



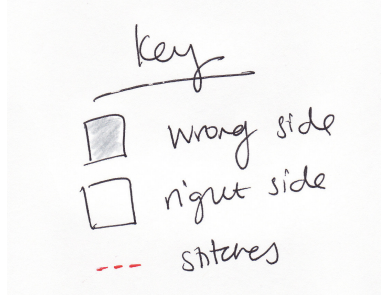
how to make an elastic waistband skirt

Materials:

- 1 yard of 60" wide fabric
- 1" wide elastic

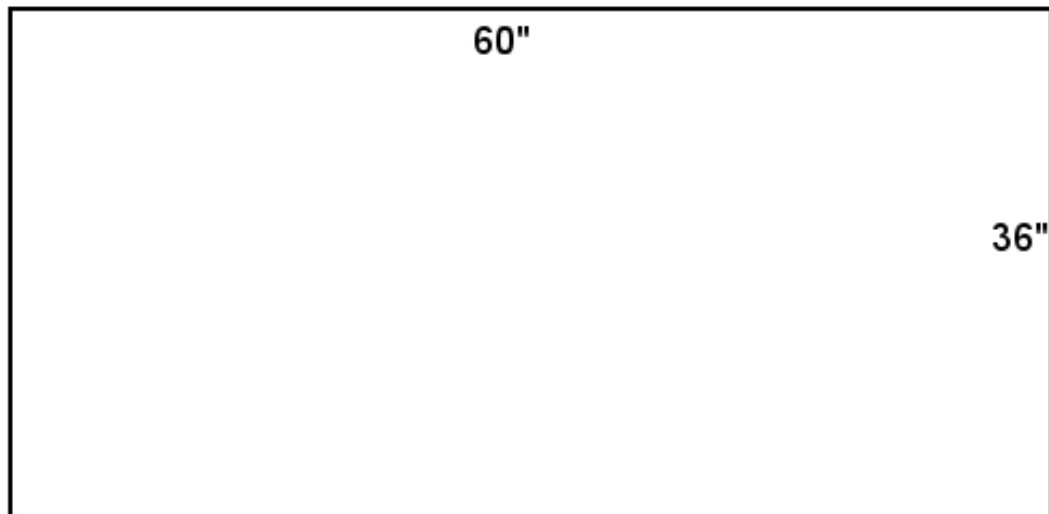
Notes:

- All seam allowances are 1/2" for simplicity
- Though this tutorial is written for making an adult skirt, you could just as easily use this methodology for a child's skirt, you would just need to cut small rectangle of fabric rather than simply using a full yard of 60" fabric.



Steps:

1. Take the following measurements
 - a. Waist (natural waist, ie measure yourself at the smallest part of your waist)
 - b. Length you would like the skirt to be from your Waist
2. Your fabric will be a large rectangle where one side is 60" and the other is 36".

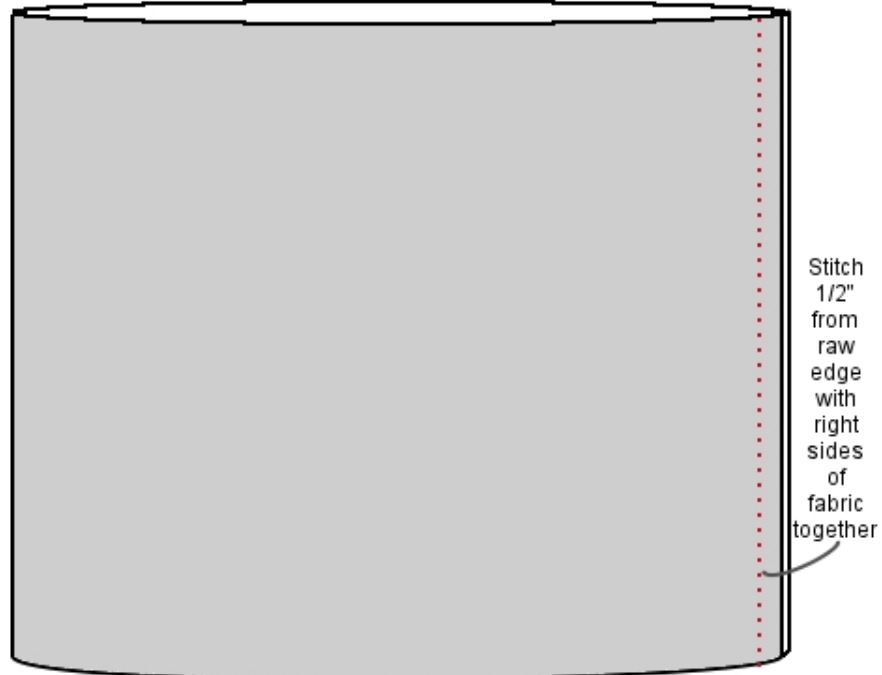


With these dimensions your skirt will end up with a finished length of 34". If you would prefer a shorter skirt cut the shorter edge of your fabric to be = (b) + 1/2" for hem + 1 1/2" for waistband.

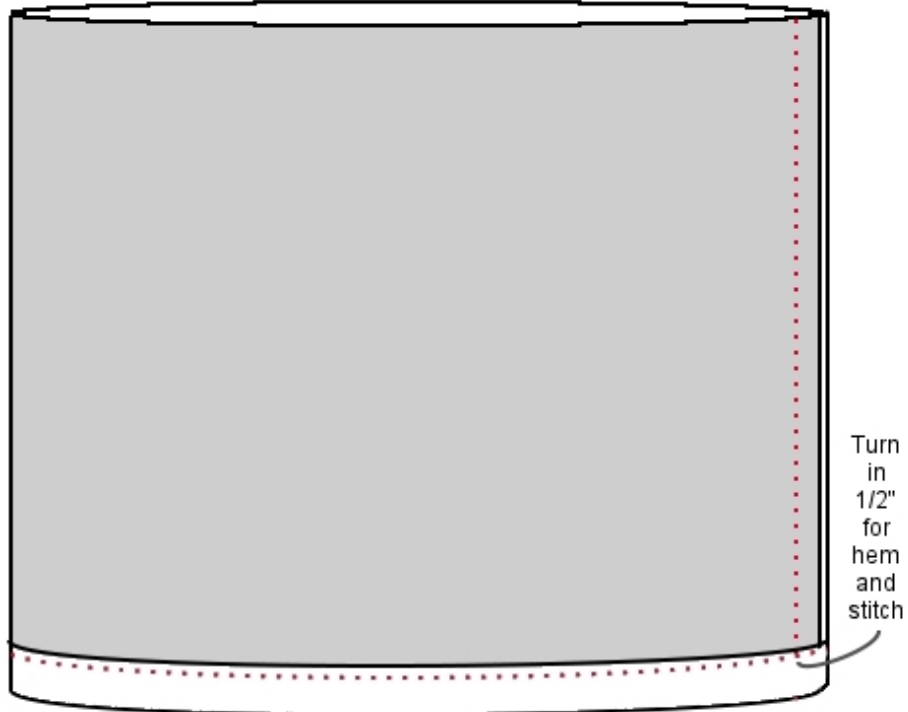
3. Cut the elastic to be a couple of inches less than your waist measurement (a). I personally like to make mine 2 to 4 inches smaller, depending on how stretchy the elastic is.

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4. Fold the fabric in half length ways with right sides together. So that the two short raw edges are matched up. Sew along the edge & then press open the seam.



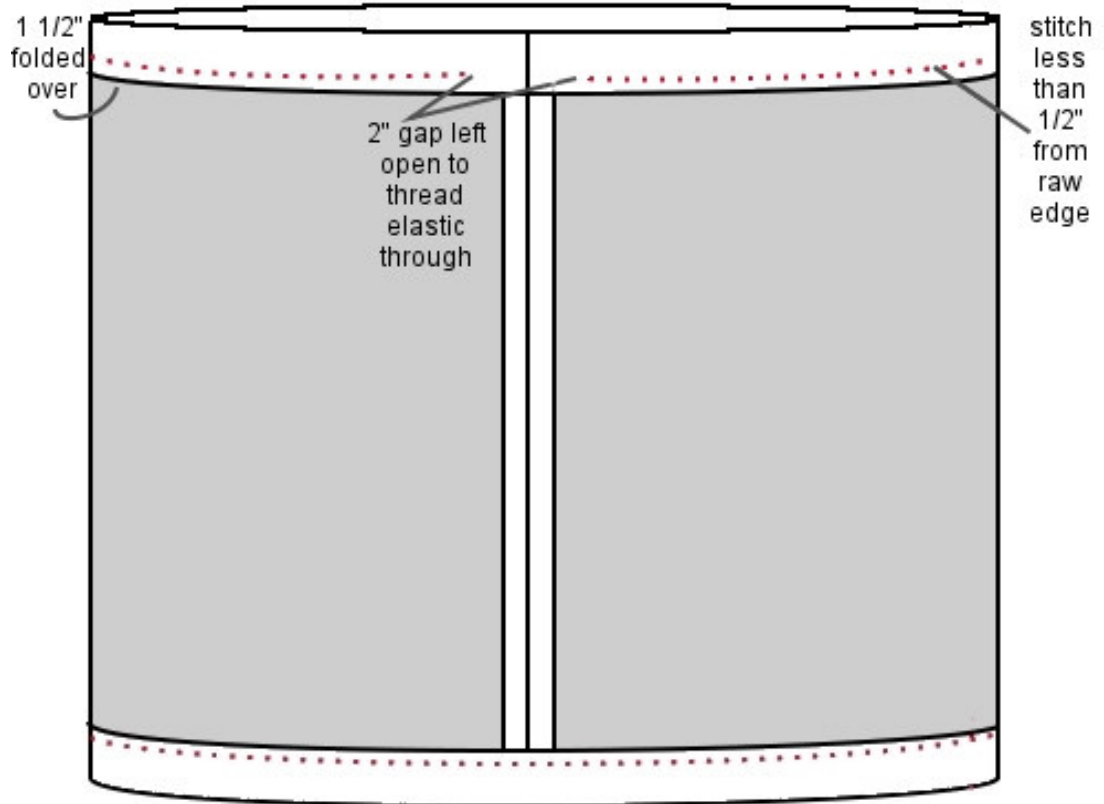
5. Now you have a large fabric tube. One of the edges will be the gathered waist, and one will be the hem. Turn up 1/2" on raw edge and topstitch, this is the hem.



6. Now we need to make the other raw edge into the waistband/elastic casing. Fold over 1 1/2", and sew all the way around, a little less than 1/2" from the raw edge, and

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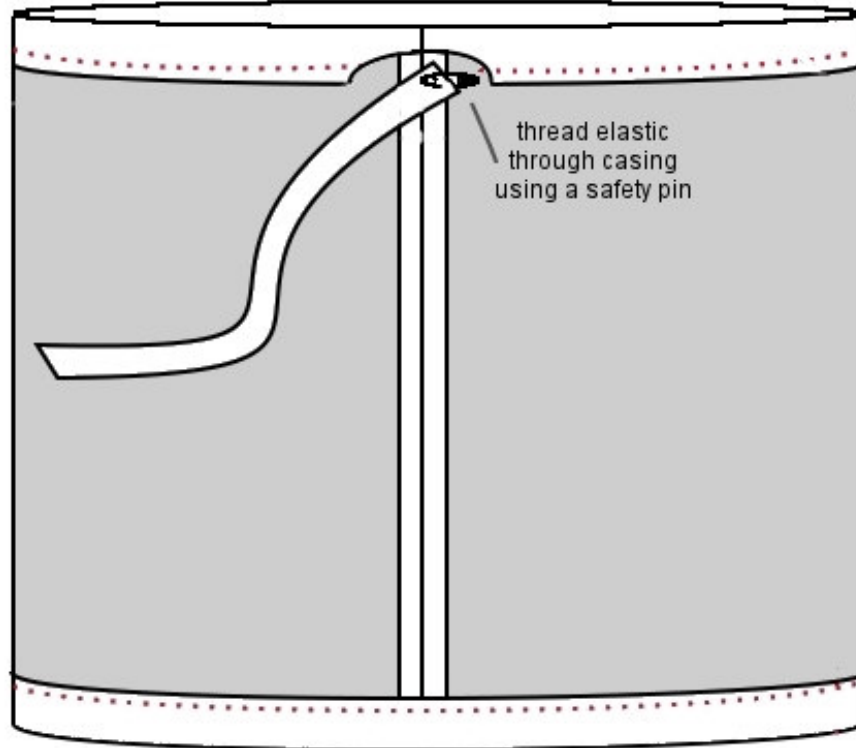
leaving a gap of about 2" at the side seam, so that you end up with an elastic casing with a gap large enough to thread the elastic in.



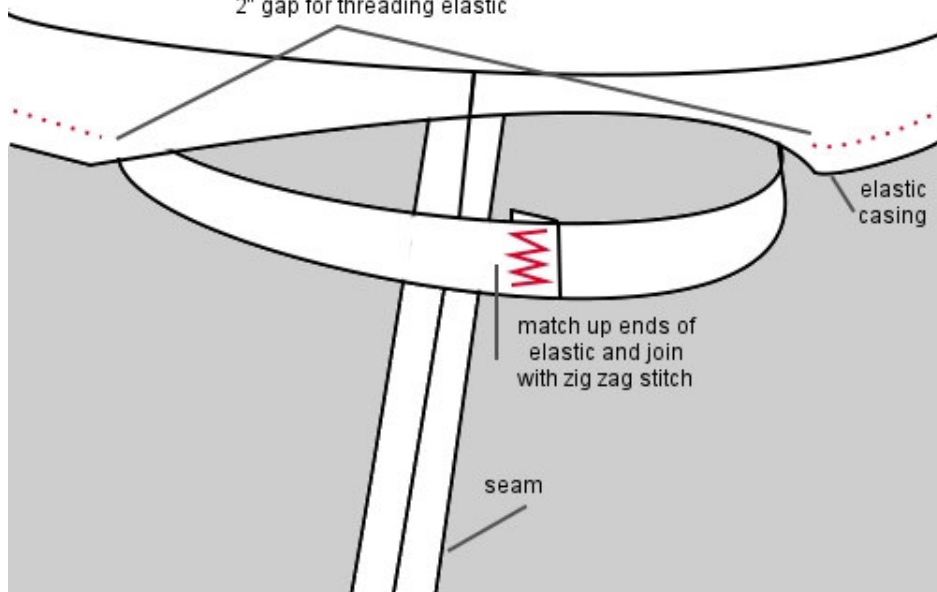
(alternatively you may choose to attach the elastic directly to the fabric, you can use my tutorial for easy waistband elastic at <http://megannielsen.com/2009/11/easy-waistband-elastic.html> in which case you would skip steps 7 and 8)

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7. Thread the elastic in. I usually pin one end to the skirt, then pin a safety pin to the other end, and use that to help me thread the elastic all the way through, that way when the elastic reaches the opening on the other side, I can match up the edges easily.



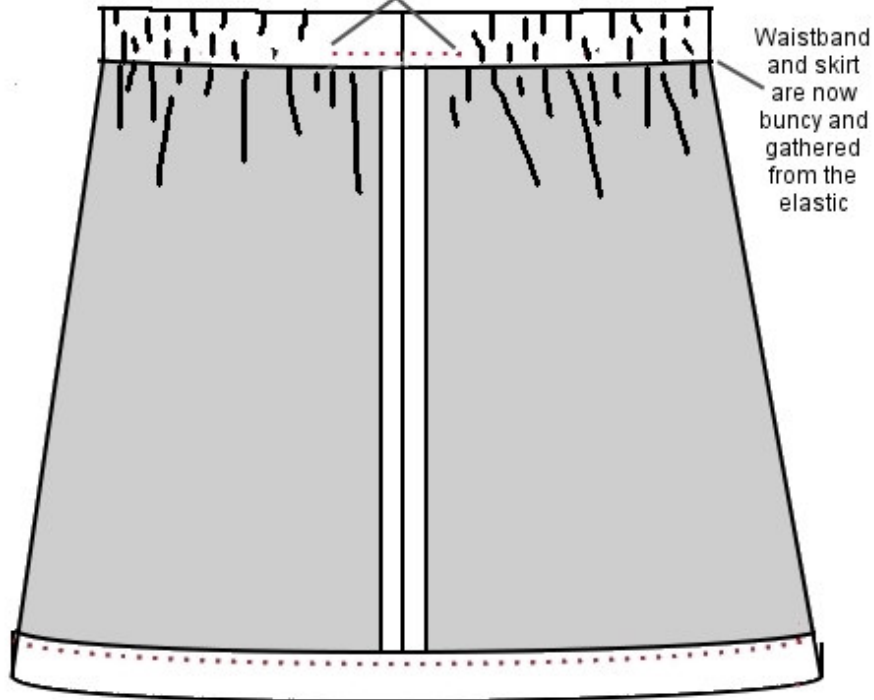
Overlap the elastic by $\frac{1}{2}$ " and sew together with a zig zag stitch.
2" gap for threading elastic



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8. Now close up the elastic casing/waistband. And you're done.

Sew closed the 2" gap you used to thread the elastic through



9. Easy right? Now twirl and twirl and twirl!!

