

A block has *no design* and will look... *block-y*. Don't worry if it is not your style. It isn't a skirt... yet!

A well-fitting Skirt Block:

1. Fits snugly, but not uncomfortably snug-

If it is all over too big or small, or if the fabric falls at an angle under your belly, bum, or hips, *first double check your cylinder circumference measurement*. The cylinder determines the volume of the draft and the amount of fabric included in the block. Many of the other measurements and fitting steps depend on your cylinder being correct first.

2. Hem and hipline is level with the floor -

Before you start fitting the waist, make sure that your hemline and hipline are parallel to the floor. You may need to release some of your darts or adjust the height or tilt of your waistline to achieve this.

3. Side Seams are straight and perpendicular to the floor -

If they are tipping make sure to double check #2. If they are wavy, experiment with adjusting the darts or side seams near the areas that aren't straight.

4. Waistline follows and fits the body's natural waist in a smooth line -

After the previous steps look good, experiment with redrawing or taking in/letting out fabric to match your waistline.

5. Darts smoothly blend into the rest of the garment -

If they don't, first make sure it isn't caused by sewing or pressing. Then refer back to your photo with your custom darts drawn onto it (W1/D4) to help experiment with shortening, lengthening, or dividing them to match your body. Often adjusting the side seams will smooth out darts..

6. Absence of major wrinkles -

Without obsessing, use critical thinking to release any areas of tension.

Skirt Block Fitting Checklist

Don't know what to do? Give something a try!

Custom sewing is a trial and error process. You will not be successful if you are so afraid of the error that you never start the trial. Not all experiments will turn out the way you expected, but they will always teach you something. Just like you wouldn't expect to publish the first draft of a book without doing some editing first, do not expect the first draft of your skirt block to work without doing some work first.

Also- Ask questions! I'm here to help!

I love nerding out on fitting puzzles! If your trial and error experiments aren't getting you where you want to be, take photos of yourself and ask me for backup! I'm happy to help!