



Embellished Felt Skirts

A STANWYCK SKIRT EXPANSION PATTERN



Make a trio of lovely embellished and appliquéd felt skirts! These types of skirts were huge in the '50s (think of Juli-Lynn Charlot and her famous poodle skirt). With assistant designer Melisha Richter and special guest Amy Appell of knitwear design brand Poison Grrls, we were inspired to make three skirts with interesting techniques that will help you understand vintage embellishment methods.

xoxo, Gertie

BUY THE STANWYCK SKIRT PATTERN

CharmPatterns.bygertie.com/shop/stanwyck-skirt/



FABRIC INFORMATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

We used wool felt for all three of these skirts. Wool felt is gorgeous but pricey. For more economical options, try acrylic felt or rayon blends. You can also try these embellishments on other skirt fabrics—as always, test your materials and techniques on some fabric scraps.

MELISHA'S EMBELLISHED POLKA DOT SKIRT

This spangled skirt is simple to sew and gives new life to polka dots with shiny paillettes!

SUPPLIES

- [Wool felt for skirt in Violet](#)
- 5 yards ¾-inch or wider braided trim (ours was from Pacific Trimming in NYC; [this link is to the white version](#). Please contact the store if you are looking for other options)
- [1 package 1-in \(24-mm\) paillettes](#)

SEWING INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Sew the gored pocketless Stanwyck Skirt** as per instructions. (For tips on making the skirt in felt, read pg. 39 of the booklet.)
- 2. Measure up 6 in (15.2 cm) from hem of skirt and mark a line all the way around.** Pin lower edge of trim along line, overlapping at center back (turn trim's raw edge under on upper layer of overlap). Stitch along top and bottom of trim with a straight stitch to secure.
- 3. Place pailletes on skirt, using edge of trim as your guide.** Melisha placed her paillettes in a grid-like design with offset rows but allowed the placement to be slightly random. Take a few small stitches through each paillette's hole into the fabric and tie off thread on the back of the skirt.

AMY'S HARLEQUIN TASSEL SKIRT

I love everything about this appliquéd skirt! The two-tone diamond appliques are pure '50s harlequin fantasy, and the tassels add that extra level of whimsy.

SUPPLIES

- [Wool felt for skirt in Black](#)
- ½ yard wool felt for diamonds in [Robin's Egg](#)
- ½ yard wool felt for diamonds in [Turquoise](#)
- 16 3-in-long tassels (we used [silk](#), but you may wish to look for cotton as it won't be as slippery)
- 1 yard fusible web (we used [Wonder Web](#), which does not have a paper backing)
- [Parchment paper for backing](#)
- Coordinating thread for all felt colors
- Awl
- Loop turner

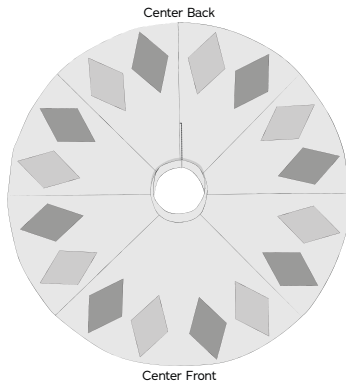
SEWING INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Sew the gored Stanwyck Skirt with curved pockets in black felt.** (For tips on making the skirt in felt, read pg. 39 of the booklet.)
- 2. Print diamond appliqué template** (or simply draw your own).

3. Block-fuse fusible web to contrast felt yardage for appliqués: place fusible web on top of felt and cover with parchment paper. Iron on top of parchment paper until web is fully adhered to felt.

4. Trace diamond template onto paper backing: using a pencil, trace around the diamond appliqué pattern and cut out 8 times in each contrast color (16 diamonds total). Use a rotary cutter for a clean cut.

5. Place diamonds on skirt: peel paper backing off diamonds and place on skirt, fusible side down. Place four diamonds on front skirt gore and two diamonds on each of the other skirt gores, alternating colors. We placed Amy's so that they were 2 in from each seam and 1 in from bottom edge of skirt.



6. Fuse appliqués to skirt: use a press cloth on top of each appliqué and fuse appliqué to skirt. Hold iron down for at least 10 seconds and then move to next section.

7. Secure appliqués to skirt: stitch around each appliqué using the method of your choice, using a coordinating thread color. I used a machine blanket stitch that is 4 mm wide.

8. Apply tassel to each appliqué: use an awl to punch two holes at center point of diamond, ¼ in (6 mm) apart. Cut through tassel loop and pull each end of loop through holes to the WS of skirt, using loop turner. Tie tassels on skirt WS with double knots. Secure with hand stitching if needed.

GERTIE'S LACE APPLIQUÉ SKIRT

These hand-drawn lace appliqués are super dramatic when made in black lace and sewn onto shocking pink felt.

SUPPLIES

- [Wool felt for skirt](#)
- [2 yards lace for appliqués](#)

- [18-in-wide freezer paper for appliqués](#)
- [Parchment paper to press appliqués](#)
- [Odif 606 Adhesive Fusible Spray](#)

SEWING INSTRUCTIONS

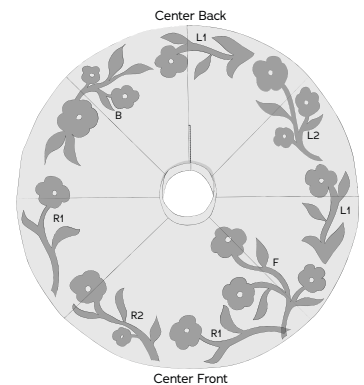
1. Sew the gored pocketless Stanwyck Skirt as per instructions. (For tips on making the skirt in felt, read pg. 39 of the booklet.)

2. Prep appliqué templates: print and assemble (if needed) downloadable appliqué designs. Trace designs onto the non-shiny side of freezer paper. Cut around designs on freezer paper to create appliqué templates.

3. Iron freezer paper templates to lace: place freezer paper appliqué templates on RS of lace, shiny side still down. Use an organza press cloth and press the appliqué templates to the lace, quickly passing a warm iron over the lace until the freezer paper is adhered to the lace. (Pay special attention to the cutting instructions on each appliqué, as two of them need to be cut out twice.)

4. Cut appliqués and apply fusible spray: cut out the lace around the freezer paper templates. Peel the freezer paper off the lace and turn the lace appliqué WS up onto large piece of scrap paper or cardboard (something you can spray on). In a ventilated area, spray the adhesive on WS of the lace appliqué until fully coated.

5. Fuse appliqués to skirt: place the lace appliqués on the skirt (use the diagram to determine placement) with the adhesive side down, using parchment paper as a press cloth. Move the iron around and press each area for at least 30 seconds, making sure the entire appliqué is adhered.



6. Secure appliqués to skirt: stitch around each appliqué using the method of your choice, using a coordinating thread color. I used a machine blind hem stitch (2.5 mm wide and 2 mm long) to secure edges of appliqués.

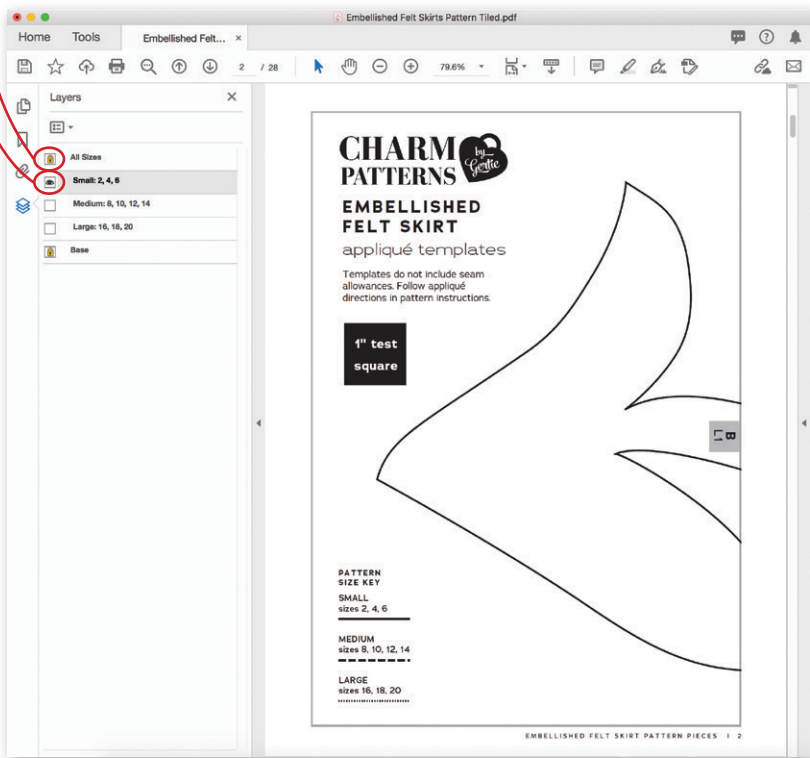
HOW TO USE THIS PATTERN

The appliqué pattern pieces are included in separate PDF files. Choose the tiled version if you would like to print them on Letter (8½ x 11) or A4 size paper. Choose the A0 file if you would like to print on large sheets (36" x 48" for U.S. or A0 for international) at a local or online printer (like www.pdfplotting.com).

The floral appliqué is grouped into 3 sizes to get the best layout for your skirt size. This pattern includes size layers so that you can view only your size. To get the best results, open either the Tiled or A0 pattern pieces PDF in Acrobat Reader.

Open the Layers Palette (View>Show/Hide>Navigation Panes>Layers) and hide all of the layer(s) except for the ones you want to print by clicking on the eye icon.

The All Sizes layer has general pattern information and will always print.



WORKING WITH THE TILED PIECES

Go to File>Print and change the page range to the pages you need for the pieces you've chosen (see Pattern Pieces Printing Index at right). Make sure the Page Sizing settings to 100% or Actual Size. Test this after printing by measuring the 1" test box on the first page of the bodice pattern pieces.

Cut apart any pattern pieces that share a page by cutting on the gray long dashed lines. Then fold back the page margins on each page as directed.

Tape the pages together, butting up the folded page edges with the gray margin lines, matching up the letters in gray boxes.

PATTERN PIECES PRINTING INDEX

For the tiled pattern pieces PDF file.

- Diamond appliqué page 1
- Flower appliqués pages 2–28

MORE FROM GERTIE



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