

ZUCKA

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ZUCKA ("TSOO-kah") is a girl's name, but it also sounds very similar to the German word for sugar, "Zucker". And sugar sweet is a good description for this delicious design by Farbenmix Star Designer Margaretha "Glitzerblume" Leche. The above-the-knee mini skirt with four gores, flirty little flounces and a pretty petticoat layer offers many opportunities to mix and match fabrics, add and subtract details and expand your sewing abilities and imagination. The jeans styling lends ZUCKA a sporty look, and the underskirt a girly playfulness.

For a longer, knee-length skirt, consult the sizing chart and choose a larger size. ZUCKA is designed with every skill level in mind: Beginning sewists can choose to leave off the pockets, belt loops and underskirt for a simple, swingy look. More advanced sewists can go all out and add detail after detail.

The skirt is designed to fit around the hips. There are pattern pieces for both average and more stocky statures. The elastic waistband is comfortable and allows several seasons of wear.

Most any woven fabric works well with ZUCKA. For the overskirt, choose pretty percales in summer and corduroy for a back-to-school outfit. Choose a medium-weight denim for everyday or your fanciest taffeta and velvet for a pretty special occasion skirt. It is best to use lighter weight materials for the underskirt, such as cotton percale, tulle, eyelet, voile and so on.

Step-by-step photo-illustrated instructions can be found at: www.studiotantrum.com/shop

Before beginning, please take measurements of your subject and compare them to the sizing chart. It is always recommended to sew according to your measurements and not ready-to-wear sizes, which can vary greatly.

Sizes and material requirements

The measurements in the table reflect the **finished** garment. The material requirements are for fabrics with a width of 140 cm/54 in. If you are using fabric of a different width, please consult a fabric conversion chart for the correct amount. A fabric conversion chart is available at this Web address:

http://www.sewingclotheskidslove.com/Interesting_Stuff.html/

Large-scale, unidirectional and plaid fabrics will require additional yardage. The yardage indicated is for the overskirt and underskirt to be made from the same fabric.

Sizes	86/92 12-18 mons.	98/104 2-3 yrs.	110/116 4-5 yrs.	122/128 6-7 yrs.	134/140 8-9 yrs.	146/152 10-11 yrs.	158/164 12 yrs.
Waist with elastic	48 cm 18 7/8 in.	50 cm 19 3/4 in.	52 cm 20 1/2 in.	55 cm 21 5/8 in.	58 cm 22 7/8 in.	62 cm 24 3/8 in.	66 cm 26 in.
Waist without elastic average stature pieces	60 cm 23 5/8 in.	62 cm 24 3/8 in.	64 cm 25 1/4 in.	66 cm 26 in.	69 cm 27 1/4 in.	74 cm 29 1/8 in.	78 cm 30 3/4 in.
Waist without elastic stockier stature pieces	72 cm 28 1/4 in.	74 cm 29 1/8 in.	76 cm 30 in.	78 cm 30 3/4 in.	81 cm 31 7/8 in.	86 cm 33 7/8 in.	90 cm 35 1/2 in.
Length	16 cm 6 1/4 in.	20 cm 7 7/8 in.	24 cm 9 1/2 in.	30 cm 11 3/4 in.	36 cm 14 1/8 in.	43 cm 17 in.	51 cm 20 in.

Fabric (140 cm/54 in)	90 cm 1 yrd.	95 cm 1 1/8 yrd.	105 cm 1 1/4 yrd.	125 cm 1 3/8 yrd.	135 cm 1 1/2 yrd.	140 cm 1 5/8 yrd.	170 cm 1 7/8 yds.
Notions	Elastic, zipper or buttons (optional), ribbon (optional), bits of fusible interfacing, sewing thread						

Cutting the layout

Lay your pattern pieces on your prewashed, pressed fabric with respect to the grain. Cut according to the piece list and be sure to add an additional seam allowance. **Important:** The pattern pieces do *not* include a seam allowance and **an additional seam allowance must be added**. Transfer all marks (small dashes at the edge of the pattern line) to the fabric with tailor's chalk or disappearing textile marker. When cutting, please keep your seam allowances accurate. Because of the many vertical seams, a fraction of an inch too much or too little along each of the seams can add up and make the skirt too loose or too tight.

Cut the pocket pieces (pieces 15 and 17) and the pocket flaps (pieces 14 and 16) as desired. The pockets may be left off completely. You may use the pockets as rear "jeans" pockets or anywhere on the skirt as added eye-catchers. When making lined pockets and pocket flaps, it is recommended to use light-weight woven materials for the lining.

Cut the belt loops and sash as desired. You may make the belt loops from your fabric, but bits of ribbon or tape work just as well.

ZUCKA is drafted with fly extensions: The skirt can be sewn either with a faux fly and an elastic casing waistband or with a tailored zipper fly and buttoned waistband. Similarly, you can choose to make a button fly. Should you choose to make a zipper fly and buttoned waistband, please add an appropriate amount to the waistband to allow for the button overlap.

Piece List

Average Stature

1 - Skirt back middle	2 x
2 - Skirt back side	2 x
3 - Saddle	2 x
4 - Skirt front middle	2 x
5 - Skirt front side	2 x
6 - Front pocket facing	2 x
7 - Front pocket bag	2 x
8 - Flounce	8 x
9 - Waistband	1 x on fold
10 - Belt loops	5 x
11 - Sash	1 x on fold
12 - Underskirt	2 x on fold
13 - Fly facing (optional – for zipper fly)	1 x
14 - Rear pocket flap	4 x
15 - Rear pocket	2 x (4 x for lined pocket flaps)
16 - Side pocket flap	4 x
17 - Side pocket	2 x (4 x for lined pocket flaps)

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Stockier Stature

18 - Skirt back middle	2 x
19 - Skirt back side	2 x
20 - Saddle	2 x
21 - Skirt front middle	2 x
22 - Skirt front side	2 x
6 - Front pocket facing	2 x
7 - Front pocket bag	2 x
23 - Flounce	8 x
24 - Waistband	1 x on fold
10 - Belt loop	5 x
25 - Sash	1 x on fold
26 - Under skirt	2 x on fold
13 - Fly facing (optional – for zipper fly)	1 x
14 - Rear pocket flap	4 x
15 - Rear pocket	2 x (4 x for lined pocket flaps)
16 - Side pocket flap	4 x
17 - Side pocket	2 x (4 x for lined pocket flaps)

Sewing ZUCKA

These instructions are just one method and sequence for constructing ZUCKA. Please use your preferred methods.

Skirt with elastic waistband

1. Finish all piece edges with an overcast stitch to prevent raveling.
2. **Make the skirt front with a faux fly:** (To make a skirt with a tailored zipper fly, please see the instructions below). Stitch the skirt front side pieces to the skirt front middle pieces, fabric right sides together. Press the seam allowances toward the center and topstitch from the garment right side. Stitch the two skirt front halves together right sides together. Stitch around the fly extensions (the bits of material that extend vertically into in the seam). From the right side press the seam allowance toward the left (wearer's right).
3. Tuck in the fly extensions to form a little vertical pocket and secure with a pin or two. With a textile marker or tailor's chalk, mark a line to mimic the stitching line of a zipper fly. Topstitch the middle seam from the right side. When you reach the marking for the faux fly, stitch up the marked line. To further reinforce the illusion of a zipper fly, stitch a small bar tack at the base of the faux fly.
4. **Make the front pockets:** Stitch the front pocket bags (piece 7) at the front pocket edge of the skirt front side pieces (piece 2 or 22), fabric right sides together. Trim the seam allowance for a smooth turn. Turn and enclose the seam. Press and edge stitch the pocket edge from the right side.
5. Stitch the front pocket facing pieces (piece 6) to the front pocket bag (piece 7) right sides together along the curved edge and the inside side. Pin or baste stitch the front pockets at the waist edge and skirt front sides to hold the layers of material in place.
6. Stitch the skirt back side pieces to the skirt back middle pieces. Press the seam allowances toward the center and topstitch from the garment right side.
7. Stitch the saddle panel pieces (pieces 3 or 20) to the two skirt back halves, right sides together. Press the seam allowances upward and topstitch from the right side. Stitch the two skirt back halves together. Press the seam allowance to one side and topstitch.

8. Pin the skirt front and back right sides together and stitch the side seams. Press the seam allowances toward the front and topstitch.
9. **Make the rear and side pockets:** Stitch the pocket flap lining to the pocket flap outer (piece 14) right sides together along all edges. Leave a small opening for turning. Trim the seam allowance and notch the corners for a smooth turn. Turn the flaps right side out and press. Edgestitch around the flap edge bottom and sides and close the small opening.
10. Fold the front edge of the rear pocket piece (piece 15) over once toward the fabric right side. Stitch along the short vertical ends. Notch the corners and turn the top of the pocket. Press the pocket top edge and press the seam allowances on the sides and bottom toward the pocket wrong side. Edgestitch the top of the pocket and stitch another line under this as desired. Pin the pockets to the skirt back at the marks and stitch. Secure the stress points of the pocket corners with bar tacks. → Alternately, make lined pockets by stitching the pocket lining to the pocket outer (piece 15) right sides together. Leave a small opening for turning. Trim the seam allowance and notch the corners for a smooth turn. Turn the pockets right side out and press. Edge stitch along the top edge. Attach the pockets to the skirt with one or two stitching lines, thereby also closing the small turning opening. Reinforce the stress points of the pocket corners with bar tacks.
11. Pin the pocket flaps above the pockets approximately 1-2 cm (3/8-5/8 in.) and stitch along the top. Reinforce the stress points of the flap corners with bar tacks.
12. Repeat the above steps 9-11 for the side pockets. Experiment with the pocket placement and find a look you like.
13. Stitch the flounces pieces right sides together to form a ring. Press the seam allowances in the same directions of corresponding skirt seams and topstitch from the right side.
14. Align the flounce seams with the skirt seams and pin. Stitch, press the seam allowance upward and topstitch from the garment right side.
15. Hem the bottom flounce edge.
16. Stitch the side seams of the underskirt right sides together. Press the seam allowances toward the front and topstitch.
17. Stitch the short ends of the underskirt ruffle pieces right sides together to form a ring. Press the seam allowances open. Hem the bottom edge of the ruffle. Along the top edge of the ruffle ring, stitch two lines of basting stitches. Pin the ruffle piece in four places equidistant around the hem of the underskirt. Gently pull both gathering threads to gather and fit the ruffle material to the underskirt hem. Pin the ruffle in place as you gather. Once the ruffle is gathered to fit and pinned to the hem, stitch the ruffle to the hem between the two basting stitch lines. Clean up the seam by removing the basting stitches. Finish the seam with an overcast stitch. Press the seam allowance upward and topstitch from the right side.
18. Insert the underskirt into the overskirt. Align the side seams and pin. Baste stitch the two layers together along the top edge.
19. **Make the belt loops:** Fold the lengthwise belt loop edges toward the center and overlap them (piece 10). Stitch the belt loops, perhaps with a twin needle or with a decorative stitch to secure the folds.
20. **Make the waistband:** Stitch the short ends of the waistband together to form a ring. In this stitching line, leave a small opening for inserting the elastic approximately 2/3rds down the stitching line.
21. Pin the waistband right fabric side to the inside of the inside of the skirt along the waist edge. Stitch the waistband to the skirt through both skirt layers along the waist edge seam allowance. Fold the waistband upward and press the seam. At this time, press approximately 1/8 in (3-5

mm) of the opposite waistband edge toward the fabric wrong side (it is easiest to press right along the stitching of the overcast stitches of the finished edge).

22. Fold the waistband over toward the garment right side and pin the folded bottom edge to the skirt. Pin the bottom end of the belt loops under this edge, facing downward and right sides together. Press the top waistband fold. Stitch the waistband to the skirt from the garment right side. This stitching line will be somewhat below the first waistband stitching line. You will catch the belt loops in this seam. Edge stitch the top edge of the waistband.
23. Press the seam allowances at dangling ends of belt loops toward the belt loop wrong side and pin the belt loop at the top edge of the waistband. Secure the belt loops with bar tacks or other secure stitching at the top edge of the waistband.
24. With the aid of a safety pin or bodkin, insert elastic into the waistband casing. Cinch the elastic to the desired fit. Stitch the ends of the elastic together securely. Trim any excess elastic. Tuck the elastic into the casing opening. Close the opening with a few hand stitches.
25. **Make the sash:** Fold the sash in half lengthwise, fabric right sides together. Stitch along all four edges. Leave a small opening for turning. Notch the corners. Turn the sash right side out. Press the sash. Edge stitch all the way around the sash and close thereby the opening. Insert the sash into the belt loops and loosely tie into a square knot.
26. Clean up your work by removing any remaining basting stitches and trimming any loose threads.

Skirt with tailored zipper fly and partially elasticized waistband.

Illustrated step-by-step instructions for inserting a tailored zipper fly may be found here:

http://www.sewingclotheskidslove.com/Interesting_Stuff.html

1. **Inserting the zipper:** Instead of making a faux fly as described above in steps 2 and 3. Insert a tailored zipper fly as follows:
2. Stitch the two front center skirt pieces right sides together only up to the bottom of the fly extensions (the fly extensions are the bits of material that extend vertically into the seam).
3. Fold the fly facing (piece 13) in half lengthwise wrong sides together, press and stitch along the raw edges of the zipper facing.
4. Center the zipper on the zipper back facing and pin or use water-soluble adhesive tape to secure the zipper in place. Make sure the top zipper tabs are flush with the top of the fly facing piece.
5. Replace your standard pressure foot with a zipper foot. Adjust the needle position.
6. Stitch the one side of the zipper, which is next to the finished edge (not the folded edge) to the back facing. Stitch close to the zipper coil.
7. Press the fly extensions back, fabric wrong sides together. In doing so, press the fly extension on the side of the skirt to which the fly facing will attach slightly over the crotch seamline, approximately 1/8 in. (3 mm), just about the width of the zipper coil.
8. Pin this folded and pressed edge to the zipper+fly facing piece right along the coil. Stitch the zipper+fly facing to this fly extension.
9. Pin the fly facing out of the way.
10. Pin the other zipper tape to the opposite fly extension. Keep the zipper zipped closed.
11. Stitch this opposite zipper tape to this extension.
12. Lay the zipper fly neatly in place, press and pin in a couple of strategic spots.

13. With chalk or disappearing textile marker, draw a topstitching line along the outside edge of the fly and curving below the zipper. Topstitch one or two lines around the fly and down the rest of the vertical center seam.
14. At the bottom of fly, stitch a bar tack to secure this stress point.
15. Tack the fly facing to the fly extension in one or two spots.
16. **Attach the waistband:** In this method, you will have elastic across the back of the skirt and a smooth front. Cut your waistband to fit across the zipper fly front and back. Be sure to add small seam allowances at either short end of the waistband piece.
17. Iron small pieces of a medium-weight fusible interfacing to the fabric wrong side of the waistband to strengthen the points where the buttonhole will be stitched and the button will be attached.
18. Press the seam allowances of the waistband short ends toward the wrong side. Pin the waistband around the waist edge along the inside of the skirt and stitch.
19. Press approximately 1/8 in. (3-5 mm) of the bottom opposite edge of the waistband toward the wrong side. This is easiest by just pressing along the finished edge overcast stitches. Fold the waistband toward the right side and press. Pin the waistband on the garment right side. This will be somewhat below the first waistband stitching line. (Include belt loop as desired. Please follow the instructions above in steps 19., 22. and 23.).
20. Stitch the waistband along the waist edge and edge stitch along the top and two ends of the waistband. In doing so, leave **two** openings along the bottom edge for inserting elastic, approximately at the side skirt seams.
21. With the aid of a safety pin or bodkin, insert the elastic into one of the two openings and work the elastic along the back of the skirt. Have the elastic exit through the other opening.
22. Pin the elastic inside the casing right at the side seam. With straight stitches, stitch the elastic at the side seam inside the waistband casing. This stitching line should be vertical, a continuation of the side seam stitching line.
23. Cinch the elastic to the desired fit by pulling the elastic through the other opening. Pin the elastic in place at the side seam. Stitch the elastic at the other side seam. Trim the excess elastic (*Tip:* You may want to leave a bit of extra elastic inside the casing past the securing stitches: As your child grows and the skirt becomes too tight, you can remove those few securing stitches, let a bit more of the extra elastic out and stitch it back securely. In a matter of minutes, the skirt fits comfortably again!).
24. Close the openings in the waistband with straight stitches.
25. Mark a buttonhole to fit your button and stitch the buttonhole. Attach the button. Alternately, set a snap to close the waistband. Clean up your work by snipping any loose threads and removing remaining basting stitch threads.

Your ZUCKA skirt is complete! Much joy and success in your sewing project!

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