

# DECORATIVE ELASTIC SKIRT

A super easy-sew for beginners and a fun garment for little girls!

Decorative elastic is a pretty way to finish the waist of a garment. The quality is easy to see when it's used as the waistband of your pants, shorts or skirts. At Farmhouse Fabrics, we use it frequently. There are a couple of "tricks" to use—this is a firm elastic so you don't want to break needles by trying to stretch and sew the elastic at the same time.

But sewing doesn't get much easier than when using decorative elastic for the waistband. With just 2 measurements, we have designed a skirt "pattern" that we call a "Decorative Elastic Skirt." We use a 1 1/2" wide thick sturdy elastic which comes in a wide range of colors at [FarmhouseFabrics.com](http://FarmhouseFabrics.com).



## INSTRUCTIONS



1. Measure your child's waist and add 1" (for the back seam) – this will be the cut length of your decorative elastic.

2. Measure your child's finished skirt length and add 1 1/2" – this will account for a hem allowance.

3. Cut the decorative elastic to the determined measurement from Step 1.



4. Cut or tear one width of fabric the length of your skirt plus 1 1/2". Remove selvages. (There will be only one seam in the skirt, and the finished fullness of the skirt is based on personal preference.)

5. Serge the top and bottom of the skirt fabric to finish the edges.

6. Run two rows of gathering threads on one long end of your fabric (the top of the skirt).



7. Quarter fabric and elastic – mark with washable pen.

8. Match up your quarter marks between fabric & elastic and pin at marks.

9. Pull up gathering threads and evenly distribute fabric between quartered marks on your elastic. (You will be pinning the **WRONG** side of the elastic to the **RIGHT** side of the skirt fabric.)



10. Attach non-stretched elastic to your gathered, evenly distributed fabric with a wide zig-zag #5. (Zigzag, using a wide zigzag stitch, along lower edge of the decorative elastic, sewing through the elastic and the gathered skirt.)



**11.** Now, you can remove the gathering threads, and the zig-zagged elastic will stretch with your child! No broken threads!

**12.** Center back seam – With right sides together, match the decorative elastic, carefully match the elastic and bottom of skirt, pin into place, and sew the back seam. This seam may be serged, if desired.

**13.** Press up hem 1 1/4" deep to your finished length – pin & hem!



## Voila!

A fast & easy skirt with not a single broken needle on stretched elastic!

For pre-coordinated decorative elastic sewing kits, visit our Sewing Kits category!

It is a lot of fun to make these little skirts using left-overs from other projects! Honestly – sometimes a third of a yard of fabric will make a skirt. Adding a row of trim, ribbon, rick-rack, etc. to the hem will jazz it up even more.

## Have Fun!

