fledge swirling twirl skirt Laguna

"Laguna" is the Spanish word for "lagoon", there, where the sea eddies in and communicates with the land. Laguna Beach is a little beach town, where one can spend hours communicating with the sea. The twirl skirt "Laguna" is based on a simple circle skirt, which eddies in with a new twist. "Laguna" sewn at knee-length or shorter and worn with the accompanying leggings is a cheeky, girly-girl look.

"Laguna" can be sewn either as a simple single-layer skirt or as a double-layer skirt. When sewn as a double skirt, the top flounce layer almost has the effect of a triple-layer circle skirt. The pattern piece is graded to fit a child of average stature and will hang at the knee or somewhat shorter. For a longer skirt, please choose a larger size. By following these directions carefully, "Laguna" can be sewn by beginners

Thank you for your purchase and for sewing "Laguna"!

-Nancy Langdon, fledge • studioTANTRUM

Recommended fabrics: Poplin, Voile, Batiste, lightweight denim, fine wale corduroy. For a special occasion skirt, you may choose to sew a top layer from organza, chiffon, tulle, etc.

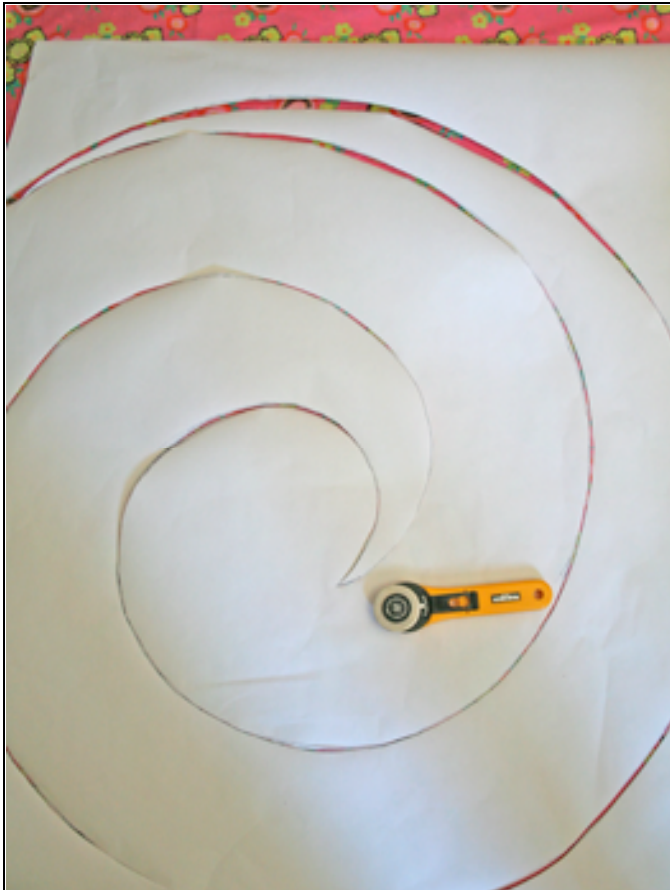## **Sewing a double-layer LAGUNA swirling twirl skirt:**

*Please note, the scale in the background is 1x1 <u>inch</u>.	**Please take your child's measurements before starting and compare to the sizing chart. Please measure the length and the waist.**
	Lay your fabric unfolded on your cutting surface. Lay two pieces of fabric on top of one another, wrong side to right side (both "pretty" sides facing up). To prevent the fabric from slipping while cutting, you may want to spray a light coat of temporary spray adhesive between the fabric layers.

Trace the spiral-shaped pattern piece onto a piece of paper.

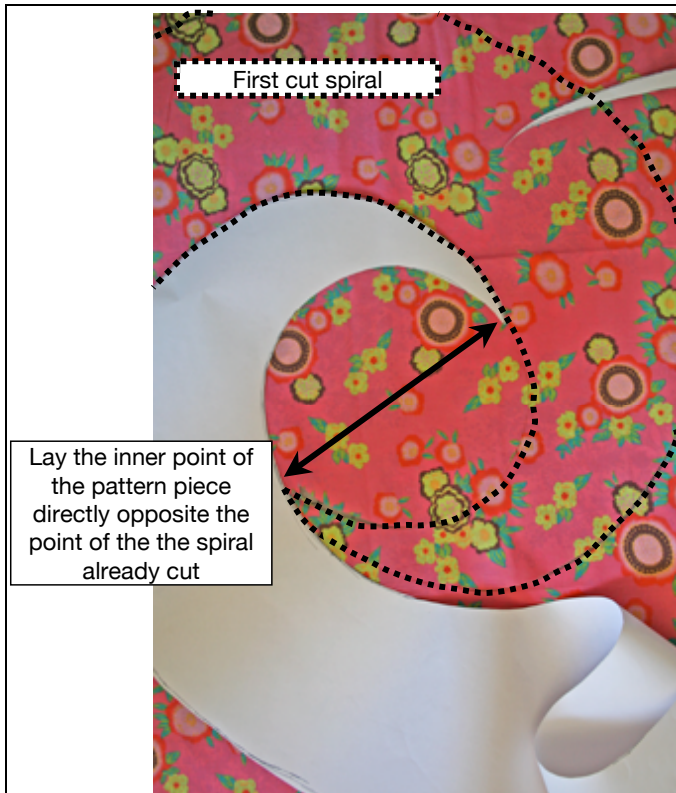Lay the pattern piece **uncut** on top of the two pieces of fabric..

Cut through the paper along the traced line through the two layers of fabric. This pattern piece is drawn to size: An additional seam allowance is **not** required. If you following the sizing chart, an additional seam allowance is not required.

Tip: Place this pattern piece on the fabric, so that there is ample room for cutting the second spiral(s). For example, place the outer edge of this piece, the outer tail end of the "snail" close to the selvedge. Leave ample room on the other side of the "snail". The reason for this will become apparent in the next steps.

After cutting the first spirals, gently remove the excess paper and leave only the pattern piece on the fabric.

First cut spiral

Lay the inner point of the pattern piece directly opposite the point of the the spiral already cut

Lift the pattern piece and place it directly opposite of the spirals you just cut.

Lay this pattern piece **along the cutting line just cut** for the first set of spirals.

In this way, the second set of spirals is already halfway cut. Essentially, the inner half of the waist edge and the long tail end are all that remain to be cut of the second spiral set.

Here you will recognize the cut layout.

Here you have 4 long spirals, 2 of each fabric.

At this time, decide if you would like a monochromatic over-layer or a more two-tone effect. For a two-tone effect (see illustration at the top of these instructions), reverse the stacking order of one set of spirals. In this example, I would place one green spiral on top of its corresponding pink spiral.

Trim 3-4 cm from the tip of the *bottom* layer.

Important: Trim the tail end (hem end) of the **bottom** spiral of each of the sets of two spirals approx. 3-4 cm (1 to 1-1/2 inches). End this trim in a point.

This step is important when it comes to hemming the skirt in a later step.

You will now have 2 sets of 2 spirals. Each set will have the **bottom** spiral trimmed a bit shorter on the tail end.

Begin at the waist end (inner end of the spiral) and stitch the two spirals together along the inside edge, right side to wrong side (both "pretty" sides of the fabric facing up). Stitch these spirals close to the edge, approx. 4-6 mm from the edge.

Do not finish this seam.

Repeat for the other set of two spirals.

You now have 2 two-layer spirals, each of which are stitched together along the inner edge.
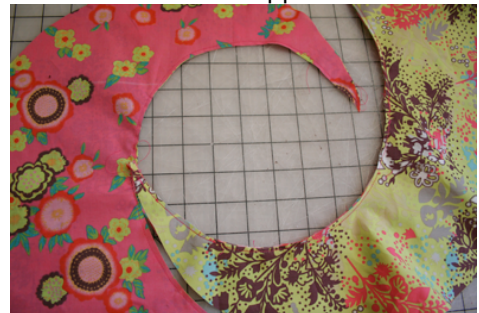
Match the print on the fabric →

Lay the 2 two-layer spirals down. Pin the outer edge of a **bottom** layer spiral to the inner edge of the other two-spiral set.
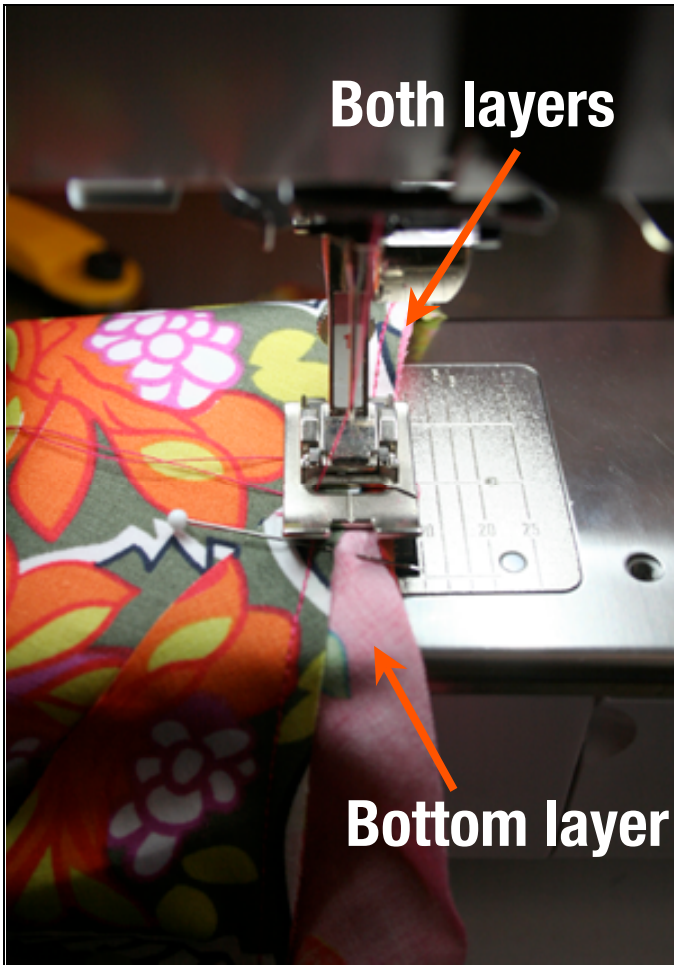
If you have cut your spirals from the same piece of fabric, you will be able to match up the print of the fabric to find the right place to pin.

The photo on the left illustrates a skirt with a monochromatic (single fabric print) top layer.

The photo below illustrates a skirt that will have a two-tone appearance.

Both layers

Bottom layer

Stitch the outer edge of the bottom layer spiral to the inner edge of the other set of spirals. In other words, unfold the bottom spiral from the top spiral in one set. Pin that outer edge to the inner edge of the other set of two spirals, where they are stitched one to another.

In this example, the pink bottom fabric is stitched to two layers of the other spiral set, right sides together. The photo left illustrates where stitching will begin for this seam.

Finish this seam with a four-thread over-edge or zig zag stitch. Press and topstitch this seam.

Repeat the above step for the opposite side.

You may lay your spirals down and match up the print of the fabric once again.

(The photo on the left illustrates a two-tone skirt).

Beginning of 2nd spiral seam

Already stitched opposite spiral seam

It is recommended to lay these spirals down and pinning before stitching the first time you sew this skirt. If you are not careful, it is easy to inadvertently twist the spiral. With practice the skirt can be sewn without pinning.

Once the two sets of spirals are stitched together, you have the basic form of the skirt.

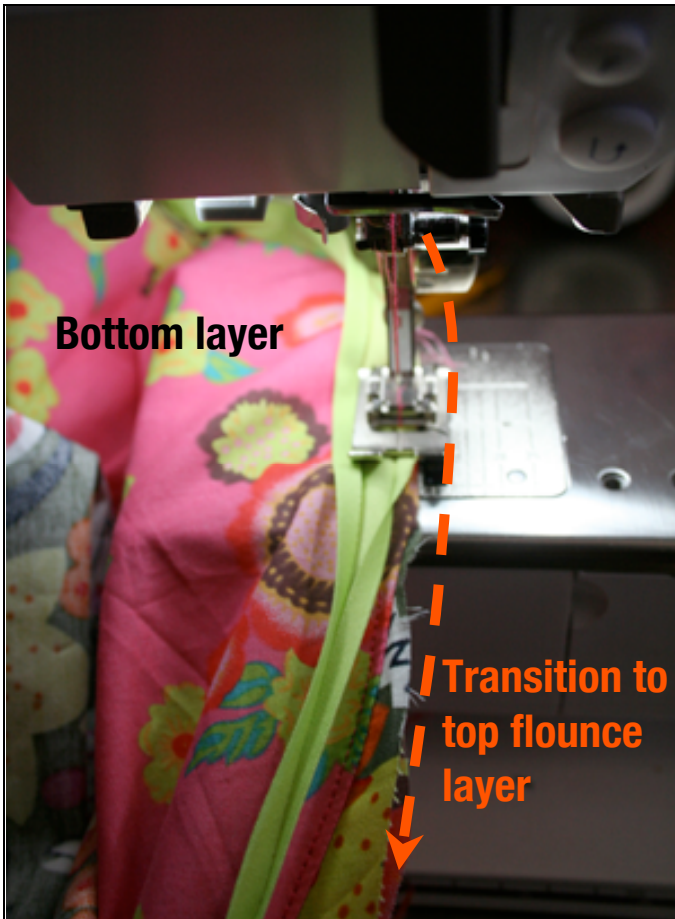|	
Begin hemming here **Trimmed 3-4 cm**	This design requires hemming the skirt before attaching the waistband. Now, to hem the double-layer skirt: The photo on the left shows the skirt at the hem where the spirals meet. Here, you will recognize the 3-4 cm you trimmed in an earlier step. Begin hemming the skirt where the arrow indicates. **Hem only the under layer** (in this illustration, the pink fabric). The top layer (brown fabric) remains untouched for the moment.
	Possibilities for hemming the skirt include bias tape, ric rac, lace or a simple folded hem. In this example, I have chosen bias tape. This will give the top flounce layer extra form.

Bottom layer

Transition to top flounce layer

While hemming the bottom layer, you will *automatically* come to the transition to the top layer. In other words, you will first hem along the bottom layer at the hem. Then you will meet the top layer spiral at the hem. At this point, you will automatically continue hemming **up** the top layer flounce, thereby finishing the edge of this flounce.

In this illustration, I begin hemming the bottom (pink) layer with bias tape. I meet the (brown) fabric of the top layer flounce and continue attaching bias tape to the (brown) top flounce.

At this transition point, you will see the bottom layer of the opposite spiral. If you have trimmed this bottom layer spiral 3-4 cm at the tip, this bottom layer will not interfere with the transition from the hem of the opposite spiral and the top flounce layer.

Repeat the above step for the opposite hem and flounce layer.

The two hemline "paths" are illustrated on the left, once in yellow and once in blue.

You begin at each of the dots on the bottom layer and transition to the flounce layer automatically.

	Attaching the waistband (one method; please use your preferred method): Stitch the short ends of the waistband together right sides together. Press and topstitch this seam. Fold the ring in half lengthwise and press this fold.
	Topstitch along the edge of this fold.

Leave an opening | Stitch one or two casings to fit your elastic. Leave a small opening for inserting the elastic. This example shows two casings for elastic. |

Place the waistband upside down over the waist edge of the skirt.

Pull the two halves of the waistband fabric apart and fold the outer fabric over. Pin the inner half of the waistband to the waist edge of the skirt.

Because the waist edge of the skirt is somewhat curved, it is important to have a waistband, which fits exactly along this edge.

Stitch this one half of the waistband to the waist edge of the skirt.

Turn the waistband over the top edge of the skirt. Pin the lower edge of the other half of the waistband to the waist edge of the skirt. Turn this edge under while pinning for a more finished look.

Stitch from the right side.

Insert the elastic into the casings and cinch to the desired fit. Stitch the ends of the elastic together with a tight zig zag stitch.

Stitch the little openings to the casings closed with straight stitch.

All done!

The bottom layer (pink fabric) peaks from beneath the top layer while twirling!