



make it perfect



30-minute Skirt

A free pattern from Make It Perfect

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Fresh and funky sewing patterns for the modern
sewer!

30-minute skirt

make it perfect 

Got a quick 30-minutes to spare? Want a new skirt? Then this is the skirt for you! The 30-minute skirt is a fast and easy project no matter your skill-level. Comfy, stylish and simple – get sewing!

SIZE CHART:

SIZE	WAIST	HIPS	FINISHED LENGTH
x-small	71cm (28")	79cm (31")	62cm (24 ½")
small	74cm (29")	91.5cm (36")	62cm (24 ½")
medium	79cm (31")	101.5cm (40")	62cm (24 ½")
large	84cm (33")	109cm (43")	62cm (24 ½")
x-large	89cm (35")	119cm (47")	62cm (24 ½")

REQUIREMENTS:

(based on **stretch** fabric with a width of 145cm/57" & min. 25% stretch across grain)

- 75cm (30") main skirt fabric
- 100cm (40") x 4.5cm (1 ¾") wide elastic for waistband
- general sewing supplies + a ballpoint needle for your sewing machine

INSTRUCTIONS TO JOIN PATTERN PIECES:

Print out pattern pieces onto A4 paper. Referring to numbers on pattern pieces, place pages together in the following order. Be sure to match up long dashed lines on each page. Tape pages together and cut out along required size.

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

THINGS TO NOTE BEFORE SEWING WITH STRETCH FABRIC:

- 1/2" (1.2cm) seam allowance included unless otherwise stated.
- Trace pattern pieces onto freezer paper or tracing paper to use as templates.
- Wash, dry and iron all fabric before commencing. Most knit fabrics shrink to some degree. Wash and dry fabric in the same manner you intend to use for the finished garment. (Fabric requirements given in this pattern allow for fabric shrinkage.)
- For professional results, press all seams after sewing.
- Pattern pieces should be cut in one direction and be placed with the greatest amount of stretch going around the body. The grainline on the pattern pieces should run parallel with the selvedge edge on the fabric.
- Make sure that you use a ballpoint stretch needle on your sewing machine. This allows the tip of the needle to slip around the loops that make up the knit fabric instead of tearing through them and causing runs in your garment.
- Use a polyester thread for sewing knit fabrics as it is stronger and gives your seams greater elasticity.
- When sewing knit fabrics, be careful not to stretch the fabric as it is feeding through the sewing machine or you will end up with an uneven wavy edge. Sew slowly and take your time until you get the hang of it.
- If knit fabrics are sewn with a regular straight sewing machine stitch, it is highly likely that stitches will "pop" over time as a straight stitch doesn't allow enough movement for the fabric to stretch.

UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED, SEW SEAMS USING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS:

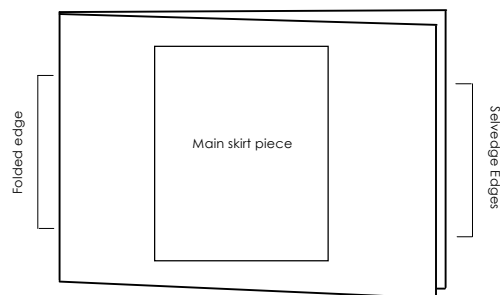
- An **overlocker** – refer to your manual for the correct setting for the fabric you are using.
- A medium length **zig-zag stitch** on your sewing machine.
- If you have your **sewing machine manual** handy, take a look inside...you will probably find a wealth of information about using it to sew knit fabrics and can use it to the best of it's capacity.
- A **twin needle** is particularly useful to sew any seams that will be visible from the outside of the garment as it gives a more professional finish.
- A **triple-straight stitch** on your sewing machine.



Cutting Instructions for all sizes:

1. Lay main skirt fabric on cutting surface with wrong side facing up. Fold fabric in half width-ways so that the selvedge edges meet.
2. Follow **Cutting Diagram** for placement of pattern template to cut.

Cutting Diagram



CONSTRUCTION:

- a) With right sides facing, place skirt panels together, matching up side seams. Pin into place down both side seams.



- b) Sew together using a ½" (1.2cm) seam down pinned edges. (I used a regular straight stitch on my sewing machine for these seams as I knew they wouldn't be subject to too much stretching. I finished the raw edges with an overlocker, this looks nice but isn't totally necessary as most knit fabrics don't fray.)



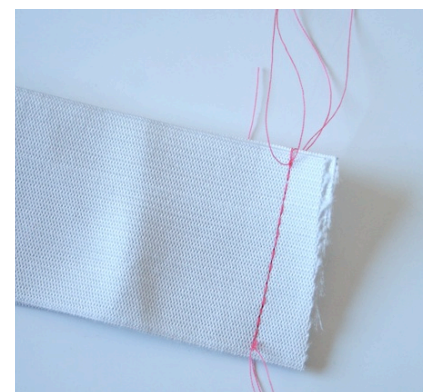
- c) Take length of elastic for waistband and cut to size referring to following measurements:

x-small: 23"
large: 35"

small: 27"
x-large: 39"

medium: 30"

- d) Match up short, raw edges of elastic. Sew together using a ½" (1.2cm) seam to create a circle. (You can neaten the raw edges of the the elastic if you wish.)



- e) Divide elastic into four equal quarters. Mark each quarter mark with a pin – use the seam as one of the points.
- f) Divide the top of the skirt into four equal quarters. Mark each quarter mark with a pin – use the side seams as two of the points.
- g) With right sides facing, match up quarter marks on elastic to quarter marks on skirt. Make sure that the seam of the elastic is sitting at the centre back of the skirt.



- h) Pin top edge of skirt to edge of elastic, matching up the quarter marks as you go. Keep in mind that the elastic may be slightly smaller than your skirt.



- i) Sew a ½" (1.2cm) seam around pinned edge, making sure you stretch your skirt evenly to fit elastic if needed. You will need to make sure you use a stitch that can withstand a lot of stretch – I chose to use a triple-straight stitch on my sewing machine, then finished the raw edges with my overlocker.



- j) To hem your skirt, turn bottom raw edge under ½" (1.2cm) and press. Sew hem into place using one of the options outlined in the following table:

TIPS TO HEM STRETCH FABRICS

- Stretch fabrics don't fray so can be left raw if desired.
- If stretch fabrics are hemmed with a regular straight sewing machine stitch, it is highly likely that stitches will "pop" over time as a straight stitch doesn't allow enough movement for the fabric to stretch.
- Sew hem into place by using either:
 - A **coverstitch** machine or coverstitch function on your overlocker. This is the most "professional" way of hemming a stretch fabric.
 - A medium length **zig-zag stitch** on your sewing machine.
 - A **faux-coverstitch**. This is made using a stretch twin needle set at medium length on your sewing machine. The underside of the twin needle stitching makes a zig-zag stitch and allows the fabric to stretch.
 - A **triple-straight stitch** on your sewing machine.

(I hemmed my skirt using a triple-straight stitch on my sewing machine.)



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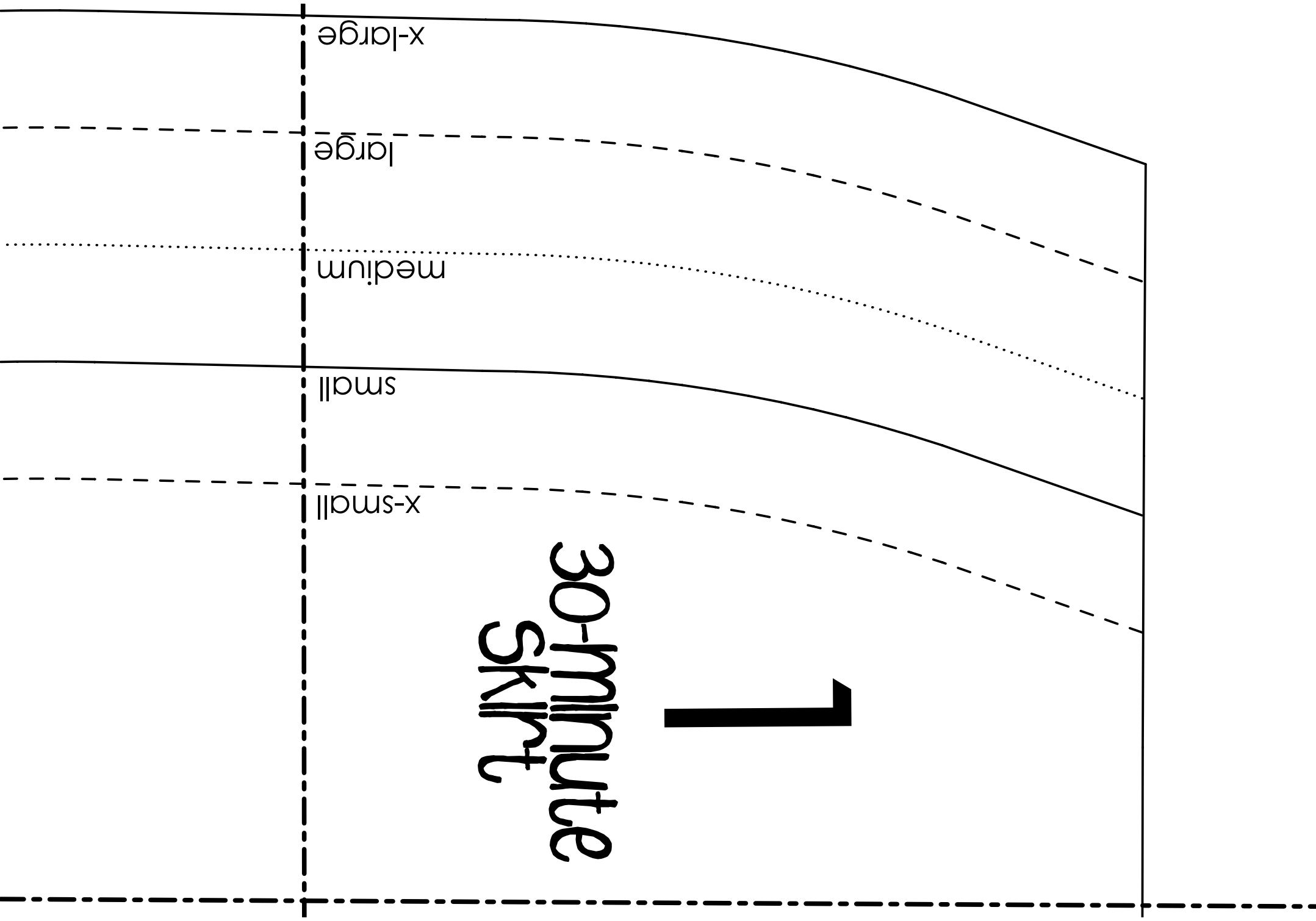
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30-minute
Skirt

1

2

30-minute
skirt

3

30-minute
skirt

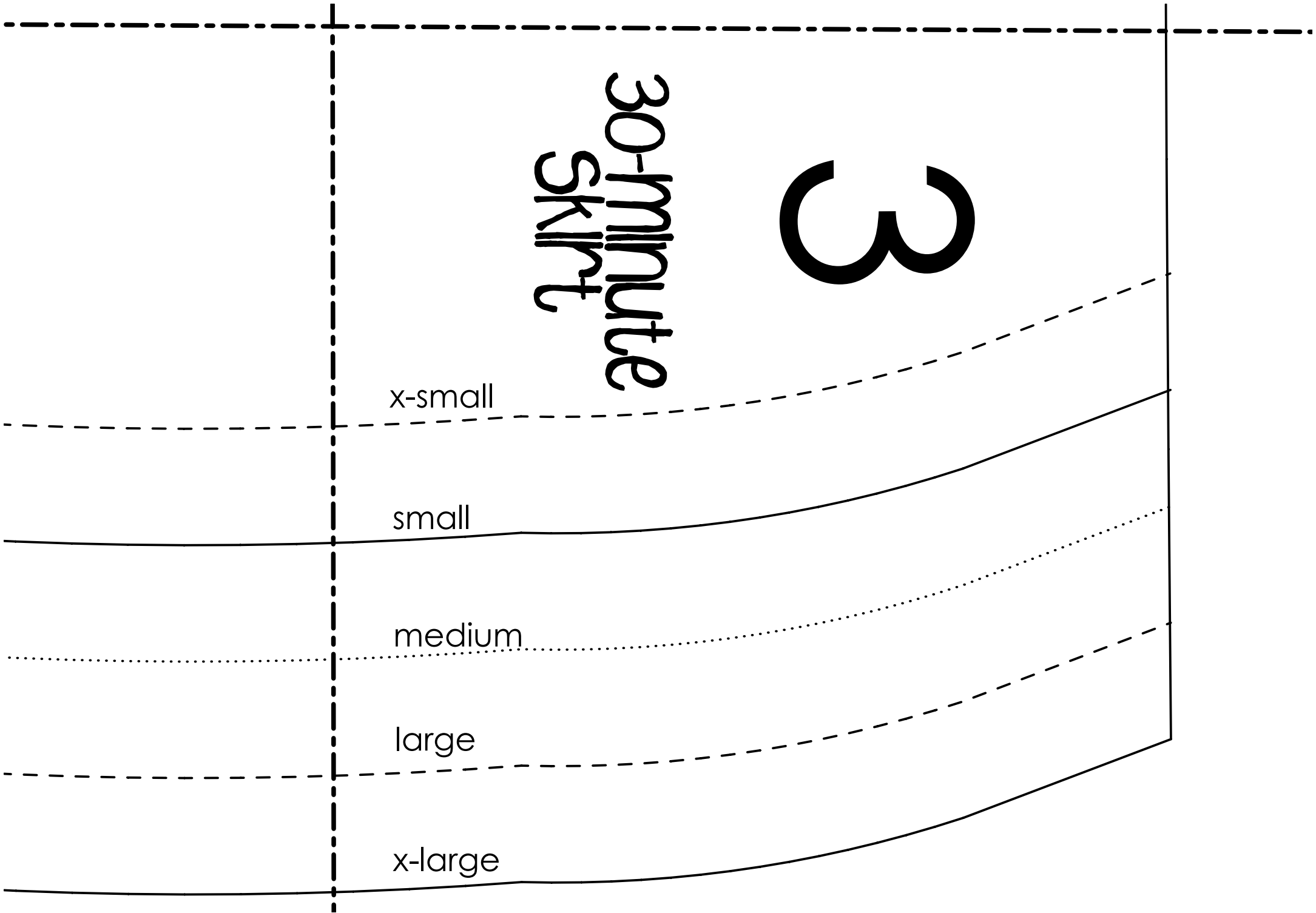
x-small

small

medium

large

x-large



4

30-minute Skirt

x-small

small

medium

large

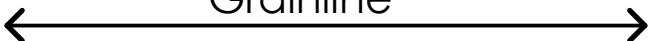
x-large

5

30-minute Skirt

(cut 2 from main skirt fabric)

Grainline



30-minute skirt

6

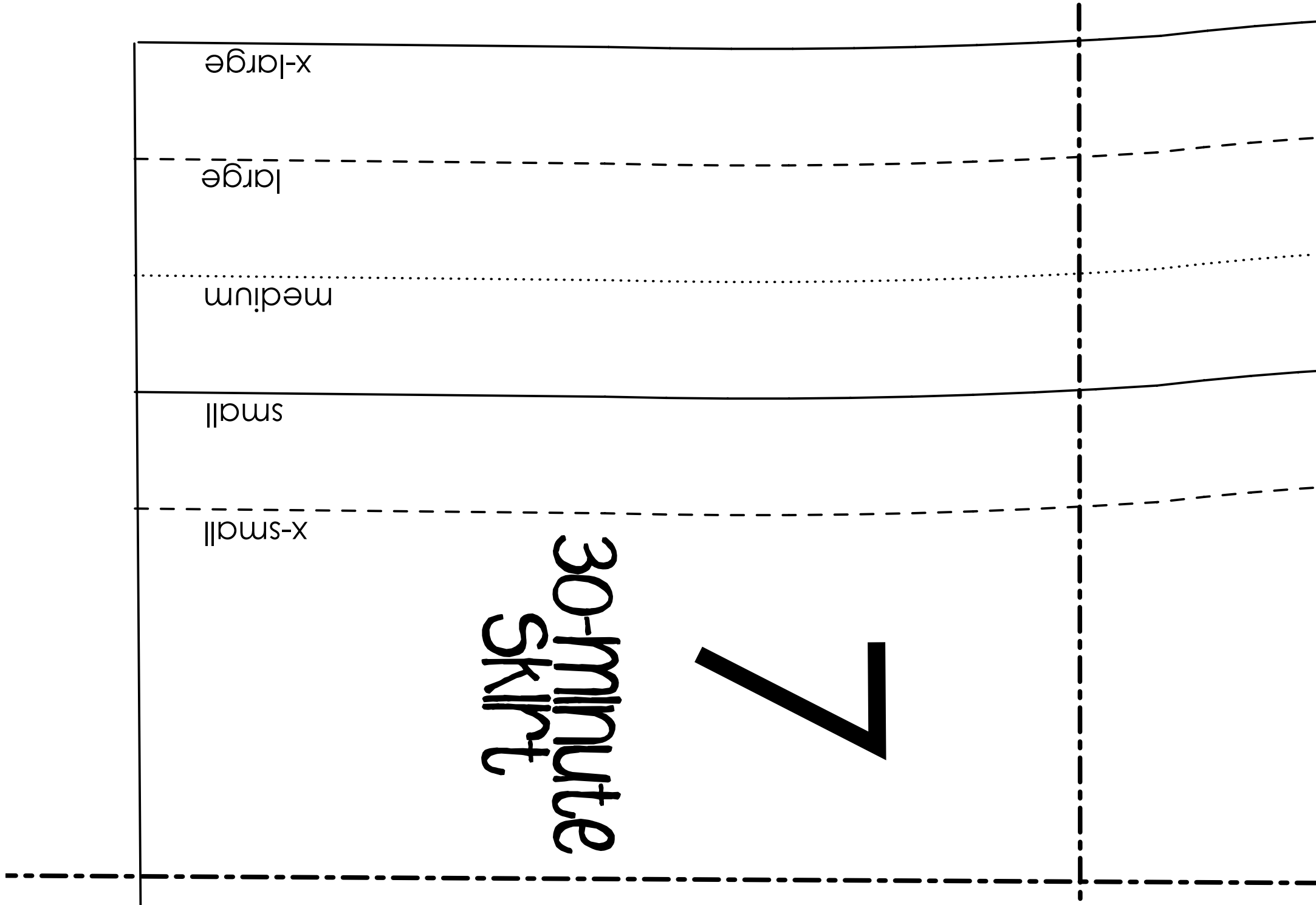
x-small

small

medium

large

x-large



30-minute
Skirt

7

8

30-minute
skirt

9

30-minute
skirt

x-small

small

medium

large

x-large