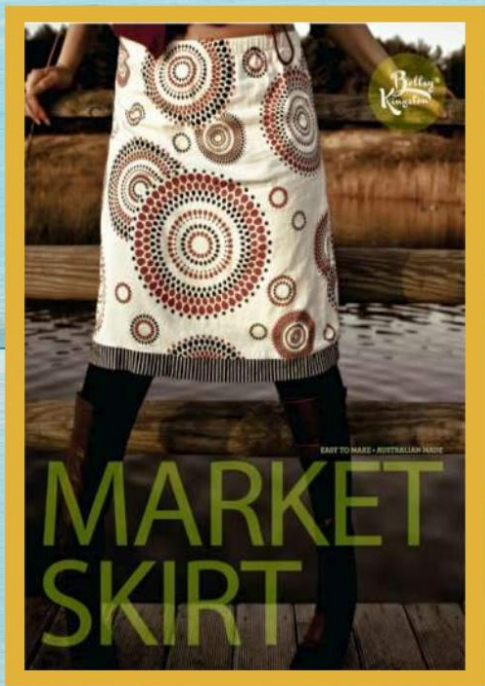




Sew-a-Long with Anneke



Market Skirt by Betsy Kingston



SEWING PATTERN REVIEW by ANNEKE MARKET SKIRT

Pattern: Market Skirt

Designer: Bettsy Kingston

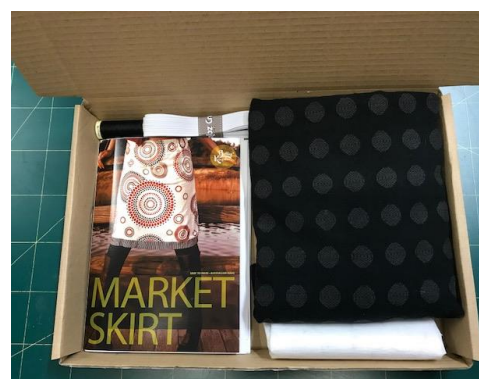
Reviewed: April 2020

Ref: 1/2020

Purchase Kit: Please [click here](#) to purchase the kit to make the Corduroy or A-line skirt

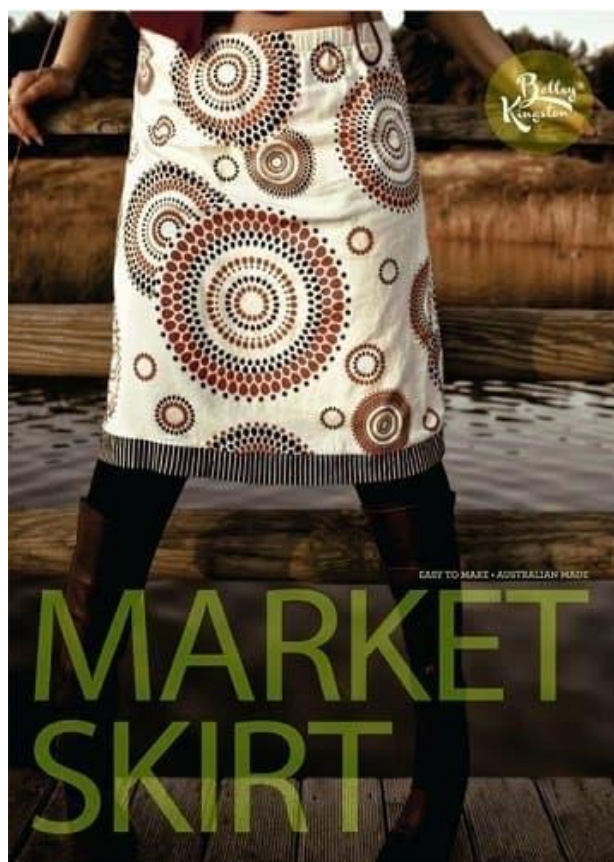


Corduroy Kit (Standard Skirt)



A-Line Skirt Kit – Black Jacquard

Hi, it's Kay here, owner of Crumbz Craft in Healesville. We've put together this pattern guidance to help you sew our best seller pattern 'Market Skirt' by Bettsy Kingston, with helpful hints and tips from Anneke, our beautiful Sewing Teacher here at Crumbz Craft. Her insights



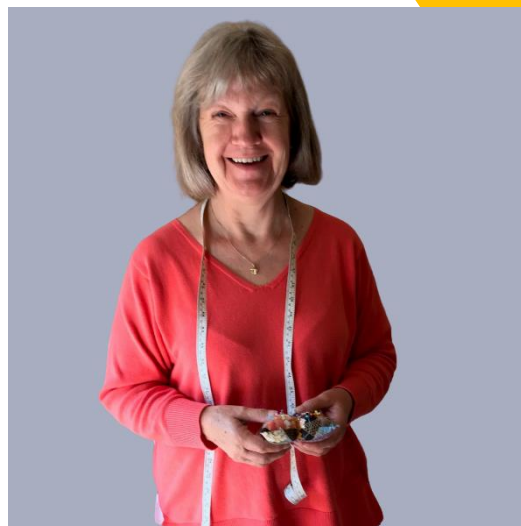
and wisdom will help you make this skirt at home and will be a huge support for you if you're a beginner sewer attempting this pattern. We want this to be 'like having a private lesson with Anneke', but from the comfort of your own home, with Anneke's tips and notes below guiding you and helping build your sewing knowledge.

We love the Market Skirt pattern by Bettsy Kingston, it's our "go to" pattern for beginner sewers as it looks great when done and is a straightforward to sew. It's versatile too in that it offers a wide range of sizes from 1 - 7 years and sizes 10-18, with a plus size pattern too. Once you've made one, you can trick it up and make future ones with your own look, using different fabrics, adding pockets, changing hem lines, because let's face it - a simple classic skirt never goes out of style.

In this pattern review by Anneke, she will walk you through the steps to create a standard skirt as well as an A-line skirt using the Market Skirt pattern, both designs are flattering on all figures with options for deep inseam pockets, front or back pockets and hem details.

So here you go, I'm handing you over to Anneke...

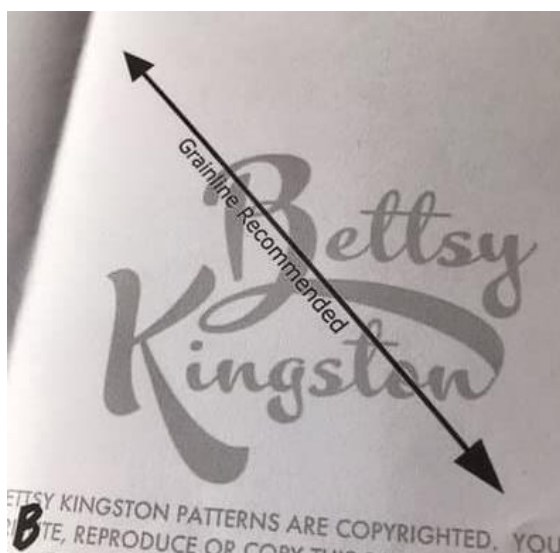
Hi everyone, I'm Anneke, the sewing teacher here at Crumbz Craft. As many of us are at home right now self-isolating, we're not able to get together for our usual private and group lessons at Crumbz, so I thought I would review some of the most popular patterns we sell so you can dust off your sewing machine and start creating your own unique look. A skirt is always a great place to start as they are nice and simple to sew, so let's get started with Bettsy Kingston's Market Skirt...



Step 1 – Read the Pattern & Gather Supplies

It is always a good idea to read the pattern before you start. It is very tempting to just start and get ahead of yourself and skip important steps.

I like to gather all the items I will need before I start so that I have them to hand, ready to go when the pattern requires them e.g.: fabric, scissors, pins, tape measure, thread, set up and turn on the iron and sewing machine.



The first thing I noticed with this pattern is that it doesn't say on the packaging, that this skirt can also be made by cutting it on the cross. This will give slightly more swing and stretch depending on the kind of fabric you use.

You will need additional fabric for this, eg for all sizes up to Size 10 – 1.60m, up to Size 14 – 1.80m and Size 16+ you'll need 2m. And keep in mind the direction of the fabric's designs when placing your pattern pieces for cutting out e.g.: corduroy or floral designs – particularly if the pattern is running in one direction.

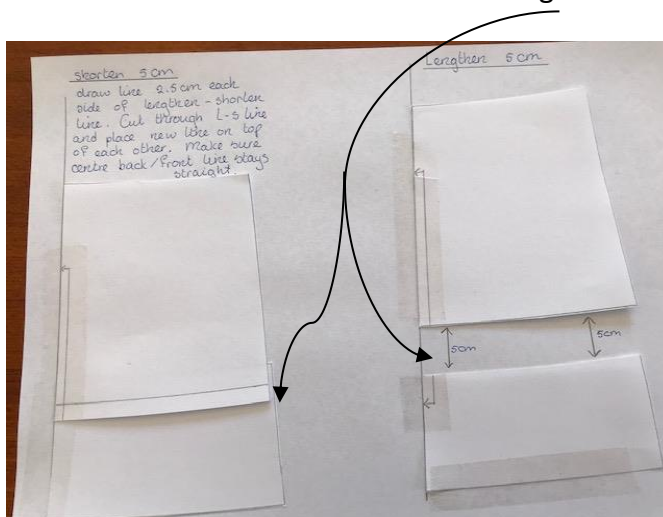
When you use corduroy or any fabric with a pile like velvet, you must make sure that you put all pattern pieces in the same direction.

You can feel the pile by stroking your hand over the fabric. If you do not lay them all the same way, you will have shades of light and dark finishes next to each other which will affect the overall finished look.

Step 2 – Determining which size to make

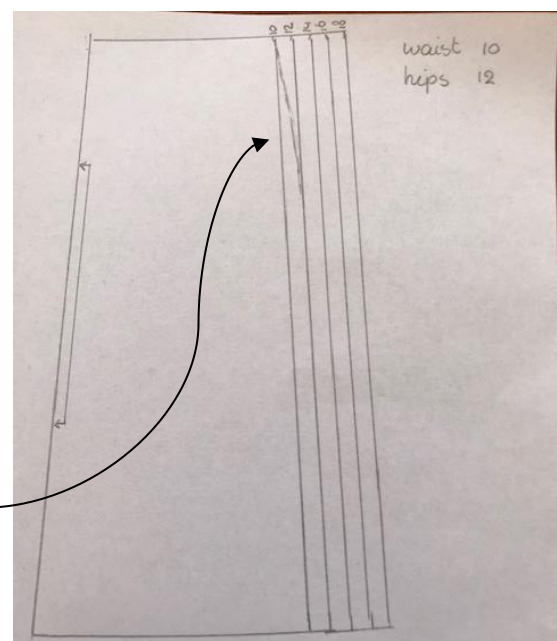
The measurements you need to take for this skirt are:

1. **Waist** – tie a piece of rope or elastic around your waist and wiggle your upper-body around. Where the rope or elastic sits, is where you measure your waist.
2. **Hips** – take this measurement around the widest part of your hip area.
3. **Length** – measure from your waist to the desired length. Then add 3cm hem-allowance and 4cm for the tunnel. To lengthen or shorten see the photo below

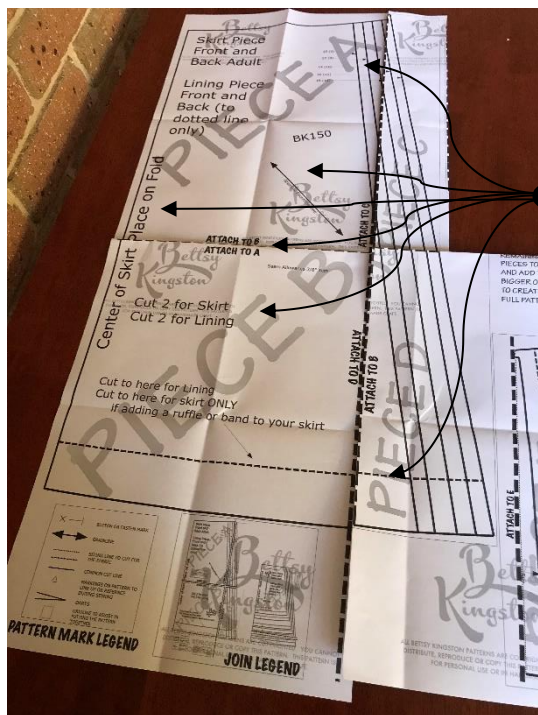


When you have taken your measurements, it is time to choose your size. On the back of the pattern you'll find the sizes with the corresponding measurements.

Choose the size which has your measurements underneath. However, you'll often find that one of your measurements fits one size, while all the others fit another size. You can adapt the size by drawing the line from one size to the other. When you do this make sure that you keep a nice smooth line.



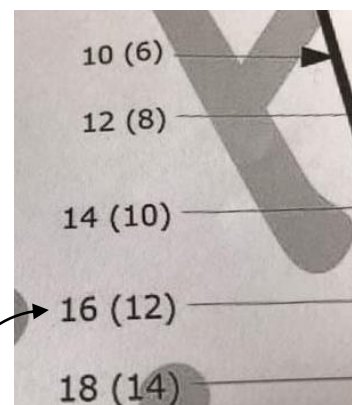
Step 3 – Laying out the Pattern Pieces



You will notice this pattern comes in several sheets. Match them with the corresponding letter for the style of skirt you are going to sew, and then trace your size.

When tracing your pattern, make sure you trace all markings and the names of the pieces. Also write down the size and name or number of the pattern. Some people like to write on the pattern pieces – the date and the name of person they made it for. This helps to recognize your pattern when you decide to use it again.

Tip: I prefer not to cut into the pattern pieces, so that you can use it again and again for different members of the family or even if your size changes. I use interfacing for tracing (medium weight) which is easy to



work with and doesn't rip easily and it also packs down nicely for storage. The sizes on the pattern are the first number – the second number in brackets is the corresponding US sizing.

Step 4 – Cutting out the Pattern Pieces

Lay out your fabric putting both self-edges together, so you have a double layer. Place your pattern on the fabric, taking note of the pieces that must go on the fold. It is also very important to make sure to have the piece on the grainline.



When you are making the skirt on the bias, you fold your fabric at a 90-degree angle.

When cutting the skirt on the cross you need to fold the 2 opposite corners towards each other as shown.

Always cut your fabric economically. It's much easier to use one larger remnant for another project than several small pieces.

Step 5 – Sewing your Skirt

Follow the order of sewing in the pattern. The only thing I chose to do differently (if you are making the standard skirt) was the **outside pockets**. I think it is easier to sew them on before sewing the side seams. You have better access. Just make sure you make allowances for the waist tunnel – don't put your pockets too high, as they'll be in the way of the tunnel.

Tip: Each time you finished sewing a seam, cut the ends of your thread and press the seam. It saves you doing it at the end, and, it is much easier to get to. You iron your side seams towards the back of the skirt.

Inseam pockets tip: when you have sewn the inseam pockets into the side seams, zigzag or overlock that part of the seam right away. It will be much harder to get to once you have sewn the back to the front.



Outside pockets tips:

1. Fold the top hem towards the right side of the fabric and sew down at both sides.



2. Trim the seams to reduce bulk.



3. Then turn it back to the inside and push out the corners.

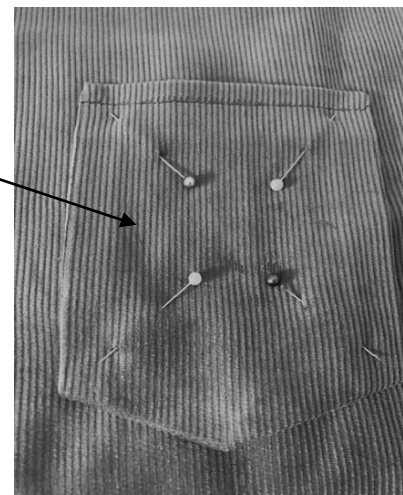


4. I find this point turner great for doing that.



Then press down the seam allowance of the pocket

When sewing on the pockets I like to place my pins like this. It prevents the pocket from moving and they are not in the way while sewing it on the skirt.



Step 6 – Finishing the Hem and Waste Band

If you are sewing the A-Line Skirt that is flared, you'll find that when sewing the hem, you end up with some extra space in the fabric. You can adjust the pattern by trimming the excess fabric away, as you'll see in the following photos.



The same happens with the tunnel for the waist elastic, only the other way. The hem fold will be too tight, so you can adjust this by making the stitching line go towards the edge of the fabric.



Waist Band Tip: Feed the elastic through the tunnel with either a bodkin, or a safety pin. It's a good idea to secure the end of the elastic to the skirt with a pin, otherwise you may lose it inside the tunnel, and then have to start over again. Before you sew the 2 ends together, make sure the elastic is not twisted.

Ironing Tip: When using a fabric with a pile, such as velvet or corduroy, press or iron on the wrong side of the fabric to avoid damaging the pile.

Hem Tip: The hem can be stitched using the sewing machine or by hand.

When you are using a lightweight fabric, corduroy or denim fabric, machine stitching the hem is fine. If you are making the skirt more for a smart occasion and you are using a fabric such as a nice wool, then it will be better to sew your hem by hand.

Before you sew the hem in place, try your skirt on to make sure you're happy with the length. You want the hem to hang parallel with the floor. If it hangs uneven you could ask a friend to help you mark the hemline using pins to mark the horizontal line and measuring the same distance from the floor, remembering to allow for the hem allowance explained below.



Fold and iron the hem 1cm to the wrong side of the fabric, and then another 2cm. Machine stitch close to the first fold. If you are using a heavy and thick fabric, instead of folding the hem over twice, zig zag or over lock the edge and fold over once 3cm.

Both ways can be hand stitched as well. You want to make sure to use small stitches by picking up small threads from hem and skirts.

Tadah, you have finished your skirt – well done 😊



A-Line Skirt with internal pockets

Standard Skirt with external pockets

Sewing Tips

If you need a little help understanding sewing terms, Collettehq.com covers 21 Sewing Terms Every Beginner Should Know - <https://blog.colettehq.com/tutorials/21-sewing-terms-every-beginner-should-know>

*I hope you have enjoyed sewing the Market Skirt with me. My favourite is the A-Line skirt. It is very flattering and can be dressed up or down. See you soon with some more sewing projects.
Thanks for following along –
I hope you enjoy wearing your new skirt.*

Ps. If you have any questions about my tips, do ask in the comments section below, I'd love to hear from you, and I promise to answer your question as soon as I can. Take care and stay safe.



Anneke