

Straight Gathered Skirts with Splits

Materials:

6 yards material
Elastic waistband
Thread to match

Use chiffon type fabric. The inexpensive varieties work just as well

- 1) Cut into two sections
 - a) one 1.5 yards
 - b) the other 4.5 yards
- 2) Hem all edges except selvages
- 3) Sew 1 inch (or larger) runner on top selvage of fabric.
 - a) This will be used for the .5 inch (or larger) elastic runner waistband
- 4) Affix safety pin to end of elastic and thread through runner,
 - a) Leave sufficient length to work with.
 - b) Pin band to fit hips
- 5) Sew ends of elastic together.
 - a) Smaller panel forms the front of skirt
 - b) The slits match up with the front of your legs
 - c) Larger panel sweeps around from the front to cover the back
- 6) Try on the skirt
- 7) Measure hem
 - a) Should fall just at ankles so you do not trip over the skirt
 - b) Remember you dance with knees slight bent.
- 8) Sew hem at bottom

NOTE Weights or trim may be sewn around the bottom hem to give the skirt more body and flair in runs and swirls.

Draped Skirt

The Egyptian look

Materials:

4 yards material
Elastic waistband
Thread to match

Works best in soft fabric that drapes well, such as jersey, crepe, and certain rayons.

- 1) Measure on your body from hip to ankles
 - a) Add 3 inches
- 2) Measure Hip size
 - a) Cut in half

- 1) Fold fabric in half lengthwise
- 2) Using your hip measurement (remember $\frac{1}{2}$ half your hips)
 - a) with pencil or tailors chalk
 - i) draw semicircle at one corner of the fabric
 - ii) over two layers
- 3) Using your length measurements,
 - a) Measuring from the hipline circle
 - b) trace a semicircle on the fabric for the skirt bottom
- 4) Cut into two sections
- 5) Sew 1 inch (or larger) runner on top
 - a) This will be used for the .5 inch (or larger) elastic runner waistband
- 6) Affix safety pin to end of elastic and thread through runner,
 - a) Leave sufficient length to work with.
 - b) Pin band to fit hips
- 7) Finish side seams
- 8) Try on the skirt
- 9) Measure hem
 - a) Should fall just at ankles so you do not trip over the skirt
 - b) Remember you dance with knees slight bent.
- 10) Sew Hem
- 11) Try on skirt
 - a) Tuck one corner of skirt front into back,
 - b) Tuck one corner of skirt back into front hip