

Overlocker 610D

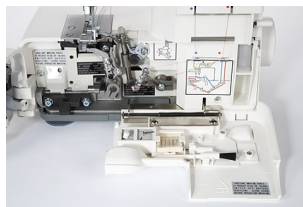
One T-Shirt = Dress and skirt

Basic skill level



Materials List

- 30cm x 112cm printed fabric of your choice.
- 30cm x contrast (pink)
- 30cm x contrast (purple)
- 1 x pre loved t-shirt or new
- 1 mtr of 2.5cm wide elastic, more may be needed depending on size of child's waist and head size.
- 4 x reels of Mettler overlocking thread
- 2 x reel of wooly nylon thread for rolled hem
- 1 x reel of Mettler sewing thread the same colour as the wooly nylon
- 4 thread Overlocker
- Gathering attachment
- 1 x Safety pin
- Hand sewing needle
- 2 x brooch backings
- Marking pencil
- Scissors
- Decorative button (optional)



Method

- Select a printed fabric and two contrasting fabrics to match T- shirt. White t-shirts are always easy to work with but it all depends on the favourite colour the little princess you are making this for likes best.
- The materials used in this project are for a size 4 outfit so you will need a bit more fabric for larger sizes.
- Make sure you have some extra fabric to test the tensions of your Overlocker with before you sew. It is important to use the same fabric you are sewing with in order to get the best tension, especially for the rolled hem.



- Lay your t-shirt down on the table, making sure that everything is flat and smooth.
- Measure down 3cm from underarm on both sides and mark.

- Draw a line across from one side to the other matching up markings.
- Cut along this line through both front and back layers.



- The top half will become the new dress and the bottom half will become the top of the skirt.

Bottom half of dress:

- Thread up for 4 thread overlocking.
- Check tension on a scrap of fabric you are using for the skirt. Make sure you use two layers.
- Cut two strips of contrast fabric (pink) 10cm wide x width of fabric, 112cm.
- Placing right sides together, Overlock the two strips together at one end and leave the opposite side unstitched. This will become the frill for the bottom of the skirt.
- Press seam allowance to one side.

Set up machine for gathering.

- These settings will be different depending on the Overlocker you may be using.
- Attach gathering foot.

Tension settings for gathering:

Left Needle - 4
Right Needle - 4
Upper Looper - 4
Lower Looper - 4
Differential Feed - 2.0
Stitch Length - 4



- Lift presser foot.
- Place fabric to be gathered (frill) underneath the presser foot (right sides up).

- Place printed fabric that will remain straight between presser foot and lower piece.
- Push fabric (skirt) through the slot in the foot.
- Lower presser foot.



- Turn hand wheel to make approx. 4-5 stitches in the fabric, making sure to catch both upper and lower layers.
- Using both hands to guide the fabric. The lower piece of fabric (frill) will move faster as it is gathering compared to the top piece (skirt).
- Sew all the way to the end of the skirt.
- The frill will be attached and gathered to the bottom of the skirt, all in one operation.
- Remove gathering foot and attach standard foot.
- Change stitch length and differential back to normal.
- Overlock skirt together to create a centre back seam.

Set up Overlocker for rolled hem.

- I used wooly nylon on the two loopers and a standard sewing thread on the needle. You can also sew in normal sewing thread and use a contrast colour for decoration.
- Follow instructions from manual for rolled hem settings.
- Test tension for rolled hem on spare fabric. Different threads need different tensions so if you are using wooly nylon, your tension on both loopers may need to be a little looser.
- Roll hem all the way around the bottom of the skirt.

- To gather top of skirt, increase stitch length to 4 and overlock around top edge of skirt starting at the centre back seam. Do not overlap at the end. Stop, lift foot and swing fabric out to the left hand side, lower foot and overlock off the fabric.
- Find the centre front and side seams of the skirt by dividing it into 4 equal parts.
- Do the same for the bottom of the t-shirt bodice.
- Match up markings making sure that the seam of the skirt is at the centre back of the t-shirt bodice.

Note: when using pins, make sure they are kept out of the way of the knife when overlocking. If you run over them, they will damage your knives.

- Use the two needle threads as gathering threads. Gather up fabric till skirt fits onto bodice. Make sure gathering is evenly spaced.
- Change stitch length back to normal – 2 and stitch skirt to bodice. Be careful not to cut fabric while your sewing.
- Your little dress is now complete and ready to wear.

To make the skirt:

- Cut bottom half of t-shirt to measure 20cm from cut edge. Put aside remaining piece for later. The length can be altered depending on the height of the child or the desired length of the skirt. This will become the top of the skirt.
- Cut elastic to waist measurement plus a little bit more to overlap and stitch together using zig zag stitch on your machine.
- Create a mock hem for the elastic by folding over a 4.5cm hem at the top edge.
- Press.
- Fold fabric back on itself so that the fold and the raw edge is even.
- Insert elastic under fold and overlock along fold. Note: be careful to ease the elastic around as you go until you have sewn all the around.
- Press
- Cut two strips of purple for frill and one strip of pink. 112cm x 10cm x2

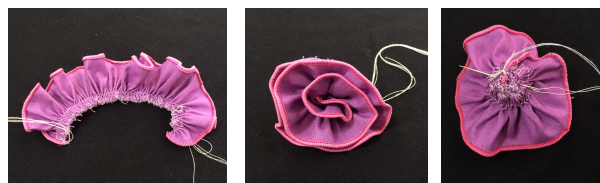
- Sew the two strips for the frill together to create one long strip.
- Press seam allowance to one side.
- Attach gather foot and increase length to 4 and differential to 2.
- Gather purple frill onto pink strip the same way it was done earlier for dress.
- Convert Overlocker to standard setting.
- Overlock the two raw edges together to form centre back seam.
- Lengthen stitch length to 4 and sew around the top of the pink frill for gathering. Starting at the centre back and finishing at the centre back.
- Divide skirt to find centre front and centre back.
- Do the same to the frill section and pin both pieces together.
- Using needle threads to gather.
- Gather skirt to fit.
- Stitch the two pieces of the skirt together.
- Change Overlocker to rolled hem and overlock around base of skirt.

Rolled hem roses:

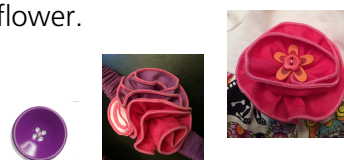
- Cut strips of plain fabric 3.5cm x 50cm
- Curve off the edges at both ends



- Roll hem along curved edge.
- Overlock with 4thread along straight edge and gather up as much as possible.



- Role one end in and continue until you have a rose effect. Hand stitch at the back to hold in place.
- You can also do the same to the purple and the remaining knit from the t-shirt to create a bunch of flowers to put on a headband or make into a brooch by sewing a clip to the back and maybe even brighten it up by sewing a button in the centre of the flower.



- Your little princess should now be delighted with her new wardrobe.