

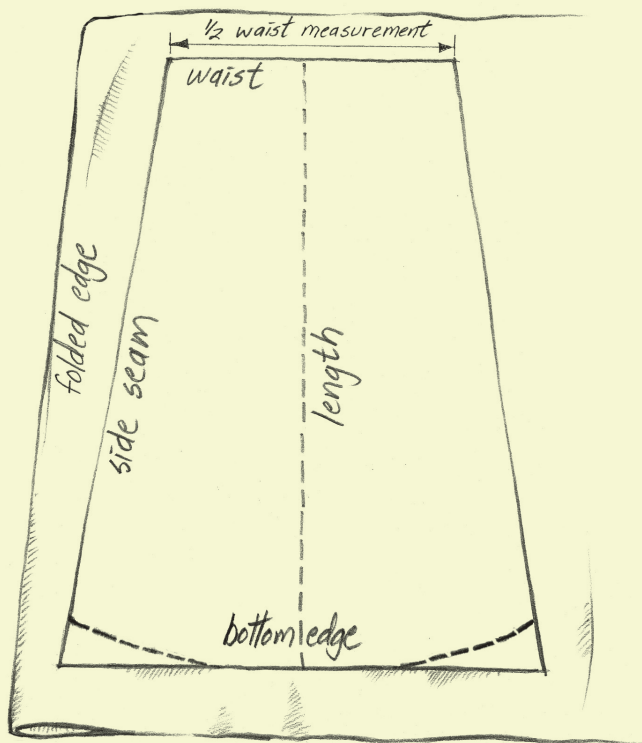
## design #3

# The Two-Panel Skirt

Here's a flattering A-line skirt you can whip up fast. It's pretty on its own, but we really love it as a blank slate for embellishments of just about any kind that you can dream up. For this basic skirt design, we started with a solid cotton jersey; you can use a range of other stretch fabrics or upcycle a pair of men's extra-large t-shirts into a skirt.

### 1. MEASURE, MARK, AND CUT YOUR FABRIC

Measure yourself at your preferred low waistline, pulling the measuring tape tightly around you. Next, determine the desired length (refer to page 26). We think a jersey A-line skirt is most flattering hitting just at the knee. Remember, because you're using jersey, you can leave the skirt unhemmed. If you want a hem for a more finished look, add  $\frac{3}{4}$ " to your length measurement.



### what you'll need

- 1½ yards of 60"-wide cotton jersey
- Fold over elastic in a length equal to waist measurement
- 1 spool of coordinating thread

# The Two-Panel Skirt

## projects based on the two-panel skirt

- **Layered Hemline Skirt** (page 88)
- **Bustle Skirt** (page 90)
- **Reverse-Appiqué Skirt** (page 188)
- **Modern Stretch Velvet Skirt** (page 192)
- **Mod Flower Skirt** (page 219)



With the right sides together, fold the fabric in half so it stretches horizontally (from hip to hip). Grab your chalk and mark the following design lines:

- **Waist:** Draw a straight line near the top edge of the fabric that equals half your waist measurement. Mark the center of that line.
- **Length:** Draw a line from the center marking on the waistline to the desired length.
- **Bottom edge:** Draw a line marking the skirt's bottom edge, 6" longer (3" on each side) than the waist (this gives the skirt panels 3" of flare on each side of the center line). If you want more room through the hips, increase the flare.
- **Side seams:** Draw lines connecting each end of the waistline to each end of the bottom edge. Curve the bottom edge slightly so the hemline is  $\frac{1}{2}$ " shorter at the side seams than the center of the hemline. This gives the skirt a more even line.

Pin the fabric layers together and cut along the marked chalk lines through both thicknesses of the fabric.

## 2. ASSEMBLE THE SKIRT

With the front and back panels still pinned with the right sides together, use a straight stretch stitch to sew up the sides with a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam.

Sew fold over elastic along the waistband (see chapter 1, page 19).

Leave the skirt unhemmed if you didn't add extra length when you measured and cut the fabric, or if you did add length, follow the instructions for a double-fold hem (page 19).

*Design tip:* Keep in mind that the wider the bottom edge is, the fuller the skirt will be. For more on flare, see chapter 2, page 26.