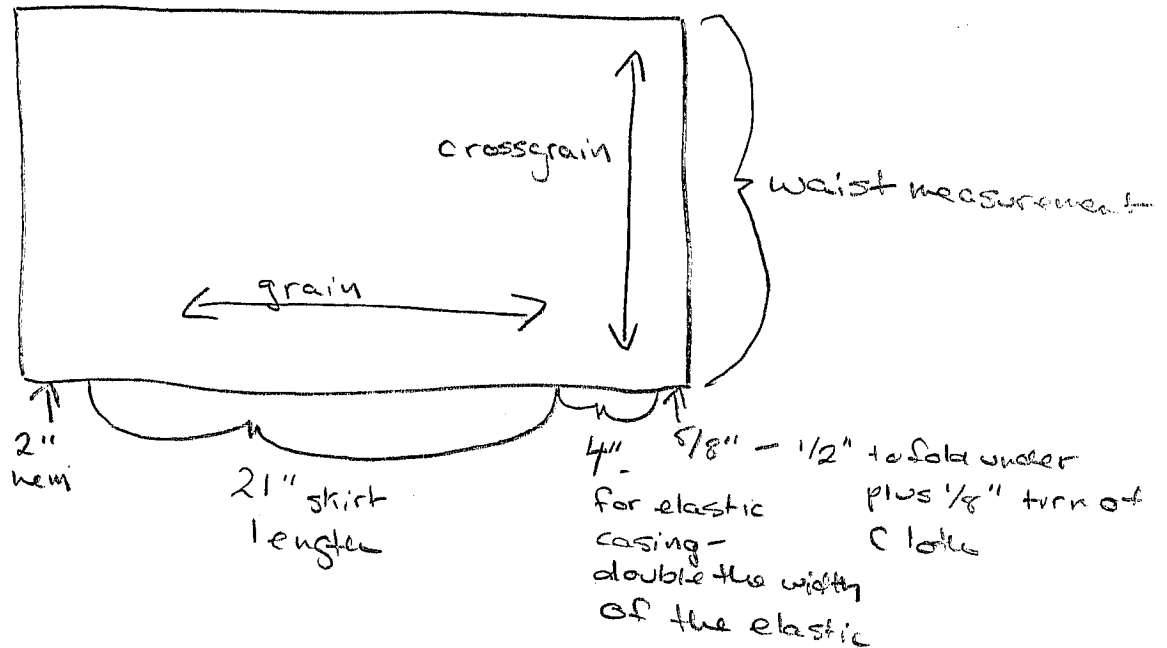


Basic drindl skirt

Two rectangles, each 1x waist measurement on the cross grain, and the desired length plus hem allowance, double the elastic width plus $\frac{1}{8}$ " for turn of the cloth and $\frac{1}{2}$ " to turn under to make the elastic casing;



In this example, the skirt will be 21" long, and the elastic is 2" wide. You need two of these pieces.

First, sew the two pieces together along the long sides. Press the seam allowances open. On the bottom, press the hem allowance up and pin it in place. You may sew it up by hand or machine. Next, press $\frac{1}{2}$ " on the unfinished end, then fold over the $2\frac{1}{8}$ " for the elastic, and press, pin in place if needed. With the inside showing, sew as close to the folded under fold as possible. If you have trouble with this, allow a little extra for the casing when

figuring your measurements. Finish stitching about 1" from where you started. Your elastic should be cut to a length that is comfortable for you to wear. Put a safety pin in one end of the elastic, slide the pin into the casing, and work it all

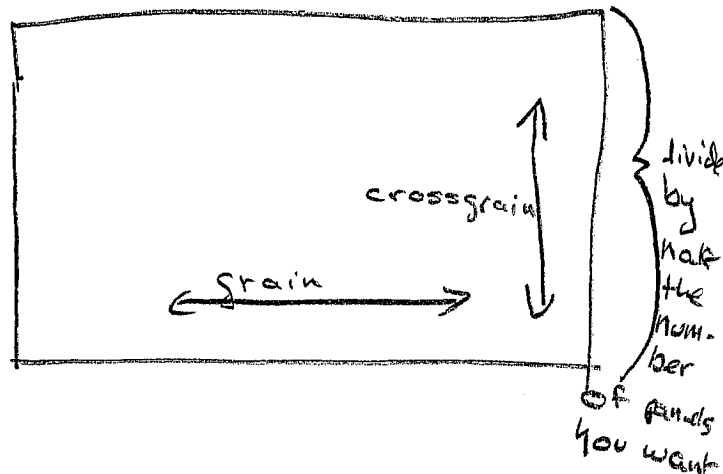
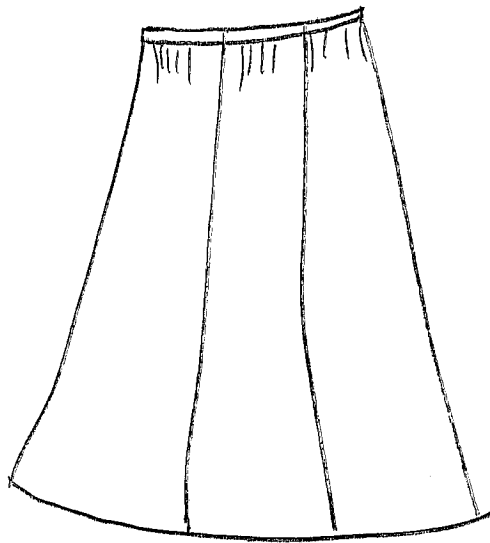
the way around. Pull both ends out as far as you can, butt the cut edges together, and secure them to each other with a zigzag stitch.

Don't forget to mention! Pin the other end to the skirt so it doesn't get lost in the casing!

Next, flatten out the unstitched section of the casing and sew it shut, overlapping the stitches to either side by $\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Voila! a skirt!

Easy variation #1

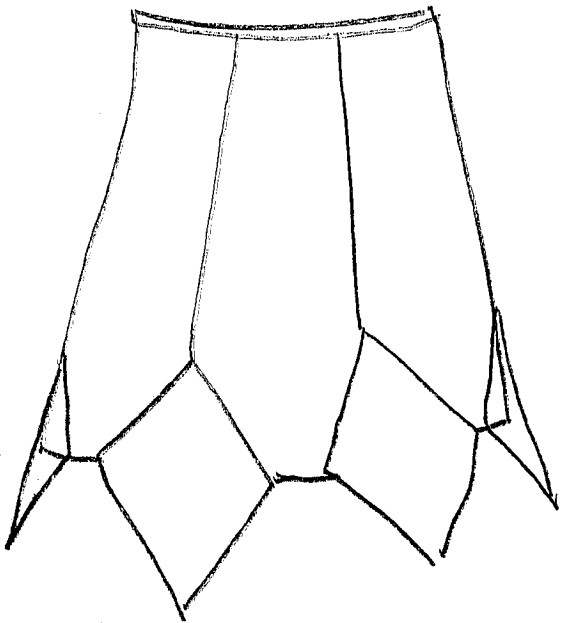


Take the same measurements you used for the drawl skirt, but instead of cutting your full waist measurement on the crossgrain, figure out how many panels you want. divide the waist measurement by half that (so 6 panels would mean each piece would be $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of your waist measurement on the crossgrain.) Assembly is the same, but you have more long seams to sew! Use different fabrics, but make sure they have the same opacity and drape.

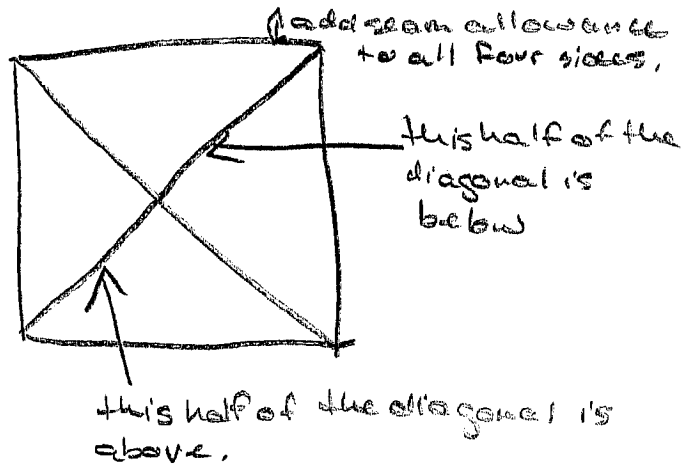
Voila! another skirt!

Now that you've made a couple of skirts, here's a little more of a challenge. . .

A handkerchief skirt is simply the previous skirt with some squares inserted at the bottom.

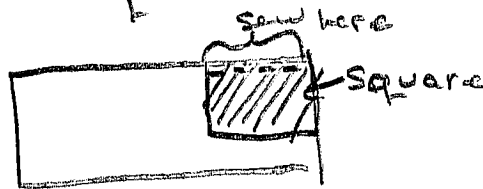


Notice that the squares extend below the bottom of the hem. The size of your squares should be figured by their diagonals:

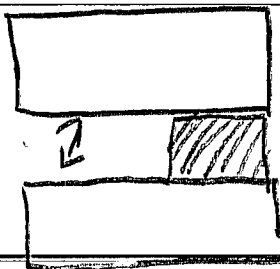


Draw your diagonals on paper, or use a cutting mat - the length of the sides is inconsequential.

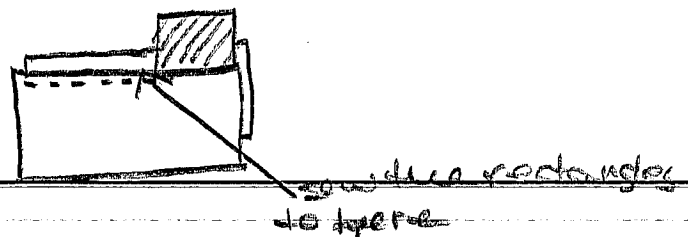
Start by sewing a square to the bottom of each rectangular piece.



next, sew the straight edges to the square-attached edges.



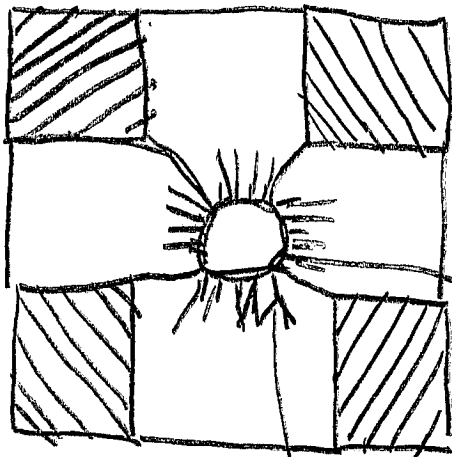
obviously, this takes some manipulation.





with the needle down, rotate the square so that its edge is even with the rest of the long rectangle edge, then sew the rest of the way down.

Repeat until all the panels are attached. Now... so that the squares don't look lopsided, your hem should be the same as the seam allowance. Spread out the shirt, and you'll see how easy...



← 4 panels - you can make more, they still spread out to nice straight edges

Waistband

Gathers, really.

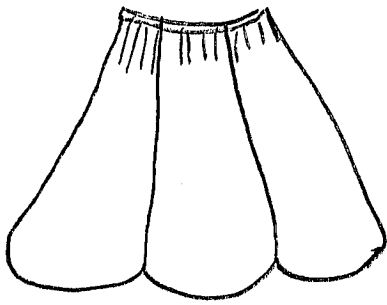
Roll up the edges and make a narrow hem, make the casing + insert the elastic, and you're done.

Something else you can do is change the shape of the panels. You'll still be using the same measurements for the top part (your waist divided by half the number of panels) But you can completely change the look by altering the rest of the panel.

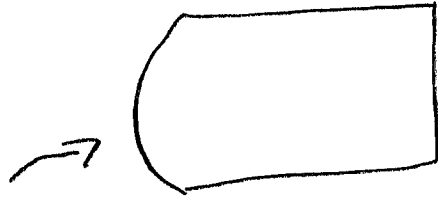
Note enough room here!

Turn the page!



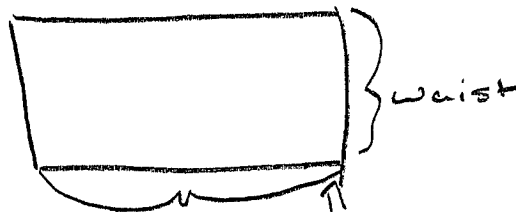


panels look like this:

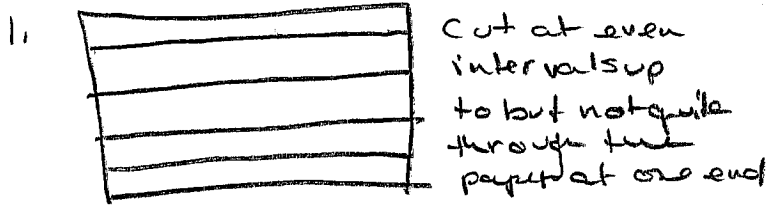


Just draw a curve. It will dip below your original hemline, make a very narrow hem.

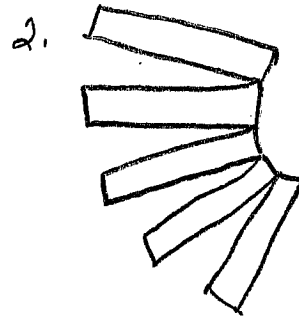
Or, add a little more flare by cutting your rectangles out of paper, slashing + spreading



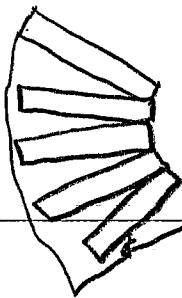
no allowance for elastic casing



1. Cut at even intervals up to but not quite through the paper at one end



2. Spread one end as wide as you want (or as wide as the fabric will allow)



tape the spread pieces onto another paper

true up the curve line

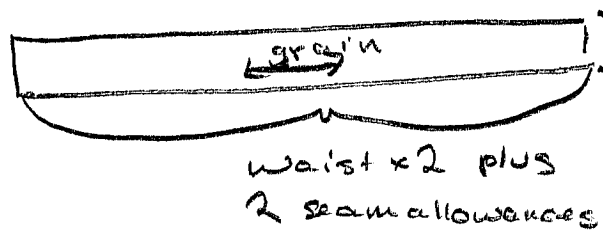


add seam allowance

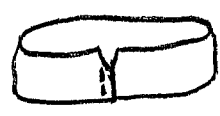
This is now your pattern for each panel, (Yes, you can do just front+back, but it won't flare as wide)

This will give you a flared skirt with an even hem. You can exaggerate the bottom curve if you want more of a scalloped edge. Make a very narrow hem if you do this.

Since the curve ~~is~~ at the waistline makes it nearly impossible to make a casing by flipping some fabric, you need to cut a separate rectangle of casing.



} double the width of the elastic plus 2 seam allowances plus 1/8" for turn of the cloth.

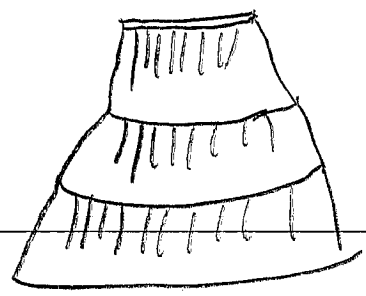


put the short ends together, sew them on one half only. Fold it in half lengthwise and press.



align the raw edges and sew both to the waist of the skirt at once. Put the elastic through this hole, zigzag the elastic together, and handstitch the opening shut.

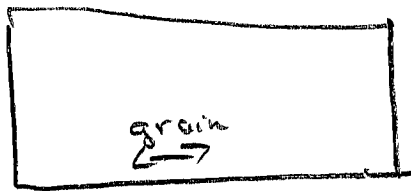
There are innumerable other ways to play with slashing & spreading or changing the hemline, but for now I'm going to finish up with the three-tier peasant skirt.



↑ looks better than this in real life.

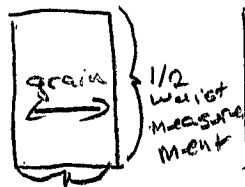
This is made by dividing your desired length by three, cutting more panels, and gathering the top edge of each tier into the bottom edge of the one above.

The top is exactly the same as the striped skirt in that you want to add more length on the crossgrain to accommodate the elastic casing, but instead of a hem allowance on the other end, you add just a seam allowance.

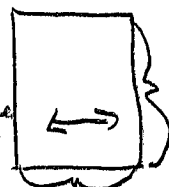


7 regular panel

Tier skirt panels



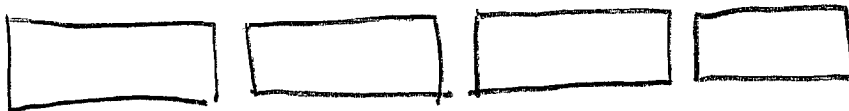
1/3 rd
finished length
plus 2 seam
allowances
Cut 12



1/3 rd
finished length plus twice
elastic width, 1/8" turn of
cloth, 1/2" fold under, and
one seam allowance
Cut 2



top layer



middle layer



bottom layer

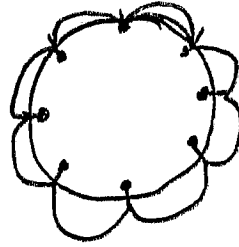
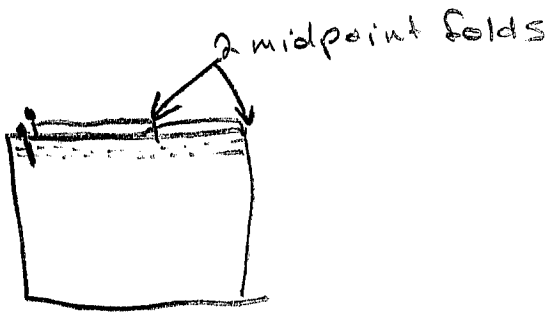
Sew the panels as shown, short edges together.

On one raw edge of the middle and bottom layers, sew two parallel rows of gathering stitches inside the seam allowances.

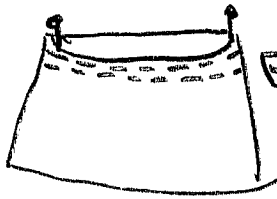
Set your stitch length to 4, top tension to 2. With right side of fabric up, stitch 1/8" and 1/2" from the raw edge.

Pin the gathering-stitched edge of the middle layer to the top layer, right sides together, at side seams, center front, & center back. Then, by lining adjacent pins up and pulling both layers out flat, you'll find the middle point of each layer. Pin these middle points together.





View from above -
top layer is on the
inside.



Since you have sewn the gathering stitches with the right side up, the loose bobbin thread is exposed. Start at the point where the thread tails are hanging. Pull both sets until the middle layer fabric is gathered to the same length as the top layer. Even out the gathers, and pin in place.

Go to the next pin that has ungathered fabric on both sides, use a pin to pick up the bobbin thread, pull the loops that come up, and both sides will be gathered at once. Even out the gathers, pin in place, then repeat until the entire middle layer has been gathered.

With the gathered layer on top, stitch the top and middle layers together. Check on the outside of the skirt to make sure no folds got sewn in accidentally. Correct if necessary, then either topstitch the seam allowances to the top layer, or zigzag the seam allowances, to reduce bulk.

Repeat, attaching bottom layer to middle layer.

Make a narrow rolled hem, make your casing, put in the elastic, and you're done!

For a patchwork look, you can use squares instead of rectangles, of different fabrics, as long as the proportions of the layers is the same!