

# Retro Tie-Back Apron



## Sew a sassy apron with timeless appeal.

The fabric and bias cut skirt featured in this apron are reminiscent of aprons from the 1940s. The lone patch pocket adds a feature that's as much fun as it is handy.

This project provides:

- Step-by-step instructions
- Cutting patterns and helpful illustrations

### Getting Started

Every part of making your own apron is fun, but the first pleasure comes in choosing the fabric. Fabrics appropriate for aprons run a wide and colorful gamut, but consider a few things before making a selection. For an apron that'll receive heavy wear and use, machine washable and dryable cloth is best—stay away from fabric that requires special cleaning and care. If you're partial to totally natural fibers, go for it, but be forewarned, your apron may require a lot of ironing. Poly-cotton blends spell zero pressing, but if you're making an apron for kitchen use, keep in mind that food stains, especially oils, can be hard to remove from synthetics.

Take a stroll through your favorite fabric store and let your design sense and preferences guide you. Talk with clerks, and don't overlook the drapery section and remnant tables.

### Skill Level

- Experienced Beginner

### Materials

- Pattern (found at the end of the instructions)
- 1 yard (91.4 cm) of floral fabric
- 9 yards (8.2 m) of 1/4" (6 mm) double-fold bias tape
- Thread

### Tools & Supplies

- Access to a photo copier that enlarges images
- Fabric shears
- Scissors
- Transfer pencils
- Pins and needles
- Iron and ironing board
- Sewing machine
- Water-soluble fabric pens
- Tape measure
- Sewing gauge

### Seam Allowance

- 1/2" (1.3 cm)

### Instructions

1. Make a true bias fold of the fabric, as shown in figure 1.

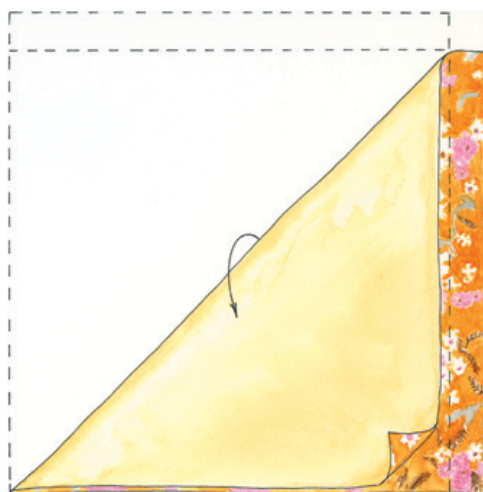


Figure 1

2. Copy and enlarge the pattern pieces found at the end of the instructions as indicated.
3. Cut out the apron pieces as directed. Set them aside.
4. Transfer the dots on the bottom front pattern onto the fabric. Without pulling or stretching the edges of the pattern pieces, trim all the outer edges to accept the bias tape, and set the pieces aside.
5. If necessary, splice the bias tape together. Save the spliced bias for binding the outer edges of the apron where the splice will be easier to hide.
6. With the right sides together, stitch the two neck strap pieces together at the center back. Press and finish the raw edges to prevent raveling.
7. Attach bias tape to the inner edge of the neck strap. Next, baste the neck strap to the top front, with the wrong sides together.

8. Bind the top edge of the top front (figure 2), including the bottom edges of the neck strap. Press the top front and the neck strap flat.

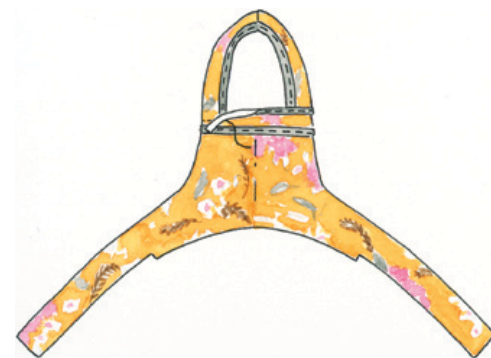


Figure 2

9. With right sides together and the centers of the pattern pieces aligned, stitch the bottom edge of the top front and tie to the top edge of the bottom front (figure 3).

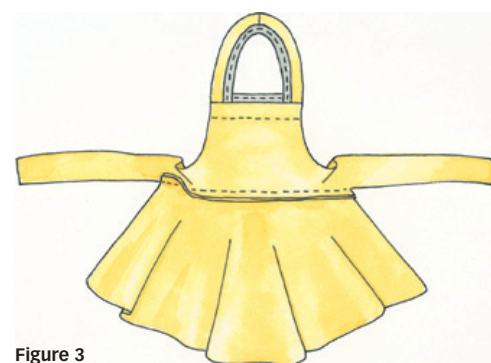


Figure 3

10. Trim and bind the edges of the seam. Attach bias tape along the remaining edges of the apron, mitering the corners as needed.

1. Bind the open edge of the pocket, trimming the bias even with the outside edges. Then bind the outer edges of the pocket using a basting stitch and bias tape, mitering the corners.
2. Position the pocket on top of the skirt, matching the corners to the dots on the pattern, and pin it there securely. Fold the pocket edges under approximately  $\frac{3}{8}$ " (1 cm). Stitch the pocket in place using a sewing gauge at the beginning, end, and corners if necessary. After putting it on, you'll be ready to dance across the kitchen in your new favorite apron.

### Pattern Template



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