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## Fall Skirts – Make Them Work For Your Shape

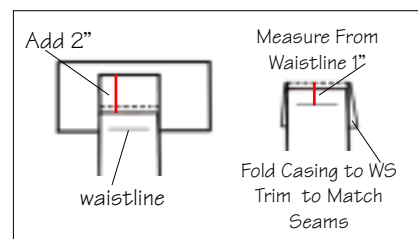
Featured in Our September/October 2003 Newsletter: Fitting Shape In Straight Skirts



One skirt style that I really like this season is *Vogue 7767*. But perhaps in truth, it was the ready-to-wear, patchwork of soft velveteen and patterned wools gored skirt that caught my fancy. Although the pattern had the correct number of gores, it skimmed body curves way too close for my comfort and the faced waistband, zipper and detailed topstitching weren't for me; but its style was on target. Here's my guide to adapting this skirt pattern to a more comfortable, easy-to-wear style that accentuates your assets.

**Finding the built-in ease:** The hip measurement on the pattern for a size 12 is 39 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inches; the pattern envelope's hip measurement is 36-inches. Thus, the pattern allows 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch hip ease. Cut as is. A size 12 skirt really skims the hips for a close fit. And if you were planning to wear a knit top tucked in at the waist, the fit would be too uncomfortable. If smaller seams were planned, the lower band would not fit. The easiest way to achieve a more relaxed look in this style would be to purchase the pattern one-size larger. Then the lower band would fit – all that had to be done to the pattern would be to shorten each gore. Pretty easy!

**Eliminate facing:** To change the pattern to a 1-inch wide finished elastic casing: On each skirt gore, add to the cut line of the waistline seam 2-inches. Before you trim off the excess tissue paper along the side seams, mark the new elastic casing 1-inch from the waistline seam and fold along that line. Then use the seamline of each gore as a guide to trim the casing to fit the pattern.



What's next? Select the right coordinating fabrics. The gores in my skirt were patchwork of soft velveteen fabrics by three: One print of multi-cocoa and matching solids of brown and black. ☺