

Scalloped Hem Skirt...with pockets!

By Stacy at thelandofka.com

Description

This tutorial describes how to draft a pattern and make a skirt that has side panels with pockets and a scalloped hem.

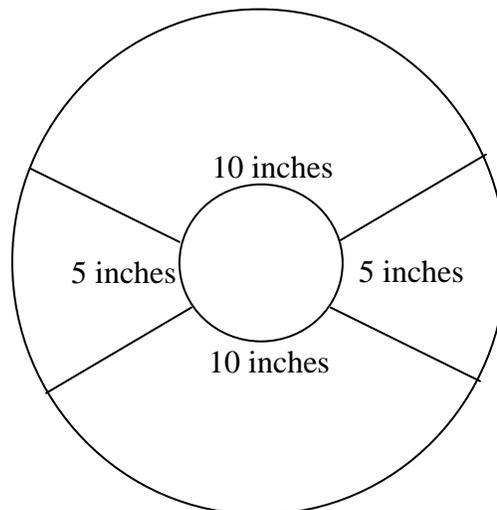
What you need

- 1 ½ yards fabric, you can decide if you want all one color or combined.
- Ribbon
- ¼" double fold bias tap in coordinating color
- elastic
- Beads - if you want to trim out the ribbon with them
 - I used quilting cottons for this skirt.
 - Keep the iron hot and handy. Working with wovens in this pattern you will need to press quite a bit to make the fabric easier to work with and looking nice.

How to Make

Step 1 – Making the pattern and cutting

First you will need to determine the diameter of the circle skirt. For my 5.5 year old, I cut the pieces with a 30" diameter, which included seam allowances:



This allows for 4-5 inches of ease in the finished garment.

Cut 2 of the 10" pieces and cut 4 of the 5 inch pieces. I just did one pattern for 5" x 14" long. The larger pieces I cut on the fold.

To get the circle part of the skirt I have a plastic template that has half circles on it. It is for quilting, and I've used it quite a bit in drafting skirts and just is a good size for using my rotary cutter in cutting straight lines.



In addition, you will need to cut:

2 pieces – 14" long x 5" wide

This is the drop waist. You will need to determine what the finished circles will be and add a seam allowance. In this case I expect to use a $1/2$ " seam, so it should end up being 26" all together. The waist piece will need to be 26" finished, which would be 14 inches a side plus seam allowances – 14 inches.

2 pieces – 20" long x 8" wide (pockets)

Bias strips, if you want to put them on the bottom of the pocket. I cut mine 3" wide x 12".



Step 2 – Assembly

- Note on seam finishing – With wovens you will need to finish the seams or they tend to fray. The majority of the seams I have used a serger. If you don't have a serger, use a zigzag stitch as close to the edge as you can once you have sewn up the seams. You could also do a French seam (enclosed seam), as well.

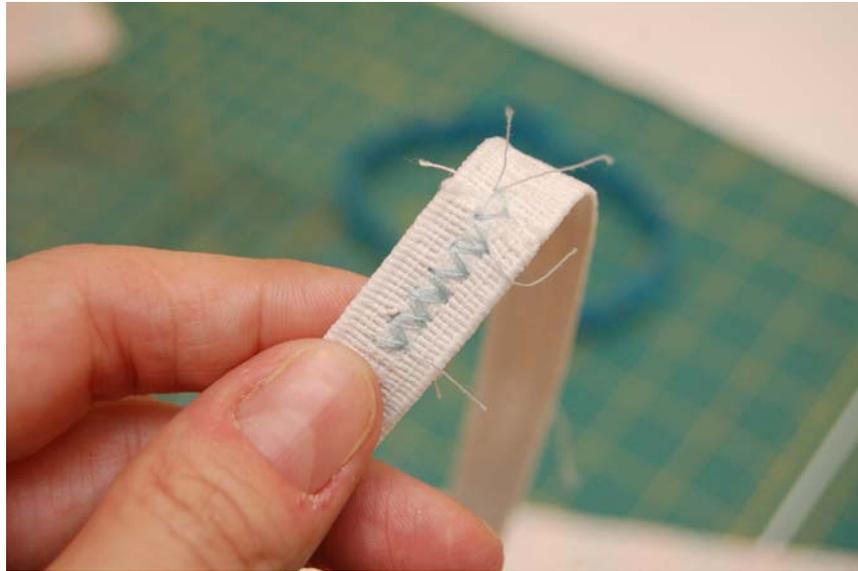
1. Hem the 10" center pieces with the bias tape trim.



2. Sew the drop waist pieces together on the sides.



3. Measure the child's waist and decrease a few inches. Connect the elastic together.



4. Serge the elastic onto the top of the waist.



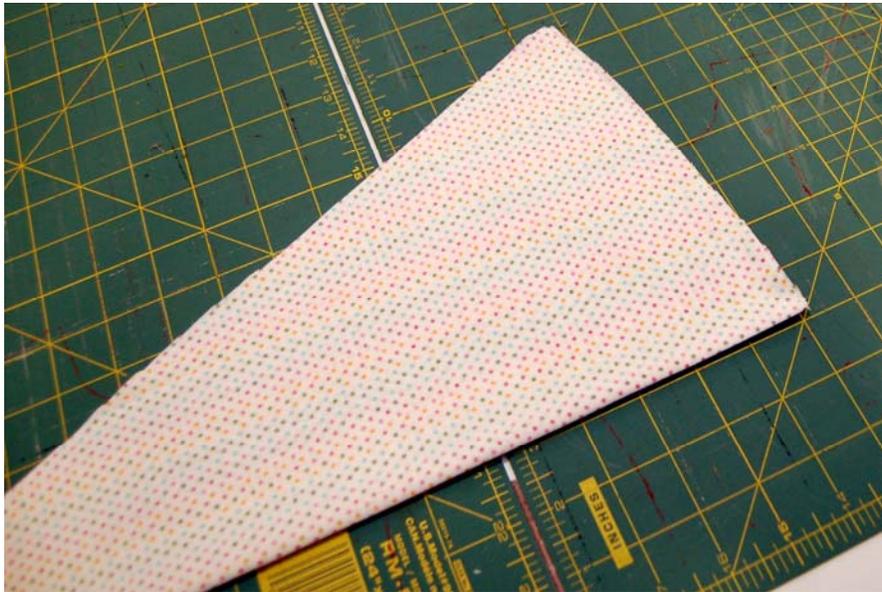


5. Fold the serged elastic over and zig-zag the seam down. You can also create a pocket to thread the elastic through, attach the elastic ends together and stitch it closed.





6. Take your side pieces and cut the scalloped edge. You can fold it over in half, or do what I did and folded it over twice. You may want to draw out how you want the scallop to look, and try it on a scrap piece. Here is the pattern I did when I cut mine out. Make sure you don't cut in at the side seam and leave an inch or so before you start cutting a curve.



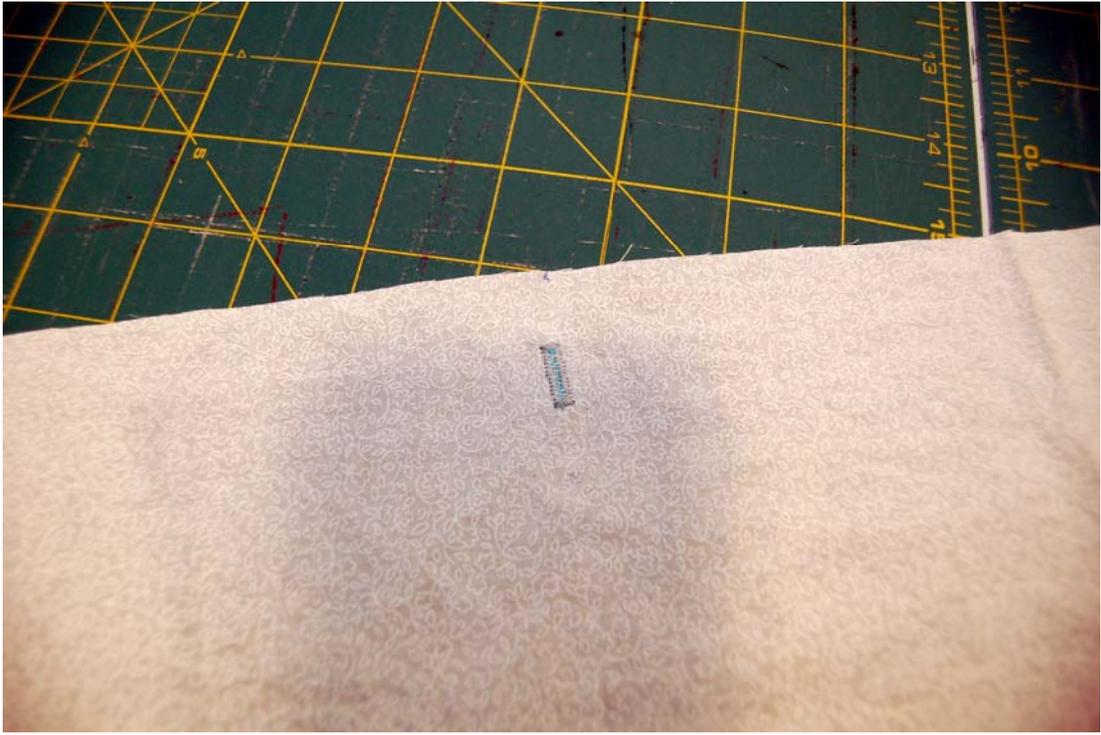




7. Take the pocket pieces and your ribbon that you will be threading through it. You will be creating a channel to thread it through. In the middle of the outside of the channel you will do a button-hole to bring the ribbon through. Measure the width of the ribbon, multiply by two and add a $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Go down that far in the middle of the pocket and make a buttonhole.

Don't do what I did and measure wrong! I didn't go down far enough on these skirt pockets.





8. Thread the ribbon through the channel. You just need it to go all the way through and no more. That is enough ribbon to tie it up.





9. Sew the pockets on the outside piece of the side panel. Go down 3" on the side and sew the pockets to each side.



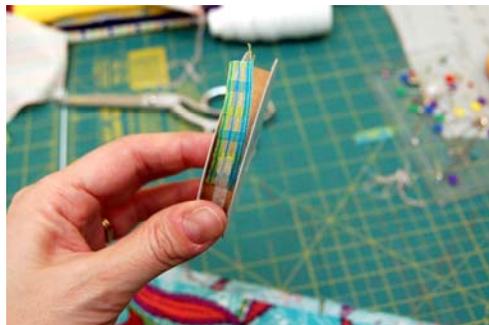
10. Scrunch up the pockets by pulling the ribbon through and tying it off. Iron the pocket down to where the gathers look good. Sew bias tape or ribbon trim over the top of the seam. I serged the ends first to keep any fraying in check.



Now you could certainly gather the bottom edge and make it look much prettier and even that what I did here.



Also make sure you have enough ribbon before you start or you will need to go to Plan B (bias strip of the main fabric).



This needs to be cut on the bias so it can move along the curve. This is my curve template tool that I used to draft the pattern. I works good as an edge for cutting.

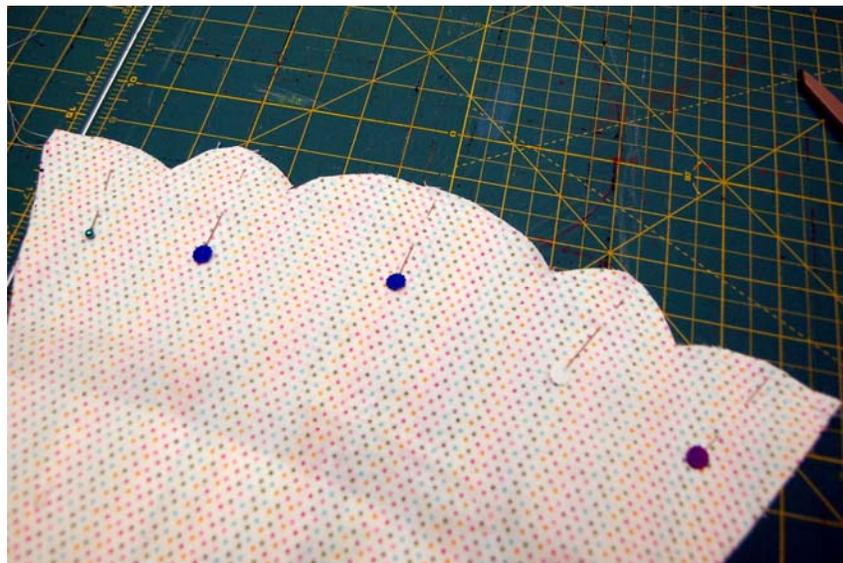


Turn the edges under and iron, then pin over the seam.





11. Now, put the right sides of the side panels together and sew the bottom seam. You don't want a very wide seam here, because this will already be shorter than the center panels. Keep the seam smallish, and then cut triangles in the curve or use pinking shears. This will help it lay better when turn out. Iron the edge.

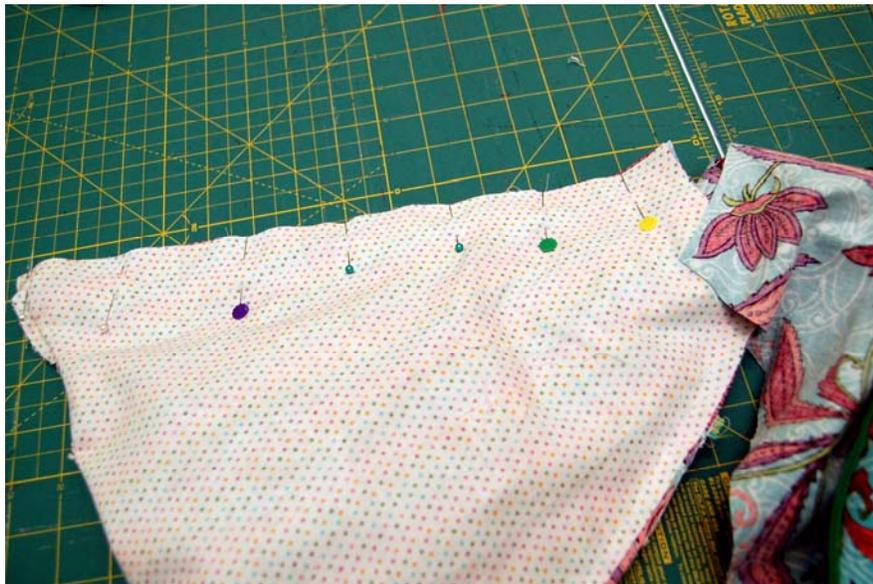




12. Now, place the center panel piece as close to the bottom seam on the side panel as you can get. Make sure the right side of the pocket panel is right side with the center panel. Put the other side panel over the top and sew everything together.



13. Go to the next seam on the side panel. You will have to move the fabric around a bit to get it all in there.



14. Next, move on to the other side panel and do the same.



15. For the last connection, just sew the side panel with the pocket to the center panel.





Then iron a seam over on the other side panel piece. Have enough overlap, so you can stitch in the ditch of the seam on the reverse side. Conversely you can just topstitch all the side panel pieces. Either would work. Iron all the seams nice and flat.





16. Now topstitch the edges of the scallop.



17. The top edges aren't going to be even (as you can see here – the center is taller due to the seam on the side panel), so trim them up so they match up.



18. Mark the middle front and middle side of the skirt pieces and also the drop waist pieces. Match them up, right sides together and serge/sew them together.





19. Iron the seam up and topstitch.



20. Decorate ribbons with cute beads.

21. All done!

