

Designs by Junice

How to Measure Dolls

Taking accurate measurements is one of the most important steps you can take to achieve a perfect fit in the clothing you make for anyone. In measuring women, children, and dolls much of the same terminology applies. The list below explains how to take these measurements.

When measuring dolls a retractable $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide tape measure should be used. The narrow tape measure is extremely helpful when getting into small places. In addition it gives more accurate measurements.



Madame Alexander Doll

Width Across Shoulder – measurement is taken at shoulder where the arm is inserted, and is taken across the front from one side to the other.

Front Width - Mid Armhole – measurement is taken mid-armhole from one side to the other.

Back Width – Mid Armhole – measurement is taken the same manner as in front.

Neck Circumference – measurement will vary depending on if it's taken at the top of the neck or at the base. The upper neck is measured for a choker necklace, and at the base of the neck for determining the size needed in a garment.

Bust/Chest Circumference – Is basically the same measurement, the only difference is on a doll or child it is taken right under the arm, where a bust is present, it is taken over the bust at the fullest point.

Waist Circumference – Is taken at the narrowest point of the body, or slightly above the navel.

Hip Circumference – Hip measurement is taken at the fullest part around the hips.

Upper Arm Circumference – measurement is taken midway between the underarm and the elbow.

Forearm Circumference – measurement is taken midway between the elbow and the wrist.

Wrist Circumference – Is the measurement is taken at the wrist.

Hand Circumference – This measurement is necessary. Unlike people we can fold in our thumb, extra width is necessary so clothing can fit over the doll's hand.

Upper Leg Circumference – is measures over the upper leg.

Calf Circumference – is measured around the fullest part of the calf.

Ankle Circumference – is measured around the ankle. Remember to keep the clothing large enough to fit over the foot.

Head Circumference – measurement is taken over the eyebrows and around the head.

Under arm to leg length – measurement is taken right under the armhole and to the point where the leg elastic for a panty will fall. This measurement should be the same as the total of the underarm to waist, and the waist to panty elastic.

Underarm to Waist Length - before taking this measurement place a narrow piece of elastic or ribbon around the natural waistline, measure from the underarm to the waist.

Waist to Panty Elastic Length - before taking this measurement place a narrow piece of elastic or ribbon around the natural waistline, measure from the waist to where the leg elastic for the panty will fall.

Waist to Knee Length - is measured from waist to the middle of the knee.

Waist to Ankle Length - is measured from waist to the ankle.

Outer Arm Length – measure from where arm enters doll, over the elbow to the wrist.

Underarm to Elbow Length – measure from underarm to the elbow.

Inner Arm Length – measure from underarm to wrist.

Outer Leg Length - measure from the panty line to the ankle.

Inseam Length – is measured from the crotch to the ankle on the inside of the leg.

Foot Length – measure from the heel to the top of the big toe.

Foot Width.- measurement is taken on the widest part of the foot under the toes.

A blank chart is included for your convenience, in addition to the Doll Measurement Chart you selected. My patterns are written to fit the doll you selected. Please compare these to your doll to achieve the proper fit.

If you have any questions on how to use these charts please email me at: dot45_2000@yahoo.com.

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Doll Measurement Charts

Doll Brand	
Doll Name	
Doll Height	

Body Area	Inches	CM	Notes
Width Across Shoulder			
Front Width - Mid Armhole			
Back Width – Mid Armhole			
Neck Circumference			
Chest Circumference			
Waist Circumference			
Hip Circumference			
Upper Arm Circumference			
Forearm Circumference			
Wrist Circumference			
Hand Circumference			
Upper Leg Circumference			
Calf Circumference			
Ankle Circumference			
Head Circumference			
Under arm to leg length			
Underarm to Waist Length			
Waist to Panty Elastic Length			
Waist to Knee Length			
Waist to Ankle Length			
Outer Arm Length			
Underarm to Elbow Length			
Inner Arm Length			
Outer Leg Length			
Inseam Length			
Foot Length			
Foot Width			

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Doll Measurement Chart

Doll's Brand	American Girl by Mattel
Doll's Name	Samantha & similar
Doll's Height	6 ½" - 16.5 cm

Body Area	Inches	CM	Notes
Width Across Shoulder	1 3/8"	3.49	Vinyl Bodied Dolls
Front Width - Mid Armhole	1 ¼"	3.17	
Back Width – Mid Armhole	1 ¼"	3.17	
Neck Circumference	2 1/8"	5.40	
Chest Circumference	3 ¾"	9.52	
Waist Circumference	3 ½"	8.89	
Hip Circumference	4 3/8"	11.11	
Upper Arm Circumference	1 3/8"	3.49	
Forearm Circumference	1 ¼"	3.17	
Wrist Circumference	1 1/8"	2.85	
Hand Circumference	1 3/8"	3.49	
Upper Leg Circumference	2"	5.08	
Calf Circumference	1 ¾"	4.44	
Ankle Circumference	1 ½"	3.81	
Head Circumference	4 ¼"	10.79	
Under arm to leg length	3/16"	3.01	
Underarm to Waist Length	½"	1.27	
Waist to Panty Elastic Length	11/16"	1.74	
Waist to Knee Length	2"	5.08	
Waist to Ankle Length	3 ¼"	8.25	
Outer Arm Length	1 7/8"	4.76	
Underarm to Elbow Length	½"	1.27	
Inner Arm Length	1 ¼"	3.17	
Outer Leg Length	3 ¼"	8.25	
Inseam Length	2"	5.08	
Foot Length	7/8"	2.22	
Foot Width	½"	1.27	