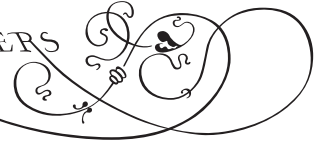


# Clara's Colonial American Dress

In celebration of the Fourth of July, Clara's dress is from 1776. This *robe a l'anglaise* style of gown became popular in the 1770s, with a simpler design replacing some of the more fantastic and impractical fashions of previous decades. Clara's dress has the typical tight, pointed bodice with fitted sleeves, enhanced with a large ruffle at the elbow. The skirt has an open front, showing off the petticoat, which was usually of a different material or color than the overskirt. Clara's dress would have been worn with a *fichu*, or shawl, typically made of a sheer white fabric. Additionally, Clara has a mob cap, a cute little frilly bonnet with ruffles and a ribbon. Her ensemble is finished off with a pair of silk brocade shoes with crossed straps. These shoes have no heels, since they are for a child.

PAPER DOLLS BY

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Cut on the dotted lines and tuck center under the head to hold the cap securely.

