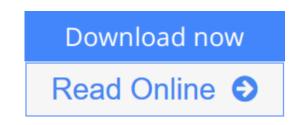


### The Colette Sewing Handbook: Inspired Styles and Classic Techniques for the New Seamstress

By Sarai Mitnick



**The Colette Sewing Handbook: Inspired Styles and Classic Techniques for the New Seamstress** By Sarai Mitnick

**Five simple fundamentals** can help you perfect any sewing project: a thoughtful plan, a precise pattern, a fantastic fit, a beautiful fabric, and a fine finish. With these five core ideas, The Colette Sewing Handbook shows you how to start sewing the wardrobe of your dreams.

Includes **five beautiful patterns** for modern classic pieces, including a scalloped-hem skirt, flutter-sleeve blouse, sweetheart neck sheath dress, asymmetrical flounce dress, and a lined dress with gathered sleeves. Each project will help you put the fundamentals into practice as you sew.

- Approachable and easy to follow. Instead of a big, confusing catalog of sewing techniques, you'll build your knowledge gradually around the five simple fundamentals. A section of basic sewing lessons means you'll never feel lost.
- **Hands-on learning**. Start improving your skills immediately by applying each of the five principles of the book to a beautiful project, included in the book.
- **Feed your creativity**. Have more fun designing sewing projects for your personal style, and create the things you'll actually love to wear!
- Feel more confident. Gain the know-how to work with any sewing pattern out there.
- Look great in what you make. Become your own custom seamstress and hand-tailor clothes that fit you the way you want.
- **Get inspired by fabric**. Expand your creative palette and get the look you want by choosing the best fabrics for your projects.
- **Perfect the details**. Make clothes you can be proud of with beautiful finishing techniques.

Colette Patterns is known for timeless design and exceptionally clear instruction. This book from designer Sarai Mitnick guides you gradually and painlessly to becoming a better seamstress. Get inspired, feel confident, and make beautiful clothing you'll be proud to wear!

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#### **Editorial Review**

Amazon.com Review

#### Featured Tips from The Collect Sewing Handbook: Seam Finishes



Finishing raw edges will extend the life of your garment, keeping the cut edges of your fabric from raveling and possibly destroying the integrity of your seams.

#### Bound Edge [pictured]

This is a method of finishing an edge, such as a neckline or sleeve hem, by enclosing it with bias tape. The seam allowance will vary, depending on the size of the bias tape you use. Use a bound edge when your pattern calls for one, such as the Taffy Blouse pattern in this chapter. You can purchase bias tape, or make your own.

#### **French Seam**

A French seam is sewn twice, encasing the raw edges within the seam. It creates a very neat, narrow seam, making it perfect for sheer or very light fabrics. It's not suited for heavy fabrics, since it will create too much bulk.

#### Flat Felled Seam

Flat felled seams are quite strong and are found often in tailored shirts or trousers. Take a look at your favorite jeans and you'll find flat felled seams. Use this technique when extra strength or durability is needed.

#### **Bound Seam**

A bound seam uses binding around the raw edges of a stitched seam. Because of its bulk, it can show through on lighter fabrics, so it's most often used with very sturdy fabrics such as denim, or on jackets and outerwear. It's a wonderful opportunity to use a fun color or printed binding, to add some flash to the inside of your garment.

#### Serged Seam

Serging is what you will see most often in ready-to-wear clothing. Raw edges are stitched with a special machine called a serger, which holds multiple spools of thread and trims the seams as it sews. If you don't have a serger, you can try zigzag stitching over the raw edges of your seam allowance, or use your sewing machine's overlock stitch if it has one. Be aware that this uses a considerable amount of thread.

#### Pinked Seam

Pinked seams are simple to create, requiring just a pair of pinking shears. The zigzag pattern of the cut edge keeps the fabric from raveling. Pinked seams are commonly found within vintage garments, which goes to show that they can last. Use pinked seams on cottons and other somewhat sturdy fabrics that are not very prone to fraying.

#### Review

"Mitnick, founder of the fashion-forward Colette Patterns line, introduces novice sewers to the principles of fine garment construction in this simple guide to couture sewing." *-Library Journal* 

"This book is packed full of information to help you learn everything you need to know to sew garments. It really has everything the newbie or intermediate sewer would need to either get started or take their garment sewing skills to the next level." - *Brett Bara, author of Sewing In a Straight Line* 

"This book delivers what it promises, excellent sewing information presented in a lovely format. I highly recommend this book to sewers of all skill levels."-*patternreview.com* 

"Mitnick not only teaches you the techniques to become a competent seamstress, but a confident one." - *UK Handmade Magazine* 

"Update your wardrobe with the classic, feminine designs featured in The Colette Sewing Handbook." - Sew News Magazine

"This may be the first book of its kind that I actually read from cover to cover." -- Darling Adventures

#### About the Author

Sarai Mitnick is the founder and designer behind Colette Patterns, a boutique sewing pattern company with a vintage-modern twist. Her patterns have become known not just for beautifully detailed design, but for having some of the best instruction on the market. A lover of vintage styles and beautiful detail, Sarai founded Colette Patterns when she discovered a lack of modern sewing patterns for design-oriented sewers, and it has been growing by leaps and bounds ever since. Her patterns have appeared in Bust magazine, Sew

Hip, and Threads, and she has written for Design Sponge, Modern Seamster magazine, and Etsy. She also manages the popular Coletterie sewing blog. Sarai Mitnick lives in Portland, OR.

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#### **Betty Walsh:**

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#### Sarah McClain:

The Colette Sewing Handbook: Inspired Styles and Classic Techniques for the New Seamstress can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that could increase your knowledge in language, easy to understand, bit entertaining however delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to put every word into joy arrangement in writing The Colette Sewing Handbook: Inspired Styles and Classic Techniques for the New Seamstress although doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource data that maybe you can be one of it. This great information may drawn you into brand-new stage of crucial considering.

#### Susan Gaier:

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