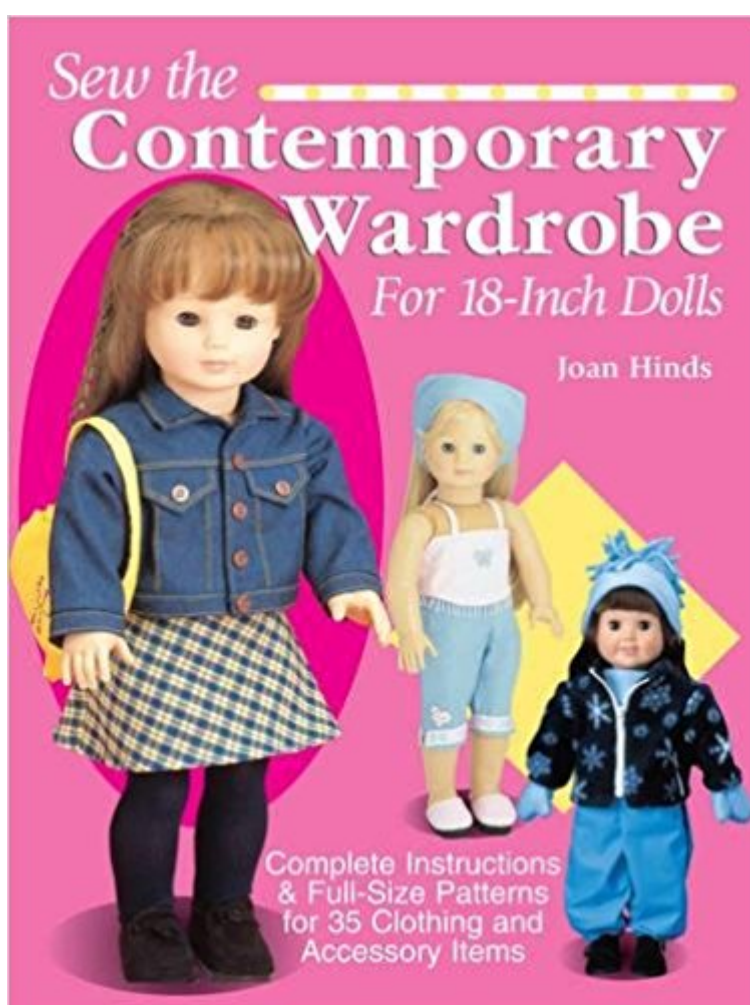


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# Sew The Contemporary Wardrobe For 18-Inch Dolls: Complete Instructions & Full-Size Patterns For 35 Clothing And Accessory Items



## Synopsis

Note: Patterns are packaged in a folder that is attached to the inside back cover. What doll lover wouldn't want to outfit their doll in today's most fashionable clothes? From a cozy fleece vest to an elegant party dress, you'll find patterns and instructions to make 16 fun, modern outfits for the ever popular 18-inch doll such as American Girls, Creative Friends, the Springfield Collection, and others. You'd spend over \$100 to buy these patterns individually, and you wouldn't get the helpful instructions Joan has written to guide you in creating all the outfits and accessories shown in the photos. \*Bonus: Instructions for making 11 accessory items \* Full-size tissue pattern sheets for more than 30 garments \* Complete step-by-step instructions with hundreds of helpful illustrations

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Hinds has to her credit eight books of sewing patterns for 18" dolls and is a widely recognized expert in doll costuming. What, you might ask, are 18" dolls? These include a number of brand-name dolls such as the American Girls, Creative Friends, and the Springfield Collection, which are all approximately that height. In planning for this book, Hinds gathered together a focus group of girls from ages five to 11 and asked them what type of clothing they wanted for their dolls. Their overwhelming desire was for doll clothes patterned after comfortable, fashionable clothing they might wear themselves. Included in this compendium are illustrated step-by-step instructions and full-size tissue pattern sheets (in a pocket in the back of the book) for sewing 16 mix-and-match outfits such as khaki cargo pants and a fleece vest or a tank top and boxer shorts. Eleven

accessory items add spice to the collection. Public libraries with a demand for books on dolls and sewing for dolls will want to purchase this one. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

"Clear instructions with plenty of diagrams and advice..." -- Galatea Magazine, Autumn 2002.

I really wanted to love this book. Having read the description I thought it sounded perfect. When things say you can use these patterns to teach your child to sew I am expecting simple patterns. The book arrived and I confess I was shocked at the level of detail in some of these patterns. The clothes are adorable but when it started talking about coat linings and piping on pj's I felt I was in over my head. I pulled out the patterns from the back. Two of the patterns have huge holes in so I did request refund which I got without issue. The paper for the pattern is very very thin, hence the holes, these were not tears just paper missing. The printing is super light and so when I cut out some pieces I was confused on how they made a top it was only after several minutes of staring I could just make out the text place on fold. I am not sure whether it is these particular patterns or just because it is doll sizes but when I went to buy supplies they did not have all the right items in and I will have to be buying these online. Also as someone who has not really sewed much I found some of the items I needed hard to find. I have now managed to make a top and a dress. I would say that the dress ran a little big on my doll. I could have lost over an inch in width and it still would have fitted. Now the doll is not one of the name brands listed so I don't know if that was the problem. I confess I found some of the instructions a little confusing. I am sure if you are used to sewing items then it would be easier. Overall I will continue to use some of these patterns but I will be adding to them as I want other designs. I am sure that as I get better at sewing some of these patterns will appeal but at the moment the details scare me.

This is more than a book. It contains real tissue patterns for all the outfits. I have made several of the outfits and even mixed and matched pattern pieces to create new designs. The instructions are pretty easy to follow, although after sewing for over 40 years, I rarely refer to them. I would like to have seen at least one pattern for a standard dress with a shirtwaist bodice and a gathered skirt, but you can figure it out using one of the tops, cropping it and adding gathered piece of the appropriate length for the skirt. This is so much easier to use than the books that require you to trace or photocopy the pattern pieces before you can use them. Since there are over 100 separate small pattern pieces, I cut them all out and put them in number order and then grouped them into about 5 groups and put them in separate envelopes and store them all in the envelope on the back

cover. The instructions tell you which piece numbers you use and this way, I only have to look thru 20 pieces not all 100+. I would like to see some of Ms. Hinds out of print pattern books available again.

I have made the pajamas and the a-line skirt from this pattern book. Will make more items as I have time. The patterns are simple, and easy to make, and stylish. I don't think any will go out of style soon (well, some may, but there are lots of classics!). I sat down and cut out all the tissue paper patterns when the book arrived, and sorted them into envelopes. This way, I don't have to hunt for the pattern pieces. I sorted some into their own separate envelopes, and others are combined (if the same piece is used for more than one pattern, generally I combined them in the same envelope and labeled the envelope accordingly).

I just made the sleeveless party dress and the pieces don't match up properly. Because the scale is so small, it is really difficult to fudge a difference of as little as 1/4". The directions are clear, but the patterns are flawed.

book's patterns are made for stretch material only. If you try to use cotton or some other material that doesn't stretch, the clothes don't fit.

If you know something about sewing, you can use these templates to create a wide variety of clothing for American Girl and Madame Alexander dolls. Nice full size patterns. I copied the basic pieces onto cardboard and draw the outlines on fabric to speed cutting. Many cute looks. Can mix and match pieces. Good book. Would work for a young lady if she had someone to guide her along.

My niece loves this book. She is almost 9 and has made a few of the outfits with her mom's help. She has an American Girl like doll and these fit fine.

The clothes are cute in the pictures, but I found the printing on the pattern pieces is so light, it is sometimes impossible to read on the tissue. In addition, none of the patterns include facings for armholes and necklines. I don't have a serger, so it will take some time to design facings so the clothes are complete with clean finishes.

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