

CLOTH PANEL DOLL INSTRUCTIONS

Cloth panels dolls have been popular since the late 1800's and are very desirable to collect especially if you are able to find them in an uncut state. The panels I sell are reproductions from my collection and in most cases they are uncut although not always. Most of my collection dates from the very late 1800's through the 1930's. Cloth panels are still sold today and are very popular. They were particularly used to advertise flour and other products, especially Kellogg's cereals and could be sent for through the mail by including the product box top. They came in a full range of sizes with some being large enough to wear children's clothing. Animals were also very popular and bring some of the highest prices when offered for sale. You may check out my full line of cloth panels on my website: www.jeannordquist.com

- 1. Using a spray fixative, spray our fabric panel. The ink we use is not permanent so you must take care that you do not get your panel wet. Please do not wash.**
- 2. Remove the paper backing.**
- 3. Cut out all pieces leaving at least a 3/16" seam allowance or a bit more where you are able.**
- 4. Apply fray check if needed to prevent your little seams from raveling.**
- 5. Sew pieces right sides together.**
- 6. Hand sewing works best on these small cloth panels. Use as tight a stitch as you are able. Clip all curves prior to turning.**
- 7. Leave a large opening through which to stuff your doll on the longest flat surface there is on the piece. You want to be able to reach the smallest areas to stuff easily.**
- 8. Use a small wooden dowel or other similar implement to push the stuffing into the nooks and crannies of your piece.**
- 9. Once your stuffing is done, use a blind stitch to sew up the hole.**
- 10. Since you are working on such a small turned item, it's easy to have some of your hand stitched threads still show when you are done. To help these become less noticeable, using a marking pen in an appropriate color, tint the thread with it. I particularly like to use my Copic brand alcohol ink pens for this but any water based markers will also work nicely.**
- 11. I recommend doing another light spray over of fixative after your piece is complete.**
- 12. It's fun to add lace or ribbons or perhaps a bow or a little piece of jewelry around the neck of your doll or animal.**
- 13. Cloth panel dolls make wonderful toys for all sorts of dolls. The smaller ones also look lovely decorating a Christmas tree.**

