

# How to Wear a Sari

Steps:

1. **Put on the blouse, petticoat, and shoes** that you plan to wear. The height of your heels is important for determining where the bottom of the sari should reach. Since some saris might be transparent, try to wear an underskirt/slip. Make sure your petticoat is tightly tied because it will hold up the sari.



2. **Hold the sari so the fall is facing towards you.** The fall is a long piece of unadorned cotton.
3. **Wrap the sari** around your waist (one complete turn from right to left) and tuck it into your petticoat as you go. The decorated side should be on the outside. Make sure that the lower end of the sari just about touches the floor.



4. **Pleat and wrap the pallu.** Gather the other end of the sari and fold it into pleats, then wrap it around your waist once more (without tucking) and throw the pleats over your left shoulder, so that the cloth falls to knee level.



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5. **Pleat the rest.** Gather the remaining cloth around your waist. Beginning from the tucked-in end start making pleats in the sari: wind the cloth with your right hand through the thumb and pinkie holding with alternating fingers. The pleats should be about 5 inches and you'll make about 5-10 pleats, depending on the size of your hands. Hold them together when done.



6. **Pin and tuck in your pleats.** It is also a good idea to pin the pleats together so that they stay in place the whole day (generally speaking, 20 centimeters below the waist is a good place to pin). Then tuck your pleats into your petticoat a little to the left of your bellybutton.



7. **Finally, secure the pallu on your shoulder** with a safety pin to your blouse.

## Helpful Videos:

Although many tutorial videos can be found on “youtube.com” by simply typing “How to Wear a Sari,” here are some specific videos that are clear and extremely useful while draping a sari:

1. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z1XbPDqF0GQ>
2. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zKVwmgpdj-Q&feature=related>
3. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MDv9zs6ZYs>



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