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Habibe Acikgoz

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#79208 in Books Macmillan Publishers 2013-04-02 2013-04-02 Original language: English PDF # 1 207.26 x 12.06 x 8.75l, .96 #File Name: 1250023653128 pages St. Martin's Books-Bold Beautiful Easy-Sew Clothes | File size: 35.Mb

Habibe Acikgoz : Bold Beautiful Easy-Sew Clothes: 15 Unstructured Designs That Fit and Flatter Every Shape, and Are Simple to Make before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bold Beautiful Easy-Sew Clothes: 15 Unstructured Designs That Fit and Flatter Every Shape, and Are Simple to Make:

115 of 115 people found the following review helpful. Great lagenlook designs By CostumeDesigner Bold and Beautiful Easy-Sew Clothes presents patterns for 15 garments in the lagenlook style (though author Habibe Acikgoz does not use that term). Lagenlook means "layered look" in German, but it's more than just wearing layers. Lagenlook focuses on loose (even oversized), simple styles rendered more interesting by asymmetry or by unusual hemlines, closures, or seams. All-natural fibers (especially linen), solid-colored fabrics, patchwork effects, and huge pockets are often part of the look. Lagenlook is popular with middle-aged and/or plump women and needs to be scaled down if you are small. Lagenlook designer clothes tend to be expensive, rendering the 15 patterns in this book welcome to lagenlook lovers who sew. I like most of these very much, though I need to shorten everything and omit all those pouchy patch pockets. I'm also thinking about using contrasting fabric colors to create patchwork effects in the styles

that have seams in decorative rather than purely functional locations. I don't mean to discourage anyone, but these styles are not for beginning sewists. Many have quite a number of pattern pieces. Their complicated shapes mean any lengthening or shortening will likely have to be done in more than one place on each pattern piece. The tunic hems with all the narrow dangling points, the crenellated front closures, the fancy pleated panels, and some other details are just not going to look as neat as the ones in the photos unless you have some experience. And although fabric layouts and basic assembly instructions are given for each pattern, this book does not teach you many of the techniques you'll need. However, intermediate sewists should have no problem. The patterns are provided not only on a CD, but graphed in the book. The graphs *should* be convenient for people who happen to be about the right size (after all, *lagenlook* is not close fitting) and don't want to spend a long session accurately taping numerous 8 1/2" inch by 11" inch pieces of paper together before even cutting out. And to people who have somehow lost their CD. However, the graphs are useless because they assume you are enlarging onto pattern paper with 3/4" squares, not 1" squares which is how it's actually printed. The 3/4" squares don't work out to anything even in the metric system either, so don't bother hunting for metric pattern paper as a workaround. Just buy a lot of Scotch tape before you use this book.

127 of 129 people found the following review helpful. Not as easy sew as the title would suggest

By Francesca

First let me say that I really like all of the designs in this book. There isn't one that I wouldn't wear. BUT, and it is a big but, the finished garment may look simple and elegant but some of the patterns are quite complex. I love the skirt and am planning on making it, but I am rather nervous about it. There are twenty four pattern pieces to the skirt, not my idea of simple! Just cutting it out is complex enough - the directions for layout are clear - the instructions for putting it together are mostly clear, but there seem to be a couple of steps missing. The instructions say to "Fold and pin tucks into the bottom of the assembled skirt front and back, as marked on the pattern, stitch and press" What tucks? What markings? . 30 minutes later after puzzling over it and looking at the skirt pattern pieces, and the photos of the skirt itself, I realize that what looks like notches on the bottom of the skirt pieces just may be there, not as notches to be joined to something else, but where you fold the fabric, but then I can't work out how you would stitch it as it is curved and then has to be sewn to a separate hem panel. I went to another part of the book that has a dress pattern with a similar shape/folds to the skirt and which has the same markings but for that pattern there is no mention at all about how you would stitch or fold it. So I am really nervous about making the attempt. If I do it, I will probably make it in muslin (rather than the linen recommended) as a trial and see if I can figure it out. I like the design enough to make the attempt!

The author has spent a lot of time making the book easy to read and as user friendly as possible. It is well laid out. There are instructions referenced throughout the book. The designs are lovely. An experienced sewer would probably have no problems working things out - but for me - with that many skirt pattern pieces, in a complicated design (there are eight front and back curved and flat panels, and those panels are joined to two other panels and then to a yoke and then to hem pieces, more visual aid of some of the construction would be helpful. There is a CD included that contains all the patterns in various sizes (a nice touch) I just wish I could trust the "easy -sew clothes" claim on the front of the book. It certainly is "Bold and Beautiful"

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Gorgeous wearable art

By Cascadian

First the design aesthetic, which is the strongest aspect of this book: solid colors in beautiful, understated fabrics, intricate shapes, asymmetrical cuts, and natural fibers. The author has a London boutique, but the finished garments are not in my budget so I'm grateful for her generosity in writing this book. For instance, her "Blatnat" jacket, which is identical to the one in the book is priced at about \$300 as of late 2013. Absolutely reasonable, given the fabric (Irish linen) and labor, and I'm delighted that I can recreate it for about \$60. As a working designer who is tired of the jeans and tee shirt wardrobe, I feel like I've found my "home" in these beautiful designs and plan to make quite a few of them. The coat, jacket and vest are my particular favorites, but I will probably start with one of the simpler tops. Overall, I would say this book is for experienced sewers who have an understanding of fabric "hand", ie, drape. I tend to think that most of the designs will look great on full figures more so than very petite ones (without some modification, maybe a vertical pleat or two at the side of one of the tunics in lieu of redrafting down a size). Schematics would have been nice. In terms of sizing and fit, the US dress size is much less useful than knowing the flat measurements of the garments. Also, I wish all of the patterns were available for the full range of sizes. The book is nicely laid out with beautiful photos. My personal recommendations for fabrics: if first quality Italian or Irish linen isn't in your budget, there are other very viable options: the heavier rayon batiks with good body, wool challis, loosely woven wool crepes, and linen/rayon blends. All of the patterns call for 55" wide fabric, so take that into consideration. Anything with some rayon in the blend will probably work nicely. Some of the more loosely woven menswear wool suitings could work too. The chain fabric stores have some reasonably nice linens from China in the \$16/yard price range. Hemp blends, ramie, anything with some weight to drape all that yardage. I can't wait to dive into my linen stash now!

Sew stylish separates featuring swinging silhouettes that flatter every body type. The tunics, vests, dresses, jackets, and skirts are both easy and comfortable to wear, and with one-size-fits-all construction they are easily made up and adaptable to make a look that suits you. Included are concise instructions for getting the fit right, and choosing fabrics, plus all the dressmaking basics every sewer needs to know to make up the projects in the book. Additionally, there are

a variety of ideas for making the clothes your own, including how to alter the fit to suit your shape or style, or personalize your pieces with pockets, pleats, and drawstrings.- Each piece has been designed with flowing, elegant lines that skim the body, to create a bold, dramatic and very flattering silhouette.- These beautiful clothes are as easy to make as they are to wear - just print out the pattern in your size from the CD, and follow the straightforward step-by-step instructions in the book.- Illustrated guides explain all the sewing skills you need to construct each garment and give it the perfect finishing touch.

"For those who fancy that loose linen look, and for women seeking clothing that is both stylish and modest, this book is an absolute godsend, and will be deeply appreciated." Publishers Weekly About the Author HABIBE ACIKGOZ creates stylish clothes for modern women. Designed to suit all ages and body types, she takes elements of traditional dress from the Ottoman empire and uses them to embellish garments which appeal to women around the world. Habibe was born in Turkey and studied pattern-making and tailoring before moving to London in 2000. After working as a dressmaker for three years, she began designing clothes and selling them at design fairs through specialist boutiques and online.