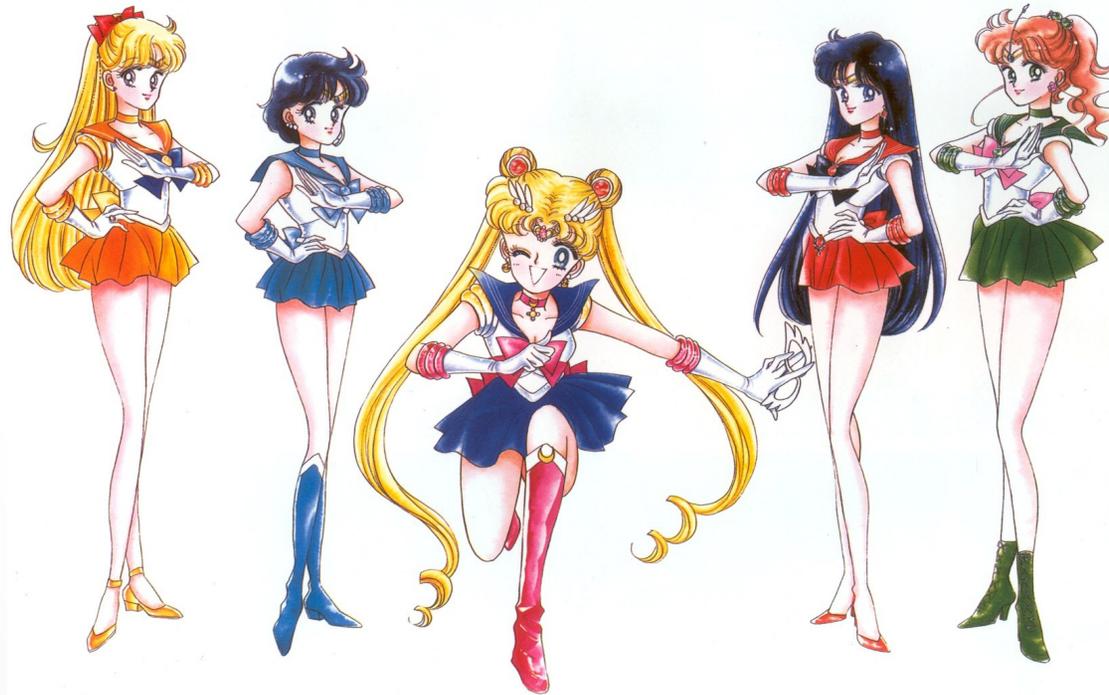


How to Make a Sailor Fuku



By LyddiDesign Costumes
<http://lyddidesign.com/links/>

Popular Full Fuku Making Guides Online

There are several great tutorials on how to make a complete fuku online. Here are a couple of popular ones:

- Cupcake Cosplay:
<http://cupcakecosplay.com/tutorials/how-to-make-a-sailor-moon-fuku/>
- Sparkle Pipsi:
<http://sparklepipsi.deviantart.com/art/Sailor-Fuku-Cosplay-Tutorial-331557052>



Patterns

Green Pepper Crystal Lake Skating Outfit Pattern

- Most popular
- Has only one seam up the back
- Skirt placement already built in



- Any one piece swimsuit or leotard pattern (this one has seams up the sides)

- Zan's complete fuku pattern:

<http://www.poro-poro.com/shop/>



Materials - Fuku Base

- Best material would be not too shiny and thick
 - Matte stretch moleskin recommended, \$12/yd at spandexworld.com
- Can also use
 - Spandex
 - Lycra
 - Cotton jersey
- Double up if fabric is thin
- Follow pattern instructions for amount needed, adding about 1/2 yd for chest armor, sleeves, hip rolls and gloves, and also extra if it needs doubling



Materials - Pretty Stuff

Main color fabric (skirt, collar, glove rolls, necklace):

If going for flowy manga look:

- High quality thick satin like Casa or bridal
- Will need about 3 yds

If going for crisp anime look:

- Higher quality cottons like Kona, bottomweights, cotton sateen
- Will need about 2.5-3 yds

Secondary color fabric (bows):

- High quality satins, cotton sateen, crepe, kona
- Can mix and match your skirt/collar/bows shiny vs. matte to your liking



Kapalaka Cosplay and Molly Daly
Image by Bentpic5



Decisions - Fuku Base

Which sailor scout version are you making?

Classic

- Chest armor
- 3 arm rolls

Super

- Chest armor
- Clear material on sleeve ends, 2 rolls
- Longer bow tails

Eternal

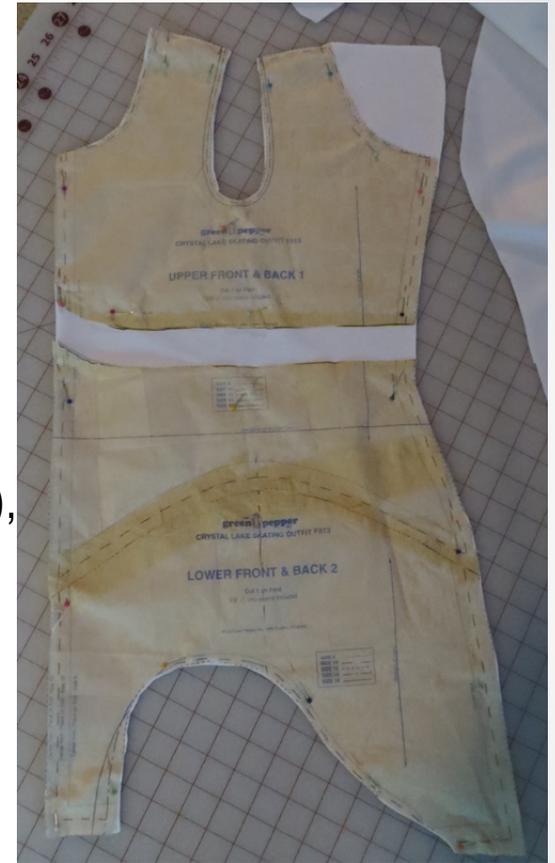
- No chest armor
- Longer bow tails
- Poofy/round sleeves
- Extra waist ribbon
- Extra skirt layers



Fuku Base Construction - Pattern adjustments

(Classic/Super)

- Separate top just under boob area for chest armor
 - Can do this straight on pattern itself or just cut from fabric
 - Don't forget seam allowance!
 - Make sure to add small V in the front center
 - Make sure back is straight and doesn't scoop
- If you want skirt sewn in securely later (vs detachable), cut separate panty area from midsection (already done on Green Pepper pattern)
 - Make sure there is a V in the front, and a small dip in the back



Note: If doing eternal version or want your chest armor to be a separate detachable piece, don't cut chest armor separate from base.



Fuku Base Construction - Cutting out

- Cut out your pieces, whatever you determined them to be in the patterning stage
- Also cut extra piece of chest armor
- Also cut another chest armor in fleece/felt/batting if wanted (Doesn't work so well for larger chests)
- If you have thin fabric, double everything! (except the extra chest armor pieces)



Fuku Base Construction - Basic Assembly

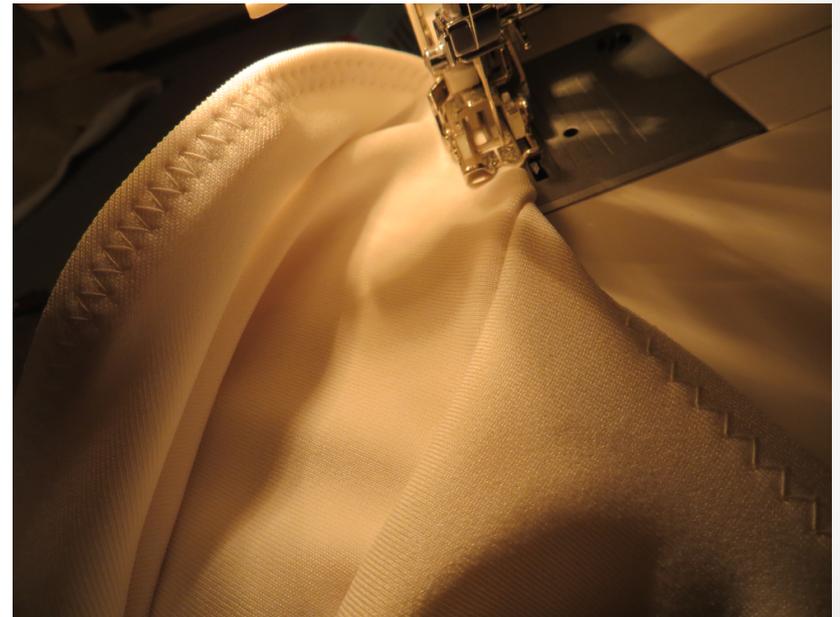
There are many ways to sew up all these pieces.
Some prettier and some quicker.

- I suggest layering the 2/3 chest pieces and sewing to the bottom
- Then sew the back seam and straps
- Either serge, zigzag, or stretch stitch!



Fuku Base Construction - Basic Assembly cont.

- Leave crotch open!
- If you chose separate panty, don't sew that onto the rest of the fuku yet
- Leg holes:
 - Zigzag stitch elastic onto leg hole openings, then fold under and zigzag again
 - Important: Use knit elastic!
 - Sew snaps/velcro/whatever to connect at the crotch



Sleeves - Classic/Super

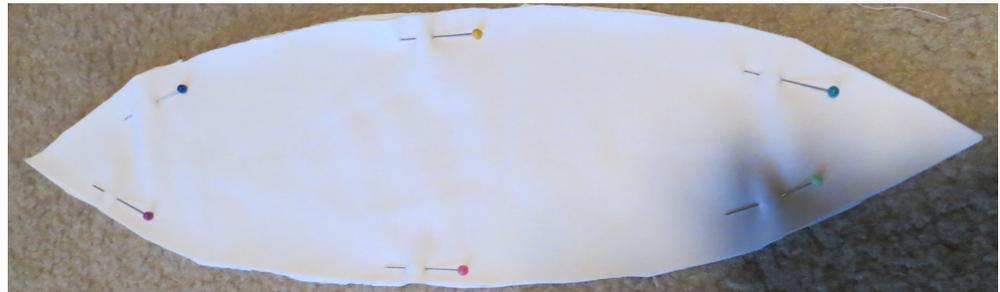
- Measure arm opening
- Cut out general shape
 - length = armhole measurement + seam allowance
 - width = 1.25 inch x roll number + seam allowance, then doubled.

Classic:

- Fold in half lengthwise

Super:

- Cut in half lengthwise
- Sandwich and sew transparent piece
- Sew a line every 1.25 inch (tapering at ends) while stuffing with polyfil, or rolled up fleece
- Sew onto chest armor



Collar - Pattern/Cutting

- Great collar tutorial by GSTQ Fashions:

<http://godsavethequeenfashions.com/making-a-sailor-collar/>



- Make a mock with a basic collar shape, then match it to your neck opening using your chest armor (or eternal fuku base) as a guide
- Cut out 2 copies of collar fabric
- Don't forget seam allowances!



Collar - Assembly

- If your scout has stripe(s), add them to the top piece first
 - Ironing down with fusible web tape helps keep them in place
 - Then topstitch if you want
- Face pieces right sides together and stitch around outside



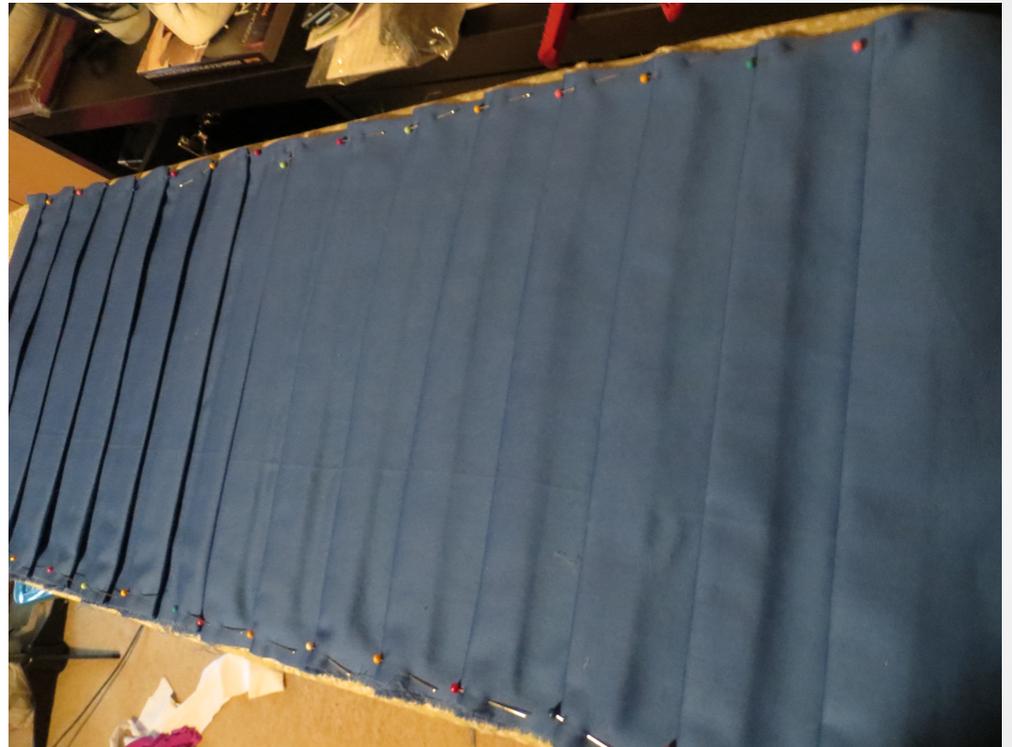
- Clip corners and curves, turn inside out and press
- Neaten collar opening by serging or zigzag stitch. Fold under and stitch to fuku.
- If you want a detachable collar, I'd suggest sewing facing (about 2 inch strip of fabric) around the opening out of your fuku material



Skirt – “Anime Style”

- Figure out length. Ermahgherd math. Usually hip measurement x 3
- Fold fabric in half lengthwise for clean edge and extra body (optional)
 - If not, hem before pleating

- Pleating
 - Center box pleat, then knife pleats going outward to the back, and meet with inverted box pleat.
 - Press well and baste top of skirt
 - Stitch inside pleats

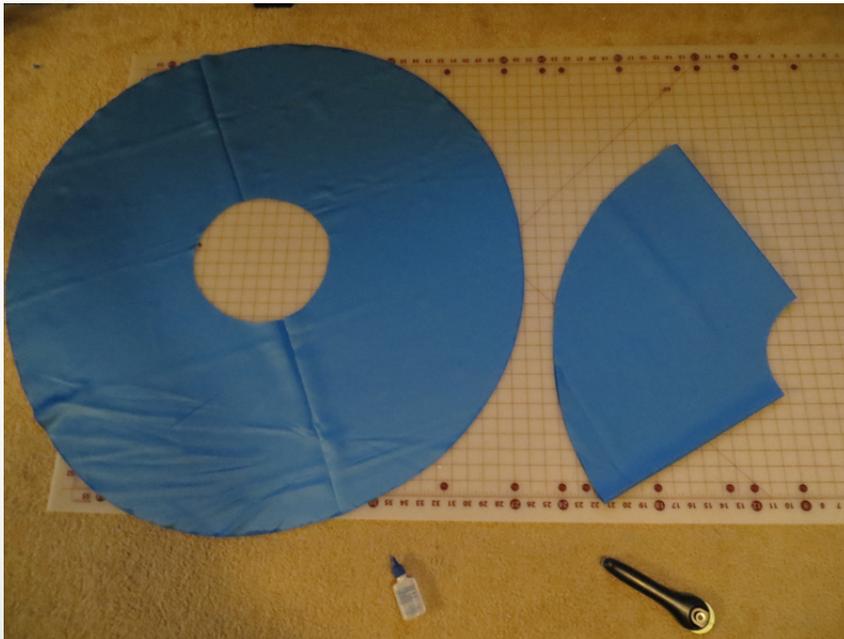


- Sew skirt together in back using inside of pleat to hide the seam



Skirt – “Manga Style”

- Cut out 2 circle skirts from your satin/whatever and sew together (2 seams)
- Pleat the opening to your liking.
- Baste opening. If you want to put the front V in now, baste that as well.
- Press pleats if you want more definition, or leave flowy
- If eternal, make another pleated circle skirt out of your sheer fabric, but 2-3 inches longer, and baste skirts together



Circle skirt generator

<http://circleskirtpattern.com/>



Skirt - Hip Roll

- Measure the placement of your skirt opening over your hips
- Cut out ~4inch rectangle in that length + seam allowance
- Taper the ends
- Pin and stuff with polyfil, or make a casing for your polyfil for a smoother look, or roll up a tube of leftover fleece
- Sew to skirt, serge/zigzag



Skirt - Finishing

- Put on skirt while wearing fuku and figure out where placement is on your hips. Then welcome to snap sewing hell.

Or if you did the separate panty option:

- Put the panties on underneath the skirt and pin in place, then trim and sew together
- Sew skirt to rest of fuku



- Trim and hem skirt if needed
- Can add horsehair braid if doing manga look:

<http://rufflebuttcosplay.deviantart.com/art/Tutorial-Putting-in-Horse-Hair-Braid-CLAMP-Ruffles-288848575>



Bows

- Measure how big you want your front and back bow bases + seam allowance.
- Add interfacing for a stiffer bow (or it will probably sag)
- Sew right sides together, leaving a small opening, flip right side out, stuff bow a bit if you want it super poofy, then sew up hole.
- Gather the bow centers and baste
- Make 2 long tubes and press

Tails:

- Double up a second bow
- Or make 2 triangles and attach to strip
- If super/eternal you'll have to use 2 long strips for the butt bow



Bows – cont.

- Attach front bow to fuku with snaps, or hand sew on
- Sew butt bow on by sandwiching in the seam
- You can add more snaps or hand baste to make the bow ends stay in place instead of sagging, or stick a pencil in it



Gloves

Gloves are hard

- Find a glove pattern and make them out of your moleskin/whatever.
 - Or buy pre-made, no one will blame you
- Length usually up to elbow
- Make arm rolls by folding rectangle together and sewing channels stuffed with polyfil or fleece tubes
- Sew onto gloves



Shoes

- If you chose Mars, congratulations, go find some pre-made red heels!
- Otherwise you'll have to get crafty. Some are easier than others.
- Most likely you will end up painting some shoes. Use flexible paint!

Leather shoe painting tutorial:

<http://www.instructables.com/id/Painting-Leather-Shoes-or-other-leather-stuff/>

Or make boot covers!

<http://firelilycosplay.deviantart.com/art/No-Stretch-Boot-Cover-Tutorial-161626176>

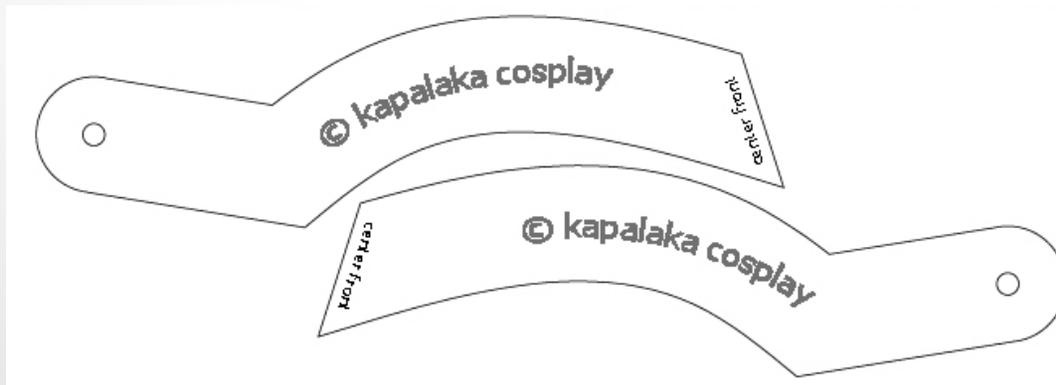


Tiara

- Draft up your tiara on paper or print out a pattern
- Can cut out of craft foam, worbla, wonderflex, whatever
- Add holes on the ends
- Prime and paint
- Glue on gem
- Tie on clear elastic

Pattern/tutorial by Kapalaka Cosplay:

<http://kapalaka.deviantart.com/art/Sailor-Senshi-Tiara-Tutorial-318892844>



Other Accessories

- Necklace: make a rectangle tube to your neck length + allowance, press flat, sew on snaps, and glue on charm
- Charms/broaches/hair pieces:
 - You can easily find pre-made stars, hearts, and circles at craft stores. Or re-purpose ornaments or other things in the right shape. Or cut them out of craft foam. Whatever, be crafty!
- Most of the earrings you can find pre-made at places like Icing or Forever 21 and just paint



Wigs

Arda Wigs: <http://arda-wigs.com/>

Epic Cosplay: <http://www.epiccosplay.com/>



Photo: Arda Wigs



Photo: Bentpic5

