

Free Toddler Beach Cover-Up Pattern

A printable step-by-step sewing guide from [Sewing.com](#)

This is a cut-by-measurement guide, not a traceable pattern sheet. There are no curved pieces to trace: every cut is made directly from the measurements below, straight onto your folded fabric.

What You Need

- 1 yard of mid-weight cotton or linen-cotton blend, 44 inches wide (covers sizes 2T to 5T)
- Matching all-purpose thread
- 24 inches of 1/4-inch elastic, OR two 18-inch fabric ties
- A toddler t-shirt that fits, to use as a rough sizing guide

Fabric note: a mid-weight, tightly woven cotton or linen blend sews cleanest and holds up best. If you use gauze, voile, or another loosely woven fabric instead, sew the French seam variation noted in Step 3, not the standard zigzag finish.

Cutting Chart

Size	Rectangle Height	Fold Width	Neckline Opening
2T to 3T	20 inches	22 inches	about 5" wide x 2" deep
4T to 5T	24 inches	22 inches	about 5" wide x 2" deep

Fold your fabric right sides together so you have a double layer at the fold width above. Mark the neckline opening centered on the fold before you cut.

Sewing Steps

Step 1: Cut Your Pieces

Cut one rectangle on the fold using the chart above, then mark and cut the curved neckline opening at the center of the fold.

Step 2: Finish the Neckline

Press the raw edge under a quarter inch, then press under again so no raw edge shows. Stitch close to the fold all the way around, pivoting every couple of inches on the curve.

Step 3: Sew the Side Seams

With the fabric still folded, stitch each side seam from the bottom hem up to about 7 inches from the top fold, leaving an armhole. Finish the raw edge with a narrow zigzag. Using gauze or voile instead? Sew a French seam here: stitch wrong sides together at 1/4 inch, trim, then stitch right sides together at 3/8 inch to fully enclose the edge.

Step 4: Hem the Bottom

Fold the bottom edge under a half inch, press, fold again, and stitch close to the fold to match the neckline finish.

Step 5: Add Ties or Elastic

Thread 24 inches of 1/4-inch elastic through the neckline hem for a snugger fit, or stitch two 18-inch fabric ties to the front neckline edges for an adjustable, open look.

Plan on 35 to 45 minutes of hands-on sewing once your machine is threaded and your fabric is cut. The neckline is the slowest step. Go slowly on the curve and it will show.

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