

Make a Simple Little Red Cape

3/4 yard of fabric - no paper pattern required - basic sewing only



No pattern needed!

Use a child-sized hooded coat or sweatshirt to trace the hood, and a paper plate to shape the neckline. This is a simple dramatic-play cape - sturdy enough for lots of pretend adventures.

Magic on a Budget: Check your craft supplies first - you may already have enough red fabric. If not, try the remnant bin. The cape shown here used about **3/4 yard of remnant fabric and cost about \$3**. No red ribbon? Soft ribbon handles from a gift bag can work for the ties.

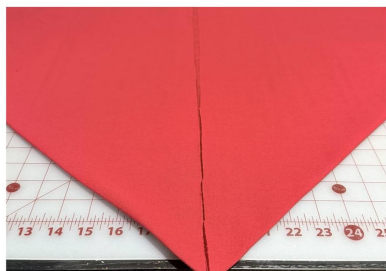
You will need

3/4 yard red fabric • fabric scissors • child-sized hooded coat or sweatshirt • paper plate • basic sewing supplies • short pieces of soft ribbon or other soft ties



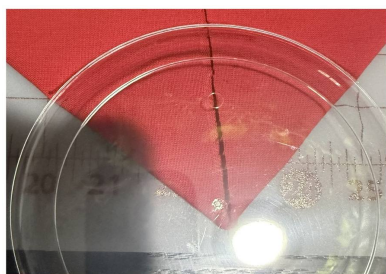
1. Make a square

Fold the fabric to form a square. Cut away the extra fabric and save it - you will use some of it for the hood.



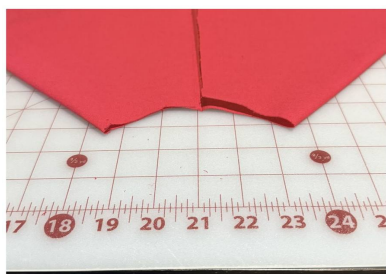
2. Fold the cape

Open the square, then fold each outside edge inward toward the center so the two sides meet in the middle.



3. Shape the neckline

With the cape fabric folded, use a paper plate as a guide to draw a gentle curve at the top center. Cut along the curve to make the rounded neck opening.

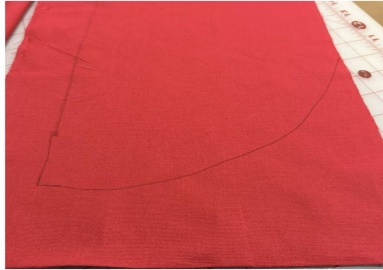


4. Open the neckline

Open the fabric and check the curved neck opening. The cape is now ready for its hood.

Make the Hood

Borrow a hood from the coat closet - no paper pattern required.



5. Trace the hood

Lay a child-sized hood from a coat or sweatshirt flat on the saved red fabric. Trace around it, leaving a little extra room for a seam allowance.



6. Cut and sew the hood

Cut the hood pieces, place them together, and sew around the curved outer edge. Leave the face opening and the bottom neck edge open.



7. Attach the hood

Match the open bottom edge of the hood to the cape's rounded neckline and sew the hood securely to the cape.

8. Finish only what you want to finish.

For a neater look, turn under and stitch the two front edges. This is optional. The curved bottom edge can be left unhemmed for a quick dramatic-play cape.

9. Add the ties.

Sew short pieces of soft ribbon securely at the neckline. The cape shown here uses soft ribbon handles removed from a gift bag - use what you have!

Classroom safety: Keep neckline ties short and soft, and supervise children while the cape is being worn. Never fasten anything tightly around a child's neck.

No pattern. No perfect hems. Just enough red fabric to help a child step into the story.

Storyland Magic • Elderidge Hollow

Bonus Option: Make It a No-Tie Cape

A little more fabric - no ties around the neck

Have a little more fabric? Try this easy variation!

Start with a larger square of fabric and make a poncho-style cape that slips over the child's head. The best part: no ribbon ties or fasteners are needed around the neck.

You will need

1 1/2 yards red polyester fabric - fabric scissors - paper plate - child-sized hooded coat or sweatshirt - basic sewing supplies



1. Cut a 36-inch square

Measure and cut a 36" x 36" square of fabric.



2. Fold it like a poncho

Fold the square to find the center for the neck opening. Use a small plate as a guide and cut the opening. Start small - you can always make it larger.



3. Make and attach the hood

Follow the hood directions on page 2, using a child's coat or sweatshirt hood as your pattern. Sew the finished hood to the back of the neck opening.



4. Finish as needed

Finish any seams or edges you feel are necessary. Our polyester did not ravel, so some edges could be left unfinished.

Magic on a Bigger Budget

We used polyester fabric that cost \$5.99 per yard and purchased 1 1/2 yards, which was more than enough. This version uses a little more fabric, but it slips over the child's head, so no ties are needed around the neck.