

It's Sew Easy Gingham Circle Skirt Variation – Gretchen Hirsch

This vintage-inspired skirt has a lovely sash threaded through it. The trick is large buttonholes! Make the skirt in the larger gingham, and the sash and bow in smaller gingham.

Bodice pattern used: [Charm Patterns Night and Day Dress](#)

1. **Sew circle skirt:** Sew seams in circle skirt, leaving a 7-5/8" opening on left side seam for zipper.
2. **Cut bias strips for sash and bow:** Cut 12.5" wide bias strips all the way across your small gingham yardage, getting the longest strip possible in one piece. You will need two roughly 45" long strips (you can piece strips together if needed).
3. **Sew the sash:** fold one bias strip in half lengthwise right sides together and stitch along the long open edge using a ¼" seam allowance. Press seam allowances open over a seam roll and turn strip right side out. Press sash flat.
4. **Sew the bow:** fold the second bias strip in half lengthwise right sides together, and cut the ends on an angle. Stitch along all three open sides, using a ¼" seam allowance, and leaving a 6" opening to turn the bow right side out. Turn right side out and close the opening with hand stitching. Press bow flat.
5. **Test sash placement on skirt:** Lay circle skirt out on a flat surface, so entire front of skirt is flat and spread out. Use sash to mock up placement by laying sash on skirt, extending from about 8" above right hemline and continuing in a sharp curve to upper left hip (this refers to right and left as though you are wearing the skirt). Pin sash in place and then try skirt on yourself or a dress form to check that you are happy with the sash placement. Adjust as needed and place the skirt flat on your table top again.
6. **Mark buttonholes:** Make marks for pairs of 2" long buttonholes about every 4-5" along sash placement except for the first and last buttonholes (at hip and hem); these should be single buttonholes, not pairs.
7. **Sew buttonholes:** use a manual buttonhole setting to make your buttonholes (most automatic buttonholes are too short).
8. Thread the sash through the buttonholes, with the ends on the inside of the skirt. Secure the ends with topstitching at the first and last buttonholes and trim as needed.
9. Tie the bow piece into a bow and arrange as desired. Hand stitch to the upper left hip of the skirt.