

Prairie Princess Skirt



Note: These instructions assume you have experience with gathering, elastic casings and inserting elastic, and that you will finish your seams as desired. This pattern is suitable for adults and girls of all ages. The model to the left is 3 and her sister below is 6.

Cutting:

Take these measurements: waist, hips, and total finished length. All of your pieces will be cut the same width--about 5" bigger than the hip measurement. You can go bigger to allow for growth if you want to, but don't go any narrower. There are 4 sections to cut; top, middle, middle ruffle, and bottom ruffle. Cut the lengths as follows:

1. Cut one top section of the skirt half of the finished length of the skirt plus 1.5"
2. Cut two pieces for the middle section $\frac{1}{4}$ of the total finished length plus 1".
3. Cut 2 pieces for the middle ruffle 1" shorter than the middle section.
4. Cut 4 pieces for the bottom ruffle $\frac{1}{4}$ of the total finished length plus 1".

Assemble as follows—use $\frac{1}{2}$ " seams:

1. Sew the top section side seam, right sides together. Press and set aside.
2. Sew the 4 pieces of the bottom ruffle right sides together to make a long circle. Hem the bottom by turning under $\frac{1}{4}$ " twice and topstitching.
3. Stitch the middle section right sides together to make a circle.
4. Run a gathering stitch around the top of the bottom ruffle and stitch to the middle section. Press seam up and topstitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the seamline.
5. Stitch the middle ruffle right sides together to make a circle. Hem the bottom of the ruffle. Baste the ruffle to the middle section, placing the wrong side of the ruffle to the right side of the middle section. Run a gathering stitch around the top, treating the middle ruffle and middle section as one.

6. Stitch the middle section to the top section, right sides together. Press the seam up and top stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the seam line.
7. Turn under 1" for the elastic casing (finish the edge by serging or turn under $\frac{1}{4}$ "). Top stitch close to the edge leaving an opening to insert the elastic. Insert $\frac{3}{4}$ " elastic (or use $\frac{1}{2}$ " if you turned under $\frac{1}{4}$ " on the casing). I like to make my elastic a few inches smaller than the actual waist measurement. Stitch ends of elastic together and top stitch opening in casing shut.

