

Spoletto Ribbon Skirt
By Sarah Gunn

I. MATERIALS

1. A SIMPLE skirt pattern- pencil, straight or A-line
2. 1 yard to 1 ½ yards of midweight prewashed cotton fabric for your skirt base
3. One 9" invisible zipper in a color to coordinate with your ribbon
4. Approximately 19 – 20 yards 1 ½" ribbon for this skirt

This skirt is a finished length of ____19__" has __15____ rows, plus the ribbon used for the facing. Add rows accordingly for additional length.

5. Thread in colors to match your ribbon. Note – since the seam for each layer is hidden by the layer above, it's not imperative to match each ribbon color exactly.

II. MARKING THE SKIRT BASE

1. Sew the darts and hem the skirt base to your desired length. (front and back)
2. Next beginning ¾" above the hem, mark **horizontal** rows at 1 ¼" increments. This will provide a ¼" overhang for each row of ribbons which will conceal the stitching line.
(I like to mark with a heat soluble pen which will disappear when touched by the iron)
3. After drawing the horizontal rows, number the rows starting at the bottom. This step helps keep up with the ribbon placement and to accurately match the rows before adding the ribbon.

III. ATTACHING THE RIBBONS

1. Starting at the bottom of the skirt, pin ribbon along the horizontal row.
2. Note: Sewing the bottom ribbon on to the base ¾" above the hemline leaves a ½" overhang.

3. Stitch – press from the back – then press from the front. Pressing as you go will keep your ribbons and base flat.
4. If you're using a heat soluble marker, remember to **press from the bottom** so you don't erase the rows you've sew carefully marked.
5. Stitch between two or three rows of ribbon on the front skirt then two or three on the back skirt. This allows for easy checking on the placement accuracy and ensures the ribbons are matching.

TIPS

1. When stitching the ribbon, place the needle in the far left position and stitch as close to the top of the ribbon as possible.
 2. You'll notice the ribbon looks slightly wavy after stitching, but again pressing will keep it nice and flat.
 3. IRON
-

IV. SKIRT ASSEMBLY

1. Topstitch the upper ribbon at the lower edge
 2. Finished the seam allowances. Serger, bias tape, or sewing the ribbons down with straight stitch followed by a zig-zag stitch.
 3. This step will help you treat the pattern piece as a single piece of fabric and will keep everything in place when you match the sides.
 4. Insert an invisible zipper
 5. You want to use an invisible zipper to avoid distracting from the ribbon rows. Notice when I zip the ribbons line up perfectly which is what we want.
 6. Attach skirt front to skirt back
-

VII. WAISTBAND and CLOSING

Once both sides are attached it's time to finish the waist.

1. Using the ribbon as a facing provides a NEAT clean, simple finish and is easy to do
2. Cut a piece of ribbon slightly larger than the waistline.
3. Stitch at a 5/8" seam - trim the seam allowance, clip, turn and turn under the edges.

For more information visit: www.goodbyevalentino.com

