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Skirt-a-Day Sewing: Create 28 Skirts For A Unique Look Every Day



Synopsis

Design and sew your own fabulously stylish skirts. In this fun guide, Nicole Smith shows you how to draft a pattern for a custom fit and shape it into one of four basic silhouettes: wrap, straight, flared, and high-waisted. Each skirt can then be easily redesigned into seven distinct looks – one for each day of the week. Suitable for beginners and expert sewers alike, Skirt-a-Day Sewing will inspire you to express your unique personal style as you stitch up great new pieces for your wardrobe.

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Customer Reviews

Stylish skirts for wherever the day takes you. Sew a month of skirts using four classic styles -- wrap, straight, flared, and high-waisted -- as your starting point. Draft custom-fit patterns for all four styles (complete instructions included), and then play with seven variations for each skirt silhouette. Before you know it, you'll have 28 unique skirts - more than enough for every day and every occasion!

Nicole Smith moved from Texas to Brooklyn, New York, where she teaches sewing workshops, private lessons and classes at 3rd Ward. She is part of the Etsy marketing and merchandising team and designs clothing, jewelry, accessories and sewing patterns. She is a regular contributor to Stitch magazine and has also written for Seventeen, Teen People, Cutting Edge, Adorn, SewStylish, CraftStylish, and Threads.

This book begins as if it is for the very very inexperienced seamstress, as if you will be sewing your first projects ever. It describes basic sewing equipment, types of needles, types of threads, woven versus interlock materials, etc., in very great detail with clear and pretty pictures. It explains seam allowances and several types of seams, several types of hems, inserting a zipper, etc. The diagrams are clear, information adequate. The reader then goes about creating a sloper from measurements. This again is described to a novice. You are recommended to create your muslin sloper, which will then be used for all the other skirts in the book. The information is accurate, though I would have liked to see more actual fitting advice as this book is so much geared for the novice. There are some common problems that may come up in fitting, where some diagrams could be helpful, such as sway back, body shape issues, adjusting for protruding tummies, etc. Chapters thereafter describe changes to your sloper to create the various skirts in the book. What I love is that there truly are several variations described that give quite different looks, and many of them simulate "ready to wear" styles with exposed zippers, interesting seaming, etc. There is a whole lot more here than the basic pull-on versus zipper in the back versus A-line that so many skirt books have already done. These truly are interesting variations for your basic sloper. However, given the focus of the book towards the very novice seamstress, I'm a bit concerned that someone would be overwhelmed trying to create some of these variations as they involve at times a skilled hand at sewing, e.g. the one with the curved asymmetrical darts. Even the example picture has some puckering at the darts, and a novice might end up frustrated with final his/her attempts at that. It's a fine line between enough of a challenge and a completely frustrating learning experience in the beginning. Some of the skirts also show some challenging fabrics, such as working with velvet or aligning stripes, and I feel not enough information is given to the reader to be able to handle the nap on the velvet or the alignment of the stripes confidently. If this book were geared towards the moderate to advanced seamstress I would expect no extra help in that regard, but again the introduction and preliminary chapters make it clear this is geared towards the novice. As such, some more information on the fabrics chosen would be helpful to give the reader the very best chance of duplicating the project. So, I give this book 4 stars as a moderate seamstress, but I would not recommend it to my most novice friend as I think she would be frustrated at the turnout of the projects if using only this book as a guide. I give it 4 stars because it is so very visually appealing (Storey publishing always has the most visually appealing books IMHO), and appeals to a modern woman (up to date styles). I love that it does not require pattern sheets with the book but rather teaches you to draft your own sloper. This gives you ultimately endless possibilities for variation

(showing you several of course in the book). I do highly recommend it for those with at least basic sewing experience as a fun book. I received a complimentary copy of this through Netgalley.

I liked the concept of the book and its nicely done, I'm not sure I'd buy it again though. I think you could do well with just buying patterns rather than the presentation of this one to figure it out. No actual patterns like some of my other books of this type.

I have not made any of the skirts yet but the designs are absolutely amazing. I am 60 years old but want a young and fresh look without being ridiculous. So many cute ideas I honestly do not know which one I want to try first but that is okay because first she gives detailed instructions on how to measure and make a custom made pattern which you will use for the skirts. I already have the pattern fabric and am ready to get going. Thanks for the inspiration Nicole!

If you can't find a skirt to suit you in this book, then you are way too picky! :) Seriously, there is every shape here, something for any age or figure type, any style you could possibly care for. And there are just a few basic patterns to start with. If you can sew at all, you can take a basic shape and embellish to your heart's content. Change colors or fabrics and come up with many more than 28 skirts.

more for younger girls! I will use though!

Great choices

LOVE this little book. Nicole knows her stuff, and has written this book with easy-to-understand instructions with lots of options for making your own skirts. I happened upon this is one of my searches, and so glad I did! Great gift for anyone who loves to sew.

great book with a lot of wonderful easy to complete ideas. very affordable book and nice inspirational ideas on each page. Easily a 4/5 star. The advanced designer may want more - but also the advanced designer may use as springboards for something more spectacular. Inspiration is here for sure.

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