

How to: tie a stitched sari

You will need:

- a mirror
- safety pins
- shoes

Before tying, or draping your sari, there are a few things you need to do to ensure you get the perfect look:

1. Identify which end of the sari will fall over your shoulder, known as the pallu. The other end will be the part of the sari that you tuck into your petticoat and wrap around your waist. Stitched saris have hooks at the starting end, making it a little easier to determine which is the start and pallu end, and which is the top of the sari.
2. Find the fall of the sari; this is a cotton hem which goes at the bottom of the sari, and faces inwards, so should not be visible once the sari is on.

All Sari Hire saris have labels on the top at the starting end of the sari to help make this a little easier.

3. Put on your petticoat ensuring it is as tight as possible. Your petticoat has to carry the weight of your sari, so if this is not done properly, draping your sari and keeping it all in place may be difficult.
4. Put your shoes on before putting your petticoat on. This will ensure the length of your sari is perfect. If you know you'll need to remove your shoes during your event, we recommend tying your sari without your shoes to ensure the sari isn't too long.

Once you have your blouse, petticoat and shoes on, you're ready to tie your sari!

1. Begin by holding the sari from the starting end across the front of your body, with the very start of your sari in your right hand. You will want the length of your sari to fall just so the sari reaches the floor; any longer and you will trip over it, and any shorter it won't look right. The sari may sit higher than your petticoat at this point, but don't tuck the sari in just yet.
2. Once you have got the length right, wrap the sari around you once, anticlockwise. When you have completed one wrap, you will notice that the hooks now line up to the first section of your sari. Ensure you hook the sari as tight as possible, as this needs to stay in place.
3. Wrap the sari around you again, still untucked. When it reaches your navel, the stitched pleats should fall central to your navel. If not, twist the sari around you so that they fall in place, ensuring you do not also twist the petticoat underneath.
4. Once the pleats are in place, wrap the sari round you again, draping the pallu over your shoulder. Secure to your shoulder with a safety pin.
5. When you are happy with the pleats and the length of your pallu, carefully tuck your sari into your petticoat. The trick here is to ensure the sari is neatly tucked in to avoid bunching under the petticoat.