

# Shirts to Skirts

Text and Photography by Corinne Winters

**Attention ladies!** Do you have a bunch of oversized glassblowing T-shirts lying around? Are none of your suppliers making girly T-shirts? Here's the perfect solution—create a cute and comfortable skirt! Since it's cotton, it's also breathable and perfect for torching in!

Here is a list of what you'll need:

- your oversized glass T-shirt (wash and dry it first for shrinkage)
- sewing machine loaded with matching thread
- 1/4"-wide elastic
- markers, measuring tape, and piece of clear glass (or yardstick)
- scissors, safety pins, and straight pins

Now, let's get started.

First take a measurement around your waist where you want to wear the skirt. Divide this number in half and mark your piece of glass with that measurement. Find the center of the measurement that you have indicated on the glass and make another mark in the center. Wrap the elastic tightly around you and cut it to length.

Now lay the T-shirt on a flat surface and line up the middle mark on your glass with the middle of the logo on the T-shirt. Mark the ends of your measurement on the sides. Using the glass as a straight edge to draw lines for your skirt sides, cut through both layers.

Cut off the sleeves of the shirt just inside the seam that attaches the sleeves to the shirt. After the sleeves are removed, none of the seam should be left on the shirt body. Then open up the shirt by cutting down the sides of the shirt. When the shirt is opened, lay it flat. Using the glass again, draw straight lines on the front and back just below the collar and cut off the collar section.



Artists Corinne Winters, Bryan Ratcliffe, and Rose Winters. Photo by Cindy Brown.

Place the front upside-down on the back, lining up the top and side edges. Mark the bottom to your desired length and cut off any excess. Pin these two pieces together down each side and sew the sides together, using a 5/8" seam. Fold down about 3/4" of the top fabric to the inside. Pin and sew, leaving a 1/2" casing and a small opening to fit the elastic through. Repeat at the bottom without leaving the opening to make the hem.

Attach a safety pin to the end of the elastic and use the pin to feed the elastic through the casing in the top of the skirt, being careful that the other end doesn't come through into the hole. Sew the two ends of the elastic together and slide it inside the opening.

Voilà! Now you can represent your favorite companies in style!

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