

## Projects

### "Back to School Denim Skirt & Jacket"



It's back-to- School time again! So send your little one off for her first day in scholarly style with a denim ruffle skirt and matching jacket complete with plaid bias trim.

#### **Skill Level: Intermediate**

Created by: Sharon Sullivan

#### **Supplies:**

Baby Lock Evolution serger  
Baby Lock Sewing Machine  
BLE8-S2 (Double Fold Bias Binder 36mm)  
Simplicity Pattern 2242 - view D (jacket) and View C (skirt)  
Fabric to make view C and D according to size needed  
2 yards contrasting plaid fabric for the bias binding edges  
4 Spools Madeira Aerolock or Maxi-Lock serger thread  
All-purpose thread to match fabrics

#### **Instructions:**

##### **Cut out:**

- Denim fabric
  - o pattern pieces 5, 7, and 8 for the skirt
  - o pattern pieces 9, 11, 12, 13 and 14 for the jacket
- Elastic waistband

- pattern piece 6 for skirt elastic
- Cut plaid fabric into 1-3/8" wide bias strips for the bias binding
  - 24" to hem the sleeves
  - 36" for the jacket front
  - 240" (6-7 yards) to hem the ruffles of the skirt)

**Prepare the ruffles to add bias trim:**

1. Serge notched ends of three middle and lower ruffle sections together as in step 2 of the skirt C pattern instructions; however leave one seam unstitched and leave ruffles unhemmed. (A flat piece of fabric is easier to hem with bias binder.) Set ruffles aside.
2. Instead of the narrow hem for the skirt ruffles as indicated in the pattern instructions, you will be adding a plaid bias trim.

**Prepare the jacket pieces to add bias trim:**

3. Bias trim will be stitched along the hemline of the sleeves and down the jacket front.
4. Sleeves:
  - Cut 1-1/4" off end of sleeve at hemline since bias will be added and hem will not be turned up.
5. Body of the jacket:
  - a. See page 4 of pattern instructions for illustrations.
  - b. Stay stitch the neckline of both the jacket back and front pieces.
  - c. Serge front to back at shoulder seams.
  - d. Apply interfacing to wrong side of front and back facing sections.
  - e. Stitch shoulder seams of facing sections.
  - f. Serger finish edge of unnotched edge of facing sections for a clean finish.
  - g. With right sides together, pin facing to garment matching center back and shoulder seams.
  - h. Stitch neck edge only. DO NOT stitch down the front of the jacket.
  - i. Clip the curves and under stitch facing away from the garment.
  - j. Turn facing to inside and press.
  - k. With wrong sides together, pin front edge of facing to front edge of jacket.
  - l. Stitch close to the edge to hold the facing to the jacket front.

**Attach 36mm Double Fold Bias Finder to your serger according to the instruction included with the double fold bias binder**



**Trim the ruffles:**

6. Position the longest bias piece into the double fold bias binder.
7. Place ruffle fabric right side up. Attach plaid bias with the double fold bias binder in place of the hem on each of the ruffle pieces.

**Trim hem of both sleeves:**

8. Place sleeve hem right side up. Stitch plaid bias with the double fold bias binder in place of a sleeve hem.

**Trim front edge of jacket:**

9. Place jacket front with right side up to attach bias trim down the front of the jacket.

**Convert your serger to a 4-thread overlock stitch to finish the raw edge of the seams when assembling pieces.**

**Complete the skirt assembly:**

10. Serge the last seam to have a circle of hemmed fabric to be used as in the pattern instructions. You should now have 3 circles of fabric to be used for ruffles.
11. Finish assembling the skirt according to the pattern instructions.

**Complete the jacket assembly:**

12. Insert sleeves into the jacket and finish seams according to pattern instructions.
13. Change the serger to a 3 thread wide stitch and trim 1/4" off the hem edge of the jacket. Turn up 1" and top stitch the hem.

*Now that the outfit is complete, don't forget to pack her lunch!*

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