



"Grace's A-Line skirt"



Add a modern, fashionable twist to a flawless classic. Mix different patterns of fabric with coordinating colors for an A-Line skirt that's flattering AND funky!

Skill Level: Beginner

Created by: Kelly Laws, Marketing Projects Manager

Supplies:

Baby Lock Grace Sewing Machine

Baby Lock Serger (Optional)

Simplicity Pattern # 4236

Invisible zipper foot (ESG-IZF)

4 spools Maxi-Lock thread (Optional)

All-purpose thread to match fabrics

Refer to pattern envelope for size and yardage amounts

 Approximately 2 yards: main skirt fabric

 Approximately 2 yards: contrast band fabric

1-1/2 yards of 1/2" to 5/8" wide grosgrain ribbon

7" invisible zipper

Hook and eye
Hand sewing needle
Tissue paper or pattern trace
Pencil
Ruler
Pins

Instructions:

1. Cut apart the pattern pieces from the Simplicity Pattern Company pattern.
2. Using the pattern guide sheet, locate the pieces used for view C. Keep the main skirt front and back piece only.



3. On the main skirt front and back pattern piece, use the pencil and ruler to evenly draw a 6" border across the bottom of the pattern piece.
4. Draw a second line 1/4" under the first line.



5. Trace the bottom border piece to the tissue paper. Add 1/4" seam allowance to the top edge of the border piece. Transfer any pattern directional markings, such as fold lines, grain lines, or notches.
6. On the main skirt front and back pattern piece, draw a second line 1/4" under the first line. Cut the pattern off at this line.
7. Following the original cutting layout for the skirt front and back, cut the now shorter skirt section from the main skirt fabric.
8. Using the new lower band pattern piece, cut the band piece from the contrasting fabric.
9. Wind the bobbin and thread the machine with the all-purpose thread to match the fabrics.

10. Attach the invisible zipper foot to the sewing machine. Insert the invisible zipper into the side seam. See instructions for using the invisible zipper foot below.
11. Change to the regular presser foot. Stitch the remaining side seam.
12. On the contrast band, stitch the front and back band pieces together at the side seam.
13. With right sides facing and seams matching, pin the band to the skirt. Stitch.
14. To finish the hem, fold the edge under $\frac{1}{4}$ " and under again $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Topstitch to form a small hem.
15. To finish off the waist line. Stitch the grosgrain ribbon to the top edge of the skirt on the wrong side.
16. Fold the grosgrain ribbon to the right side of the fabric and pin in place. Topstitch along the lower edge of the ribbon to secure.
17. At the zipper, fold the ends of the ribbon over to the wrong side of the skirt and stitch to secure.
18. Using a hand needle and thread, stitch a hook and eye at the top of the zipper through the grosgrain ribbon.

Instructions for Invisible Zipper Foot:

1. There are two grooves on the underside of the foot that guide the coil of the zipper as you stitch.
2. The invisible zipper is inserted in an open unsewn seam.
3. Open the zipper and place the right side of the zipper to the right side of the fabric, placing the coil of the zipper on the seam line.
4. To sew the right side of the zipper: Raise the coil and position the coil in the right groove so the center needle position will sew to the left of the coil.
5. To sew the left side of the zipper: Raise the coil and position the coil in the left groove so the center needle position will sew to the right of the coil.
6. Stitch from the top of the zipper tape to the zipper pull on both sides.
7. Close the zipper.
8. Finish the seam under the zipper by moving the bottom of the zipper out of the way and match the fabric edges. Stitch the seam.



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