

Cute As A Button

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<http://www.burdastyle.com/techniques/cute-as-a-button>



Embellish a basic skirt with this sweet + simple tutorial!

Step 1 — Basic Skirt



Make a basic skirt following one our tutorials, use an existing skirt, or download a pattern: Jenny Basic Skirt: <http://www.burdastyle.com/patterns/jenny-basic-skirt> Basic Skirt Tutorial: <http://www.burdastyle.com/projects/how-to-make-a-basic-skirt> Loving this tutorial? Check out the book here: <http://www.randomhouse.com/book/205794/flirt-skirts-by-seryn-potter-and-patti-gilstrap/9780307586698/>

Step 2 — Placket

Materials List

- Pencil pattern (pages 103-104)
- Basic sewing supplies
- 1/2 yd (1.4m) main fabric
- 9" (23cm) invisible zipper
- 1/2" (13mm) wide single-fold bias tape
- Paper
- Scallop template (page 108)
- 1/4 yd (23cm) contrast fabric
- 1/4 yd (23cm) lining fabric
- 6-10 buttons (1 for each scallop)



FABRIC TIP: Our fabric is actually a curtain panel from the 1940s, but any lightweight cotton or cotton blend with a large print will do. Couple it with a slightly textured solid-colored fabric to ground the print and feature the buttons; our solid contrast is microfiber.

1. Make Your Basic Skirt

Make a Pencil skirt following Steps 1-6 in Building Your Basic Skirt (pages 16-20).

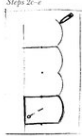
2. Make Your Placket

a. Measure the vertical length of your skirt front. Each scallop takes 3" (7.5cm) of fabric, so divide the skirt-front measurement by 3. The result equals the number of scallops you need to make for your placket. Round up to an even number—it's better to have more fabric than less.

EXAMPLE: Our skirt-front length was 25" (63.5cm): 25" (63.5cm) / 3" (7.5cm) = 8.3, which we rounded up to 9 scallops.

b. To make your placket pattern, you need a piece of paper that's at least the length of your skirt front and as wide as the scallop template. (If you don't have paper long enough to accommodate the pattern, tape a few pieces together.) With a pencil and a yardstick, draw a straight line that is the length of your skirt front down one side of the paper.

c. Fold under the bottom of the scallop template on the fold line, then line up the straight side edge of the template with the top of the straight line you've just drawn. Trace around the template and transfer the two dot markings to the paper.



d. To create the second scallop, fold under the top of the scallop template along the fold lines, then line up the top-folded edge with the bottom of the first scallop.

e. Sketch around the template and transfer the pattern's dot markings. Repeat this process for all scallops except the bottommost scallop; for this scallop, unfold the bottom fold of the template, then sketch around it and transfer the dot markings. Cut out your placket pattern.

f. Cut one placket out of contrast fabric, with the scallops of the pattern facing right; flip the pattern over and cut one out of lining fabric. Transfer the dot markings to your fabric.

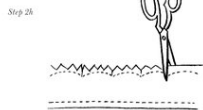
g. Pin both placket pieces right sides together; sew a 1/4" (16mm) seam allowance down the straight side and the scalloped side, leaving the top and bottom open. When sewing the scalloped side, pivot your stitches at each dot marking to create a nice even curve.

Make your placket by following the steps above!

Step 3 — Attaching the Placket

TIP: To pivot most efficiently at the dot markings, stop sewing, leave the needle in the fabric, lift the presser foot, and turn your work, remembering to realign your edge at 1/4" (16mm). Put your presser foot back down.

h. Clip the curves and cut into the dot markings without clipping the stitches.



i. Turn the fabric right side out and press the placket neat and flat.

3. Attach Your Placket

a. Line up the top of the placket with the top of your skirt (lining side of placket to right side of skirt), with the placket centered on your skirt front; the scallops should face to the right. Pin in place.

b. Topstitch the straight edge of the placket at a 1/8" (3mm) seam allowance.

c. Baste the top and bottom of the placket to your skirt with a 1/4" (10mm) seam allowance. The placket may hang over the bottom edge of your skirt; trim the extra fabric so the pieces are even.

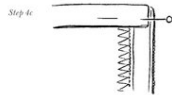
NOTE: The top and bottom of the placket will be sewn into the stitches of the waistband and hem, which will keep the placket from flapping around.

4. Sew Your Waistband

a. Measure the circumference of the top of your skirt and add 1 1/2" (3cm) for a seam allowance. Cut a piece of bias tape to this length.

b. Pin the bias tape right side up to the right side of the top of your skirt; open the zipper and extend one end of the bias tape 1/8" (16mm) past the zipper edge; continue pinning the bias tape around the skirt, covering the skirt's stay-stitching and also slightly overlapping the cut edge, until the tape extends 1/8" (16mm) past the other zipper edge. Sew closely to the bias tape's lower edge. Trim any threads and/or fabric extending past the bias tape no thinner than 1/8" (10mm).

c. Fold the extra bias tape on the ends toward the wrong side of the fabric; then fold the rest of the bias tape toward the wrong side of your skirt, far enough over so that you cannot see it from the outside. Pin the tape in place around your skirt. Sew closely to the bias tape's lower edge, starting and stopping your stitches about 1/8" (6mm) from the zipper teeth. Turn your skirt inside out, and press the entire top of the skirt.



5. Finish Your Skirt

Hem your skirt with a 1" (2.5cm) hem allowance; fold the bottom-cut edge 1/2" (13mm), then fold 1/2" (13mm) again, hiding the raw edge; stitch. Press your skirt and do a final thread check.

6. Sew Your Buttons

When sewing the buttons on, you will also secure the placket to the skirt. Mark the center of each scallop, then hand-sew a button in place through all the fabric layers, making sure your stitches are tight and secure.

Attach your placket by following the steps above!

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