# "Redondo" with Flounces and Ruffles

These are my instructions for inserting flounces or ruffles between the gores of the **studioTANTRUM**™ skirt *Redondo*. Other seamstresses may have different methods; these are simply my suggested methods. Please refer to the instructions on the pattern sheet for the basic construction of the *Redondo* skirt.

Note: While often used interchangeably, for the purposes of this set of instructions, "ruffle" refers to a strip of fabric gathered along one edge; "flounce" refers to a strip of fabric, which is not gathered. In these instructions, I will occasionally call a spiral cut flounce a "snail". In these instructions, "gore" refers to the spiral-shaped *Redondo* skirt pieces.

Much joy and success in your sewing project! Thank you for sewing *Redondo*. – Nancy Langdon

Inserting Flounces:
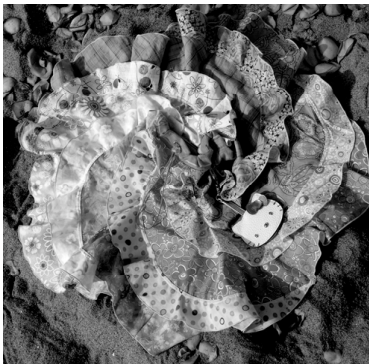
I find this skirt is best achieved with the use of a serger having a four-thread overlock stitch and rolled hem capabilities, as well as a conventional sewing machine for topstitching.

1. Cut and stitch pattern pieces 1 and 2 together to make five the *Redondo* gores as per the pattern sheet instructions.

2. Cut five spirals from a circular form. Trace a circular form and cut a "snail" approximately 6 cm or 2-1/2 inches wide at the thickest part. For a size 104/110; 4/5, a dinner plate is about the right size.

When stretched long, these spiral strips should be **longer** than the seam between the skirt gores (longer than the inner *Redondo* gore curve).
Cut the innermost part of the snail straight across.
Stretch the spiral strip lengthwise with the inner curve pulled taunt: The outer edge will have a wavey appearance. This wavey edge is the outside edge of the flounce.

✂*Another method, which achieves a beautiful result, but requires a bit more work, is to make flounces based on the* Redondo *pattern pieces. One would take the* Redondo *pattern pieces and halve them, using the inner half as the flounce. Here, too, it is important to make the total (in this case, two-piece) flounce somewhat **longer** than the inner curve of the skirt gore.*

Waist edge of flounce

Waist edge of gore

← End of Flounce

End of Gore
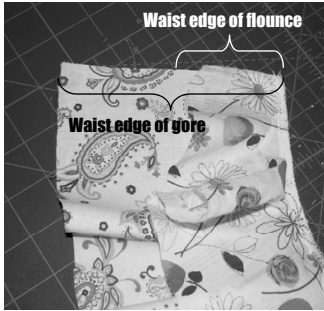
2. Place the flounce *wrong* side on the inner skirt gore curve *right* side (both printed or top sides should be facing the same way). The inner part of the "snail" will be at the waist edge. The pointy tail of the "snail" will be down at the hem.
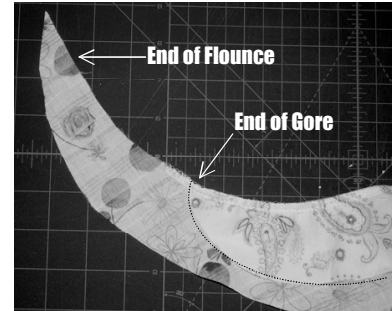
Stitch the flounce to the gore beginning at the waist edge and stitch down the length of the "snail" until you reach the end of the gore. The "snail tail" will dangle from the end of the skirt gore. Repeat for the remaining skirt gores, such that there are five long *Redondo* gores each with a flounce attached ("gore+flounce").

3. Stitch the five skirt gore+flounce pieces together in the normal *Redondo* manner, left edge to right edge (please refer to the pattern sheet instructions for stitching the gores together).
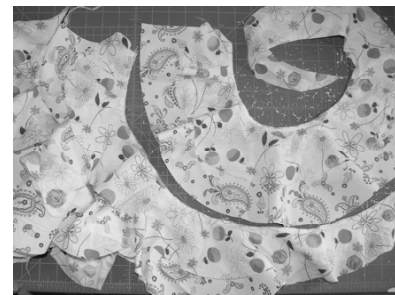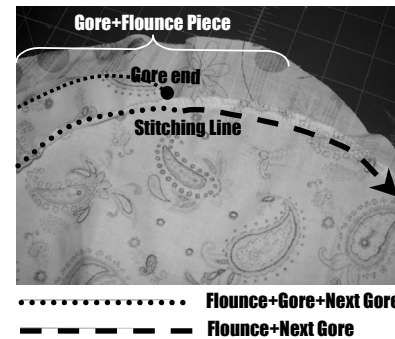
Since the flounce tail becomes, in a way, the extension of the skirt gore, the dangling pointed flounce end will automatically be stitched onto the next skirt gore.

4. Stitch the first gore+flounce to the fifth, thus closing the skirt.

Flounce end attaches automatically to next skirt gore

Next skirt gore near hem

End of flounce
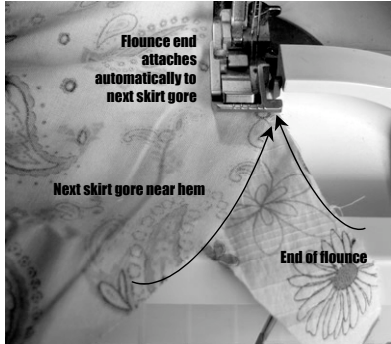
Now, you will recognize the finished skirt.

Hemming the gores and finishing the flounce edges are both done in the same line of roll hem stitching.

Gore+Flounce Piece

Gore end

Stitching Line

•••••••••• **Flounce+Gore+Next Gore**

— — — **Flounce+Next Gore**

5. <u>Roll Hem the Skirt and Flounces:</u> Re-thread and adjust the serger for a three-thread over edge rolled hem. Place the hem under the needle **under** a flounce, at the location where one gore meets the next at the hem (see photo illustration below). Begin the roll stitch on the gore at the hem and stitch **up**. You will meet the flounce and automatically roll hem all the way up the flounce. Repeat for the remaining gores and flounces.

Press the seam allowances between the gores such that the flounces lay flat (press the flounce flat and the seam allowance *in* toward the outer curve of the "next" skirt gore, so that it looks like the flounce is going under the next gore). Topstitch the seam along the seam allowance.

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Flounce+Gore+Next Gore
Flounce+Next Gore
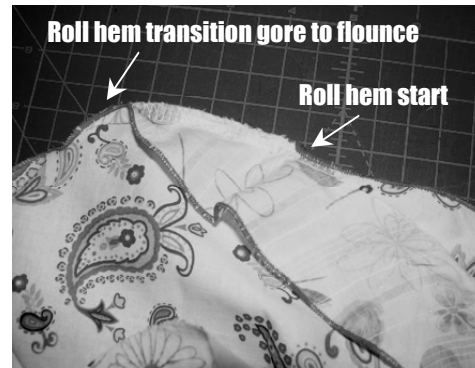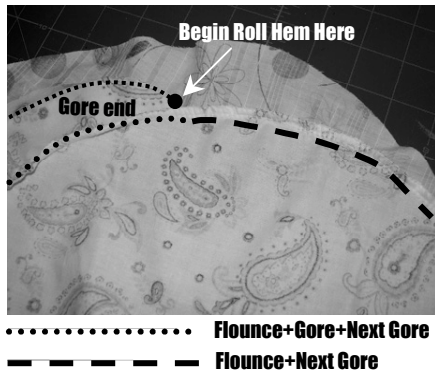
6. Attach the elastic waistband using your preferred method, making certain the top ends of the flounces are tucked into the waistband seam.

Inserting Ruffles:

1. Cut and stitch pattern pieces 1 and 2 together to make five the *Redondo* gores as per the pattern sheet instructions.

2. With a tape measure, measure the inner curve of the *Redondo* skirt gore. Add approximately 10 cm or 4 inches to this measurement and cut a strip of fabric to this length, approx. 5-6 cm or 2 – 2-1/2 inches in width.

Design example and photo courtesy of Griseldis Naumann

3. Finish one lengthwise edge of the strips with a rolled hem.

4. Gather the top lengthwise edge, such that the length of the ruffle is somewhat **shorter** than the gore inner curve length.

5. Pin the **gathered** edge of the ruffle wrong side to the right side of the **inner** curve of the skirt gore (the printed or top sides of the material should be facing the same way). The ruffle should end slightly **before** the end of the gore. Pull the gathering threads taunt at this ruffle end, so that the ruffle end curls up and pin this end such that it will be stitched into the gore seam.

6. Stitch the ruffle to the gore. Repeat for each of the skirt gores. You will now have five *Redondo* skirt gores each with a ruffle attached (gore+ruffle).

7. Stitch the gore+ruffle pieces to one another in the normal *Redondo* manner, left edge to right edge (please refer to the pattern sheet instructions for stitching together the gores).

8. Press the gore seams such that the ruffle lays flat (press the seam allowance away from the ruffle). Topstitch along the seam allowance.

9. Insert the top edge of the ruffle under the front edge of the waistband and secure in the waist seam.