need 55 cm x 33 cm - Use the same lay out guide and simply place the obi pattern above as shown.

If you are cutting the obi in a contrast fabric you will need a piece approximately 8 cm x 55 cm - the obi size and shape is your choice and you will find more guidance in later pages.



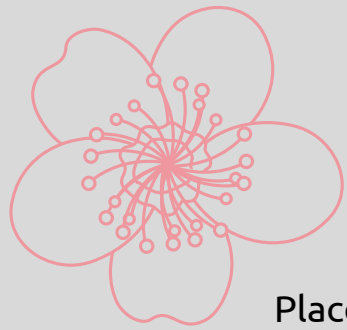
Cutting out continued

3 If you prefer to cut out on a single layer of fabric - place the pattern pieces on the fabric as shown below. The advantage of this method is that if you are using a printed fabric you can see exactly where the print lies on each pattern piece.

It is helpful in this case to make 4 collar pattern pieces and 4 sleeve pieces .

You will need a fabric piece 33 cm by 55 cm or you can use a quarter meter of fabric (25 cm) and lay the obi to the right of the main pattern pieces.





Lets prepare to start sewing!

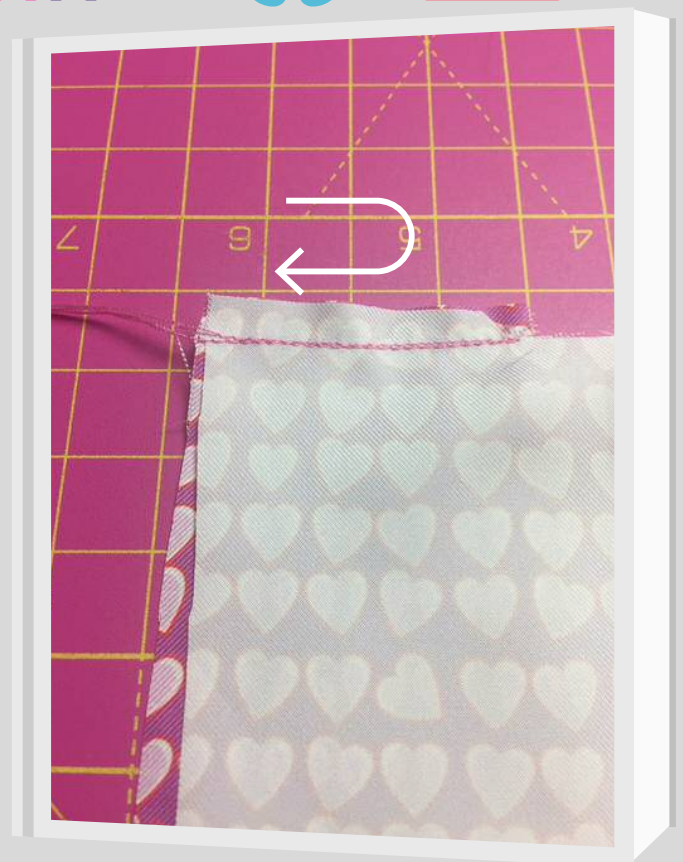
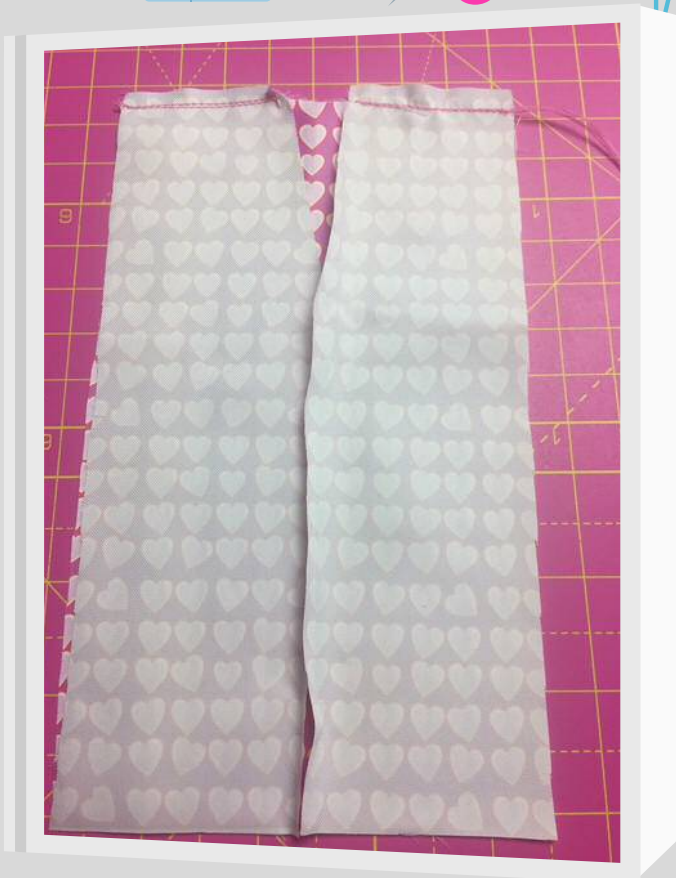
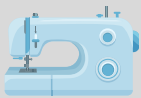


Sewing the shoulder seams

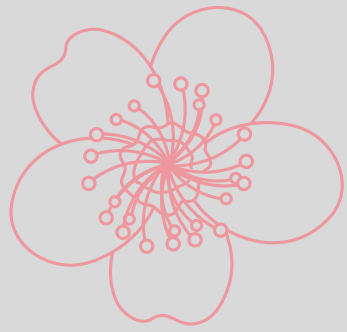
4

Place the back kimono right side up on the table - take the 2 front pieces and match them together at the shoulders making sure the center front of each front piece meets at the center front - sew both shoulder seams. Use clips to hold the fabric sections in place.

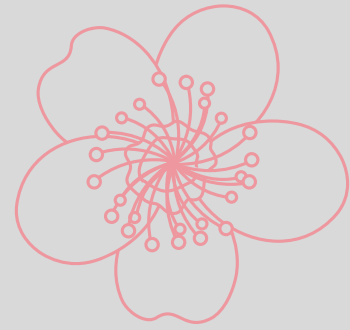
I use a technique I call the U turn technique when sewing these tiny garments - it helps avoid the machine chewing up the fabric and makes a strong seam without having to back tack. Sew from one edge of the seam, stopping with the needle down at the end of the seam and turning the work around and sew back to the start!



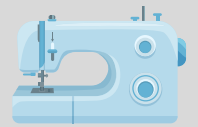
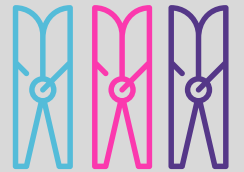
Press and neaten the shoulder seams towards the back - how you choose to neaten the seams is up to you - if you have a serger or overlocker the seams are designed to be wide enough to take an overlocked edge. You can zig zag stitch the raw edges or apply special glue to stop the fabric from fraying!

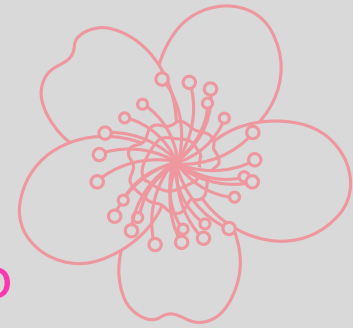
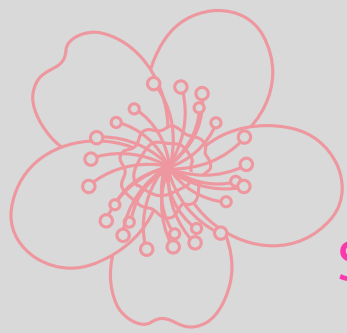


Preparing the sleeves



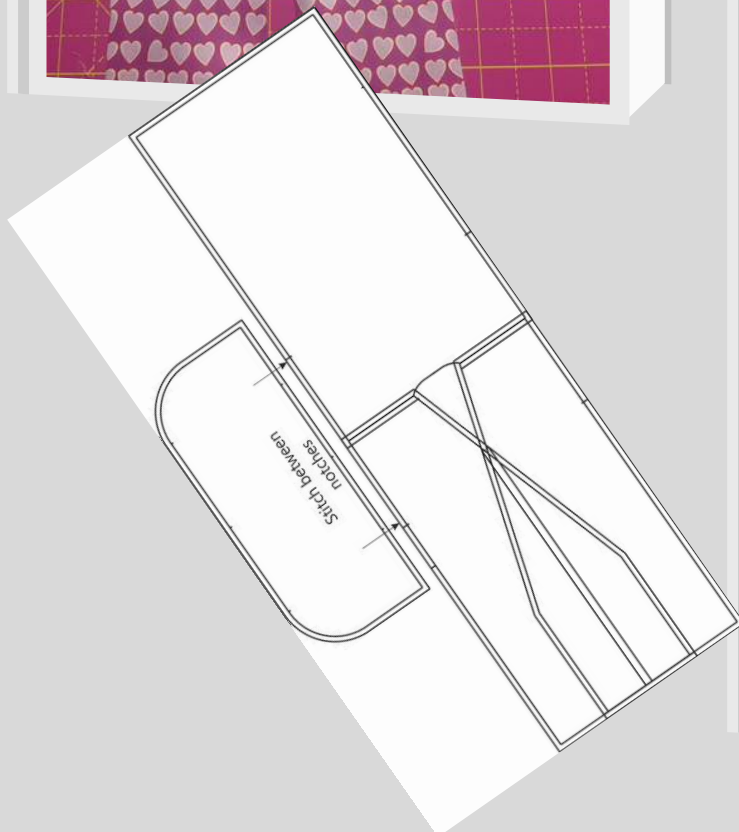
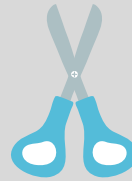
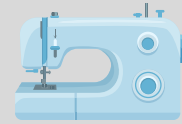
- 5** Sew the sleeve seams in the same way you sewed the shoulder seams, again neaten and press them towards the back.

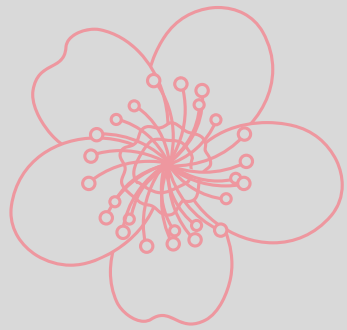




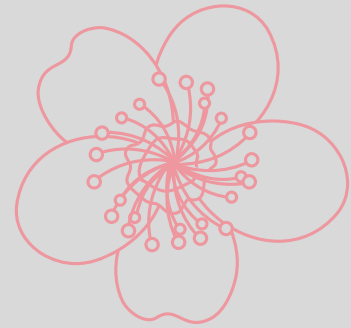
Sew the sleeve to the main kimono

- 5** Place the sleeves to the main body, with right sides together, matching at the shoulder seam - sew between the notches - remember the lower part of the sleeve is left unsewn for now - I use a disappearing fabric marker to remind me of the notch positions (The notches can be found on the pattern pieces).



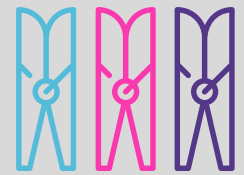


Sleeve sewing continued



5

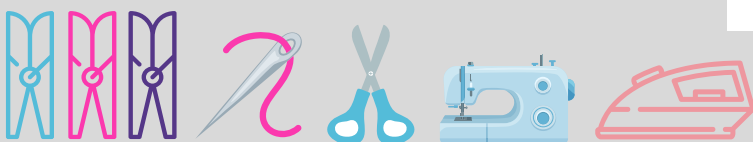
Press the sleeve hems inwards as shown - remember we have 6mm seam allowance. The sleeve seams can be neatened at this point.



Sleeve sewing continued

- 5 Place the kimono folded flat as shown and stitch from the underarm to the sleeve hem around the curved edge of the sleeve. Continue to stitch from the sleeve hem to the notch position on the sleeve outer edge.

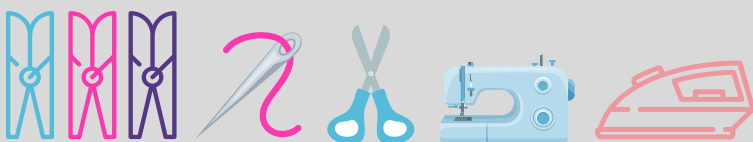
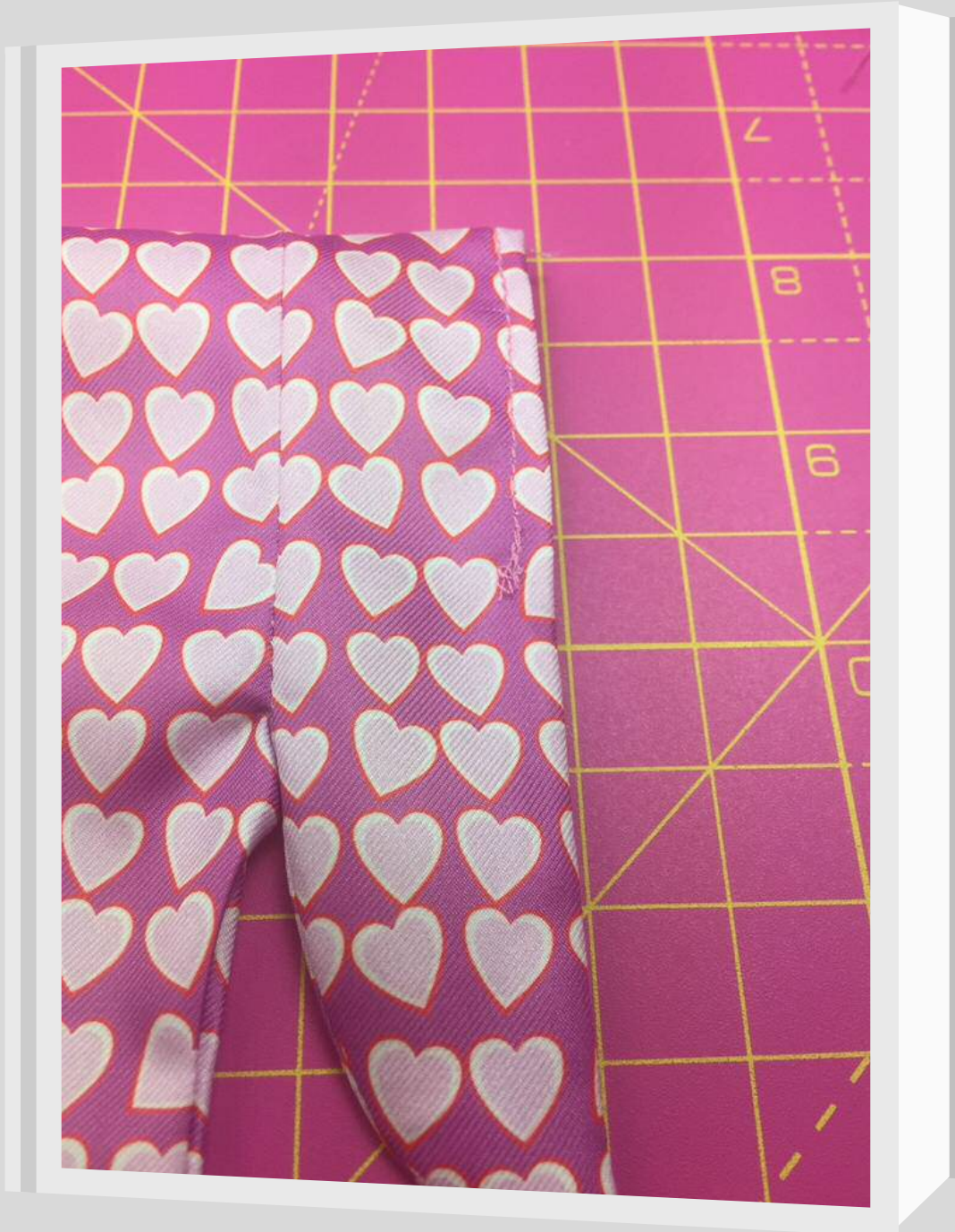
Continue to sew the side seams of the main kimono. You have 2 choices here, you can leave openings between the notches as marked on the pattern and this will allow you to pass the belt through the inside of the kimono or you can stitch from the underarm position to the hem line and wrap the belt around the outside of the kimono as I choose to do.



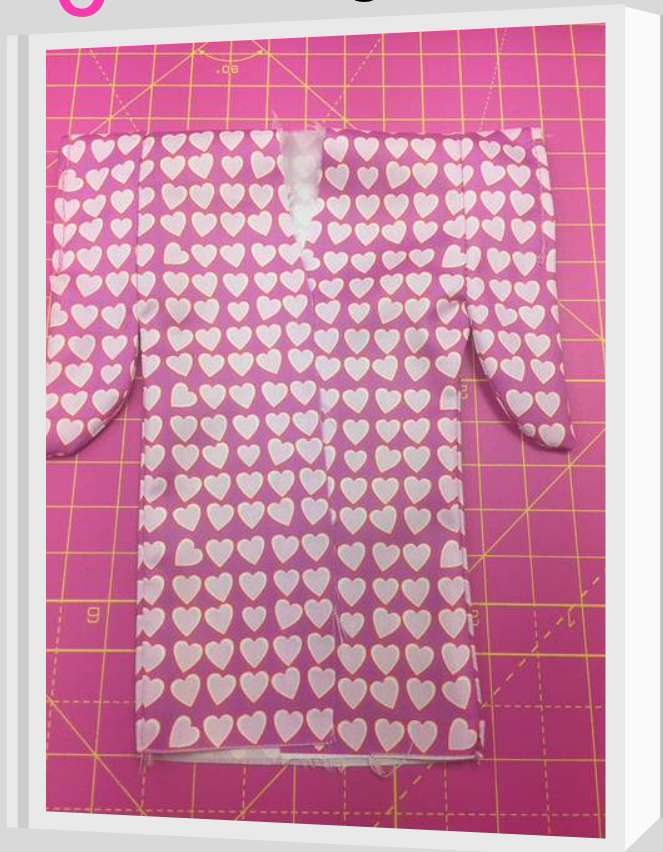
Sleeve sewing continued

5

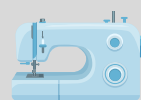
Turn the kimono to the right side and top stitch the sleeve hem back - you have the crease lines you pressed in earlier to show you where to fold. This row of stitching is a little tricky as your machine foot is quite large and the opening is small, It is possible to machine stitch, however you may want to finish this hem by hand.



6 Hemming the kimono



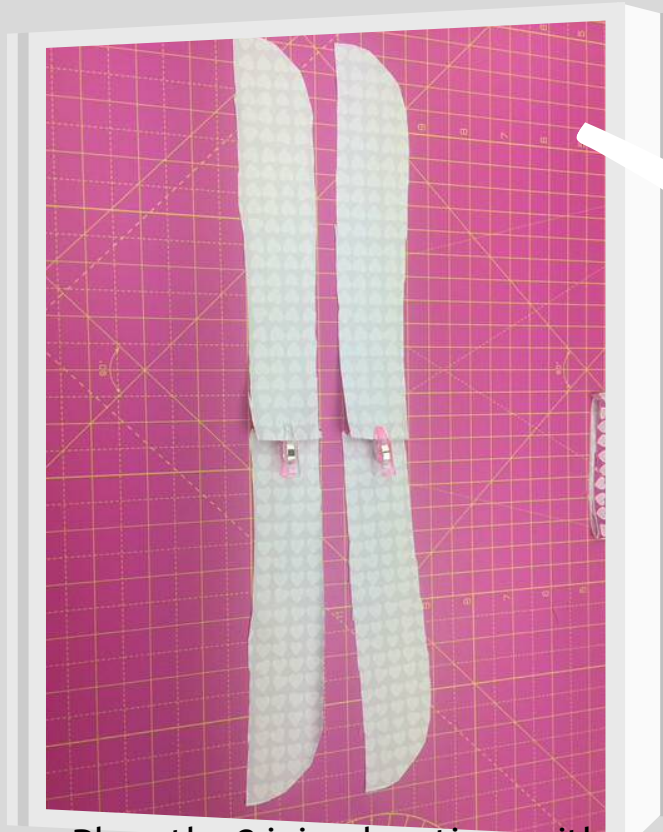
Turn the kimono through to the right side, take a little time to shape and turn through the sleeves



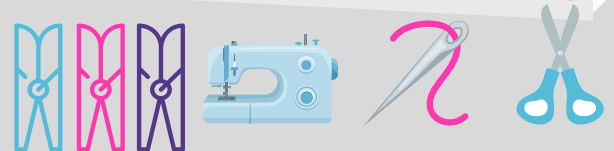
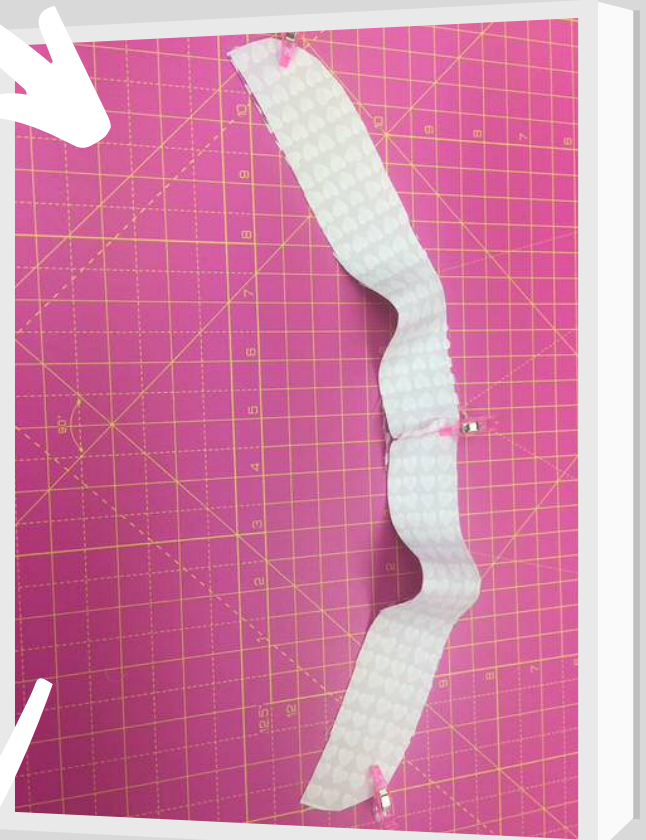
Neaten and press the kimono hem upwards and stitch into position.

7 Preparing the collar

Take the 2 sets of collar pairs - place with right sides together and sew a seam at the back neck



Place the 2 joined sections with their right sides together and sew around the curved edge - leave the straight edge open.

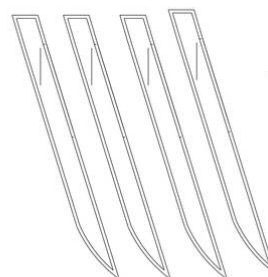


Turn to the right side and press the edges into position.

Some diagrams to help again



Take the 4 collar pieces



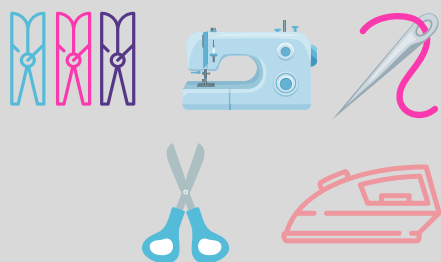
For each set of 2, seam at the center back



Attaching the collar

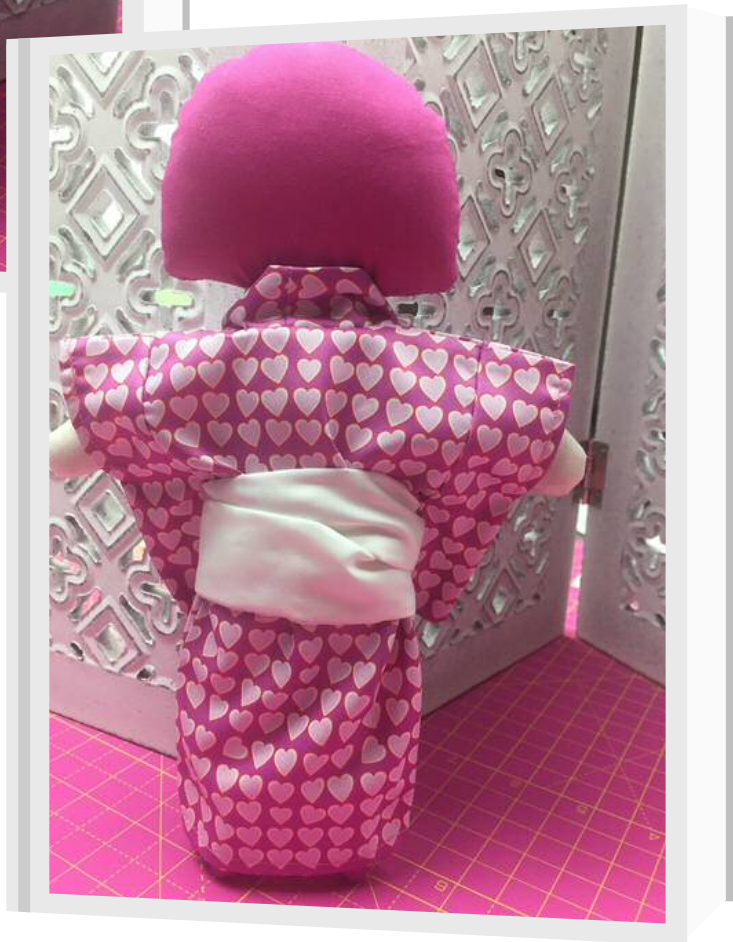
7 Match the collar to the main kimono, making sure the back neck seam meets the center back notch (found on the pattern) and the hem of the garment meets the hem of the kimono at the intersection of the seam allowance.

NOTE: if you chose to leave gaps for the belt openings at the side seams then leave the same openings in this seam as indicated on the pattern.



As I have a serger or overlocker I decided to neaten this seam, as this is the seam that will be the most visible, if you don't have an overlocker then you can use a zig zag stitch to neaten the seams if you want to.

8 The Obi or belt



Here is your chance to be creative... continue reading

8 The Obi or belt



8

The Obi or belt

The Obi belt keeps the kimono in place. In addition, an obi belt can be a beautiful accessory around the waist.

The obi for men's kimono is traditionally narrow, 10 centimeters (3.9 inches) wide at most, but a woman's formal obi can be 30 centimeters (12 inches) wide and more than 4 meters (13 feet) long.

A very decorative woman's wide obi does not keep the kimono closed; this is achieved by under-sashes and ribbons worn underneath the obi. The obi itself often requires the use of stiffeners, padding and ribbons for definition of shape and decoration.

There are many types of obi. The more decorative and colourful obi are made for young unmarried women. The contemporary women's obi is a very conspicuous accessory, sometimes even more so than the kimono robe itself. A fine formal obi might cost more than the rest of the entire outfit.

Obi are categorised by their design, formality, material, and use. Informal obi are narrower and shorter.

The obi supplied with this pattern is 8 cm wide and can be adapted to be as long as you wish. The obi can be sewn as a simple rectangle, leaving a small gap to turn through and bag out. The belt can also be padded with batting to give it some body and some decorative stitching applied, let your imagination and creativity guide you here!

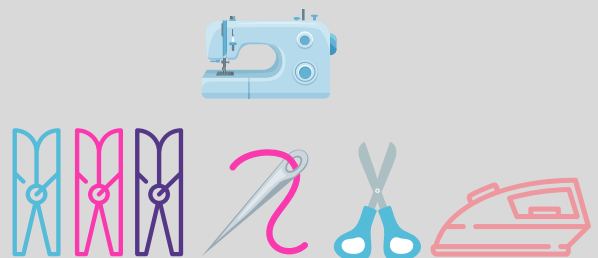
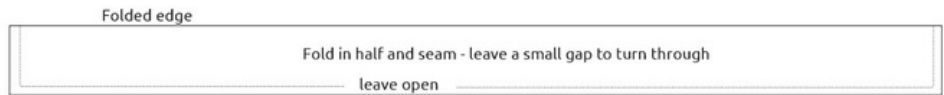
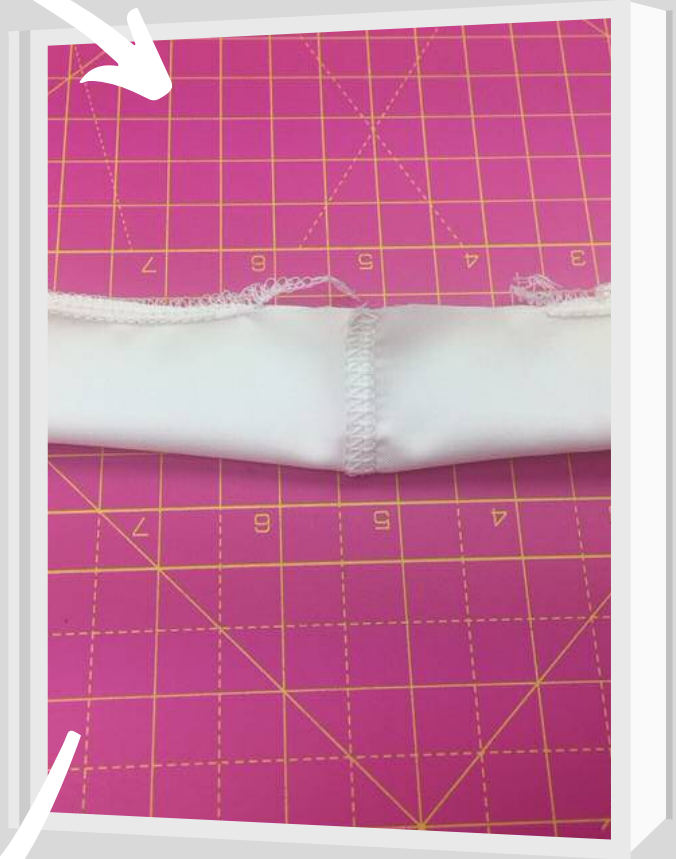
Be as creative as you want to be!

8 Preparing the basic Obi with no adaptations



fold the rectangular fabric piece in half and sew all the way around - leaving a small gap to turn through

You can use a contrast fabric for extra impact



Hand stitch the gap closed and your project is finished!

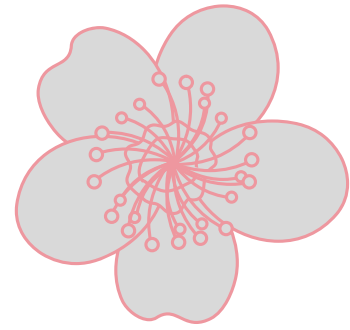
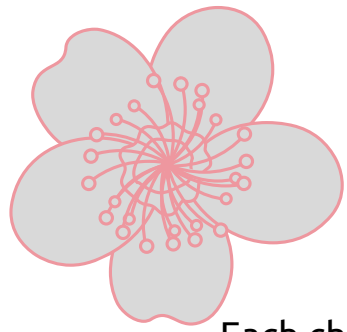
Why not try one of our other projects

Now your project is complete - why not try one of our other Wabi-Sabi doll kits - we have a range of characters!

We also have kits for our doll outfits, and each doll has it's own unique fabric and specially designed t-shirt.

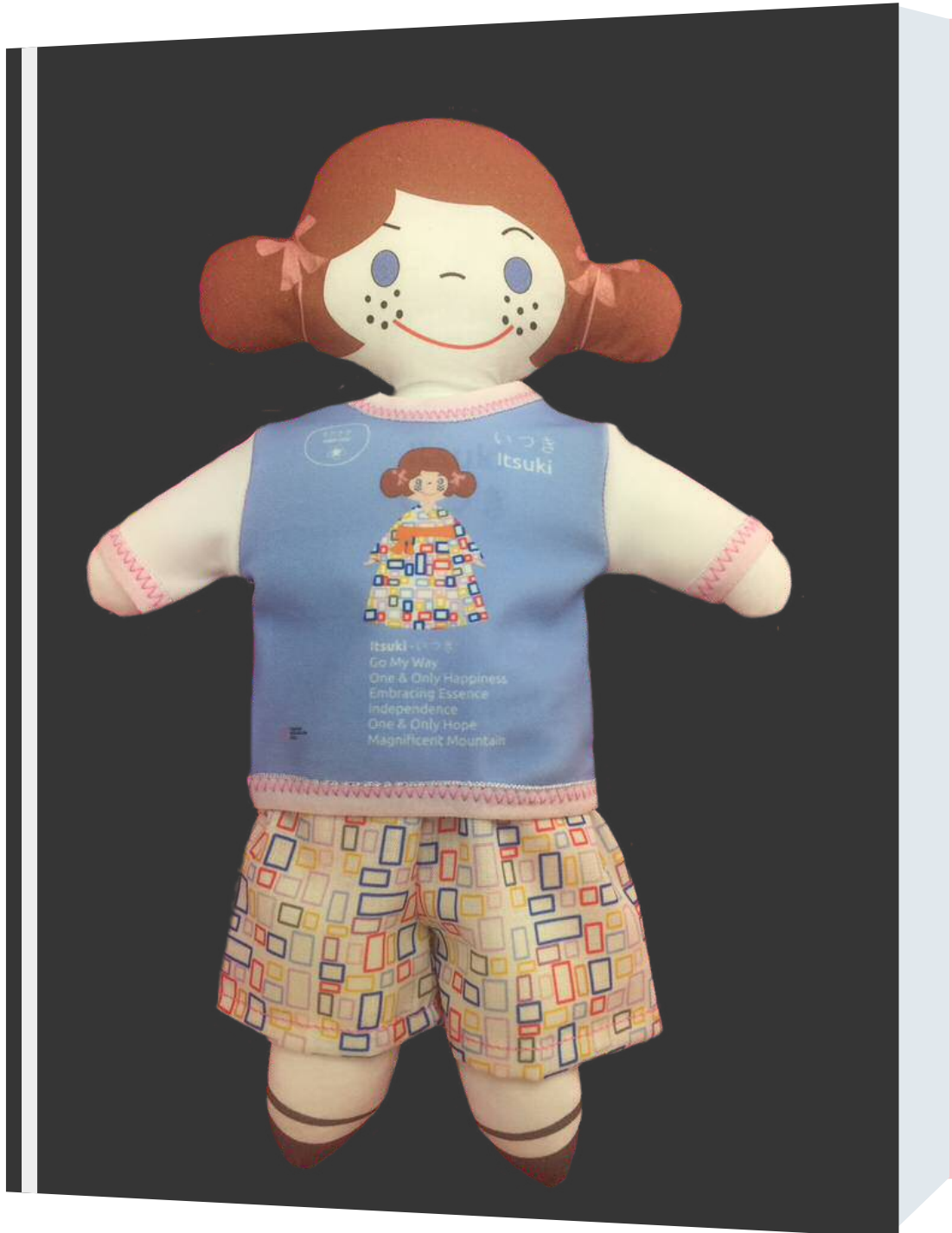


Itsuki is one of our favorites!




Each character has their own t-shirt and specially designed fabric!

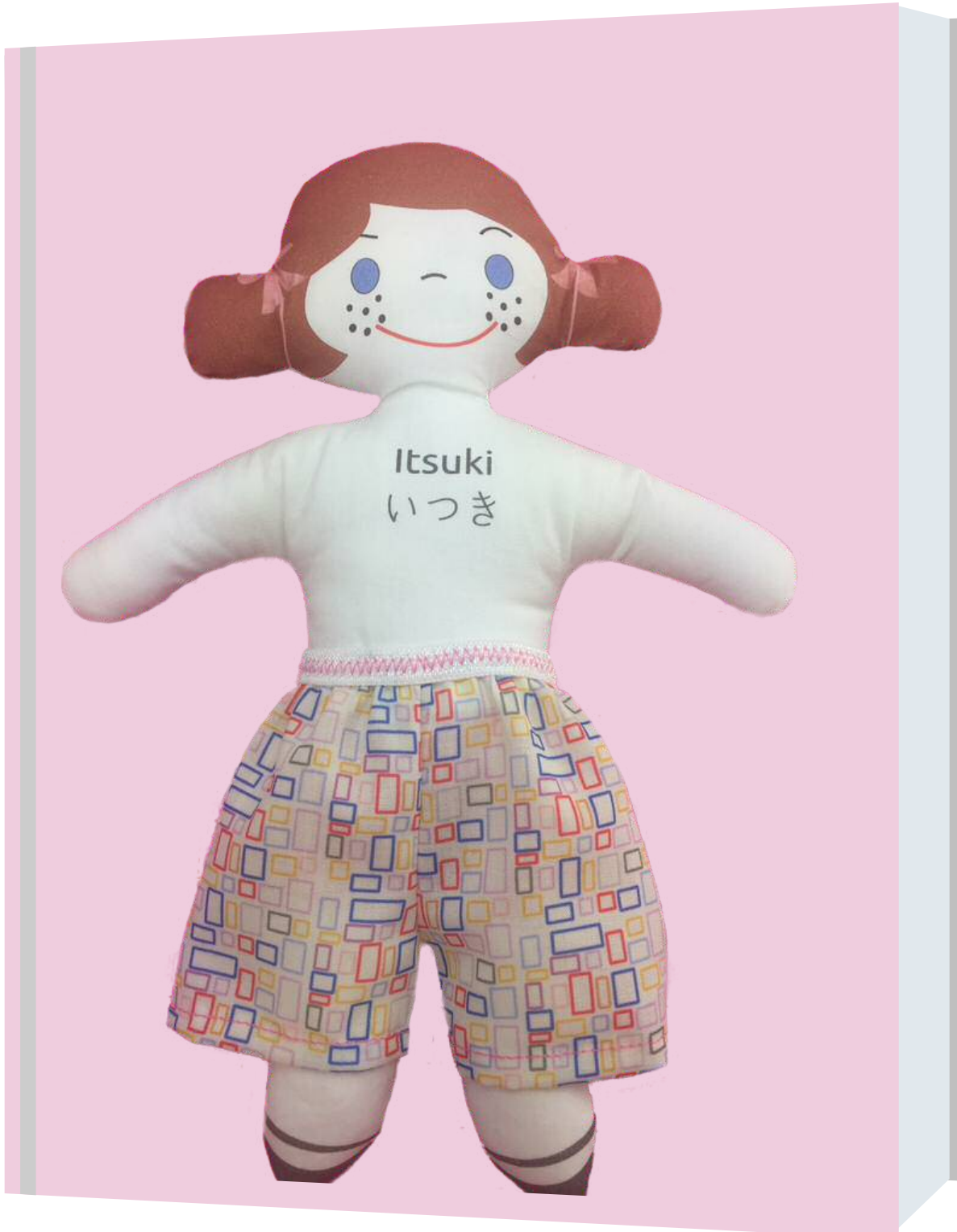
Itsuku wearing a unique t-shirt design and shorts made in a favorite fabric.



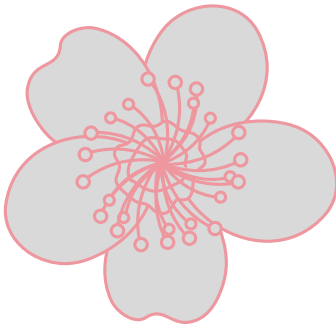
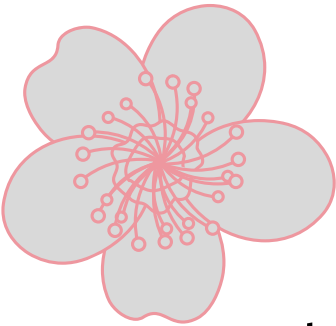
www.wabisabilife.co.uk



Why not try making our wabi-sabi shorts...a great project for beginners.



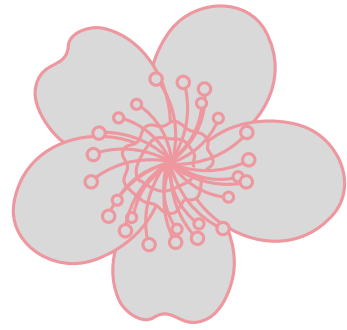
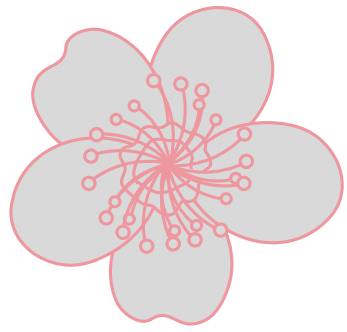
All our patterns are available in kits with fabric supplied, or as PDF patterns that you can download.



We have an ever increasing range of doll clothing patterns...



All our doll clothing patterns are available in kits with fabric supplied, or as PDF patterns that you can instantly download at home .

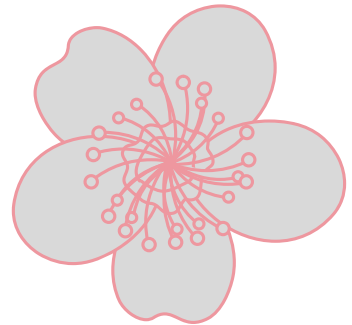
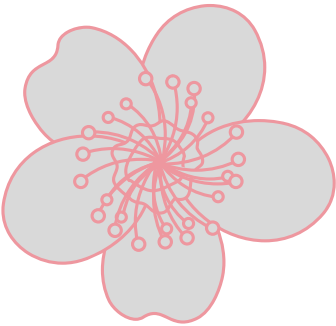


We also have lots of doll sized fabric prints and doll sizes trimmings in our Etsy shop



Have you tried our bag & purse projects?

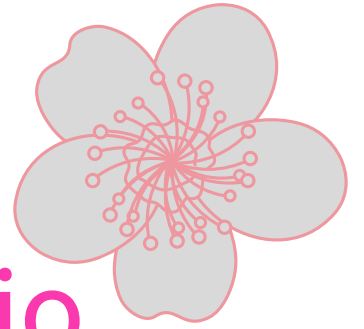
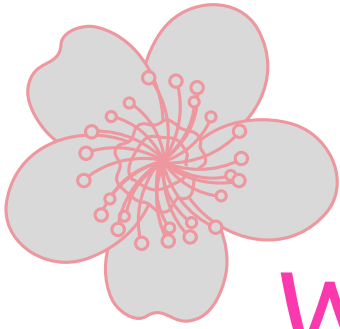




Plus lots more Wabi-Sabi creative projects!



and lots more to come...



Wabi-Sabi Studio

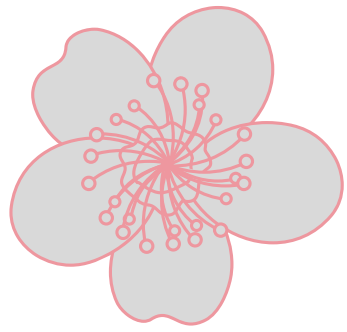
JOIN US OVER AT OUR BLOG



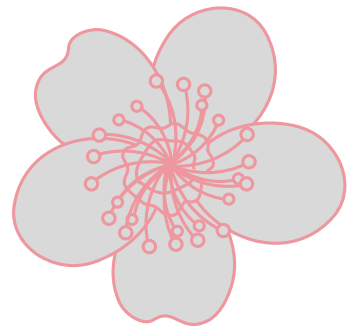
Find lots of help and advice over at our blog page
Wabi-Sabi Studio.

Including an area where you can access our pdf
guides and templates

www.wabisabistudio.co.uk



Wabi-sabi Life



FIND US ONLINE

Instagram



Facebook



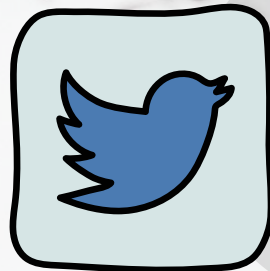
Web site



Pinterest



Twitter



All links available on our web site
www.wabisabilife.co.uk