



RUBY SLIP

This luxurious slip with a bias cut skirt and lace bodice is quick and easy to make, and is a great first introduction to sewing lace and bias cut garments. You can follow the step-by-step instructions in the sew-along on the [PATTERN SCISSORS CLOTH](#) blog for additional information, tips and techniques.

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SIZES:

Select your size according to your bust measurement, using the other measurements as a guide.

If your exact size is not included don't worry – with this pattern it is really easy to grade up or down sizes using the graded nest as a guide, as well as adjusting for different body proportions. There is a 5cm (2") grade between sizes.

Size	8	10	12	14
Bust	83cm 32 ½"	88cm 34 ½"	93cm 36 ½"	98cm 38 ½"
Waist	63cm 25 ½"	68cm 27 ½"	73cm 29 ½"	78cm 31 ½"
Hip	91cm 36"	96cm 38"	101cm 40"	106cm 42"
Bra Cup	B	B	B	B
Height	168cm 5'6"	168cm 5'6"	168cm 5'6"	168cm 5'6"
Short Version Finished Length Waist-Hem	≈45cm 17 ½"	≈45cm 17 ½"	≈45cm 17 ½"	≈45cm 17 ½"
Long Version Finished Length Waist-Hem	≈60cm 23 ½"	≈60cm 23 ½"	≈60cm 23 ½"	≈60cm 23 ½"

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SUITABLE FABRICS:

For the skirt, use fabrics with *soft draping* characteristics – anything slinky will do. Best success is achieved with even weave fabrics where the lengthwise and crosswise grains are similar. It is best to avoid twill weaves and diagonal designs. Suggestions for suitable fabrics include:

- Silk – charmeuse, crepe backed satin, crepe de chine, double georgette
- Viscose – even weaves, double georgette
- Polyester – charmeuse, crepe backed satin

Check out the following sew-along tutorial for more tips on selecting fabrics:

Ruby Slip #1 - Materials

FABRIC REQUIREMENTS:

Fabric Width	8	10	12	14
Skirt – short version				
112cm 44"	1.35m	1.40m	1.45m	1.50m
140cm 55"	1.15m	1.20m	1.25m	1.30m
Skirt – long version				
112cm 44"	1.55m	1.60m	1.65m	1.70m
140cm 55"	1.45m	1.55m	1.60m	1.65m
Bodice				
18cm 7"	1.30m plus 4 pattern repeats	1.40m plus 4 pattern repeats	1.50m plus 4 pattern repeats	1.60m plus 4 pattern repeats

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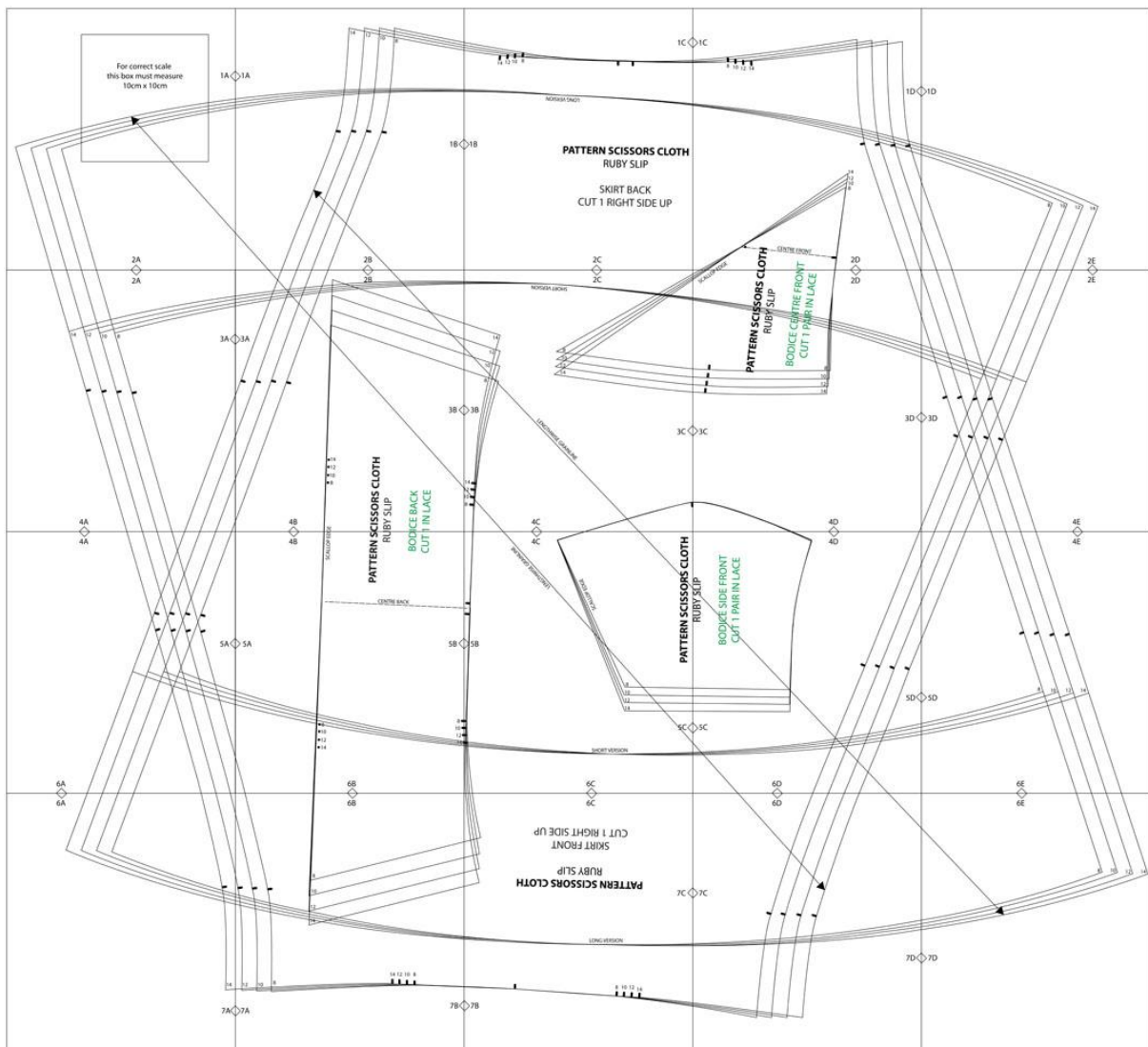
ASSEMBLING THE PATTERN:

After printing the PDF pattern, check the scale is correct by measuring the 10cm x 10cm square on the first pattern page.

Lay out your pages using the Pattern Sheet diagram below as a guide and tape them together matching the numbered diamonds and lines – 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, etc.

Tip:

Use Scotch Tape for taping the pages together – it is transparent, easy to adjust, and doesn't warp and crinkle the paper



TRACING THE PATTERN

The pattern pieces on the pattern sheet are overlapped, so you will need to trace each piece in your size onto pattern paper before cutting.

I use heavyweight pattern paper and a tracing wheel to transfer the lines to the paper underneath. If you are using a lightweight translucent paper you can trace directly through the paper. Transfer all pattern markings too.

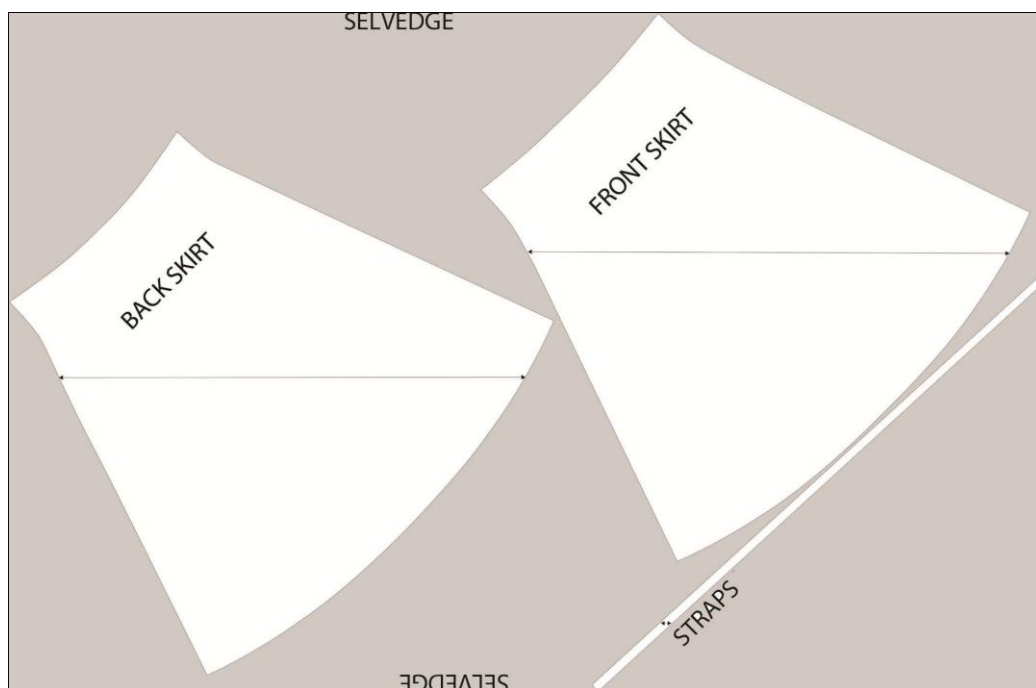
1cm (3/8") seam allowances are included in the pattern.

CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS:

The following pieces are cut in **main fabric**:

- ✂ Front Skirt
- ✂ Back Skirt
- ✂ Straps – Cut 1 bias strip 2cm wide x 80cm long (or 2 strips 2cm x 40cm)

Lay main fabric out on a large surface right side up, with the lengthwise and crosswise grain *square throughout the piece*.



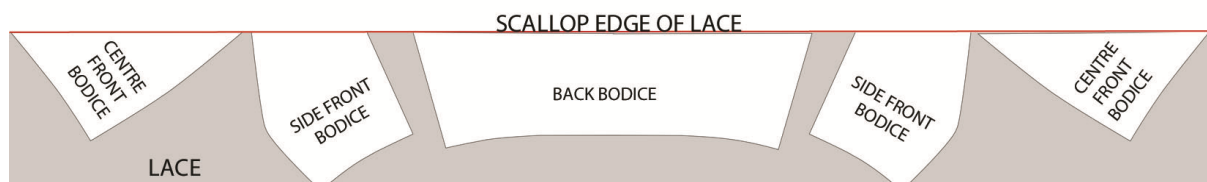
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Lay the pattern pieces right side up on the fabric. The grainline arrow must be parallel to the selvedge – measure from each end of the arrow to the selvedge and adjust until the distances are equal.

Mark around each pattern piece with tailors chalk, marking all notches. Cut out main fabric, clipping notches 3mm into seam allowance.

The following pieces (marked in green) are cut in **lace**:

- ✂ Centre Front Bodice
- ✂ Side Front Bodice
- ✂ Back Bodice



Align SCALLOP EDGE of pattern to scallop edge of lace. Centre the lace repeat at Centre Back, matching the border pattern at the side seams, side front seams, and at the Centre Front if possible.

Clip the notches, but mark the dots at the scallop edge with tailors chalk or tailors tacks.

Detailed cutting instructions are outlined in the following sew-along tutorials:

Ruby Slip #2 - Cutting the Bias Skirt

Ruby Slip #3 - Cutting the Lace Bodice

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SEWING INSTRUCTIONS:

All seam allowances = 1cm (3/8")

There is no allowance on the upper edge of the bodice as the decorative border of the fabric is used as the edging.

1. **Sew Side Seams:**

- ✂ With right sides together, sew the Back Skirt and Front Skirt together from the hem to the top, matching all notches.
- ✂ If you have a dress stand (or a helpful friend) check the hang of the side seams now. A well cut even weave fabric will hang with the side seams straight and vertical. A fabric with uneven weave, or inaccurate cutting, will cause the side seam to swing forward or back or curl slightly.
- ✂ If there is a problem, open the side seams and let the skirt panels hang freely – you will notice one side drops lower than the other. Pin the panels together so the side seam hangs vertically. The notches may fall out of alignment but ignore them - do as the cloth says.
- ✂ Let the skirt hang for a couple of days to allow for any further gravitational change before finishing the seam.
- ✂ Finish the seam using the method of your choice – overlocking or pinking.
- ✂ Press the seam to the back if overlocked, or press the seam open if pinked.

Tip:

When sewing bias seams, stretch the fabric slightly as you sew to prevent thread tautness and breakage.

2. **Hem Skirt:**

- ✂ Hem the skirt using a handkerchief hem – turn raw edge to inside at 2mm and edge stitch around hem, then turn hemmed edge to inside at 3mm and stitch in line of previous stitching.

✂ Alternative hem options:

- Overlock the hem edge, turn overlocking to inside and stitch down at 4mm.
- Hand sew a rolled hem. This technique is demonstrated in the following tutorial:

Tricks of the Trade – A Hand Rolled Hem

3. **Make Strap:**

- ✂ Fold the bias strip lengthwise right sides together. Stretching the fabric along its length, stitch 3mm (1/8") from the fold line.
- ✂ Using a tapestry needle and strong thread, turn the strip through to form a spaghetti strap. Try not to let it twist as you turn it through.
- ✂ Press the strap, stretching it so that it will not grow longer with time.
- ✂ Cut into two pieces of even length.

4. **Sew CF Bodice seam:**

- ✂ With right sides uppermost, overlap the L Centre Front Bodice over the R Centre Front Bodice, matching dots and notches at Centre Front Line.
- ✂ Sew along the border edge of the L Front through both thicknesses.
- ✂ Trim the underlap of the R Front away 3-6mm (1/8-1/4") from the stitching.

5. **Sew Remaining Bodice seams:**

- ✂ Seam options:
 - French seam – for fine laces and light embroideries
 - Sew and overlock, trimming seam allowance to 5mm.
- ✂ With right sides together, sew Side Front Bodice to Centre Front Bodice. Overlock and topstitch seam allowance to the centre.
- ✂ With right sides together, sew Back Bodice to Side Front Bodice. Overlock and topstitch the seam allowance to the front.

6. Attach Bodice to Skirt:

- ✂ Place bodice inside skirt with right sides together. Sew Bodice to Skirt matching seams and all notches (CB, side backs, side seams, side fronts, CF). Note that the CB has a double notch.
- ✂ Overlock the raw edge, using thread the same colour as the lace.

7. Attach Straps:

- ✂ Sew each strap to Back Bodice at dot, or at high point of scallop closest to this position.
- ✂ Try to sew through an area of heavier embroidery for strength.
- ✂ Try on slip, and adjust straps to fit at front bodice seam. Ensure the midriff seam remains level and the skirt hang is not distorted as you determine the strap length.
- ✂ Remove the slip and check that the straps are marked equal lengths, then sew to the front bodice seam.

8. Finishing:

- ✂ Attach decorative trim to the CF point, or where the straps meet the bodice.

Discover more information in the PATTERN SCISSORS CLOTH Ruby Slip Sew-along, where you can view detailed photos and tutorials, ask questions and seek advice:

Visit: <http://buzzybeesworld.blogspot.com> and click on the Sew-Alongs tab

Find out what other sewists around the world are making in our Flickr group and don't forget to share some photos of your project too!

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/1820680@N20/>