

Making a Hoop Skirt



Just a heads up, the actual pattern does look a little different than the image above. Pattern has 5 closer rings on the bottom for support (I see this on originals) vs. my sets of close boning with a gap between. Unfortunately, I ran out of boning, so this was a make do!

Design: This is a modestly sized hoop skirt pattern with a slight push towards the back. It is shaped for early to mid-1860's. Historically hoops were generally 40-50% of your height, and should end around 8 inches from the ground, so it is easy to walk.

Waist: Up to 50 inches.

Height: There are directions for ladies in three height ranges.

Under 5ft 2: 94-inch hoop.

Up to 5ft 7: 99-inch hoop.

Taller ladies: 104-inch hoop

Materials:

- 50-yard roll – 1 inch cotton twill tape. (\$12.00)
- 2 dozen ¼ inch boning tips – (\$5.00)
- 30 yards ¼ inch steel corset boning (\$60.00) – *If you have really heavy wool skirts, you may want to replace the bottom row and another row somewhere with hoop skirt steel. Even though it is ¼ inch wide, hoop skirt steel generally has a thicker gauge. Another person mentioned to me that they were buying a hoop skirt on Amazon and yanking the boning from it because that was cheaper?*
- Cotton thread and Needle
- Pliers to crimp boning tips, and cut boning
- Buckle: Optional
- Chalk: For Marking

Cut your Boning: if using hoop steel boning instead of corset boning, you most likely will be able to leave off the extra structural support rows. This will make a less flexible skirt. You know when you bump into something, and the skirt goes the other way instead of collapsing inward and then springing back into shape.

Ladies 5ft 2 and Under

- A:** 54 inches
- B:** 66.5 inches
- C:** 74.5 inches
- D:** 83 inches
- E:** 86.75 (extra structural support)
- F:** 90.5 inches
- G:** 93.25 inches (extra structural support)
- H:** 96 inches

Directions: Depending on your height, you may want to stop at the 93.25 or 96 inches. You will be overlapping the ends, so each boning is actually 2 inches longer than it will be on your hoop skirt.

Ladies 5ft 2 to 5 ft 7

- A:** 54 inches
- B:** 66.5 inches
- C:** 74.5 inches
- D:** 83 inches
- E:** 90.5 inches
- F:** 93.25 inches (extra structural support)
- G:** 96 inches
- H:** 98.5 inches (extra structural support)
- I:** 101 inches

Ladies 5ft 7+

- A:** 54 inches
- B:** 66.5 inches
- C:** 74.5 inches
- D:** 83 inches
- E:** 90.5 inches
- F:** 96 inches
- G:** 98.5 inches (extra structural support)
- H:** 101 inches
- I:** 103 inches (extra structural support)
- J:** 105.75

Add your Boning Tips: You will need to add one to each end. Crimp them on with pliers.

Cut your Casings: Cut your twill tape casing 3 inches longer (if you purchased boning casing, it has less fray, so it only needs to be cut 1.5 inches longer) than each of your boning lengths. Fold twill in half, and run it through your machine with a small stitch count. Thread the boning through.

Measure and Mark Your Boning Casings: (take chalk and drawl lines onto the cased boning)

54 inches – Drawl line 1 inch from the end. This is overlap to join the hoop. You will start measuring from this line... not end. Drawl line at 2.5 inches, 8.5 inches, 14.75 inches, 26 inches, 37.25 inches, 43.5 inches, 49.5 inches, 52 inches. You should have approximately 1 inch left, for the overlap.

66.5 inches – Drawl 1 inch in, measure from this line. Drawl lines at 2.75 inches + 7.25 (10) + 7.75 (17.75) + 7.5 (25.25) + 7 (32.25) + 7 (39.25) + 7.5 (46.75) + 7.75 (54.50) + 7.25 (61.75) + 2.75 (64.5)

74.5 inches – Drawl 1 inch in, measure from this line. Drawl lines at 3 inches + 8 inches (11) + 8.75 (19.75) + 8.5 (28.25) + 8 (36.25) + 8 (44.25) + 8.5 (52.75) + 8.75 (61.50) + 8 (69.5) + 3 (72.5)

83 inches - Drawl 1 inch in, measure from this line. Drawl lines at 3 inches + 9 inches (12) + 10 (22) + 9.5 (31.5) + 9 (40.5) + 9 (49.5) + 9.5 (59) + 10 (69) + 9 (78) + 3 (81)

Additional Support for 5ft and Under 86.75 inches: Drawl 1 inch in, measure from this line. Drawl a line at 3.25 inches, + 9.37 or 3/8 (12.62) + 10.5 (23.12) + 10 (33.12) + 9.25 (42.37) + 9.25 (51.62) + 10 (61.62) + 10.5 (72.12) + 9.37 or 3/8 (81.49) + 3.25 (84.74)

90.5 inches - Drawl 1 inch in, measure from this line. Drawl lines at 3.5 inches + 9.75 (13.25) + 11 (24.25) + 10.5 (34.75) + 9.5 (44.25) + 9.5 (53.75) + 10.5 (64.25) + 11 (75.25) + 9.75 (85) + 3.5 (88.5)

Additional Support for up to 5 ft 7, 93.25 inches: Drawl 1 inch in, measure from this line. Drawl lines at 3.5 inches, + 10 inches (13.5) + 11.25 (24.75) + 10.75 (35.5) + 9.875 or 9 and 7/8 (45.37) + 9.875 (55.25) + 10.75 (66) + 11.25 (77.25) + 10 (87.25) + 3.5 (90.75)

96 inches – Drawl 1 inch in, measure from this line. Drawl lines at 3.5 inches + 10.25 (13.75) + 12 (25.75) + 11 (36.75) + 10.25 (47) + 10.25 (57.25) + 11 (68.25) + 12 (80.25) + 10.25 (90.5) + 3.5 (94)

Additional support 98.5: Drawl 1 inch in, measure from this line. Drawl lines at 3.625 or 5/8 + 10.375 or 3/8 (14) + 12.5 (26.5) + 11.125 or 1/8 (37.625) + 10.625 or 5/8 (48.25) + 10.625 (58.875) + 11.125 (70) + 12.5 (82.5) + (92.875) + 3.625 (96.5)

101 inches – Drawl 1 inch in, measure from this line. Drawl lines at 3.75 inches + 10.5 (14.25) + 13 (27.25) + 11.25 (38.5) + 11 (49.5) + 11 (60.5) + 11.25 (71.75) + 13 (84.75) + (95.25) + 3.75 (99)

Additional Support for Ladies 5ft 7+ at 104.25: Drawl 1 inch in, measure from this line. Drawl lines at 4 inches + 10.75 (14.75) + 13.25 (28) + 11.625 or 5/8 (39.625) + 11.5 (51.125) + 11.5 (62.625) + 11.625 (74.25) + 13.25 (87.5) + 10.75 (98.25) + 4 (102.25)

106 inches: Drawl 1 inch in, measure from this line. Drawl lines at 4 + 11 (15) + 13.5 (28.5) + 11.5 (40) + 12 (52) + 12 (64) + 11.5 (75.5) + 13.5 (89) + 11 (100) + 4 (104)

Cut your Support Tapes:

6 long – 40 inches

1 Center Back – 45 inches

2 shorter – 35 inches

Mark Your Tapes

Take 6 of the long tapes and mark

1 inch for waistband

9 $\frac{1}{4}$ (54)

12 $\frac{3}{4}$ (66.5)

16 $\frac{3}{4}$ (74.5)

20 $\frac{1}{2}$ (83)

24 $\frac{1}{2}$ (90.5)

28 (96)

32 $\frac{1}{2}$ (101)

35 (104)

Please Note: These are the main supports, for all lengths. If adding additional supports, those are added between the last two main supports.

Take Center Back Tape (the last long tape) and mark

1 inch for waistband

10 (54)

14 $\frac{1}{2}$ (66.5)

18 $\frac{3}{4}$ (74.4)

22 $\frac{3}{4}$ (83)

26 $\frac{1}{2}$ (90.5)

30 (96)

34.5 (101)

39 (104)

Take 2 shorter tapes (these are not attached to waistband) and Mark

1 to wrap around the first row of boning

4 ½ (66.5)

8 ½ (74.5)

12 ½ (83)

16 ½ (90.5)

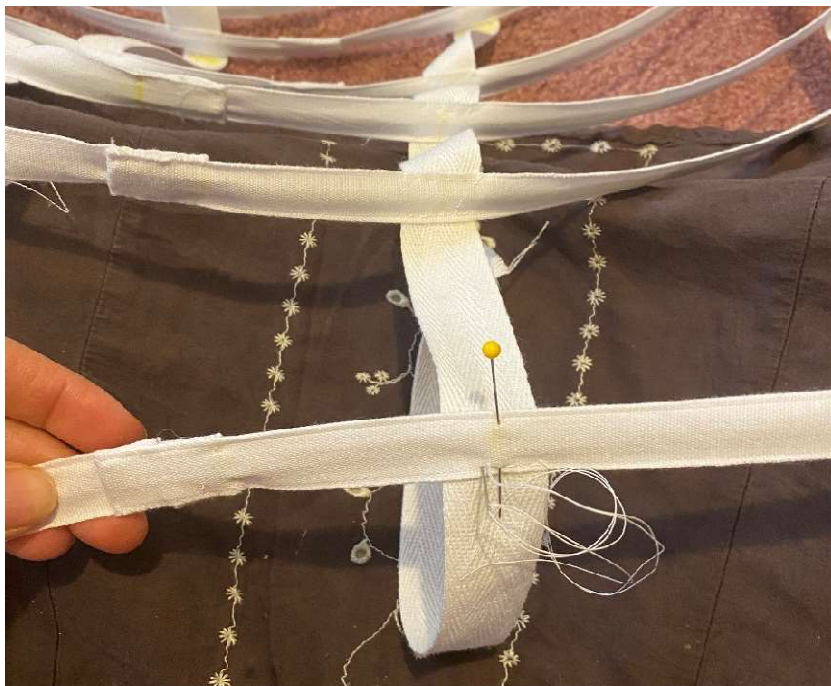
20 (96)

24 ½ (101)

29 (104)

Sew the Boning into the Round: Overlap the ends by at least 1". (It will be two inches shorter)
Double your thread and sew together.

Join to tapes: Join the boning to the tapes, by centering the lines on the boning with the row on each tape.



Note: Overlapped ends. Those are centered in the front of the hoop. You can also see me attaching the very first strap to the first boning line of this row.

For example: Working with your 54-inch boning, overlap the ends 1 inch and sew. The finished ring should be a 52-inch circle. Find the very first horizontal marking (on the 52-inch circle) it will be 2 ½ inches away from the overlapped ends.

Center the marking onto the vertical line on your twill tape supports (40" long), that measures 9 ¼ inches. Sew down to secure.

Pick up two more tapes of this same length, and secure them to the next 2 markings on your hoop boning. Then, attach center (longest tape 45") to the next line. Then, take the 3 other 40-inch-long tapes and secure them.

In the next row, with your 66 ½ -inch boning ring: Secure ends around, but before you get to the center (longest support tape) add one of your short straps, then secure the long strap to the center marking, then the next short strap, and so forth.



Notice: The two shorter straps next to the longest center back tape. They do not attach to the waist.

Waist:

Take your waist measurement and multiply it by two. Cut twill tape that length.

Example: You are a 35-inch waist, you cut a 70-inch tape.

Mark center of tape. That is where you will add the center back strap.

Mark to the left and right of the center marking, half of your waist measurement *example: 17.5*

Measure between that marking and the center back, and evenly space two more chalk lines. Sew your other tapes there. There are seven tapes, and seven marks.

Tie your hoop skirt on, or you can use a buckle and shorten the length of the ties.

I hope you enjoy your hoop skirt!

~ Jamie Quick

My instructions are copyright@2023. This pattern may be distributed for free, items from this pattern may be made and even sold. However, my pattern itself is not to be sold without my permission.