

Sewing Directions



 To make front band, with WRONG sides together fold bodice (1) in half along center front. Stitch 1/2" (1.3cm) from folded edge. Press band flat. Stitch close to folded edges.

- 2. Fold under 1/4" (6mm) on shoulder edges of bodice front and back lining (2). Press.
- With RIGHT sides together, pin the bodice lining to the bodice front neck edge, back neck edge, and armhole edges, matching centers and having raw edges even. Stitch. Make a few clips along the curved edges, as shown, being careful not to clip through the stitching.
- **4.** Turn lining to the INSIDE. Press. With the RIGHT sides together, stitch the front to the back at the shoulders seams, being careful not to catch in the pressed edges of the lining Press the seam open.
- 5. Slip the shoulder seams under the lining.



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- 6. Slip-stitch the pressed edges together.
- 7. On OUTSIDE, top-stitch bodice close to neck edge and armhole edges.
- 8. To finish the center back edge of the skirt back (4) sections, zig-zag along the raw edge. With the RIGHT sides together, center back seam of the skirt. Stitch in a 1/2" (1.3cm) seam from the lower edge to the notch, pivoting with the needle in the fabric at the notch, and continuing to the raw edge of the seam allowance, as shown. Clip the seam allowance of the RIGHT back (ONLY) to the stitching at the notch. Press the seam open below the clip.
- **9.** Cut two pieces of double fold bias tape; one, the length of the lower edge of the skirt front (3), and the other, length of the lower edge of the skirt back.
- **10.** To finish the lower edges of the skirt sections, slip the skirt sections between the folds of the bias tape, placing the raw edge against the center crease, and the wider folded edge of the tape on the INSIDE. Pin. Stitch the tape in place from the OUTSIDE, being sure to catch in the folded edge on the INSIDE.
- **11.** With the RIGHT sides together, pin the skirt front to the skirt back at the side seams. Stitch. Zig-zag or overlock raw edge to keep the seam allowance together. Press the seam toward back.



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- **12.** On OUTSIDE, top-stitch back 1/8" (3mm) from the seam.
- **13.** With RIGHT sides together, pin the skirt to the bodice (and lining) at the waistline seam, matching centers and notches, placing small dots at side seams, and having edges even. Stitch in a 5/8" (1.5cm) seam.
- 14. Trim the seam allowances of the skirt and bodice ONLY to 1/8" (3mm), as shown. Press the raw edge of the lining seam allowance under 1/4" (6mm). Press seam toward the skirt. To form the casing for the elastic, stitch close to the folded edge of the lining.
- **15.** Cut a piece of elastic 12" (30.5cm) long. Attach a safety pin to one end, and feed it through the casing. Stitch across back edges catching in elastic.

- **16.** Baste the back edges of the bodice and lining together. Zig-zag or overlock stitch to finish the raw back edges, as shown.
- Cut a strip of hook and loop tape 5" (12.5cm) long. Separate the tape.

On the OUTSIDE, pin the rough half of the tape to the RIGHT back opening edge, along the finished edge. Stitch close to both long edges of tape.



- **18.** Open out the LEFT back opening edge. On the OUTSIDE, pin the soft half of the tape along the finished edge. Stitch close to the inner long edge (ONLY) of the tape, as shown.
- **19.** Turn the LEFT back opening edge to the INSIDE, along the seam line. Stitch the remaining long edge of the tape.

20. Close the hook and loop seam, being careful to match the upper edge of the dress.

On the OUTSIDE, stitch across the lower edge of the tape through all thicknesses.





21. Hand sew four buttons to front at small dots.