

# Love Live Uniform Tutorial ♥

by Sparkle Pipsi

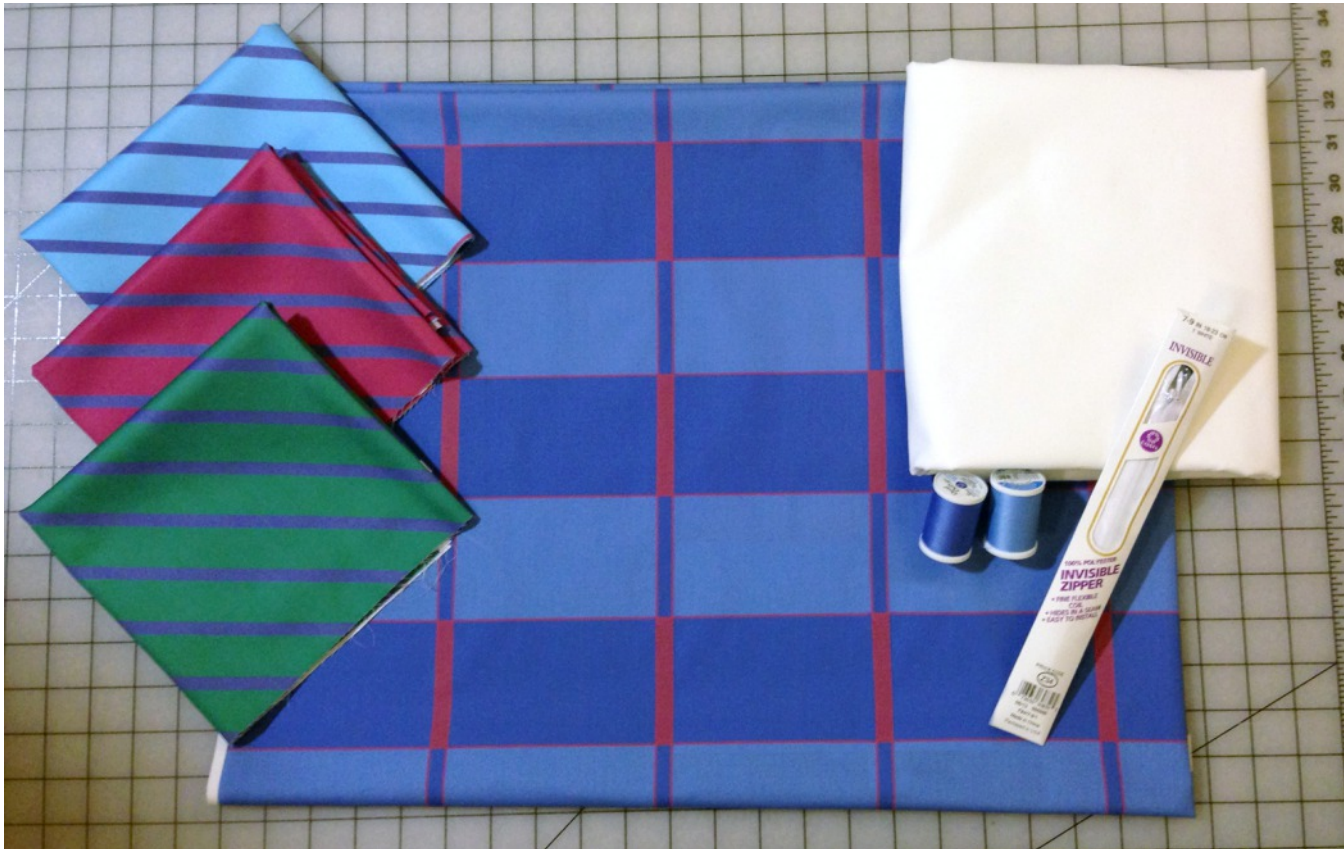
I LOVE Love Live! School Idol Project, and I desperately wanted one of their cute uniforms but didn't want to settle for "close enough" plaid fabric, so I designed these fabrics for my friends and I to cosplay together ~ now I'd like to spread the aidoru love for anyone that wants a screen-accurate Love Live uniform~! This guide will teach you how to make your own. Enjoy! <3

## SKIRT MATERIALS:

- 1-2 yards plaid fabric
- 1-2 yards white cotton (lining)
- 6" invisible zipper
- 1 large hook-and-eye closure

## BOW MATERIALS:

- 1 fat quarter of striped fabric
- 1 pinback





## ♥ Step 1 - Buying your Fabric

INSERT SHAMELESS PLUG HERE. I kid, I kid ... but the purpose of this tutorial is to explain how to make a Love Live uniform skirt from the fabric I designed, so I suppose it's best to start here!!

First determine how much fabric you need for the skirt:

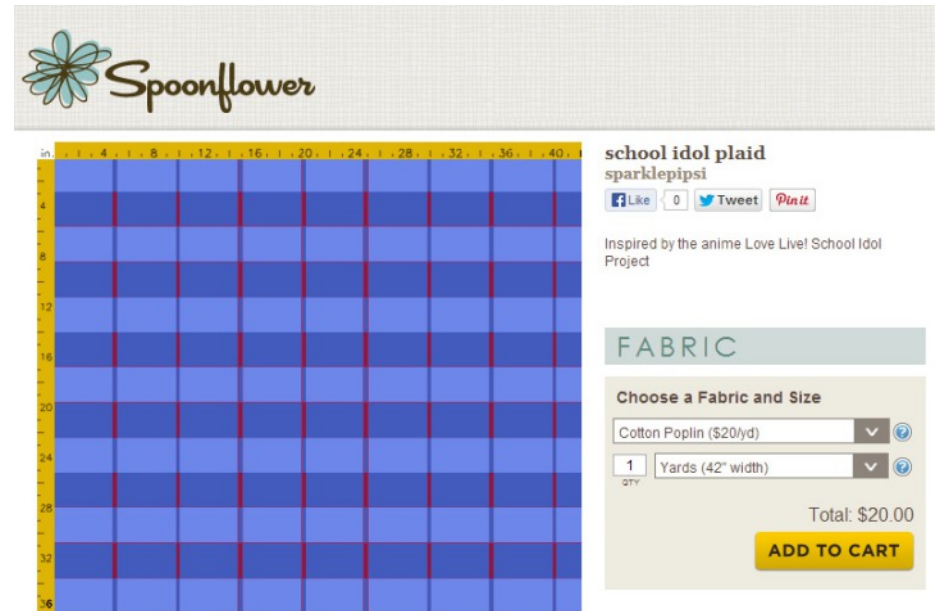
**Small / Medium** (13.5" long, 32" waist or less) - 1 yard

**Large** (14"+ long, 33" waist or more) - 2 yards

For the ribbons, you will need 1 fat quarter of striped fabric. The color you purchase will vary depending on your chosen character, 1st, 2nd, or 3rd year!

You can purchase this custom-printed fabric from spoonflower here:

<http://www.spoonflower.com/profiles/sparklepipsi>



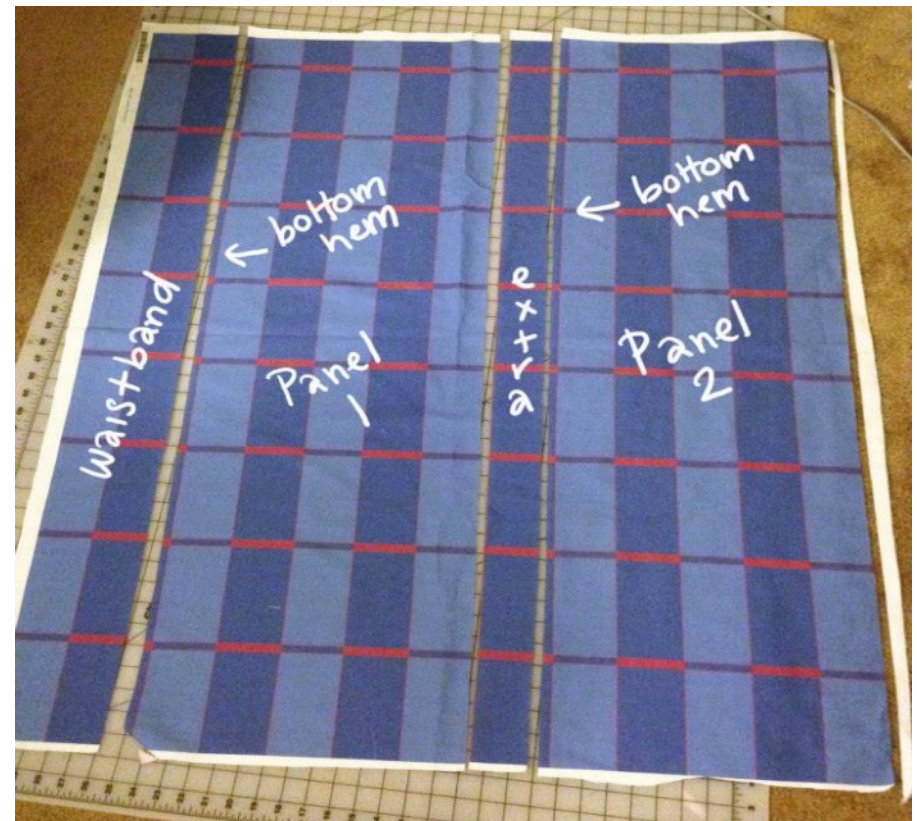
## ♥ Step 2 - Cutting your Skirt Fabric

**For Small/Medium skirts**, refer to the photo on the right for how I cut up my 1 yard piece; two panels + a waist band. For **Large Skirts**, you'll be working from a larger piece of fabric than this and can an additional panel. This guide should still be a good starting point though!

You'll notice where I marked "bottom hem" I left about 1/2" seam allowance for the hem; the hem will be riiiiiiight along the edge where the light blue turns to dark blue.

**If you want to line the skirt**, cut identical pieces from you lining fabric and sew them together at this point (I chose to line mine in white cotton). If you don't want to line it, turn up the bottom hem and top stitch!

**If you want to add length**, keep this in mind; the bottom stripe of the skirt is always LIGHT BLUE. Sometimes the skirts have two dark blue stripes, sometimes three... yay inconsistent references. For my 13.5" skirt, I have 2 dark blue stripes. You can add an additional blue stripe if you ordered more than one yard of fabric for a larger skirt; just remember the bottom stripe should always be light blue and cut your panels accordingly!!



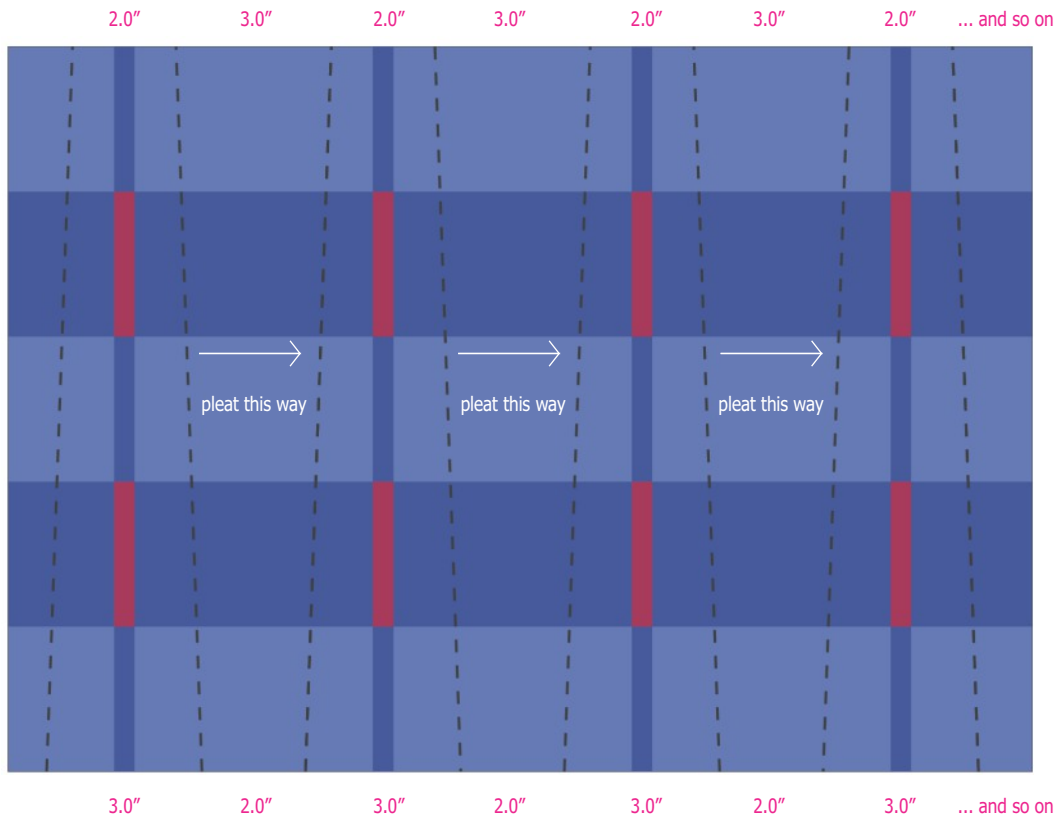


## ♥ Step 3 - Combining Panels

Before you pleat, you'll want to combine your skirt panels! You'll want to make sure the plaid lines stay evenly spaced over the seam so the pattern stays consistent on your pleats. The vertical plaid lines should be about 4.6" apart from each other once sewn together; try to match the pattern of the fabric!

## ♥ Step 4 - Pleating

Follow the pleating guide below for your pleats. The fabric was designed specifically for pleats this size so the vertical plaid lines would fall in the middle of each pleat; finished pleats should be 2" on top and 3" on bottom. Pleat from left to right. I find marking where my pleats will go with pins to be helpful ~ mark your pleats then iron away!!





## ♥ Step 5 - Waistband & Closures

Almost there~! Now that your skirt is pleated, hold it up to yourself or a dressform at about belly-button height to make sure it turned out the right length around. There may be a little extra, and if so, carefully trim pleats from evenly from both sides until it's the right length around. Sew it shut and add a zipper.

The last thing you need is the waistband! You should have an extra piece set aside from step two. Fold it in half so one side only the light blue is showing; this will be the part of your waistband that will be seen, facing out! Trim the piece so it's the same length as the top of your skirt when sewn on, then attach it. Finish the waistband with a hook and eye closure. And you're done with your skirt~! <3

## ♥ Step 6 - Ribbon

Cut the following pieces for you ribbon:

**Knot:** 2.5"x 5"

**Main ribbon:** 14" x 4.5" (cut 2)

**Tails:** 9" x 3.5" (cut 2)

### NOTE!

Before you cut your fabric, make sure you stripes are going the right way!!

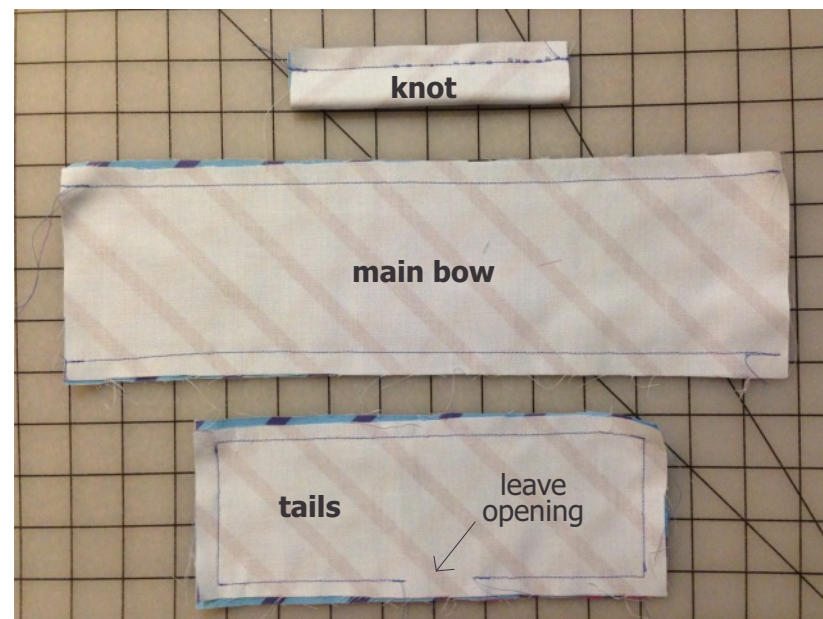


I used 1/2" seam allowance on all pieces. The knot is just folded in half, stitched, and then turned right-side out like a tube. For the Main bow piece, stitch on top and bottom, turn right-side out, then sew the two ends together. For the tails, sew around the edges, then turn right-side out via the little gap left open at the bottom, as seen in the reference image. Iron all the pieces so the edges and corners are nice!

To assemble the bow, place the tail piece on top of the main bow pieces, fold them together, and then wrap the "knot" around the center. Pin the knot in place, then sew it in place by hand. Then you can trim off the excess and either sew or glue a pinback on the back of the knot to finish!

I hope you enjoyed this tutorial~! Please feel free to poke me anytime if you have questions: you can message me on facebook ([www.facebook.com/sparklepipsi](http://www.facebook.com/sparklepipsi)) or you can email me at [sparklepipsi@gmail.com](mailto:sparklepipsi@gmail.com)!

♥ Suzanne / Sparkle Pipsi



**Love Live Cosplayers:** Sparkle Pipsi as Honoka, DaydreamerNessa as Kotori, Maryssaraptor as Maki

Cosplay Photos by Darkain Multimedia

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