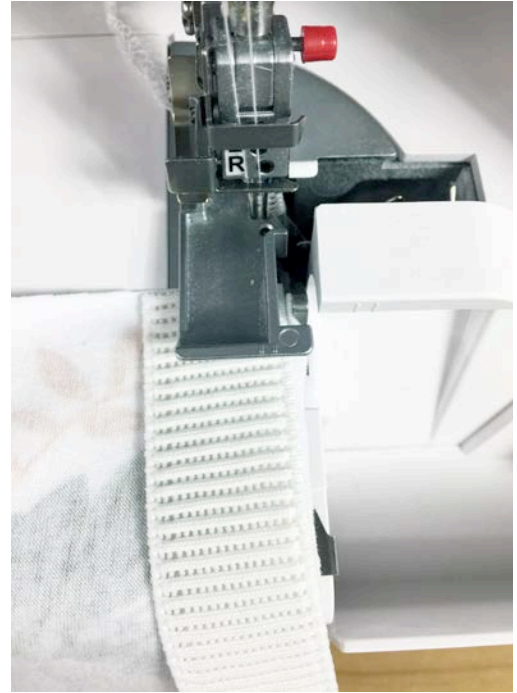




Easy Pencil Skirt Tutorial



You will need:

- rotary cutter or fabric shears
- pins
- clear acrylic ruler
- measuring tape
- 1 yard stretch knit fabric (girlcharlee.com)
- 1 yard 1" elastic
- coordinating thread
- pen & paper
- iron
- sewing machine (Janome Skyline S7)
- optional overlock/serger (Janome 1100D Professional)
- optional cover stitch machine (Janome CoverPro 2000 CPX with Cover Hem Guide attachment)

Step 1 - Get 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 7" 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. Record your measurements for future use!

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.



Settings for Skyline S7 Zig Zag

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. Sew down both sides of the skirt.

If using a serger/overlock machine, sew down both sides of the skirt with a regular 4 thread safety stitch

Step 5 - Sew the skirt waistband

Place elastic on the middle back of the inside (wrong side) of the skirt top, about 1/8" from the edge of the fabric.

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). When you reach the beginning of



Sewing in elastic on 1100 D is a snap!

the attached elastic continue to sew and overlap the elastic about 1". For a serger just run off the edge and trim. For a regular sewing machine cut off the excess and 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 back under just like you sewed it, and then fold over one more time to create the finished waistband in its own casing. Pin 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 stretch stitch around the complete waistband edge to finish, taking care to pull the waistband straight.



Start pinning at side seams to ease in waistband stretch & pull straight when sewing!



Step 6 - Sew the 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. Attach your cover stitch hem attachment or 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. SKIRT COMPLETE!

