**TIP:** If scissors are sharp, each pattern piece can be cut from double-folded fabric, eliminating the need to cut each piece 2 times. Suggested layout for this cutting shortcut is shown below. Cut BIB BAND (& BAND LINING) from folded selvage end & then refold fabric & cut BIB (& BIB LINING).

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**CONSTRUCTION**

(Shaded areas on diagrams indicate right side of fabric.) Complete any desired embellishments (applique, machine embroidery, etc) on bib (and bib lining for reversible bibs) before proceeding. For smocked bib, complete steps in **II. SMOCKED VARIATION** (below) before proceeding.

1. With right sides together, stitch bib to lining along all edges except bottom (with 3/8” seam). Trim seams & clip corners. Turn & press.

2. Matching center of band to center of bib, position right sides together as shown & stitch together with 1/2” seam.

3. Press bib up away from band. Looking at right side of bib, position band lining on top of band (right sides together). Stitch band to band lining with 1/2” seam, stitching across ends, bottom & across top as close to bib as possible (approximately 2” from sides of bib). Trim seams & clip corners. Turn band right side out & press.

4. Unstitched edges of band & band lining should fold to inside along the 1/2” seam line. Slipstitch these unstitched edges together. Slipstitch band lining to bib lining covering bottom seamline on bib.

5. Work buttonholes on each end of band. Buttonholes should be centered & worked approximately 1/4” from ends. Attach bib to front of garment by sliding tabs through buckles. Wrap band around each side to back. (Bottom of garment armhole should be approximately 3/4” below top edge of band.) Use buttonholes as guide & mark position for buttons on back of garment. Sew buttons in place.

6. Refer to **I. BASIC CONSTRUCTION** to complete bib. After completing step 1 of basic construction, machine baste bottom edges of bib & lining together. Stitch directly on top of machine basting stitches done below smocking (**II. SMOCKED VARIATION, step 2**). This will provide a guide for keeping seam straight when sewing band to bib.

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**II. SMOCKED VARIATIONS**

Complete smocking design as directed on reverse side. Pull out all gathering threads except top & bottom (& extra gathering rows above top & bottom rows). Block smocking to size indicated: size 1 = 8 1/2” size 2 = 8 3/4” size 3 = 9” size 4 = 9 1/4”.

**TIP:** After blocking smocking, a strip of masking tape may be positioned approximately 1/2” above top row (and also below bottom row) of smocking to hold inset in blocked position. Tape should not be caught when stitching piping to inset (step 1) & should be removed after step 1 is completed.

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**II. SMOCKED VARIATION cont.**

1. Machine baste covered piping just above top row of smocking & just below bottom row. (Use zipper foot & stitch as close to piping as possible.) If covered piping is not used, stitch a machine basting row just above top row & below bottom row to be used as guide when stitching inset to bib. Trim top & bottom of inset to 1/2” above & below these basting stitches if they extend beyond 1/2”.

2. To determine “length of inset” measure from machine basting stitches above design to machine basting stitches below design.

3. Draw inset cutting line on bib (not on lining) with water soluble pen. Cutting line will be the “length of inset” determined in step 2—measuring up from bottom of bib. (For example, if “length of inset” determined in step 2 is 3”, measure & mark bib 3” above bottom edge.) Measure & mark with bib folded to help assure cutting line is parallel to bottom edge. Cut bib on this cutting line & discard bottom.

4. With right sides together & raw edges even, position top of inset against bottom of bib (along the bib cutting line). Match centers & position first & last smocked pleat just beyond 3/8” seam line (so first & last pleat will be caught in seam when bib is sewn to lining). Sew top of inset to bottom of bib with 1/2” seam. (Use machine basting stitches done in step 1 & basting stitches above as guide to help keep stitching straight.) It is not necessary to trim this seam, but to reduce bulk, overcast raw edges together.

5. Press seam & top of bib up-away from inset.