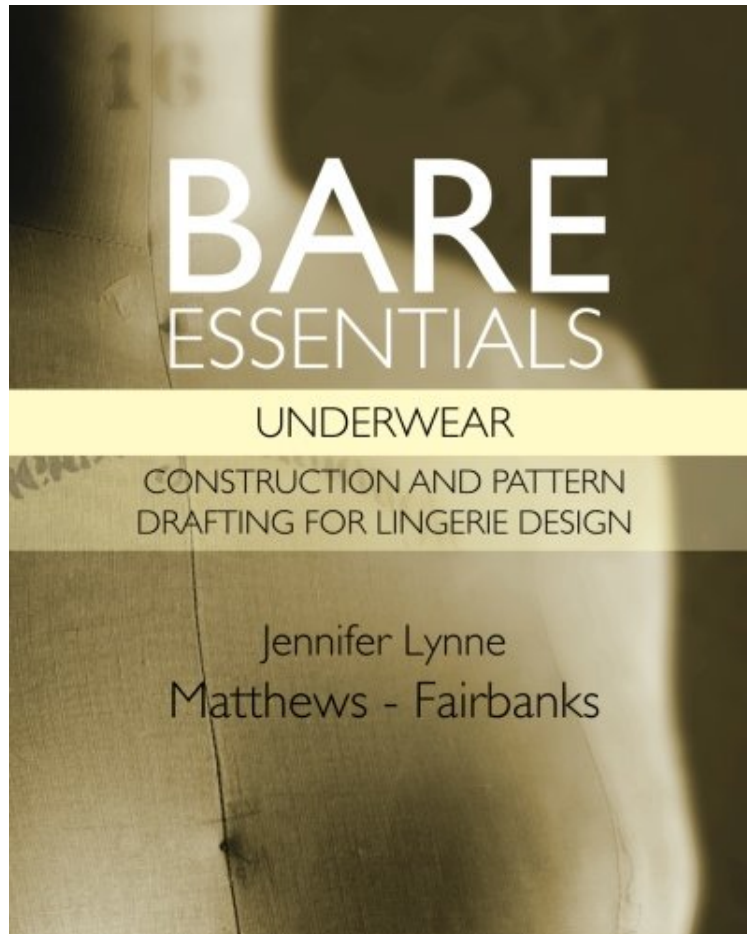


Bare Essentials: Underwear: Construction and Pattern Drafting for Lingerie Design

Jennifer Lynne Matthews-Fairbanks
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Jennifer Lynne Matthews-Fairbanks : Bare Essentials: Underwear: Construction and Pattern Drafting for Lingerie Design before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bare Essentials: Underwear: Construction and Pattern Drafting for Lingerie Design:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Great book. Drafting, grading, and assembly instructions for your favorite bun-huggers.By MaxwellMy girlfriend had me order this, so the following is her review:I bought this while crossing my fingers, because of a few reviewers stated this book was lacking when it came to drafting instructions. I couldn't disagree more. From this book I was able to draft a fitting briefs sloper on the first attempt using my own measurements. The drafting instructions do not have A to B, B to C, instructions as you often see, but they are still clearly written and can be followed with little confusion. The only time I had trouble understanding was when the high hip measurement was referred to simply as the hip measurement.This book includes two basic patterns to draft: boy-shorts (with seams for the gusset, sides, and front) and briefs (with seams for the gusset and sides only). There are also

additional instructions to make modifications to the high-waisted slopers so that you can end up with more modern variations and styles. Pre-drafted patterns are also provided in the pattern for those who do not wish to make your own. The assembly instructions are basic, but it's difficult to do more for a garment that typically only has 3 two to three inch seams. I would argue that since this book is meant to be the basic construction and drafting of undergarments that I wouldn't expect it to go much further into detail than it does. A lot of the more complicated processes of lingerie apply to both bras and panties, so perhaps a future book in the series will deal with construction only? There are pre-made stretch ratio tables, as well as instructions to calculate the information on your own. I especially appreciate the table included that breaks down stretch ratios into different general categories of stretchiness, so I don't have to make separate patterns for fabrics of a similar, but not exact, stretch. All in all I wanted this book was drafting, but the included tables, explanation of stretch ratios, grading instructions, pre-drafted patterns, and construction techniques made this a necessary book to add to your collection, especially if you don't own any books on drafting for knits. All my other drafting books create a general panty pattern using a pant sloper, which leaves a curved seam in the front and back, and also neglect to give any information on how to compensate for stretch. If you don't enjoy the look of a seam running down the front of your crotch, this book provides a much-needed alternative. I would definitely buy this book again and will be buying its sister book on bra-making once I've drafted slopers and my favorite styles for all the basic stretch categories to put in my pattern drawer.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Two Stars By Vitaliy For amateurs only. 58 of 58 people found the following review helpful. LOVE THIS BOOK By Customer I have only been sewing for a year and I am mostly self taught. I particularly enjoy sewing lingerie, but there is not a lot of information (or even patterns) for that. I was really hesitant buying this book because there were no reviews. I took a chance because the bra construction book in the series had excellent reviews. I don't regret my decision in the least. The book is split into three parts, Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced. Patterns are provided in the back of the book that don't need to be enlarged. The beginner section talks about the tools one needs to draft patterns and to sew in general. Stitches are discussed and an introduction to fabrics as well as their anatomy (grains and such). My singer lingerie book goes into more details about this which I found essential. This book could go into more detail on fabrics. Measurement charts are provided in the metric and imperial for everything which I found very nice. One thing I really enjoyed about this book was its introduction to stretch fabrics and how to work with them. It went over some basic information that was very helpful. I wish it went more in depth, but this book is not meant for learning all of those details. I wouldn't knock points off for that. The beginner section provides step by step instructions for making the patterns in the back of the book. If you don't like the location of the seams, an alternative step by step instruction guide is provided with just as much detail. These patterns include boy shorts, boy shorts without a side seam, wide lace boy shorts (instructions are shown to manipulate the pattern for this), classic briefs with a couple of different options for the crotch, and briefs without a front seam. There are also instructions for applying the elastic (though I wish there was slightly more detail, unfortunately fold-over elastic is not included in any section). The Intermediate section introduces you to pattern manipulation, measurements for that, and elastic stretch charts. Creating boy shorts with a side seam is shown as well as how to do your own personal manipulations to any pattern including a cool lace attachment. French knickers are next using the "slash and spread" method which I found really cool. I've looked through lots of lingerie patterns and there are none that I found for these panties. The same goes for the key hole cut out pattern discussed next. That was really cool because once again, I've never seen a pattern for that. Puff panties are discussed and then a string bikini pattern. The Advanced section talks about pattern drafting and grading. It includes more measurement information and charts. Customized charts are also provided for you to fill out if you wish. More information on stretch fabrics are included. I believe this is helpful for making panties that don't look bigger than they are. I've always noticed that panties I've made don't look as small as the store bought ones but they're the same size. There are a few pages of information on drafting. The advanced section contains information on how to draft your own pattern for boy-shorts, including whether or not you want a side seam. Grading is discussed which I don't fully understand yet. I THINK it shows how to make boyshorts into hipster briefs (I haven't really read this section yet). Brief drafting is discussed along with a variation called the "hip hugger brief." A basic thong is discussed and another section on briefs. If you can create all the patterns in this book, I imagine you are well on your way to designing other cool panties that you can't find patterns for. I would suggest that you buy this book with the Singer lingerie construction book. That book goes into different ways to attach lace and elastic (again lack of fold over elastic techniques but that's ok). It also goes into manipulating patterns with different widths of lace or elastic and more information on fabric, lace, and elastic is provided. If you combine these books together then you have A LOT of information about pretty much everything you need to know. I hope this helps. I def. love this book and look forward to buy the other books in the series.

The Bare Essentials series is an invaluable resource for anyone entering into the field of lingerie design. This volume summarizes the basics of underwear design, from sewing and construction to drafting and pattern grading; introducing these subjects in a manageable capacity. Bare Essentials is organized into three main sections based on the complexities of the information provided. Included in this book are basic patterns for briefs and boyshorts. What you

will learn: Construction methods using elastics and stretch fabrics Manipulation of basic patterns Pattern drafting from measurements Developing grade rules and grading patterns