

# "Fiskers Unzipped Tutorial Contest" Super Simple Elastic Waist Skirt

By: cweeks

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My 3 year old daughter LOVES skirts. And I like making them for her but like to do quick and easy ones. She messes them up and grows out of them so I would be frustrated if I had spent tons of time making a skirt for her. This skirt takes about 20 minutes.

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## Step 1 — Plan your skirt.

I made this skirt for my 3 year old daughter so I used 1/2 a yard of fabric. It is a simple rectangle. Basically based on your waist measurement and how poofy you want your skirt you can plan accordingly. Her final skirt is about a 15 inch waist and 14.5 length, It is very gathered on the elastic and is pretty poofy.

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## Step 2 — Finish your edges



Since I used the full 1/2 yard I only had to finish the top and bottom edges. You could serge them, I did, zig zag stitch or pinking sheer. Your selvage edges will be the finished edges of your seam. Yes there is only 1 seam you are basically making a fabric tube.

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## Step 4 — Create your waistband / casing for elastic



I used 3/4 inch elastic. So I sewed my casing for the elastic at 1 inch. This gives you room to get the elastic in but it should also keep it from flipping around on you. First you measure 1 inch from the top of your skirt, fold down that inch and press. Then you simply sew all the way around the skirt waist leaving about a 2 inch opening so you can get your elastic in.

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## Step 3 — Sew your seam

With the right sides together, fold your fabric in half selvage edges together. Pin and sew your seam. I also added my tag at this point so I could sew it in while the skirt was still flat.

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## Step 5 — Put in your elastic.



To measure your elastic wrap around the person's waist stretched comfortably and add an inch for sewing it closed. It is hard to give a rule about how much elastic you need since some is much stretchier than others. Once you have cut your piece of elastic, fold and pin one end with a large safety pin. Use the pin to pull the elastic through your casing. Make sure you anchor your other end so that you don't just pull it straight through.

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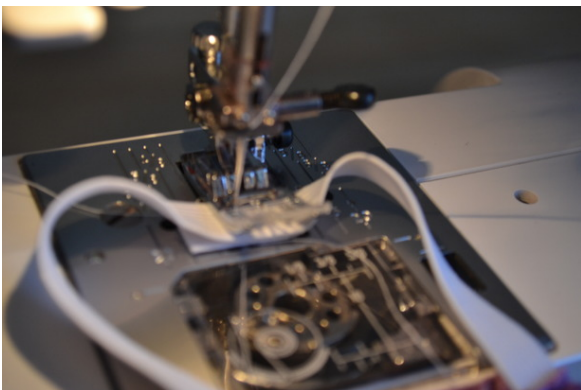
## Step 6 — A note about the elastic



With these dimensions it is a very full skirt and the fabric will be very bunched on the elastic. Would look different if the waist were larger.

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## Step 7 — Sew the elastic together



I like to sew my elastic closed with a box stitch. You sew in a square pivoting in the corners. This way the elastic will not pull apart in your skirt. Then stretch your waistband out to more evenly distribute the elastic in the fabric. And sew your opening shut in the same manor you sewed the rest of the casing.

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## Step 8 — Hem your skirt.



I like the look of a wide hem, so the hem on this skirt is 2 inches deep. If you are making a hem this deep you need to plan accordingly when you determine your dimensions. My daughter is 3'5" and the finished skirt length is 14 1/2. I simple measured 2 inches up for the hem, folded, pressed and sewed a straight stich in white thread to show contract. Please contact me if you have any questions about this and I will try and explain better or take some more photos.

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