

## Sense and Sensibility Ladies' Classic 1950s Wardrobe (Sizes 16-26)

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Size	16	18	20	22	24	26	Ins./Cm.
Bust	38/97	40/102	42/107	44/112	46/117	48/120	Ins./Cm.
Waist	30/76	32/81	34/87	37/94	39/99	41/102.5	"
Hip	40/102	42/107	44/112	46/117	48/122	50/125	"
Nape to Waist	15.25/39	15.6/40	15.85/41	16.25/41.25	16.75/42.5	17.25/43.8	"

### Yardage required for bodice with short sleeves: \*

45"/115cm	1 5/8	1 2/3	1 3/4	1 3/4	1 3/4	1 3/4
60"/150cm	1 1/8	1 1/8	1 1/8	1 1/8	1 1/4	1 1/4

### Yardage required for bodice with 3/4 cuffed sleeves: \*

45"/115cm	1 7/8	2	2	2	2	2
60"/150cm	1 1/3	1 1/3	1 1/3	1 1/3	1 3/8	1 3/8

### Yardage required for optional dickie (all sizes): 1 1/2

### Yardage required for full skirt: \*\*

45"/115cm	1 2/3	1 2/3	1 2/3	1 2/3	1 2/3	1 2/3
60"/150cm	1 2/3	1 2/3	1 2/3	1 2/3	1 2/3	1 2/3

### Yardage required for pencil skirt: \*\*

45"/115cm	1 7/8	1 7/8	2	2 1/6	2 1/6	2 1/6
60"/150cm	1	1 7/8	2	2 1/6	2 1/6	2 1/6

### Yardage required for optional detachable peplum (up to 10" finished length for all sizes): 1 1/2 yards 45"-wide material or 1 1/4 yards 60"

**Materials required for optional full petticoat (Appendix C):** All Sizes: 9 yards of 72"-wide tulle illusion; enough 1/2" elastic to go around your waist (minus 2"); 1/8 yard of acetate lining or another lightweight, silky material for a waistband casing; a spool of heavy thread or cord for gathering. Optional: 58 yards of 1"-wide satin ribbon, color-matched to your tulle.

**Fabric suggestions:** For day dresses and blouses (and optional dickie): cottons, shirting, medium weight gingham, and similar. Linen and rayon work well if you want more drape. For a tailored suit look: lightweight woolens, worsted wool, linen, silk taffeta, dupioni silk. Keep in mind this makes an unlined, summer-weight suit, perfect for warmer temps from late spring through autumn.  
**Be sure to pre-wash any washable fabrics before cutting out your garment to avoid shrinkage later.**

**Notions:** Both dresses, skirt, and blouse: thread; three or four 5/8" buttons (see instructions); 1/2 yard interfacing (optional—see instructions). Note that you'll need shank buttons rather than flat to fit through thicker fabrics like woolens. For the pencil skirt dress, add a 15" zipper. For a *separate* pencil skirt or full skirt, add a 9" zipper and omit buttons (Appendix B). For the detachable peplum, you will need a one-inch belt buckle or slide. If you are using a very lightweight material and making a full skirt, I recommend weights to go into the hemline to keep wind from blowing your skirt up to your waistline! You can easily find metal curtain weights in the upholstery section. Four will be sufficient: one at each side seam, one at the center front, and one at the center back.

**Notes:** Period underpinnings are not required, but instructions have been provided in Appendix C to create a ruffled petticoat to give that iconic 1950s hourglass silhouette. If you want to use authentic 1950s style undergarments like a bullet bra, girdle, or waist cincher, you need to measure while wearing those before choosing a size from the chart.

\* You will combine the bodice/sleeve option of your choice with the skirt of your choice to get the complete yardage required for your dress. If you plan to make a blouse, combine bodice/sleeve choice with peplum yardage (the peplum is necessary and can be worn either tucked in or left out). Note that the optional pockets have been included in the bodice/sleeve yardage but are not recommended for the pencil skirt, as they will add unwanted bulk in the side seams. There's no need to adjust yardage if you omit pockets.

If you plan to make a separate pencil skirt or full skirt, add another six inches to the yardage to allow for a waistband. See Appendix B.  
**To make an extra-full skirt of 45"-wide material, you will need to cut one more panel, so add 2.5 yards instead to the bodice/sleeve combo of your choice. (See note below for 60"-wide fabrics.)**

\*\* If you are using 60" wide material, it is perfectly fine to widen each skirt panel if you want a fuller skirt. Just keep in mind that stiff or bulky fabrics will be harder to pleat or gather the wider the panels become. If you want a fuller skirt, lighter, thinner fabrics are ideal.

**5/8" seam allowed on all seams, except darts, which have stitch lines marked.**

**FINISHED GARMENT MEASURES 1 3/4" over the waist measurement and 2" over the bust measurement for each size.**

**If you want more ease for a looser fit, I recommend cutting a size larger than you measure.**

**Photo instructions are available as a PDF download on the site. For more sewing and fitting tips, videos, and tutorials, go to [sensitivity.com/tips](http://sensitivity.com/tips).**