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Little Girls, Big Style: Sew A Boutique Wardrobe From 4 Easy Patterns



Synopsis

Give Your Girl Some Twirl! Every day is dress-up day-mix and match 4 basic patterns into hundreds of adorable outfits Complete instructions on all the basics-finishing seams, gathering, topstitching, hemming, shirring, and more Beginner-friendly approach to sewing "boutique" clothing for girls Make it your own with your favorite fabrics and embellishments With 23 projects in sizes 2-6, you can create a closet full of clothes for any little girl in your life. Everything you need to learn is here, from the basic sewing to the stylish finishing. It's all about handmade!

Book Information

Age Range: 10 and up

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: C&T Publishing (November 16, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1607051885

ISBN-13: 978-1607051886

Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 0.4 x 10.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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Customer Reviews

Reading Abreu's book is like sitting down with a patient, and exceedingly competent, friend for an afternoon of sewing. Abreu, who created the popular blog Confessions of a Craft Addict, is nothing if not helpful, providing tiny inset tips such as "If you cut along the Tiered Pants line, you can make a quick pair of shorts instead of pants or capris," and creating the feeling that anything is possible. She provides a quick review for the unsteady reader in "Techniques A to Z," with good, clear photos helping make her points. And she's always encouraging and forgiving. In "Handmade vs. homemade" she reminds a frustrated seamstress, "There is no shame in 'unsewing' your work." For the non-natural fashionista among us, she suggests pattern pairings, like a "Barely Basic Top" with

the "Twirly Girly Skirt." Yes, the names the author gives her outfits crank the cute to 11 but, after all, this is a book for girls who are proud to fly their feminine flag, sometimes with the help of their mothers. And while the names often cross the line from cute into cloying, the photos put everything in perspective. This parade of adorables will have readers saying, "Who cares about the dress, I want the kid!" Photos. (c) Copyright PWxyz, LLC. All rights reserved.

(This) book is like sitting down with a patient, and exceedingly competent, friend for an afternoon of sewing. Abreu...is nothing if not helpful, providing tiny inset tips...and creating the feeling that anything is possible. --Publishers Weekly

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Ã© Publishers Weekly (1/31/11)

Mary Abreu has created four basic wardrobe pieces for little girls - skirt, pants, pull-over dress and peasant-style top/dress - and designed a series of variations to result in 23 different items. As the mother of a young daughter herself, she believes that sewing clothing fills a need to be creative, making something useful and feel the satisfaction from being able to say I made that. Her patterns provide you with the opportunity to dress your daughter or grand-daughter in one-of-a-kind outfits that fit perfectly. The book begins with a good overview of various techniques before moving into detailed and well illustrated step-by-step instructions for each garment. Full-size patterns are provided on sheets inserted inside the back cover...

Another fun sewing book for children's garments is Little Girls Big Style by Mary Abreu. Mary Abreu hit it out of the ballpark with this book, as her patterns are all the rage in mainstream children's fashion. Lots of ruffles, lots of colors and mix-matching fabrics. Mary focuses on garments that have a "boutique" feel to them. Not the pricey, ritzy brands we usually think of, but the "one-of-a-kind" custom-made garments that every little girl

will love. Mary gives a lot of thoughtful comments about how she goes about choosing fabrics, colors, styles and weights as well as always keeping in mind whom she is sewing for. Mary gives a thorough introduction to tools and techniques, which include many clear and easy-to-understand photos. The patterns are divided into four basic garments: Basic Bodice, Peasant Top/Dress, Pants, and Skirts. She offers nice variations and a ton of embellishments to truly make your garments one of a kind. Mary offers 23 patterns in sizes 2-6. [Review Source: www.petitepurls.com](http://www.petitepurls.com)

I really like this book because it takes the basic core patterns and provides details on how to create variations from the basic core design. The projects and directions include the Basic Bodice (Barely Basic Top/Dress, Knotty Apron variation, Sunshine Halter, Side-Tiered smock, Perfect Party Dress, Pocket Pinafore, Ruffled Peek-a-Boo Jumper), Peasant Top/Dress (Classic, Ruffled Empire Dress/Top, Tiered Twirly dress, fluttered-Sleeved top, ruffled neck top), Pants (Pants/Capris, Ruffled pants, Racing stripe pants, Lace-Edged Gauchos, Tiered Pants) and Skirts (No-Hem, Treasure, on-the-border, apron skirt, double layer twirl skirt, twirly girly skirt). I would definitely recommend this book to both the novice and the experience sewer. If you are starting to get into sewing boutique type clothing, I would recommend starting with this book instead of buying all the separate patterns that are out there. I wish that I was able to purchase this book before sewing girl clothes because it would have definitely saved me money so that I could buy more fabric for my stash. :) You definitely get A LOT from this book and a bang for your buck!!! Happy Sewing!!! :)

Nice book. Includes 23 projects in sizes 2--6. I saw several patterns on display at Creations of Kerrville (TX) that were adorable. I had the book already but bought their fabrics for one of these!! Worthwhile investment!!

Just as described, a jumping off point for people who want to create cute clothes for the little girls in their lives. Showing you the basics and doing the best to inspire you to continue to adjust the patterns and be creative with your sewing. This book is really great, not at all difficult to follow as an intermediate sewer. I don't think it would be hard to use it even as a beginner. Very satisfying to use and complete projects with, in fact I cannot wait to make more with it. The pattern pages are on very sturdy paper, and not difficult to copy/trace over using pattern paper (which will be necessary rather than cutting them out - worth it though). I did need to make some supplemental pattern pieces - for instance the straight pieces for the ruffles and tiers - however the dimensions are given for every cut needed. Very Very pleased!

I really am pleased with this book. I have used many of the patterns and "mixed and matched" in ways suggested - as well as making my own designs utilizing various pattern pieces. I feel like I got a good "bang for the buck" with this one. Highly recommended.

Im a mother of two darling girls that are 2 years and 6 years. I had my 6 year old look at the book and she said "mom I want everything in here!" I agree other than the halter top dad said she wasnt allowed to wear I love everything. I have to say after making two tops so far I am a bit sick of ruffles. I dont think they would be so bad if you had a sewing machine ruffler foot or even a serger. I have to say that when I think of boutique clothing I dont think of just ruffles and everything in this book has ruffles. But my daughter likes everything and everything is simple. I would like to see some other types of tops though since my daughter is in school she wouldnt be allowed to wear the apron style "basic bodice" tops with out another shirt under. This book was worth every penny but be aware your only changing 4 basic patterns.

I sew a LOT of clothes for little girls. I've wanted to make my daughters' wardrobes very mix-and-match, but have never quite pulled it off. I got this book because I like the way the outfits are put together. The "boutique" look is very popular now and this will show you how to put outfits together that go well, but aren't all "matchy-matchy", if that makes any sense! The only thing I would change about this book is the sizes! They go up to a 6, but it would be great if they went up to a 10 or 12. My older daughter is a 10-12ish and I love to make them matching outfits. I can find other patterns and make something similar, but it would be easier if they were from the same pattern in different sizes because it would be easier to sew the outfits in an assembly line. (Was that a big ol' run-on sentence? lol)

This is my favorite sewing book for girls clothing. The instructions are simple and clear so there is no guessing. I have made the Barely Basic Top three times because my daughter (3) loves wearing that style and it turns out adorable with so many different fabric combinations. The sizing has been perfect. The apron skirt turned out very cute and the basic top and ruffled pants I sewed just received "best in class" at the fair this weekend. Now I feel I'm ready to try out the shirts and dresses with sieves and shirring. Now I wish she would come out with a book for little boys!

This book is adorable. It's great if you like boutique style clothing. If not, it's great because it shows

you sewing techniques you may never have used. If you are new to sewing, buy this book. It gives you very detailed step by step instructions. I can't wait to make something from this book. I like it so much I'm going to give two for Christmas presents to two young ladies who are just learning to sew. Full size patterns are definitely a plus. The outfits are different and oh so cute! The pictures are very nice and the little models are adorable! If you're like me and have bought books that disappointed you in the past, don't hesitate on this one. It is well worth your money.

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