

MAKING A SIMPLE PRAIRIE SKIRT

For standard 110 cm. material use two widths for the upper skirt and three widths for a ruffle. Typical measurements are 62 cm. for upper skirt plus seam allowance and 22 cm. for ruffle plus seam and hem.

These measurements with a 7 cm. waistband will require:

$$(62 + 2) \times 2 + (22 + 3) \times 3 + (7 + 1) \times 2 = 219 \text{ cm. or } 2.2 \text{ m}$$

Sew ruffle together. Sew upper skirt together including a secret pocket in the right side seam if desired and leaving space for zipper. Gather or pleat ruffle to match upper skirt and sew together. Gather or pleat upper skirt to match waistband length. Fold waistband in half, insert interfacing if desired. Sew waistband and skirt together allowing for overlap toward the back on the left side.

Insert Zipper. Sew on hooks at waist. Hem the skirt. Enjoy!



Waist

Upper Skirt 1 & 2

Ruffle 1, 2 and 3

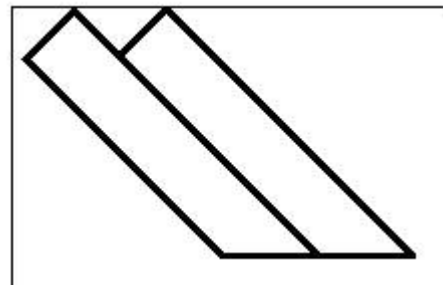
IF YOU WANT A FULLER SKIRT WITH MORE SWIRL

Make three equal tiers. Use two widths of 110 cm material for the top tier. Use three widths for the middle tier and use four widths for the bottom tier. Remember to allow more material on the bottom tier for the hem.

For those who think in inches: a 30 inch skirt made this way would require 6 or 7 inches for the waistband (folded in half) + 2 x (10 + 1.5 for seam allowance on each side) + 3 x (10 + 1.5) + 4 x (10 + 3 for seam on top and hem on bottom) = about 120 inches or 3 1/3 yards.

MAN'S TIE

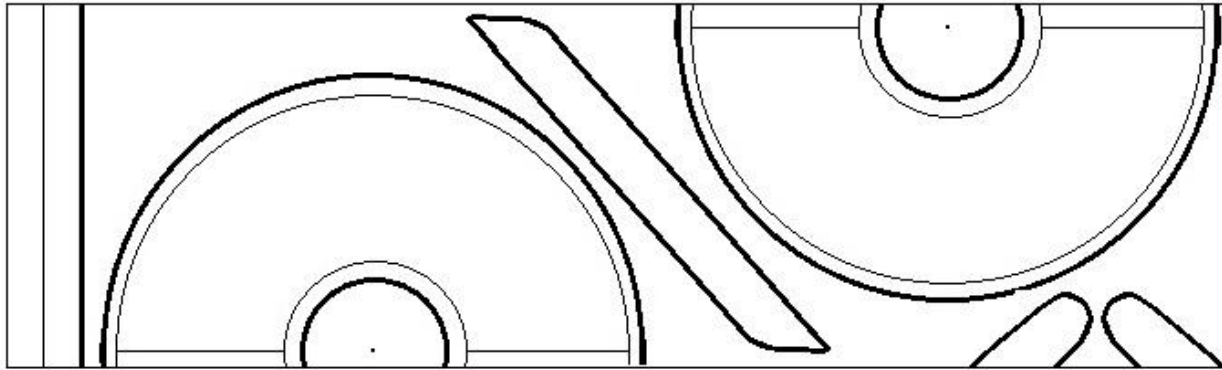
The Tie is 14 cm. wide and about 120 cm. long (adjust for man's height) with ends cut on diagonal as shown for a circular skirt. Make a tiny hem along edge. At back of neck fold towards centre, fold again in half and stitch across on the diagonal to hold in place. When making a tie with the simple prairie skirt or on a one-way fabric, cut in two pieces to save fabric and to make the one-way right side up on both ends of the tie. Sew together across the square ends.



MAKING A SIMPLE CIRCULAR SKIRT

First determine the waist measurement, how wide a waistband is desired, and the desired length. Also decide if you wish to make a man's tie to match the skirt.

Assuming that the material is about 110 cm or 44 inches wide you will need between 3 and 3.5 metres of material for the layout shown.



Waist
Band

Man's Tie

Secret Pocket
(trace hand shape)

Calculate the radius at the waistline by using: $\text{radius} = \text{waist} / 6.28$
Add 2 cm or 1 inch to the radius to give some slight gathering at the waistline.
Add the desired length of the skirt.
Add at least 2 cm. for the hem and as much as 7 cm. for a wider hem.
The sum of radius + gather + length + hem = length of string for outer circle.
The length of string for inner circle is radius minus seam allowance.

As an example we will consider these typical measurements:

waist measurement = 82 cm., waist band to be 7 cm. wide
length of finished skirt to be 57 cm., hem to be 3 cm. extra
outer circle = $(82 / 6.28) + 2 + 57 + 3 = 75$
inner circle = $(82 / 6.28) - 1.5 = 11.5$

Inscribe the circles by using chalk or pencil tied to a piece of string held at the centre of the circle. Position the centre of the circle a seam allowance away from the edge of the material.

With right sides together, sew side seams together leaving space for secret pocket on right side and for zipper on left side. Insert secret pocket and zipper.

Sew a row of wide stitches along waist seam to use for gathering then gently to ease fit to the waistband. Fold waistband in half, insert (iron or sew in) interfacing to stiffen if desired, mark desired length of waistband, attach to waist allowing for overlap towards back on left side. Sew on hooks and eyes at waist.

Hang skirt for at least a week to allow the bias direction of the skirt to stretch as it inevitably will. Measure for hem line from waistband, fold, pin and hem. Wear with pride.