

**SIMPLE WAISTBANDS WITH DRAWSTRING OR ELASTIC.**

This is the simplest of waist bands to make.

The elastic or draw string is fed through a casing.

What is a casing? A casing is fabric turned over and sewn the same as a hem but with open ends where the elastic or draw string is fed through.

This form can be used on many items for e.g. :- skirts, jogging pants at the waist or bottom of leg, sleeves short or long, beach wear, sports bags, shopping bags.

When making the casing it should be a little wider than the elastic or draw string,

This makes it easy to pull both through but not allow the elastic to turn round in the casing.

You can make the casing with material allowance already in the pattern or you can make it with separate material.

When you have sewn the side seams and darts etc : - fold over fabric ¼” press then turn over again at least 1” wide for casing to the inside of the garment, following the stitch line from the pattern and press. Leave at least 2” open at the centre back for feeding elastic through garment. To create a neat band stitch along the top of casing close to the fold line.

Now start to feed elastic through using a safety pin, but pin the other end fast so not to allow this to go through the casing. Before completing fit the garment to adjust length of elastic required.

Overlap the ends and machine elastic ends together. Tuck in last of elastic then close the band with small stitches.

For the drawstring it is the same procedure to begin with but you must identify where you want the draw string ends to come out for tying.( Normally at the front of the garment) If using a separate piece of fabric the join will be wherever you wish the drawstring to come out, then you can use the allowance of the seam turned in at the end of casing to make the button holes stronger. The button holes need to be made first and then turn over the fabric and press, then sew into position and sew top of casing as before to create a neat edge. Feed the draw string through with the ends through the button holes. At each end place a bead and tie off or just use a knot if necessary..

Your machine should have a button hole foot but you can finish your button hole by hand using a blanket stitch for edges.

If you require any help please use contact form on website.

<http://www.needleandthreads.weebly.com>