

Saturday Market Skirt



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For my family, Saturdays are both relaxing and busy. We usually end up at our local farmers market. The night before, I plan our menu for the week and make note of the fresh veggies, fruits, and other goodies I want to buy the next day. Honey for toast? Sure. Fresh flowers for the table? Almost always! After the farmers market, we usually hop over to what our town calls "Saturday Market," where local artisans display their goods. You can find everything: paintings, photography, clothing, and accessories galore. It's an earthy mix of our local talent. This skirt fits in so well with that environment. It's eclectic and a bit funky. Add a breezy top, and you'll have an outfit perfect for a day of market-hopping, topped with lunch in the park.

Supplies

Thread

Fabric scraps (see charts at right to find the requirements for your size)

Fabric for waistband and drawstring

Lightweight fusible interfacing

Prep

1 Cut your squares and waistband pieces according to the chart.

Note: In these instructions each square is cut to the same size, but try cutting a piece of each fabric you use over the next few months and not planning the skirt at all. When

you have enough squares, make up the skirt—it will tell the story of your sewing!

Women's sizes: Cut 56 squares to the dimensions below. Cut 2 waistband pieces to the measurements below.

	XS	S	M	L	XL	XXL	XXXL
Square size	7½"	7¾"	8"	8¼"	8½"	9"	9½"
Waistband height	6½"	6½"	6¾"	7"	7¼"	7½"	7¾"
Waistband length	17½"	19"	20"	21"	22½"	24"	25½"

Children's sizes: Cut 36 squares for sizes 12/18m, 2y, and 3/4y; cut 56 squares for sizes 5/6 and 7/8 to the dimensions below. Cut 2 waistband pieces to the measurements below.

	12m/18m	2y	3/4y	5/6y	7/8y
Square size	5"	5½"	5¾"	6"	6¼"
Waistband height	4¼"	4½"	4¾"	5"	5¼"

Waistband length	14½"	15"	15½"	16½"	17"
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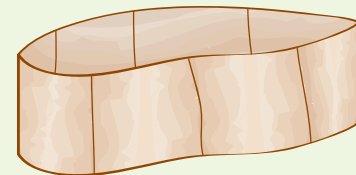
Sewing the Skirt

2 Using a ¼" seam allowance, sew eight squares into a strip. Press and topstitch each seam.



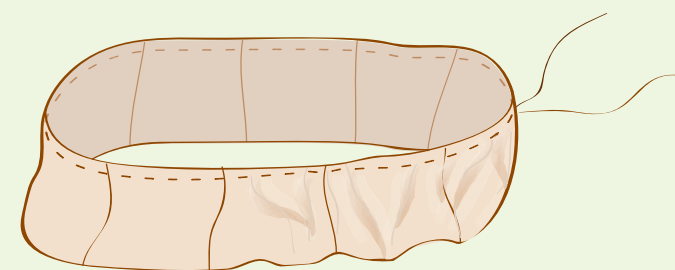
Step 2

3 Fold the strip in half, with right sides together, and sew the end squares together to form a circle. Press the seam and topstitch. This is your first tier.



Step 3

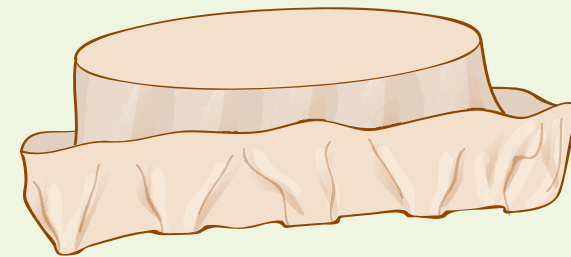
4 Baste a line of stitches ½" from the top edge of the tier. Pull one thread to loosely gather. You will adjust the gathers later.



Step 4

5 Sew 12 squares into a circle to form the second tier. Press and topstitch each seam. Again, baste and gather the top edge of the tier, adjusting the gathers so that it is the same width as the bottom of the first tier.

6 Pin the gathered edge of the second tier to the ungathered bottom edge of the first tier. Stitch together and turn right side out. Press the seams toward the first tier and topstitch in place.



Step 6

7 Sew 16 squares into a circle to form the third tier. Press and topstitch each seam. Gather the top edge as you did with the previous tier.

8 Pin the gathered edge of the third tier to ungathered bottom edge of the second tier. Stitch together and turn right side out. Press and topstitch on the second tier side. If you are making a child's size 12/18m, 2y, or 3/4y, skip to Step 10. For all other sizes, continue with Step 9.

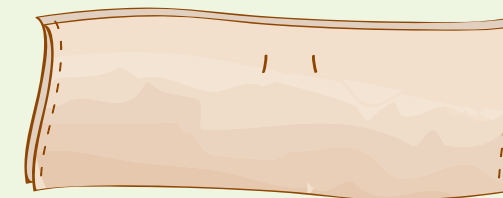
9 Sew 20 squares into a circle to form the fourth tier. Press and topstitch each seam. Gather in the same manner you did the previous tiers. Gather the fourth section so it is the same size as the straight edge of the third tier.

Creating the Waistband

10 Fuse the lightweight interfacing to the wrong side of your waistband pieces.

11 Take one of the waistband pieces and fold in half with short sides together. Mark the center and open the piece back up. Make two ½-inch buttonholes, 2" apart, each approximately 1" from the center. The buttonholes should start 1½" from the top edge of the waistband.

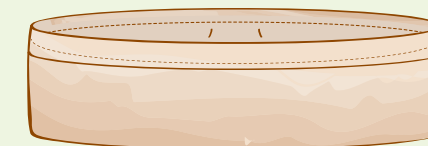
12 Hold the two waistband pieces with right sides together and stitch along the two short sides.



Step 12

13 Turn the top edge of the waistband over ¼" to the wrong side and press. Turn over 1" to the wrong side and press.

14 With the wrong side facing up, stitch along the bottom edge of the casing you've created. Stitch the entire casing closed.



Step 14

Inserting the Drawstring

15 Create the drawstring by cutting 44" x 2" strips of fabric. Determine how long you want your drawstring to be by measuring your waist and adding approximately 30". For example, if your waist is 35", you will want a 65" strip of fabric, so you will need to sew two 44" sections right sides together and cut to fit.

16 Fold the strip wrong sides together and press. Open up and fold the raw edges to the inside and press. Fold again so the raw edges are enclosed and pin together.



Step 16

17 Sew the folded edges together, tucking in the edges.

18 Feed the drawstring through one of the buttonholes by attaching a safety pin to one end. Feed the drawstring all the way through the casing, coming out the opposite buttonhole.

Finishing

19 Pin the gathered edge of the top tier to the edge of the waistband that doesn't have the drawstring, right sides together. Stitch together, turn right side out, and press.

20 Turn the bottom edge of the skirt under ½" and press. Turn another ½", press, and stitch.

21 Press the entire skirt and enjoy!