



Girls skirt from a pair of old jeans



Things You'll Need:

- Jeans
- If adding a ruffle of another fabric - One yard
- Scissors
- Seam ripper
- Measuring tape
- Thread
- Pins
- Sewing machine and or serger
- Lace, ribbon, patches and other embellishments.
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Here are some ideas on how to individualize the skirts:

Example A



- Contrasting ribbon can be used for edging and bows.



- Add a sash or belt. **Example B**



Double layer of colored ruffles

- **Example C**



- faux fur or other washable fun material and rhinestones or sequins. **Example D**



- **Example E**

- Rickrack or other trim on hem and patches.



Be creative and have fun.



Instructions

Cut Out Your Materials

Step 1

Cut the legs off of the jeans about 1 1/2 inches below the zipper and pockets. Make sure that you are cutting above the crotch. Some pockets are set low and may make this cut come below the crotch seam this will cause problems and you may want to choose another pair of jeans for this project. Save the cut off leg portions of the jeans for later use. Do not panic about how short the skirt seems to be at this point. It will get longer once you attach the ruffles.

Step 2

Measure the circumference of the lower edge of the jean skirt. The fabric used for the ruffles needs to be 1 1/2 times this length. For example: If the circumference of your skirt is 42 inches, then the length of your ruffle fabric needs to be 63 inches. Add 1.25 inches to the length as a seam allowance. Formula is $1.5 \times \text{Circumference} + 1.25$ More ruffles? $2 \times \text{Circumference}$.

Step 3

The width of the ruffle will be up to you. Ask yourself how long do I want my finished project to be?



Determine how long the ruffles will be by subtracting the top jeans section from your desired finished length. You can either use the legs of the jeans, cut open along the inseam, for the ruffle or a cotton print fabric. Cut the ruffle fabric to the appropriate width and length. Don't forget to add a little width for the 5/8" seam and an inch for the rolled up hem.

For example: If you want to have a 4" ruffle, you would need to measure $4 + 5/8" + 1" = 5 \frac{5}{8}"$ width.

Suggested Girls skirt length (near knee)	SIZES	5	6	7	8	10	12	14	16
	Length"	16	18	19	20	20 ½	21	21½	22

Sew Your Skirt

Step 1

Hem lower edge of ruffle with edging stitch or folding up 1/2" twice to conceal raw edge of fabric.

Step 2

Fold the ruffle fabric in half width-wise, right sides together. Sew the open side together using a 5/8 seam allowance. If you would like, you may serge this edge to finish it. If you do not have a serger, finish the seam using a zigzag stitch to stop fraying.

Step 3

If you are doing a double ruffle, you can put them together with right sides facing in the same direction at this point. (See **Example C** on page 2.)

Sew along the top of the ruffle, 1/2 inch from the edge, using a gathering stitch. Leave about 3 inches of thread hanging on each end of the fabric. Mark center back, center front and side seams with pin. Gather the ruffle fabric by gently pulling on the threads, making sure the gathers are even, until the fabric is the same length as the circumference of the lower edge of the skirt.

Step 4

Pin the top edge of the ruffle to the lower edge of the jean skirt, lining up the pins in the ruffle with the center of front and back as well as the side seams and making sure that the right sides are together. Sew using a 5/8 seam allowance. Press the seam toward the jean skirt.

Step 5

To finish the skirt, top stitch along the edge of the jean skirt, so the seam allowance is attached to the skirt. This will make the skirt more secure and protect the seam from fraying.

Like the Frayed edge look? Sew the ruffle on to the jeans by placing the ruffle right side to inside and sewing a flat seam with the raw edge of denim exposed. It will fray with washing and wearing, giving it a fuzzy, worn edge.



Sources of pictures and information:

<http://www.thriftyfun.com/tf678678.tip.html>

www.ehow.com (search “how to make a jean skirt with a ruffle”)

<http://craftydaisies.com/2008/06/13/recycled-denim-fieta-skirt-a-tutorial/>