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It is possible to buy patterns for smocked dresses for adults and children. It should also be noted that smocking will take two and a half times as much material as will appear when the work is done. That is, if you order to obtain half a yard of smocked material a yard and a quarter must be used. Of course this can be gathered up into a smaller space or arranged to a larger one, but that is the average. The materials used for a grown person's dress must be soft, for the fullness around the waist will not look well in stiffer materials. A soft well fitting silk and even chiffon are best adapted for this kind of garment. The advantages of smocked dresses for children's wear are numerous. The fullness will leave room for growth, and the dresses may be worn for a long time.

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