

# Perfect Flare Bottom

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<http://www.burdastyle.com/techniques/perfect-flare-bottom>

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Actually, it concerns any skirt but particularly those that are widening to the bottom, and among them – especially bias cut and godet. The rule of a nice bottom is simple – the skirt’s length must be measured not from our waist but from the floor!!! Only in this case it has a nice even bottom. Any of us, who ever makes a flare skirt or wear a ready-made one, knows that it’s stretching a lot. To prevent us from re-making the hem, it’s better to use this simple method. Once I even saw a special device to make it but if you don’t have the one, like me, then I hope my advice will be in use. I’ll show the technique on my last dress, Simplicity 6093, this pattern has bias cut front and back sides. I made the measuring outdoors to get better pictures but it’s better to do inside, standing barefoot on the floor.

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## Step 1 — 1. Let our dress have some rest:)



We eagerly want to finish our project but before processing a hem, leave our skirt/dress alone... for a day and night. Our fabric's fibres will be hanging and stretching as much as they want. If the fabric is very stretching, e.g. knits or silk, or very soft and not dense, e.g. chiffon, then we can attach evenly some load ( not heavy!!!) to the bottom for a short time, a half an hour or a little more ( I just use clothes-peg for this, but be careful - not to strive to well not to tie the fabric!). Then take them away and leave the skirt/dress to have sweet dreams

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## Step 2 — 2. Marking.



Next day invite your mate, put on your skirt/dress and find the shortest point of its bottom. In my case it is usually the left side of my back (I mean buttock).

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### **Step 3 — 3. Marking.**



Step 2 — 2. Marking.



Chalk a marking on the ruler corresponding the defined shortest point. Then start turning around slowly step by step not moving from the spot. Your mate makes marking with the chalk along the bottom not moving the ruler! You'll be very surprised with the difference between the marks:)

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#### **Step 4 — 4. Checking.**



In this way you put marks along the skirt/dress's bottom. The final one controls your work: the first and the last marks must coincide. It means none of you made wrong movements.

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#### **Step 5 — 5. Drawing a bottom line.**



Now take of the dress/skirt. You can draw the bottom line either on one or two layers of fabric ( just fold the dress/skirt by the centre back/front in half), put it on the table and join your marks in one line.

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## Step 6 — 6. Trimming.



Depending on your way to process the hem, you can do it either with or without sea allowance. I usually make without, I just draw a line to trim excess fabric. But in this case I made with the seam allowance - it is just 1.5 cm and it's ready for double rolling.

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