CLASSIC PENCIL SKIRT  # 1403

This pattern is for a classic fitted pencil skirt. Sitting on the waist with a straight waistband, this skirt is fitted through the hip, slightly tapering in at the hemline that finishes just below the knee. Closing with an invisible zip at centre back, + includes a kick pleat for comfortable wearing.

About this Pattern: This pattern has been created with medium to heavy weight winter fabrics in mind + an added ease amount has been added to allow for the bulk of the fabric. If using a lighter weight fabric, you may wish to create a toile to check the required fit. Because this skirt tapers in at the hemline, should you wish to shorten or lengthen the skirt, we suggest altering the pattern on the lengthen + shorten lines + sewing a toile prior to sewing it in your chosen fabric.

SUGGESTED FABRICS: Medium to heavy weight suiting such as wool, tweed, wool blends.

TRIMS: 1x 25cm Invisible zip, fusing, either a button, trouser clip or snaps. 13mm bias binding

SEWING LEVEL: Intermediate.

Seam Allowances & Hems:

All seams are 1.5CM / 5/8”

Size Chart:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Bust</th>
<th>Waist</th>
<th>Hip</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>84cm/33”</td>
<td>66cm/25½”</td>
<td>91.5cm/36”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>86.5cm/34”</td>
<td>68.5cm/27”</td>
<td>94cm/37”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>89cm/35”</td>
<td>71cm/28”</td>
<td>96.5cm/38”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>94cm/37”</td>
<td>76cm/30”</td>
<td>101.5cm/40”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>99cm/39”</td>
<td>81cm/32”</td>
<td>106.5cm/42”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Finished Garment Measurements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Finished Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>65cm/25 ¾”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>65cm/25 ¾”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>65cm/25 ¾”</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>65cm/25 ¾”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>65cm/25 ¾”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fabric Requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Wide Fabric: 150cm / 60”</th>
<th>Narrow Fabric: 115cm / 45”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All sizes</td>
<td>1m / 40”</td>
<td>1.7m / 1½ 3/4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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BEFORE STARTING YOUR PROJECT:

Read all instructions carefully before starting on your project. Pattern Runway uses industrial sewing methods where appropriate to assist you in constructing a professional product, please note that some instructions will differ to traditional home sewing methods. We believe industrial methods will assist you in completing a perfect garment and in the quickest time.

We recommend pre shrinking all fabric by washing and drying it before you cut out your pattern, unless fabrics are dry-clean only such as suiting and wool.

We also recommend that you pre shrink any trims before using.

Make any pattern alterations such a lengthening or shortening before cutting your fabric.

Transfer all pattern markings to the wrong side of the fabric before removing the pattern pieces unless indicated. Consult the Pattern marking guide over the page.

Seam allowances for all wovens are 1.5cm / 5/8” unless otherwise indicated.

Neaten seams using a Overlocker or a regular zigzag stitch.

We recommend that you press all seams as you go.

GLOSSARY:

**Backstitch:** Sew in reverse for a maximum of 3 stitches, at the beginning and end of sewing every seam. This will prevent the stitches from coming undone.

**Gathering stitch:** Adjust your stitch length to the longest length on your sewing machine, usually around 4mm and loosen the sewing tension if necessary, stitch 1cm / 3/8” from the raw edge, then stitch again a small distance away from the first stitching, towards the raw edge. Pull both bobbin threads to gather the fabric to desired length, distributing the fullness evenly between start and finish, secure ends of threads by winding in a figure 8 around a pin inserted in the fabric. Once seams have been stitched remove gathering threads (if visible).

**Neatening the Seams:** Stitch a zig zag stitch over the raw edges of seam allowance, seams can be neatened together. Press towards the back of garment, an Overlocker/Serger can also be used.

**Edgestitch:** From the right side of the garment stitch a straight stitch close to the seam.

**Topstitch:** Sew a straight stitch on the outside of the garment parallel to the seam edge, usually 6mm / ¼” away from seam, edge or previous stitching or as indicated.

**Understitch:** Press facing or lining away from garment and press the seam allowances towards the facing or lining. In the facing or lining, right side up, edgestitch close to the seam, this is to keep the lining or facing on the inside of garment and prevent it rolling to the right side.
CREATING A PERFECT FIT:

How to Choose your Size:

Choose your size by comparing your body measurements with those on our size chart and choose the size that closest matches your measurements. If your body measurements are in between sizes, we recommend that you choose the larger size, as it’s much easier to make a garment smaller! If your measurements are only slightly different than our size chart, then choose the closest size as all our patterns include wearing and style ease.

PLEASE NOTE: that the size chart is not the finished garment measurements.

We recommend that you also measure your body length and compare to the finished length measurements given. To achieve a perfect, individual fit, you may need to adjust patterns in length.

How to Measure the Body:

1. **Bust:** Measure around the back, under the arms and across the fullest part of the bust. Tape measure should be flat against the figure, straight across the back and not too tight.

2. **Waist:** Measure around the waist, with the tape measure flat against the figure and snug but not too tight.

3. **Hips:** Measure over the fullest part of the hips, usually 23cm / 9” down from the waist. The fullest part of the hip maybe higher or lower depending on the individual figure.

4. **Back-Waist Length:** Measure from the nape of the neck, top of the back bone, to the natural waist.

5. **Sleeve Length:** With the hand on the hip, Measure from the shoulder bone to the wrist.

6. **In-Seam:** Measure from the Crotch to the desired hemline. (you may need a friend to take this measurement accurately)

7. **Skirt Length:** Measure from the waist to the desired length, (you may need a friend to take this measurement accurately)

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MY MEASUREMENTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measurement</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waist</td>
<td></td>
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<td>In-Seam</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Skirt Length</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
LENGTEHING / SHORTENING:

Compare your length measurements with your selected size finished length measurements to determine the amount of adjustment needed.

**To Lengthen a Bodice:**

Cut pattern along the lengthen shorten lines. Place a piece of paper under one pattern piece and tape in place. Extend the grainline on to the paper. Draw a parallel line on the paper, the measurement needed to add length. Tape the other part of the pattern, aligning the grainline and matching the edge along your drawn line, and tape in place. Connect the lines at the side and re draw the dart legs.

**To Shorten a Bodice:**

Draw a line on your pattern piece the measurement of the decrease, parallel to the lengthen shorten line. Cut the pattern apart along the lengthen shorten line and overlapp the pieces to the drawn line. Tape in place. Re-draw the sides of the pattern piece, blending the line where needed, re draw the dart legs.

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**PATTERN SYMBOLS:**

- **Grainline:** When placing your paper pattern pieces on your fabric, the grain line or arrow must lie parallel to the selvages (woven edges) of the fabric.

- **Place on Fold:** A grainline marking, indicating that this line is placed on the fold of the fabric. Do not cut this line.

- **Dots:** Marks end of dart points, pocket placements, clip marks, etc, transfer markings to wrong side of fabric via, erasable marker, piecing the fabric with an awl or tailors chalk.

- **Notches:** Clip into the fabric where these markings are. These marks indicate matching points for pattern pieces, gathering directions and alignment directions. Make sure to clip no deeper than the notch marking and clip all notches as sewing instructions make reference to these marks.

- **Button / Snap**

- **Buttonhole**
CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS:

Cutting layouts show approximate position of pattern pieces, position may vary slightly according to pattern size. Lines shown are cutting lines and include all seam and hem allowances.

For all styles and sizes: Fold over one side of the selvage just enough to cut the front skirt on the fold. Cut each back skirt separately with the pattern pieces right side up on the fabric. Cut waistband piece after skirt pieces have been cut, and unfold the folded edge to lie flat.

**NARROW FABRICS: 115cm / 45”**

**WIDE FABRICS: 150cm / 60”**

**NOTE:** Cut waistband after skirt pieces, unfolding fabric to cut 1x only.
SEWING INSTRUCTIONS:

Key:
- Right side
- Wrong Side
- Fusing/Interfacing

1. Stabilise the waist:
Stay stitch the waist using matching thread and a normal stitch length, and sew it in 2 passes, starting each time from the side seam to centre waist with a 1cm / 3/8” seam allowance. Stay stitching in 2 passes like this will prevent the waistline from stretching out of shape and effecting the fit. Stay stitch the back waist, stitching from side seam to center back.

2. Sewing front and back darts:
With the dart markings already transferred to the fabric, fold dart through centre, right sides together, matching notches and markings. Pin
Starting from wide end of dart, stitch towards dart point. Trim threads leaving long ends and tie end in a knot at the end of the dart. Use a pin to guide the knot to the dart point. Press dart excess towards the centre. Repeat for all darts.

3. Side Seams
With rights sides together, align the front and back skirt side seams. Stitch with a 1.5cm / 5/8” seam. Neaten edges separately and press seams open.

4. Skirt back:
Apply fusing to the back left skirt kick pleat. Depending on your fabric weight, it may or may not be needed.
Neaten each pleat edge. Turn and press a 1.5cm / 5/8” hem on the back right skirt pleat edge. Baste to secure.

We prefer to sew our invisible zip in after the seam has been stitched as this prevents any gaps, or bubbling at the seam. Although it is a little different than other methods, we find it creates a much neater outcome.

Centre Back Seam: Align right sides together and top of pleat, sew the centre back seam from the zipper notch, pivoting at the Dot, through to the pleat edge with a 1.5cm / 5/8” seam.
Clip seam to the stitching, at the notch above the dot. Neaten seams separately from the waist to the notch above the dot, then neaten edges together from the notch to pleat edge. Press.

**Invisible Zip:** Using an invisible zipper foot, with the zipper open all the way, place the zipper face down on the right side of the garment. Position the top of the zipper teeth 1.8cm down from the raw edge, the edge of the zipper should be placed 5mm away from the edge of the fabric. Please note that the zipper will be longer than the opening.

Stitch zipper really close to but not through the zipper coil, stopping when you get to the seam and backtack. Repeat for other side. Change your presser foot to a regular zipper foot, edge stitch the zipper tape to the seam allowance to secure the tape.

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**5. Waistband:**

Apply fusing to the waistband. Fold and press the waistband in half (lengthwise) with wrong sides together.

The waistband has a button extension, (4cm) indicated with notches, the button extension should be on the back right of the skirt and will tuck under the back left.

With the skirt right side out, align the edge of the waistband with the waist of the skirt (positioning the button extension to the right side of the skirt), pin, stitch with a 1.5cm seam.

Grade the seam allowances and trim where seams intersect to reduce bulk. Turn up waistband and press. (Seams should be up, into the waistband). Bind the remaining edge of the waistband.

**Sew the button extension:** Fold the button extension along the foldline with right sides together. Sew the end and the extension with a 1.5cm / 5/8" seam. Trim corners, grade seams and turn right side out. Press.
Sew the remaining end of the waistband, by folding the end right sides together, stitch with a 1.5cm / 5/8” seam. Trim and grade as before. Turn and press.

**Stitch in the Ditch:** with the waistband folded on the already pressed fold line, align the lower bound edge 1.5cm / 5/8” lower than the waist seam, pin from the right side. Stitch the waistband down by stitching in the ditch (*stitch right in the waist seam*, *through all layers*).

Sew a trouser clip or snap to the button extension to secure the waist.

**6. Sewing the mitred corner and sewing the hem:**

Neaten the edge of the hem. Turn and press up the 5cm / 2” hem allowance.

With right sides together, fold the mitred corner, matching the notches and stitch with a 1.5cm / 5/8” seam. Grade seam allowance, trim corner and press seams open. Turn right side out and press flat.

Working on the back right, un-fold and turn the pressed hem allowance over to the right side of the skirt; un-pick the basting and sew where the pleat edge meets the hem with a 1.5cm / 5/8” seam. Trim corner, turn and press flat.

With the kick pleat folded towards the left back skirt, working from the inside of the skirt, pin the pleat in position to the skirt. Stitch from the dot in the centre back seam through all layers to the end of the pleat to secure. Hand sew or blind stitch the hem.