

week FIVE



Easy Knit Pencil Skirt



designed by:
Girl Charlee Fabrics
GirlCharlee.com
IG: @girlcharlee

estimated sewing time:
1 hour

finished size:
Varies

Ready to try your hand at sewing up apparel now? A knit pencil skirt is the perfect project for a beginner! Heather at Girl Charlee walks us through creating a custom fit knit skirt this week. Don't worry, you don't have to have a serger either, she'll walk you through using a standard sewing machine and/or serger to make your skirt! Her daughter made one, and you can too!



 #janomecamp18

www.janome.com/summercamp

JANOME

WHAT'S NEXT



EASY KNIT PENCIL SKIRT

week FIVE



MATERIALS & SUPPLIES

- Rotary cutter or fabric shears
- Pins or Clips
- Clear acrylic ruler
- Measuring tape
- 1 yard stretch knit fabric (girlcharlee.com)
- 1 yard 1" wide elastic
- Coordinating thread
- Pen and Paper
- Iron/Ironing board
- Janome Sewing Machine (Skyline S9 was used here)
- Janome Overlock/Serger and optional Coverstitch machine

*We used a sewing machine, serger, and coverstitch, however, notes are included if you only have a sewing machine to use for this project!



INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 1: FIND YOUR MEASUREMENTS

Take your measurements for the length of your skirt by holding a tape measure at your natural waist and measure to just below your knee. Take that number and add 5" for seam allowance, hem, and waistband.

Take your measurement for the width of the skirt by holding a tape measure at your hips and measure completely around. Take that number and subtract 3" so the skirt will be snug and form fitting around your body, and then divide that number in half. For the elastic pull around your natural waist until it is snug, and then cut 2" off of that measurement as elastic stretches slightly when sewn through. Record your measurements for future use!

Record your measurements here:

Length from natural waist to just below knee + 5"

Measure around hips - 3"



#janomecamp18

www.janome.com/summercamp

JANOME

WHAT'S NEXT



EASY KNIT PENCIL SKIRT

week FIVE

STEP 2: PREPARE AND CUT FABRIC

Fold your 1-yard of knit fabric in half, selvedge to selvedge, with the right sides of the fabric facing together, and cut off folded edge in a straight line with rotary cutter or fabric shears.

Using your width measurement measure across the fabric and then cut down the length of the fabric pieces.

Using your length measurement measure down the fabric, and then cut across the width of the fabric to remove the excess length.

STEP 3: TAPER SKIRT TOP AND BOTTOM

Using your ruler measure in 1" and mark on both the top and bottom of each side of the skirt.

Using your ruler measure down 6" and draw a line meeting up to your 1" marking on both the top and bottom of each side of the skirt.

Cut along marked line to create your taper.

STEP 4: SEW YOUR SKIRT

If using a regular sewing machine set with a zigzag stretch at your desired length. Tip: Test your machine settings on a double layer of your discarded knit fabric to make sure you are happy with the results. With right sides of the skirt pieces together sew down one side of the skirt.

If using a serger/overlock machine, sew down 1 side of the skirt with a regular 4 thread safety stitch.





EASY KNIT PENCIL SKIRT

week FIVE

STEP 5: SEW SKIRT WAISTBAND

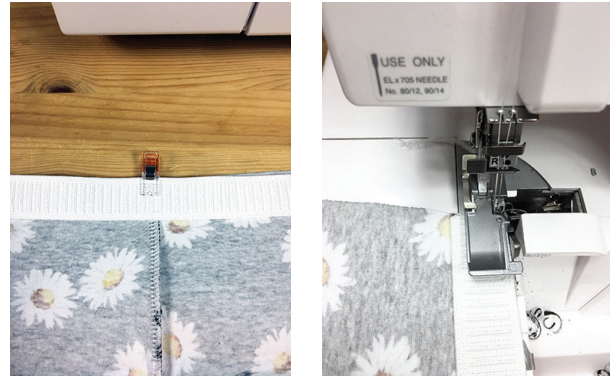
Find the center point on your elastic, mark it, and then place one end of elastic on one open end of the inside (wrong side) of the skirt top, about 1/8" from the edge of the fabric. Tip: Pin/clip the middle of the elastic to the sewn side seam so when you pull the waistband your stretch will be equal on both sides of the skirt!

For regular sewing machine use your zigzag stretch stitch, for a serger use a 4 thread safety stitch, and start sewing along the top edge of the elastic, slightly pulling the elastic as you sew around the skirt top (do not pull the fabric).

With skirt wrong sides together sew with either zig zag or serger down the side and through the elastic to secure it. If using a regular sewing machine sew back and forth over the two ends of the overlapped elastic to secure it in place.

Starting at the side seams, fold elastic waistband twice to create the finished waistband in its own casing. Pin/clip in place. Do this on the front middle and back middle to ease in the gathered fabric neatly.

On the inside of the skirt waistband, use your zig zag or Cover Stitch and sew around the complete waistband edge to finish. Tip: Take care to pull the waistband fabric straight and taught while sewing to avoid puckering.



Center your elastic before sewing!



Pin/clip at side seams to ease in waistband
Stretch and pull straight when sewing.





EASY KNIT PENCIL SKIRT

week FIVE

STEP 6: SEW SKIRT HEMLINE

Fold over and press 1" of fabric on the bottom edge of the skirt to the wrong side. For a regular sewing machine, use your zigzag stitch and sew around the inside top edge of the hemline to secure it. For a cover stitch machine, turn skirt right side out. Tip: Mark your seam width with a pen and a piece of clear tape to help keep your cover stitch seam straight. Sew around the right side of the skirt hem to create your stretch cover seam, making sure that you secure your threads on the completion of the seam with a double knot before trimming.

Don't forget to tag us (and @GirlCharlee) on Instagram with [#janomecamp18](#) [#girlcharlee](#) so we can see your skirt!

