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Trends

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A GRACEFUL circle skirt and blouse or jeweled sweater make a holiday outfit suited for many occasions. Your skirt will be the color, style and pattern best for you if you'll make it yourself.

The fashionable felt circle skirt, which takes only a short time to cut out and sew, is especially made for the Christmas season. Whether a dainty pastel, a bright jewel tone or a quiet shade, your skirt will have a party look. One sewing method is to buy 2 yards of felt, 72 inches wide, and cut out a circle in the middle for your waist. Then measure from the waist to the desired skirt length and cut around a larger circle. You don't have to worry about sewing seams or a hem. You just have to add the zipper and waistband. Another sewing method is to use any flared skirt pattern as your guide.

Felt skirts

To dress up the skirt for Christmas, you may want to add special holiday figures cut from different colored felt. Tack bells, sprigs of holly, trees or reindeer onto the skirt for decoration. They can easily be removed after the holidays. For a more permanent applique, try fish, hearts, horses, flowers, or anything else you like. Braid, beads or sequins will also add distinctiveness to your original creation.

Novelty fabrics

Novelty fabrics, such as permanently-pleated cotton or crystalette, make easy-to-sew skirts. These materials come in red, green, black, grey, toast, navy, pink and brown. You buy only enough pleated material for your waist measurement plus 1 inch for a seam. A small piece of matching plain material can be made into a waistband.

A novelty tufted cotton skirt or a quilted skirt are versatile enough to be worn to class or for dressy occasions. Permanent gold thread or a raised velveteen-like tuft form the unusual design of a tufted skirt. Then, too, the ever-popular velveteen skirt with its soft folds and rich color is right at home during the holidays. A pellow underskirt adds the right amount of body to dress up all these skirts for festive occasions.

You'll look and feel as bright as a Christmas decoration in a new skirt designed just for you. Circle skirts and skirts of novelty materials take only minutes to make, but will give you hours of good wearing.

by Donna Mumford

Technical Journalism Junior

TRENDS

Circle skirts are versatile and you can sew yours yourself. Here Jean McClelland, Sally Bartels and Carolyn Steger look dressed up in quilted, felt and velveteen skirts with jersey blouses.

