

Meeet the Stanwyck Skirt! Named for Hollywood screen siren Barbara Stanwyck, this pattern deserves an Academy Award for its versatility. There are 81 options included in this one sewing pattern—everything from the sultriest of pencil skirts to the cutest of ruffled pinafores.

I've always shied away a bit from designing separates, and part of the reason for that is that it seems like everything's been done before! (Who needs another basic pencil or circle skirt pattern?) That's why I knew I had to make each aspect of this pattern special and irresistible, with beautifully designed details that are as functional as they are lovely to look at. Every element was carefully crafted to fit into your vintage-inspired handmade wardrobe.

We take pockets very seriously at Charm Patterns. The pencil skirt is cleverly designed with curved or shaped pockets that don't gape or pull and a front that stays completely flat—no matter how snug your skirt is! (The secret is a front stay that holds everything in place.) The gored

circle skirt has big, beautiful exterior pockets that wrap around the side of the skirt and hold all your treasures. Choose from a scooped-curve shape or a lovely V-shaped chevron pocket (perfect for playing with stripes and plaids).

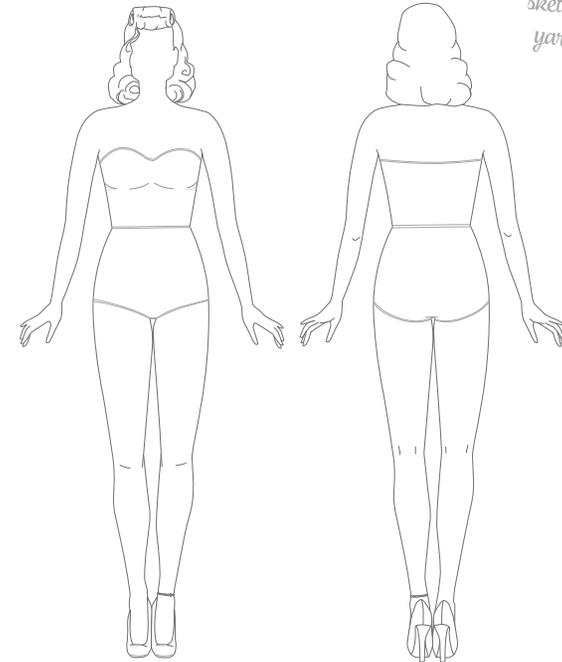
I also wanted you to have lots of waistband options (straight, curved, or shaped), suspenders, a bib, and optional shoulder ruffles. The pinafore look screams Barbara Stanwyck in *Christmas in Connecticut* to me—I can just see her trying to flip a flapjack in it!

As always, I've written the instructions in a “choose your own adventure” style so that you can choose your options as you go. You can also choose whether to line your skirt or not. I give you more options in the Take Your Stanwyck Skirt to the Next Level chapter, including making the circle skirt in felt—which is the easiest take on this skirt possible (no hems or pocket finishes!). The felt skirt has an adorable sock hop vibe to it, and it would be fun to heighten it with appliqués or embellishments.

You can make this project as basic or as couture as you would like to create a whole wardrobe of skirts for any occasion!

soso, Gertie

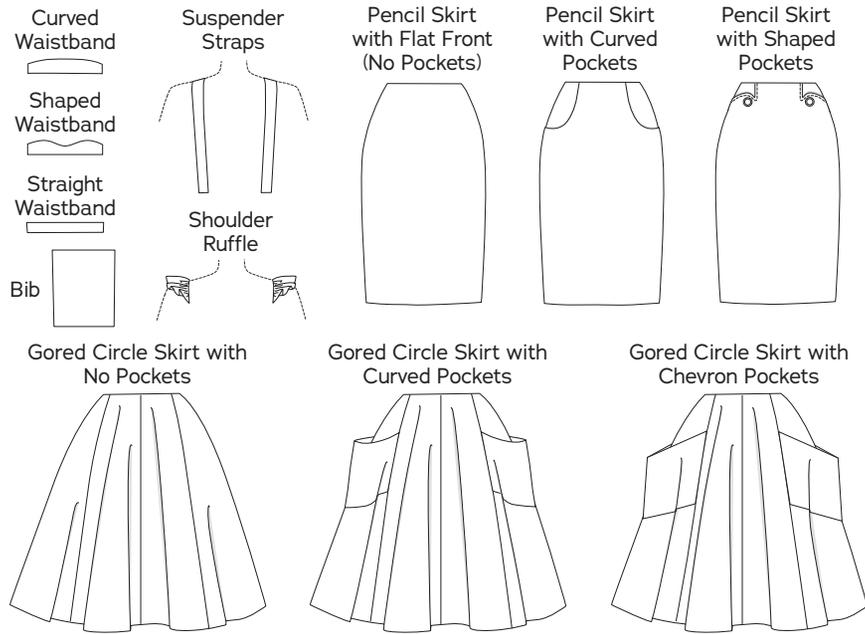
DESIGN YOUR SKIRT



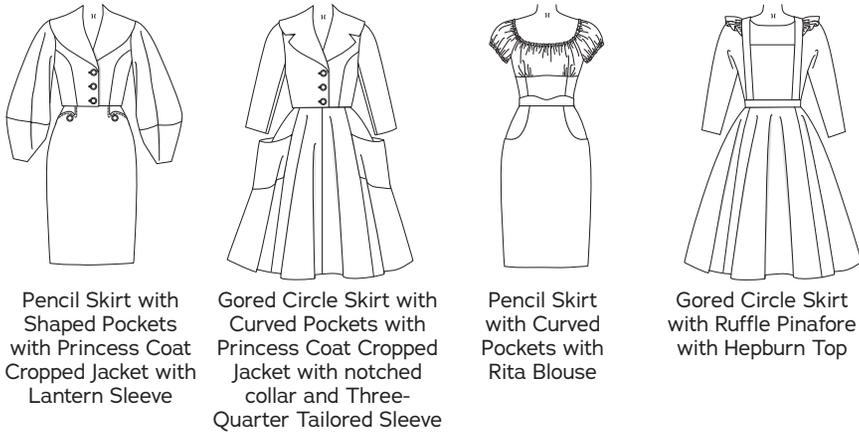
Use this worksheet to sketch, plan, and estimate yardage for your skirt!

OPTION	PIECE #s	YARDAGE	FABRIC
Skirt			
Waistband			
Pockets			
Pinafore Straps, Bib, Ruffle			
NOTES:			

DESIGN OPTIONS



Mix and match! The Stanwyck Skirt looks fabulous with other Charm Patterns designs.

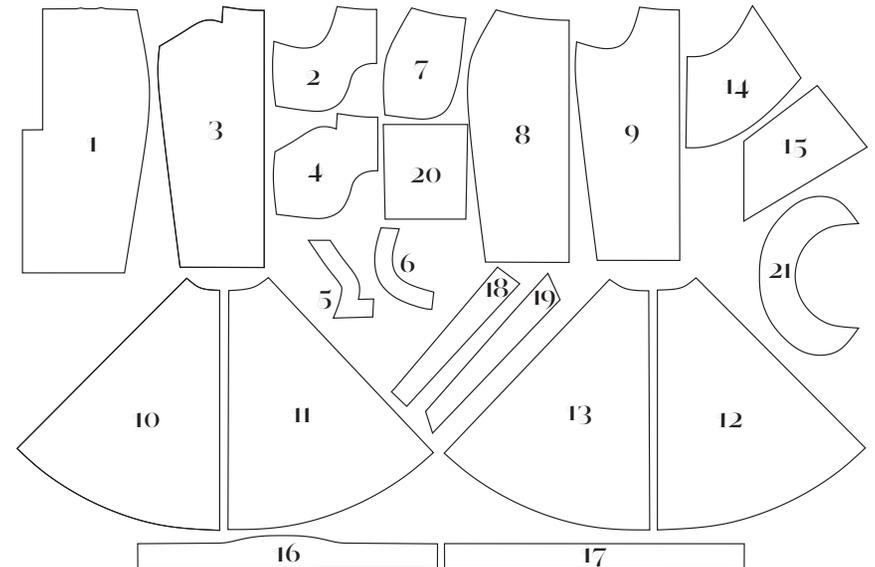


FABRIC NOTES

This skirt was designed for woven and felted fabrics (see recommendations on the outer envelope). You may use stretch woven (a fabric with spandex/Lycra blended in, like stretch sateen), but in this case, you may wish to orient the fabric's stretch horizontally around the body (rather than lengthwise) and take in the skirt side seams 1/4 inch (in) (6 mm) to 1/2 in (1.2 cm) to account for the fabric's stretch and achieve a body-hugging fit. It is not recommended to use a knit fabric for this pattern.

REQUIRED YARDAGE & CUTTING LAYOUTS

1. **Pencil Skirt with Curved Pocket Front**
(Cut 1 fabric on fold)
2. **Curved Pocket Stay/Upper Pocket**
(Cut 1 lining on fold)
3. **Pencil Skirt with Shaped Pocket Front**
(Cut 1 fabric on fold)
4. **Shaped Pocket Stay/Upper Pocket**
(Cut 1 lining on fold)
5. **Curved Pocket Interfacing**
(Cut 2 interfacing)
6. **Shaped Pocket Interfacing**
(Cut 2 interfacing)
7. **Pencil Skirt Side/Lower Pocket**
(Cut 2 fabric)
8. **Pencil Skirt Front**
(Cut 1 fabric on fold for pocketless pencil skirt only, 1 lining on fold for all lined pencil skirts)
9. **Pencil Skirt Back**
(Cut 1 fabric on fold, 1 lining on fold)
10. **Gored Circle Skirt Center Front**
(Cut 1 fabric on fold, 1 lining on fold)
11. **Gored Circle Skirt Side Front**
(Cut 2 fabric, 2 lining)
12. **Gored Circle Skirt Center Back**
(Cut 2 fabric, 2 lining)
13. **Gored Circle Skirt Side Back**
(Cut 2 fabric, 2 lining)
14. **Curved Pocket for Circle Skirt**
(Cut 2 fabric on fold, 2 lining on fold)
15. **Chevron Pocket for Circle Skirt**
(Cut 4 fabric, 4 lining)
16. **Curved/Shaped Waistband**
(Cut 2 fabric, 1 interfacing)
17. **Straight Waistband**
(Cut 2 fabric, 1 interfacing)
18. **Front Strap**
(Cut 4 fabric, 2 interfacing)
19. **Back Strap**
(Cut 4 fabric, 2 interfacing)
20. **Bib**
(Cut 2 fabric, 1 interfacing)
21. **Shoulder Ruffle**
(Cut 4 fabric)



A GUIDE TO FITTING

Here are my top tips for choosing a size and diagnosing fit issues, specifically for the Stanwyck Skirt pattern.

Use your waist measurement to pick a size for the full skirt:

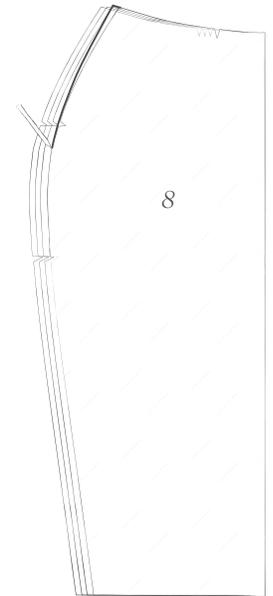
the gored circle skirt only needs to fit in the waist, so your waist measurement is the only measurement you need to pick a size. Take your waist measurement at the smallest part of your torso; this is where your body creases when you bend to the side (for many people this is about 1 in [2.5 cm] above your belly button). We've created this pattern to have 1 in of ease in the waist, but you may prefer more or less. For instance, if your waist measures 28 in, you will choose the size 6. The finished skirt waistband will measure 29 in to provide ease of wearing and movement. If you're not sure how much ease you like in a garment, but you have a similar style skirt that fits you well, measure the waist on that skirt to get your preferred waist measurement.

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS: This skirt was designed to fit with 1 in of ease in the waist and 2 in (5 cm) of ease in the pencil skirt hips. Hip measurements are not important when choosing your size for the circle skirt, as the skirt is very full.

Size	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
Waist	25 in 63.5 cm	27 in 68.6 cm	29 in 73.7 cm	31 in 78.7 cm	33 in 83.8 cm	35 in 88.9 cm	37 in 94 cm	39 in 99 cm	41 in 104.1 cm	43 in 109.2 cm
Pencil Skirt Hips	38 in 96.5 cm	40 in 101.6 cm	42 in 106.7 cm	44 in 111.8 cm	46 in 116.8 cm	48 in 121.9 cm	50 in 127 cm	52 in 132 cm	54 in 137.1 cm	56 in 142.2 cm

* Gored Circle Skirt sweep for size 8 is 198 in (502.9 cm); finished length for size 8 skirts is 27 in (68.6 cm).

Use both your waist and hip measurement to pick a size for the pencil skirt: Take your waist measurement, as described above. Next, measure the widest part of your lower torso to get your hip measurement. (Note that your widest part may be only a few inches below your waist, or it may be at the fullest part of your bottom.) Look at the hip measurement that corresponds to the waist size you have chosen. For instance, if you have a 28-in waist and have chosen a size 6, the corresponding hip measurement is 40 in. It's very common to not fit the size chart exactly, so don't worry if that's the case for you! Let's say your hips are actually 38 in; this hip measurement corresponds to the size 4. The easiest way to make a custom pattern is to draw a new pattern line from the size 6 at the waist to the size 4 at the hips. Make your line as smooth as possible, transitioning from one size to another. Don't forget to make this change to the skirt front and back, the pocket stay, and the pencil skirt side/lower pocket, as well as any lining pieces.



Consider making a test muslin (toile) of the pencil skirt: I know this project is fairly simple, but there are areas that you may wish to adjust for fit, and the best way to prepare for this possibility is to make a fabric test and try it on. Cut out the pencil skirt lining front (you don't really need to test the pockets, so the lining piece will work just fine), skirt back, and waistband pieces in muslin (unbleached cotton fabric) or another firmly woven, inexpensive fabric. Construct the skirt as usual, using a long machine stitch. Apply the waistband and make sure you mark the center back, so you know where to pin the waistband closed when trying on the skirt.

Put on and look at your muslin, and check for the following fit issues: If you need further fitting resources, check out my books. There is also a ton of information to be found in online sewing communities, including the Facebook group *Certie's Sew & Tell*.