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Gertie's Ultimate Dress Book: A Modern Guide To Sewing Fabulous Vintage Styles



Synopsis

Every vintage-obsessed sewist dreams of having a closet full of gorgeous dresses. The follow-up to the popular Gertie™s New Book for Better Sewing and Gertie Sews Vintage Casual, Gertie™s Ultimate Dress Book is packed with all the information and patterns you could ever need to create a wardrobe filled with stunning vintage frocks. The book begins with all the essential techniques for dressmaking and includes instructions and patterns for 23 dresses for a variety of occasions. Elements of each pattern can be mixed and matched, allowing readers to customize the bodice, skirt, sleeves, pockets, and details of each dress for a truly unique creation.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

When I first got this book, I really really loved it. I already own Gertie's New Book for Better Sewing, and I found that while the Ultimate Dress Book repeats a lot of the same information, it's a lot more comprehensive. For example, she explains the differences between linings and interlining, and different ways to sew them into a dress. Most of the information that was already in the New Book for Better Sewing is explained in better detail here. Overall, I really enjoy the sections of the book teaching different dressmaking techniques, though an advanced seamstress may already know a lot of that stuff (I consider myself intermediate-advanced, and while I knew a lot of the techniques, having their uses clarified by Gertie really helped me). The dresses - I really loved how they looked. There were a few that I really disliked, but I looked forward to sewing a lot of the dress patterns in this book. I finally got around to making a basic bodice muslin...and the fit was horrendous! Now,

Gertie mentions that her patterns are geared towards ladies with a bigger hip-to-waist ratio (looking at hourglass figures here) and that women with larger busts generally have an easier time with her patterns. As someone with a pretty average build (proportionally I usually fit the Big Four patterns), my muslin was far from fitting ANYTHING. Aside from a larger bust than I needed, the armholes were TINY (and I've never had a trouble fitting armholes on any other pattern), and the neck hole was even worse (I had to cut it before I could even get it on)! My muslin was well beyond alterations, which was incredibly disappointing since I really wanted to make a lot of those dresses.

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