

- Turn down about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch at the top of the skirt and finger press flat. Sew a loose running stitch through the two layers of fabric to gently gather and adjust to the waist size of the doll. Sew a band of floral ribbon over the gathers to secure them in place, folding under the raw edges at either end. The ribbon represents the traditional belt that is worn with this style of dress.
- Sew the back edges of the hankie together to about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches from the top edge. Sew one $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch snap at the top of the back opening, as a closure for the skirt.
- Place the skirt on the doll, tucking in the bottom of the blouse. For added effect, you can add two yarn ties to the neck of the blouse and a wreath of flowers for the hair.



Endless Possibilities

Blue and white are only two possible color options. You can also use red, black, or oranges on a white blouse. Using a full floral pattern with a red background on the skirt would be more traditional. Alternatively, you could make the apron portion of the skirt as a separate piece (they're usually white or brown) and decorate it with small rickrack or ribbon.

While ethnic wear is not new to the world of Barbie, using a selection of hankies puts a new spin on old items. If you have inherited some from a cherished relative, it can be a nice way to create a unique memento.

There are many hankie Barbie dresses and garment styles out there. Whole books have even been written on the subject. These outfits create a vintage feel with the material used to construct them. Depending on the era and origin of a specific hankie, you can create a Hawaiian-themed 1960s dress or a cozy 1950s American pajama set.

The options are as endless as your imagination, your supply of hankies, and how far you reach into the crafting rabbit hole that is the internet. 🌟

