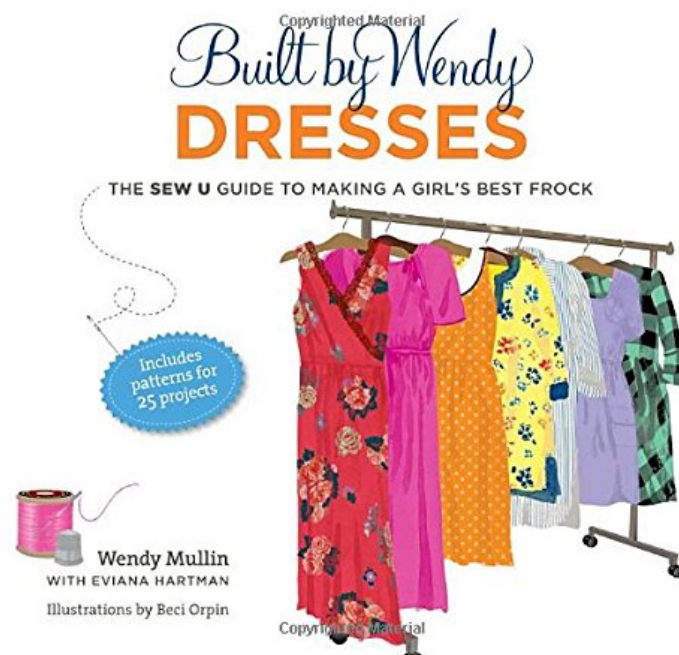


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Built by Wendy Dresses: The Sew U Guide to Making a Girl's Best Frock

Wendy Mullin, Eviana Hartman
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Wendy Mullin, Eviana Hartman : Built by Wendy Dresses: The Sew U Guide to Making a Girl's Best Frock before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Built by Wendy Dresses: The Sew U Guide to Making a Girl's Best Frock:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Mistakes and MessesBy CustomerI wish I had returned this book. The dresses are ugly and some of the instructions are either wrong or missing so many steps that you can't figure them out. For example, the French Sailor's Dress (pp. 123-126) has the yoke sewn to the dress at the neckline RIGHT sides together. I could not for the life of me figure that out. Are you supposed to hem the yoke and leave it free? Are you supposed to sew it down? I just cannot figure out how this is supposed to work. And it's not exactly a complicated pattern. I could figure it out on my own more easily without looking at this pattern. Also, the drawings are terrible. You don't get any idea how the dresses are really supposed to look. How hard would it be to take photos (like the Colette sewing book does) or feature better illustrations? A 7 year-old could draw better pictures. Don't waste your money. Does anyone know if she has a blog? I did a search but didn't come up with anything. I just want to ask about some patterns--mostly just to point out the mess of instructions....0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Cute idea, but challenging to work out of for ...By K.A.Cute idea, but challenging to work out of for beginning garment sewers. I just spent a few hours tracing seam allowances to my pattern since no seam allowances are given. The pattern instructions are very basic, as well. Luckily, I have an experienced seamstress showing me how to figure it all out, but I'd be struggling without her help.12 of 12 people found the following review helpful. A great way to learn pattern-making!By Jay ElleI love this book! I'm a beginner/intermediate sewer - I can follow a pattern, but whether or

not it looks like anything you'd want to wear out of the house tends to be a toss-up. But this book has really improved my skills by teaching me how to make a pattern, making me understand how patterns go together and work, and encouraging me to fix my fit problems and really learn to alter things that didn't turn out right the first time. Now that I've made and perfected muslins for each of the three basic types of dresses Wendy talks about in the book, I can toss out a new variation on any of them in a single evening and wear it to work the next day. Not ALL of the patterns are my cup of tea, but I definitely wouldn't say they're dowdy or only for very skinny girls or too young or whatever the other complaints have been. As an average-to-curvy almost-30 year old, I can certainly make and wear at least half of them (my favorites so far are "uptown girl" and "9-to-5") - and I know enough now to alter the three basic patterns into anything ELSE I'd like to make them into (I used one of the dress patterns to make my very-first-ever button-down shirt). It's definitely not a book for beginners, but it might make an intermediate sewer into an advanced sewer! Very very very pleased with this book - probably one of my top-three most-useful sewing books.

Want a fast and easy way to look completely put together? Throw on a dress! Now, with the help of Wendy Mullin of BUILT BY WENDY, sew your own custom-fit creations in all. Dresses are as useful and as crucial to your wardrobe as your most beloved pair of jeans. You can throw one on in summer or winter, for a night out in heels or a day in beaten-up boots: Its maximum style for minimum effort. That's why Wendy Mullin, designer of Built by Wendy label of choice for fashion-forward actors, musicians, and artists has created a book of DIY dress designs that are simple to sew but pack plenty of fashion punch. All of the featured dress styles are based on three basic dress shapes: the sheath, the shift, and the dirndl. These three full-size patterns are included in the book, complete with step-by-step instructions for how to use them. From those basic dress shapes, Wendy offers multiple customizations, giving a total of 25 different dress options. Beginner sewers will find all the basic information they need to get started. More advanced sewers will see precisely how slight pattern adjustments, such as changing a collar or sleeve or switching fabric, can create limitless possibilities for unique looks. Built by Wendy Dresses covers the basics and beyond and proves that dresses are a girl's best friend.

About the Author WENDY MULLIN founded Built by Wendy, a NYC-based line of women's and men's clothing and accessories in 1991. In addition, Wendy authored Sew U and Sew U: Home Stretch and designed a line of sewing patterns for Simplicity. For more information visit www.builtbywendy.com.