

## Society Stripe Skirt by Violet Craft

*Featuring the Madrona Road Fabric Collection*

I love to make fun clothing for my girls and with all of the summer activities we have planned, quick projects are a must. Skirts are a go-to summer and back to school item around our house. Taking the measurements for a basic twirl skirt customized to your girls' preferences is quick and easy. Once you complete the first skirt you'll have the measurements you need to customize a whole Back-to-School wardrobe of skirts in various colors and stripes.

### Directions:

Measure!



1. Measure waist or hips at their widest. For some of the littles their bellies might be wider than their hips! Add 2" to the widest measurement for cutting the waistband in Step 5.
2. Measure waist or hips where the skirt will sit. Some girls prefer skirts up high and others low on their hips. Subtract 2" from the measurement. This is your elastic length for Step 6.
3. Determine the fullness of the skirt. For a regular gathered skirt, measure the widest part of the hips and add  $\frac{1}{2}$  that width. For a very full twirly skirt, measure the widest part of the hips and double it. This measurement is the length of strips you will need to cut in Step 7.
4. Measure the total length of finished skirt

from waistband to desired length and subtract 1". This is your length measurement for sewing the stripes in Step 11.

### Cut Pieces

5. Cut the waistband fabric. Cut one piece 4  $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide x waistband measurement obtained in Step 1.
6. Cut one piece of  $\frac{3}{4}$ " non-roll elastic in the appropriate length. I have found that every elastic stretches differently. Take the elastic you are using and give it a good stretch to work out any initial stiffness it may have. Cut your elastic piece using the elastic measurement obtained in Step 2.

7. Cut multiple strips of fabrics to create the striped skirt. You can use as many or as few strips as you like as long as the finished product from this step adds up to the length measurement obtained in Step 4. When cutting your strips remember to add in  $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance to each desired stripe width. The length of each strip was determined in Step 3.

#### Sew the Waistband

8. With right sides together, align the short  $4\frac{1}{4}$ " ends of the waistband piece together. To strengthen the raw edges of the seam sew each seam a second time using a wide, loose zig-zag stitch on the raw edges of the seam. If you have a serger available, sew each seam using the serger. Press seam allowance to one side.
9. Turn the top long edge over  $\frac{1}{2}$ " and press in the fold. Turn again 1" and press in the fold to create the elastic casing.
10. Top stitch the elastic casing leaving a 1" opening to insert the elastic at the end. Set aside.

#### Piece the Stripes

11. With right sides together, piece together your first two strips using  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Repeat until you have the length measurement obtained from Step 4.
12. With right sides together, sew the stripes into a ring matching each seam of each stripe carefully. Pin each seam of each stripe into place and sew together with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance using the finishing technique in Step 8. Press to one side. Press under  $\frac{1}{4}$ " hem and then press under  $\frac{1}{2}$ " hem. Top stitch the hem.



#### Complete the Society Stripe Skirt

13. Gather the top edge of the striped skirting using your preferred gathering method. I sew a loose set of running stitches and pull the bobbin threads to gather.
14. With right sides together, pin the skirting to the raw edge of the waistband and sew using  $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance using the finishing technique in step 8.
15. Insert elastic into casing and sew ends together with  $\frac{1}{2}$ " overlap.
16. Top stitch the 1" opening closed.
17. Press the gathered skirting seam towards the skirt and press in gathers.