

# WANDA PENCIL SKIRT

POCKET  
PATTERN  
HACK



VIDEO TUTORIAL & INSTRUCTIONS CREATED EXCLUSIVELY  
FOR PRINCESS & INNER CIRCLE PATRONS

**P**ockets! Who doesn't need more pockets? I love adding pockets to everything, but it can be difficult to add pockets to a fitted garment like a pencil skirt without adding bulk. But these pockets are the exception! They are perfect for holding your everyday necessities and help to add visual interest at the hip, emphasizing an hourglass silhouette.

The Wanda Skirt is a perfect starting place for this pattern hack, since it already has front princess seams. But you could also use a modified version of this hack to add hip pockets to any other pants or skirt pattern (similar to the pockets on the Stanwyck Pencil Skirt or Loretta Shorts).

xoxo, *Gertie*



## MATERIALS & NOTIONS

- Fabric for the Wanda Skirt and pocket
- Lining for the pocket
- Interfacing for the pocket
- All other fabric & notions needed for the Wanda Skirt

## RECOMMENDED PATTERN DRAFTING SUPPLIES

- Gridded ruler or [seam allowance ruler](#)
- Colored pencils
- Regular pencils
- [Tracing paper](#) or [pattern drafting paper](#)
- Tape
- Paper scissors

## RESOURCES

Be sure to watch the companion video to see these pattern hacking steps in action!

**And don't forget!** You'll need the [Wanda Skirt Pattern instructions and pattern pieces to complete this project.](#)

## PATTERN ALTERATION INSTRUCTIONS

For the Wanda Skirt Pocket Hack, we'll be adding hip pockets to the skirt side front by drafting a pocket bag and altering the Skirt Side Front pattern piece into two different pieces to accommodate the pocket.

Cut the pattern pieces for your Wanda Skirt. Set aside all except for the Skirt Side Front (2).

### PATTERN DRAFTING

**1. Draw your pocket opening on the Skirt Side Front pattern piece.** Your pocket opening can be straight, curved, scalloped, or any shape you'd like. I started mine at the princess seam, about 1½ inches (in) (3.8 cm) below the waistline and curved down to the side seam, about 5 in (12.7 cm) below the waist.

**2. Draw the bottom of the pocket bag on the Skirt Side Front.** Use your phone or another object you wish to fit into your pocket to determine the size. This line should be perpendicular to the grainline.

### SKIRT SIDE FRONT

**1. Using tracing paper, trace the new Skirt Side Front.** The top of the pattern piece will follow your pocket opening style line. From there, the sides and bottom of the pattern piece remain the same as the original.

**2. Add ease to the Skirt Side Front.** At the upper side seam corner of the pattern piece, extend the line of your pocket opening ¾ in (1.9 cm) past the side seam. Draw a line to connect this new point to the lower side seam corner of the bottom of the pocket bag. Draw a line for the seam allowance, ⅝ in (1.5 cm) from the seamline. You have now added design and wearing ease to your pocket. **NOTE:** you can add more ease if you'd like the pockets to stand out further from your hip, but I don't recommend adding less. You'll want room to reach your hand into your pocket!

**3. Add seam allowance to the new Skirt Side Front.** Draw a line above your traced pattern piece, ⅝ in (1.5 cm) above the pocket opening, following your design line(s).

**4. Cut, label, and date your new Skirt Side Front.** Add "Cut 2 fabric" as cutting instructions, and the title Wanda Skirt Pocket Hack.

## POCKET BAG

- 1. Trace the new Pocket Bag.** The top of the pattern piece will follow your pocket opening style line. The bottom will follow the line you drew for the bottom of the pocket bag. From there, connect the two lines following the sides of the original pattern piece.
- 2. Add ease to the Pocket Bag.** At the upper side seam corner of the pattern piece, extend the line of your pocket opening  $\frac{3}{4}$  in (1.9 cm) past the side seam. Draw a line to connect this new point to the lower side seam corner. **NOTE:** if you added more ease, extend your line the same amount as in Step Two for the Skirt Side Front.
- 3. Add seam allowance to the Pocket Bag.** Draw a line above your traced pattern piece,  $\frac{5}{8}$  in (1.5 cm) above the pocket opening, following your design line(s). Draw a second line  $\frac{5}{8}$  in below the bottom of the pocket bag. Draw a line for the seam allowance on the new side seam.
- 4. Cut, label, and date your new Pocket Bag.** Add “Cut 2 lining” as cutting instructions, and the title Wanda Skirt Pocket Hack.

## SKIRT HIP FRONT

- 1. Trace the new Skirt Hip Front.** The top of the pattern piece will follow your original Wanda Skirt waistline (including seam allowance). The bottom will follow the line you drew for the bottom of the pocket bag. From there, connect the two lines following the sides of the original pattern piece.
- 2. Add seam allowance to the new Skirt Hip Front.** Draw a line  $\frac{5}{8}$  in (1.5 cm) below the bottom of the pocket bag.
- 3. Cut, label, and date your new Skirt Hip Front.** Add “Cut 2 fabric” as cutting instructions, and the title Wanda Skirt Pocket Hack.

## CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS

Follow the cutting layouts for the Wanda Skirt to cut out your fabric pieces, substituting the altered pattern pieces above for the Skirt Side Front. You may cut the Pocket Bag out of your fashion fabric or out of a lining fabric.

## SEWING INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Interface the pocket opening:** apply fusible interfacing to the WS of the pocket opening of the Pocket Bag. If your pockets have intricately shaped details or significant ease, you may also wish to interface the WS of the pocket opening of the new Skirt Side Front.
- 2. Follow the Wanda Skirt instructions through the All Skirts section:** in Step 1, staystitch the Skirt Hip pattern piece instead of the Skirt Side Fronts (2).
- 3. Attach the pocket bag:** pin the pocket bag to the new skirt side front, RS together, at the pocket opening. Stitch the pocket opening. Grade the seam allowances so the skirt side front is wider and the pocket bag is narrower. Clip/notch any curves or pivot points.
- 4. Understitch pocket bag:** with the pocket bag opened out and the seam allowances underneath, stitch along the pocket opening  $\frac{1}{8}$  in (3 mm) from the seamline on the pocket bag’s RS, catching the seam allowance in your stitching. Press the pocket opening edge, rolling the seamline slightly to the WS so it is hidden inside the pocket. If your pocket opening is intricately shaped, you may have to skip this step.
- 5. Attach skirt hip:** pin Skirt Hip Front to pocket bag, RS together along the lower edge and sides. Do not pin through to the skirt side front. Stitch just the skirt hip to the pocket bag along the princess seam, pocket bag lower edge, and side seam, pivoting at the corners.
- 6. Baste pocket into place:** pin the skirt hip to the skirt side front at the princess seam and side seam, sandwiching the pocket bag inside. Because of the added ease, the pocket will be larger than the skirt hip, causing it to balloon slightly. Baste using a  $\frac{1}{2}$ -in (1.3 cm) seam allowance along the princess seam and side seam.
- 7. Continue to follow the Wanda Skirt instructions, starting at your chosen Skirt with Back Vent, Thigh Slit with Invisible Zipper, or Thigh Slit without Zipper section:** treat your new skirt side front/pocket as one unit. It replaces the Skirt Side Front (2) pattern piece when noted in the instructions.

*Enjoy the pockets on your new Wanda Skirt!*

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