

# Lazy Seamstress Maternity Skirt

[www.lazyseamstress.blogspot.com](http://www.lazyseamstress.blogspot.com)

## Making The Pattern

### Materials Needed:

Dressmakers graph paper  
HB pencil  
Ruler  
Tape measure  
French curve or flexible curve (optional)

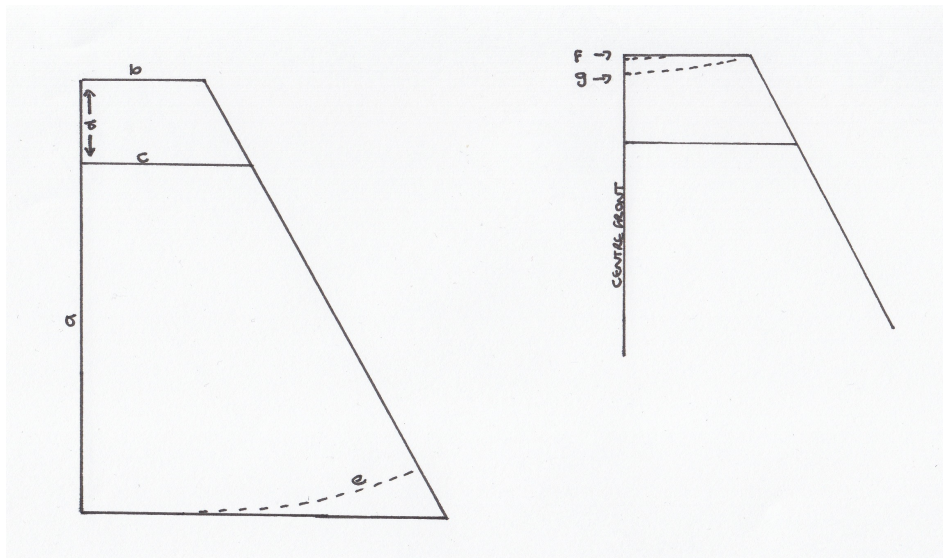
### Take your measurements:

- skirt length, length you want your skirt to be measured from under your bump.
- low waist, "waist" measurement taken below your bump.
- hips, usual hip measurement
- waist to hip , distance vertically between low waist measurement and hip measurement.

### Drawing the pattern:

Using a sharp pencil and ruler transfer your measurements onto the graph paper as follows:

- skirt length
- low waist divided by 4 (eg: 84cm waist will become 21cm)
- hip divided by 4
- waist to hip



Join all measurements together.

Using your french curve/flexible ruler, or just by eye curve up the hem as shown on the diagram (e)

Again using your curve or by eye curve down the waist, (f) this is your back cutting line. Mark a further curve approx 2.5 cms below this (g), this is your front waist cutting line.

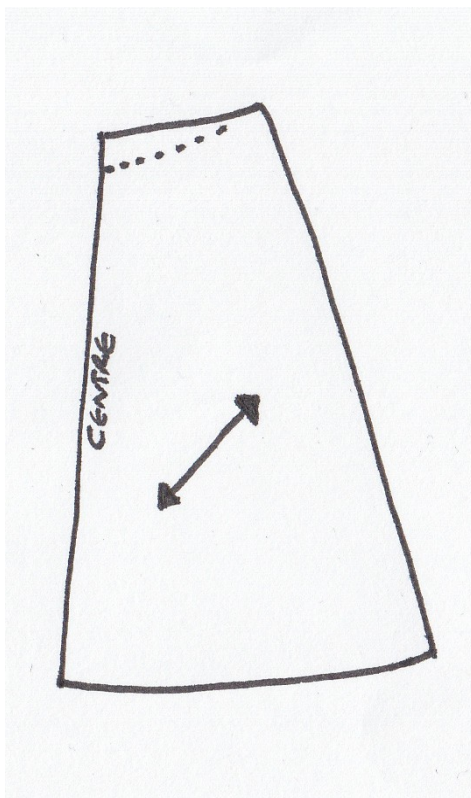
At this point you can either trace the pattern piece into two, (one front piece and one back piece.) or

simply work from this one piece as I prefer to, remembering to transfer your back and front waist markings onto your fabric when cutting out.

Don't forget this pattern piece does not at this point include any seam or hem allowances. You can either add these on now, or at the cutting stage.  
(1.5 cm seam allowance , 2.5cm hem allowance )

You should now have a pattern piece (or pieces) that look something like this:

(Add your grain lines and cutting information for future reference. )



## **Making The Skirt:**

### **You will need:**

Approx 1.5 metres of your chosen skirt fabric for an average UK size 12-14. (used here is a medium weight cotton print.)

Approx 0.5 metre of stretch cotton ribbing/interlock or jersey for the yoke. (tip, you can use an old t shirt or ready made bump band if you prefer)

Matching all purpose thread

Elastic for top of ribbing, either a narrow braided elastic or fold over elastic. This is optional and depends on the stretch and recovery of the fabric used for the yoke.

Tailors chalk/markings pen

### **Cutting Out:**

NB:I have used a woven cotton for these instructions, so recommend cutting the pattern on the bias, to give a little stretch at the waist. There is no need to do this if using a stretch fabric, and the pattern can be cut on the fold/straight grain.

Cut out your skirt pieces by laying the pattern piece on the bias of the fabric, tracing with tailors chalk/marketing pen, and flipping the pattern piece over, tracing again, to get one front piece and one back piece. (remember your back waist and front waist cutting lines are different.)



Diagram 1 laying pattern piece in the bias.



Diagram 2 Tracing around the pattern piece.



Diagram 3 flipping the pattern piece over to trace the whole front/back piece

Don't forget to add seam allowances, and a hem allowance if you didn't do this at the pattern drafting stage.

Using your low waist measurement from before cut your ribbing piece, making it approx 30 cms deep.



## Making up:

With right sides together sew side seams of skirt , press and neaten either with an overlocker or your sewing machine.

With right sides together sew centre back seam of ribbing yoke. Press and neaten.

Matching up carefully, and with right sides together sew stretch yoke to top edge of skirt. Press seam downwards, neaten and top stitch close to the edge.

(You may want to try your skirt on at this point and trim down the back top edge of your stretch yoke if it is too high across your back.)



Finish top edge of ribbing yoke in one of the following ways:

1, If the fabric has enough stretch and recovery to sit nicely across the top of your bump, simply hem to neaten. This is the best method if you prefer to wear your skirt with the stretch yoke under your bump, it can then simply be folded yoga pants style.

2, If using braided elastic, neaten the top edge of the ribbing with a zig zag or overlocker, and then attach your elastic using a three step zig zag, stretching as you sew to gather in slightly the top edge and create a good snug fit over your bump.

3, (My preferred method), use fold over elastic and a three step zig zag , attach the elastic stretching slightly as you go.



Finally try on your skirt and mark your hem. You may need help with this, remember your bump may mean your hem has to be longer at the front than back.

Make your hem with your preferred method.



You can add any embellishments you like, pockets, trims etc. In this case I have used ric rac to decorate the hem.



**A few notes about this tutorial:**

**Firstly this tutorial is by no means the "proper" way to do things, but this method of pattern drafting and sewing works well for me, and I hope it does for you to.**

**I hope all is clear, I do think some sewing knowledge/skill is required for this tutorial, so it's maybe more suitable for an intermediate rather than a beginner.**

**Whoever you are, if you give this a go, I'd love to see your interpretations, and would also love any feedback. You can email me [jeanette@tiddlybums.co.uk](mailto:jeanette@tiddlybums.co.uk) or contact me via the comments on my blog [www.lazyseamstress.blogspot.com](http://www.lazyseamstress.blogspot.com)**

**Please do link back to me if you make this skirt and add pics to your blog , craft forums or web space.**

**Please don't use this tutorial to make skirts to sell, that just makes me very sad.**

**Enjoy!**

**Love Jeanette**