

Mid-Calf Dress Lengths

Many of my patterns, as well as the standard size chart in "Answers to All Your Questions About Measuring and Fitting Girls," include standard dress lengths. Today's trend is to wear dresses much longer than was the style when these lengths were determined. Below is a list of mid-calf dress lengths, based on standard heights. These measurements are intended as a guideline. As always, it is best to measure the child and adjust the pattern accordingly.

You will likely have to add length to my patterns if you plan to use the mid-calf length. To figure out how much length to add, measure the yoke or bodice length at the center back and the skirt length at the center back (without the hem allowance). Do not include seam allowances in your measurements. Add these two lengths together and subtract it from the mid-calf length. That will tell you how much you need to add to the bottom of the skirt pattern when you cut it out. Be sure to add a hem allowance when you do this.

Size 1/2: 18"
Size 1: 19"/21"
Size 2: 22"/24"
Size 3: 24"/25"
Size 4T: 25"/27"
Size 4R: 27"/29"
Size 5: 29"/31"
Size 6: 32"/34"
Size 6X: 34"/ 35"
Size 7: 35"/36"
Size 8: 36"/38"
Size 10: 39"
Size 12: 42"