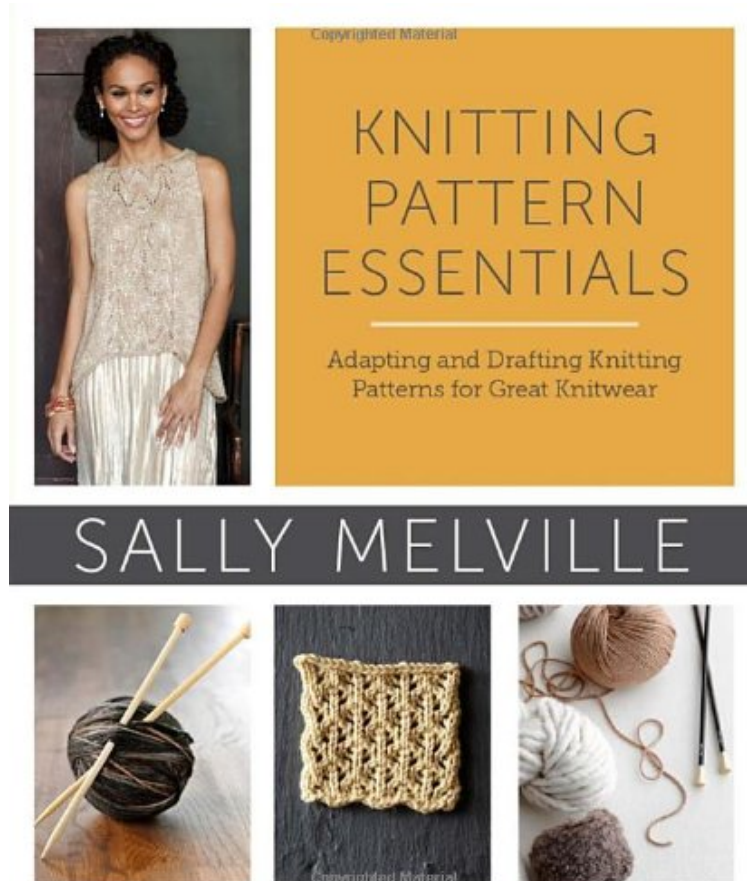


Knitting Pattern Essentials: Adapting and Drafting Knitting Patterns for Great Knitwear

Sally Melville

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Sally Melville : Knitting Pattern Essentials: Adapting and Drafting Knitting Patterns for Great Knitwear before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Knitting Pattern Essentials: Adapting and Drafting Knitting Patterns for Great Knitwear:

89 of 92 people found the following review helpful. Cover to cover and very pleased! By Dhraey After reading the techniques presented and glancing through the patterns in the back of the book I am ready to review. Pros 1) After reading Chapter 1 a knitter will be ready to tackle an actual pattern and make all adjustments to fit one's figure. Unlike a past reviewer I feel this book is designed for everyone including the new knitter. I feel even the meanest knitter can tackle the knowledge, however due to lack of mastery the sweater they knit will most likely have many of the same errors all knitters make when starting out, that is not a reflection of any book or pattern. So I rate this book as beginner being able to learn and old-hands gaining new knowledge. 2) Chapters 2-8 cover every single aspect of the construction of a sweater, is thorough and can be reference time and again after mastery of sweater knitting to solve problems or

make adjustments. In short the longevity of the book makes it worth the price.³) It offers standard patterns in the back that afford the reader a chance at designing their own sweaters or making minor to major adjustments to the published pattern.⁴) The diagrams, photos, calculation section for each type take a lot of the mystery out of the designing/reworking processes.

Neuts¹) The book is a little plain but then again who buys a knitting resource for the look of the actual book.

Cons I have not one bad thing to say about this book, it comes from a seasoned knitter and that is obvious!

¹²² of ¹²³ people found the following review helpful. Knitting Pattern Templates--Teaches Understanding of Custom Patterns

By Lynne E. Well-known knitting designer Sally Melville has a gift for explaining knitting techniques in simple, easy-to-understand language. Her previous books (e.g., *The Knit Stitch*, *The Purl Stitch*) are deservedly popular. With *KNITTING PATTERN ESSENTIALS*, Melville has done it again. She has created a book of pattern templates for knitted garments that is the easiest to follow of any that I've seen. This book is NOT a book for beginning knitters. But knitting isn't exactly rocket science. Any moderately experienced knitter who is motivated to draft custom patterns--patterns that will really fit--should be able to make good use of this book. Aside from basic knitting skills, all that a knitter needs is the ability to read and understand schematic drawings of knitted garments; to take accurate body measurements; and to perform basic math calculations (e.g., to multiply a width-in-inches measurement by a swatched stitches-per-inch number, in order to determine how many stitches will be required at a given place in a garment).

What sets *KNITTING PATTERN ESSENTIALS* apart from other books of pattern templates, is Melville's explanations of WHY you need ease, of HOW MUCH ease you need in a particular garment style, and of WHY you do (or don't) need certain kinds of shaping (e.g., shoulder shaping) in a specific garment style. Melville teaches you to understand the patterns that you draft, which of course makes for better custom patterns. The basic garment shapes discussed in the book are drop shoulder, modified drop shoulder, set-in sleeve, and raglan. However, the book contains much additional discussion of shaping of necklines (funnel, v-neck, etc.), hems (diagonal, shirrtails), sides of garments (A-line, hourglass, etc.), sleeves (puffed, saddle shoulder, etc.), cardigans (no overlap, banded, etc.), and finishing bands (armhole, collars and hoods, etc.). Melville also explains how to combine various garment elements successfully.

Personally, I like to use computer applications for drafting knitting patterns, because the apps do all the math calculations for me. But any template-generated knitting pattern is only as good as the information typed into it, and the assumptions made by the basic template. With this book, you can fine-tune any template-generated pattern to ensure that you get the desired custom fit.

KNITTING PATTERN ESSENTIALS also includes eight Sally Melville knitting patterns that are suitable for advanced-and-adventurous beginners, or for intermediate-level knitters. These are the Three-Bow Pullover, Marsha's Top, Uptown Jacket, Lace-Paneled Top, Escher-Inspired Vest, Bordered Lace Pullover, Carrie's Wrap, and Cee-Cee Wrap. My favorite is the oh-so-elegant Lace-Paneled Top (shown on the book's cover)--which by itself goes a long way toward justifying the book's purchase price. Some other good, fairly recent books on drafting knitting patterns are *Custom Knit Jackets*, *Vintage Design Workshop*, and *The NEW Knitter's Template*.

⁹ of ⁹ people found the following review helpful. Great Reference Guide

By New York Knitter There are very few patterns here. It's a guide to creating your own patterns for knitting sweaters that fit. She only addresses cardigans and pullovers; as she says the book is big enough without getting into how to create other items. She also only addresses bottom up knitting. I was hoping for some guidance on side-to-side knitting. I already do about half of what Sally says to do when creating a sweater without a pattern. I think her method is overkill. On the other hand, if you put your knitting down for over a month, then pick it up again, Sally's extensive documentation is what you need. I do write down the basics, but once I've put a project down for a while, I have trouble remembering my full intent. I've been knitting with and without patterns for a very long time, and I've learned things from this book. Like all of Sally Melville's instructions, this is clear and well written.

Bring Your Vision to Life with Pattern-Drafting Essentials

Whats the number one mistake that knitters make? They follow a pattern exactly! In this comprehensive guide to sweater construction, acclaimed knitting instructor Sally Melville reveals the secrets to creating or modifying a pattern so the finished project looks and fits exactly how you want it to. Pattern drafting has never been easier to understand as Sally breaks down each skill, including how to calculate your personal measurements, ease, and stitch patterns create a pattern for an existing garment that you love shape a variety of necklines, shoulders, sides, sleeves, and hemlines combine garment elements for an endless array of design possibilities rescue a project when it doesnt turn out as expected finish your projects with a professional look knit 10 original projects that showcase the elements covered in the book With Sallys knitting expertise at your fingertips, you have all the tools you need to adjust patterns to fit you better than ever and create patterns that finally make your dream designs a reality.

About the Author

SALLY MELVILLE is a widely published and highly sought after knitwear designer who every year teaches a dozen different workshops at more than twenty venues across North America. Her work has appeared in many magazines, from *Vogue Knitting* to *Interweave Knits*, and she is the author of several books, including the bestselling *Knitting Experience* series. Visit Sally online at www.sallymelvilleknits.com.