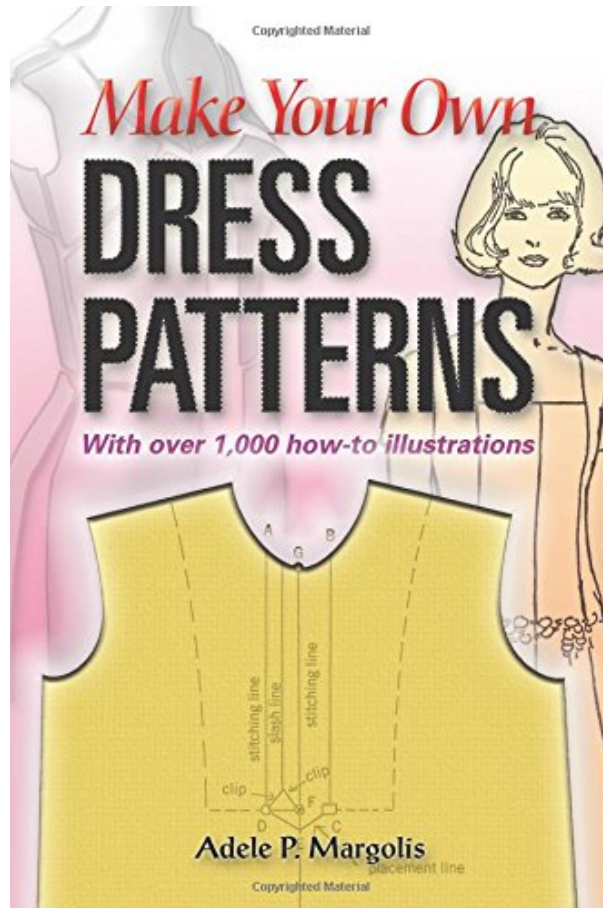


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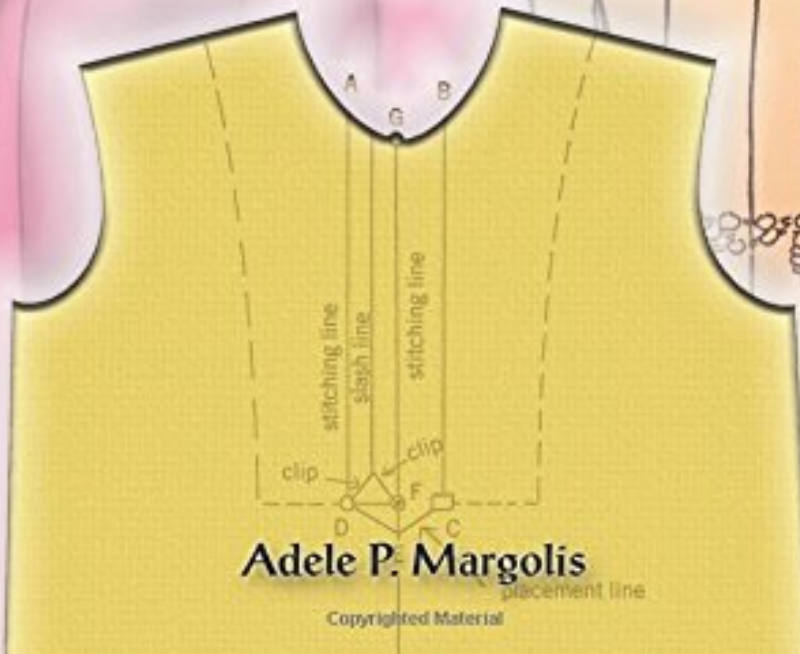


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"Anyone who can work through the labyrinthian directions for sewing that accompany the commercial pattern can surely learn the comparatively simple and clear rules for pattern making," says nationally acclaimed sewing expert Adele Margolis. Her profusely illustrated primer allows you to create your own fashionable patterns and personalized commercial patterns. You'll learn how to design and execute everything from skirts, dresses, and blouses to sportswear, jackets, and children's clothing. You'll also find tips for: shaping fabric to your figure; mastering the art of flares, flounces, pleats, and tucks; creating fashionable necklines, pretty pockets, stylish sleeves, and much more.

Simple step-by-step directions and more than 1,000 illustrations show how to successfully complete apparel for work, home, and play that reflects your personal style and taste.

- Sales Rank: #409017 in Books
- Brand: Margolis, Adele P./ Skoogfors, Judy (ILT)
- Published on: 2006-10-06
- Released on: 2006-10-06
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x 6.25" w x 1.00" l, 1.44 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 480 pages

Most helpful customer reviews

91 of 91 people found the following review helpful.

Good for understanding theoretical concepts of pattern-making

By S. Wellman

This book starts by explaining the function of darts in a basic sloper, and demonstrates how to retain the fitting functions while changing the positions of the darts. The author shows how to divide one dart into several, replace a dart with a series of tucks, replace a dart with gathers, and even eliminate the dart. As the chapters progress, the alterations become more complex, for example, transferring the fit conferred by the basic dart into curved seams. The book is not intended to help in fitting clothes; one must already have the basic slopers for a bodice, skirt, or pants. The author's understanding of patterns and how they fit is highly accurate, and the suggestions for changes are innovative. I would say that the book deserves four or five stars for its theoretical analysis - my criticism is that it isn't very practical. Perhaps I'm being too demanding, for it may be impossible to teach pattern-making without hands-on demonstrations. The book's fashions are, unfortunately but unavoidably, dated. This, too, affects the extent to which the book is helpful in designing modern garments, and as a consequence I am, after reading it, still unsure of how I would change certain pattern styles. I nevertheless recommend the book for its value in understanding general principles of making a piece of flat cloth fit the contours of the body.

48 of 48 people found the following review helpful.

Misleading title for a good reference book!

By K of CSPG

As another reviewer notes, Margolis' book is not going to teach you how to make your own patterns from scratch. It won't even tell you how to draft a sloper, much less a finished pattern! Rene Bergh's more recent book, *Making Your Own Patterns: A Step-by-Step ...* is a much better reference for that purpose. Margolis' book is not worthless, however--far from! I wish she'd titled it something such as, "Principles of Pattern Design and Styling." It's quite useful in conjunction with a manual like Bergh's. Once you've drafted a workable sloper, you can refer to Margolis for all sorts of techniques in varying the styles of bodices, trousers, and skirts. Margolis does a great job of explaining how darts are the basis of design, and I enjoyed following her instructions with quarter-sized slopers to achieve various looks. Bergh's step-by-step manual is the more comprehensive source for drafting real-life patterns (I've used it several times with excellent results), and it includes some of the same techniques Margolis includes for creating design details. Together, the two make a good reference. As I said, however, Margolis' title is misleading. I would recommend it only if you know how to draft a sloper, or if (as Margolis recommends) you have already worked with one of the pattern companies' basic "fitting patterns," as another means of making your own sloper.

89 of 95 people found the following review helpful.

A long-awaited re-issue of a classic

By Ellen

Back when everyone sewed, Adele Margolis's books were best sellers and book club selections, prized for their excellent and easy-to-follow instructions on dress-making, tailoring, and creating your own patterns. As publishers phased out their craft divisions, her books went out of print, though they were still eagerly hunted down online and passed down from sewing mother to sewing daughter. Now--thank you Dover Publishers!--here is a re-issue of one of her timeless classics, with guidance that is just as fresh and useful as ever. If you sew, if you ever wanted to sew, if you just want to understand more about how clothes should be made, you **MUST** have this book by the Julia Child of sewing.

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