



The Cocoon

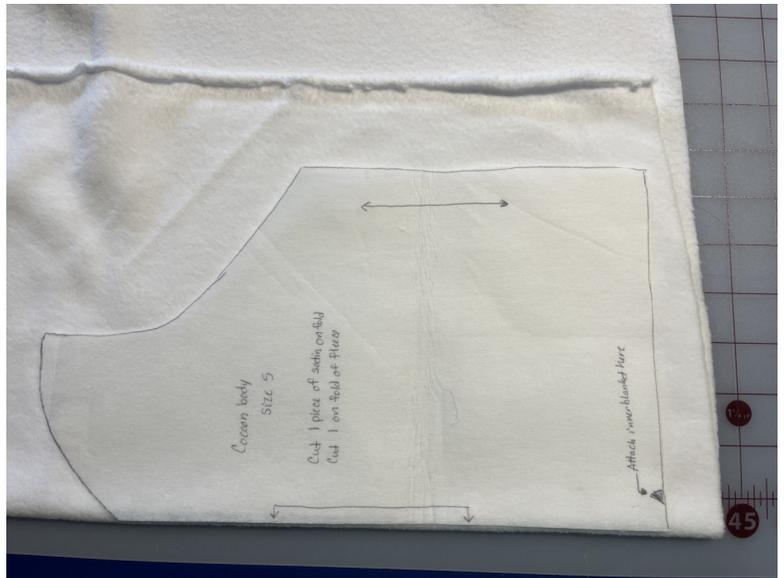
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To make the cocoon you will need:

- Fleece
- satin ribbon 8 pieces
- Main body of the cocoon: cut (on fold) 1 of dress fabric, 1 of fleece,
- Inside blanket: cut (on fold) 1 of fleece
- Inside pillow cover: cut 2 of fleece
- Inside pillow stuffing: cut 2 of fleece

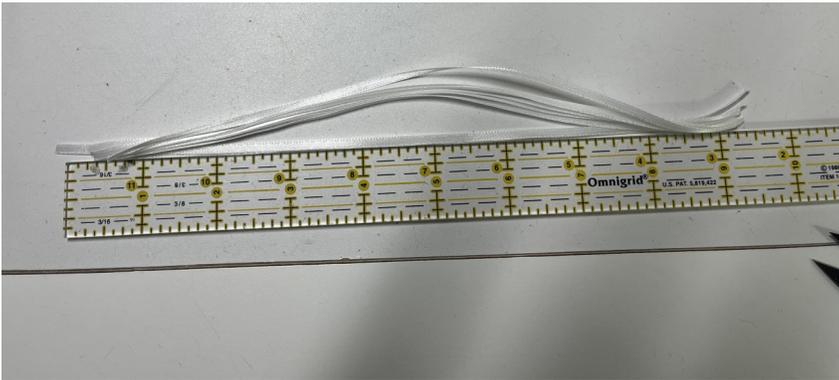
Cut the main Cocoon Body piece from the wedding dress on the fold. Add lace or trim if needed. Sometimes you can find a decorative part of the skirt and use that. Cut the main body piece from fleece on the fold.



Cut 2 pieces of Pillow Stuffing also from the fleece. Also in fleece you will cut: 1 piece (on fabric fold) for the Blanket, and 2 pieces for the Pillow Cover.



Next cut 2 yards of 1/8" satin ribbon into 8 pieces at 9" each

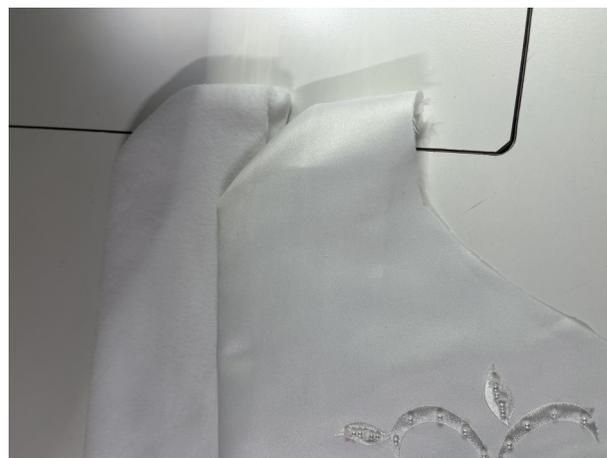


Now to sew them all together:

Blanket: pin 2 ribbon ends to the inside of the blanket, about 1/2" from the fold, then fold the fabric down over the ribbon, right sides are together, so that the ribbons are enclosed, now stitch along the 2 long edges with a 1/4" seam (leaving the bottom open), turn inside-out:



Cocoon Body: fold the dress-fabric piece in half along center-back, right sides together, and stitch the "hood" closed with a 1/4" seam. Also the fleece lining. Turn inside-out, and press lightly at low-temperature:



Pin the Blanket to the right side of the fleece Cocoon Body along the bottom edge, centering the blanket, then stitch together with a 1/4" seam:

Pin 2 ribbons to the outside of the decorated Cocoon Body piece, near upper and lower edges (these will tie the cocoon closed when finished):



Pin the Cocoon Body fleece lining to the Cocoon Body outer piece, right sides together, enclosing the ribbon ties and the blanket. Stitch around the edge with a 1/4" seam allowance, starting and stopping at the edges of the Inner Blanket, removing pins as you stitch. Trim seam allowance and clip off corners:

Flip inside out: sometimes a chop-stick helps to get the corners pushed out completely. Press edges lightly at cool temperature. Tuck in the seam allowance where the Inner Blanket is attached, pin down, and edge-stitch all around perimeter of cocoon:

Stitch the rest of the ribbon ties. Inside, fold up the blanket and mark the spots halfway up the height of the cocoon. Stitch ties onto cocoon body fleece at each side of the blanket:



Outside, fold the cocoon closed and pin the last 2 ribbons to the outside cocoon body, matching top and bottom placement of the previous ribbons. Stitch the ribbons in place:



Last step is to make the Pillow:

Pillow Cover: pin together 2 layers of fleece. Stitch around outer edge with a 1/4" seam allowance, leaving bottom straight edge open. Flip inside out .



Pillow Stuffing: Pin together all of the layers, machine baste, and slip into Pillow Cover (a chopstick makes this easier!), hand slip-stitch closed:

Now put it all together. Place Pillow inside Cocoon, fold up the Blanket, tie little bows:



Close up Cocoon sides and tie the last bows, and you are finished!