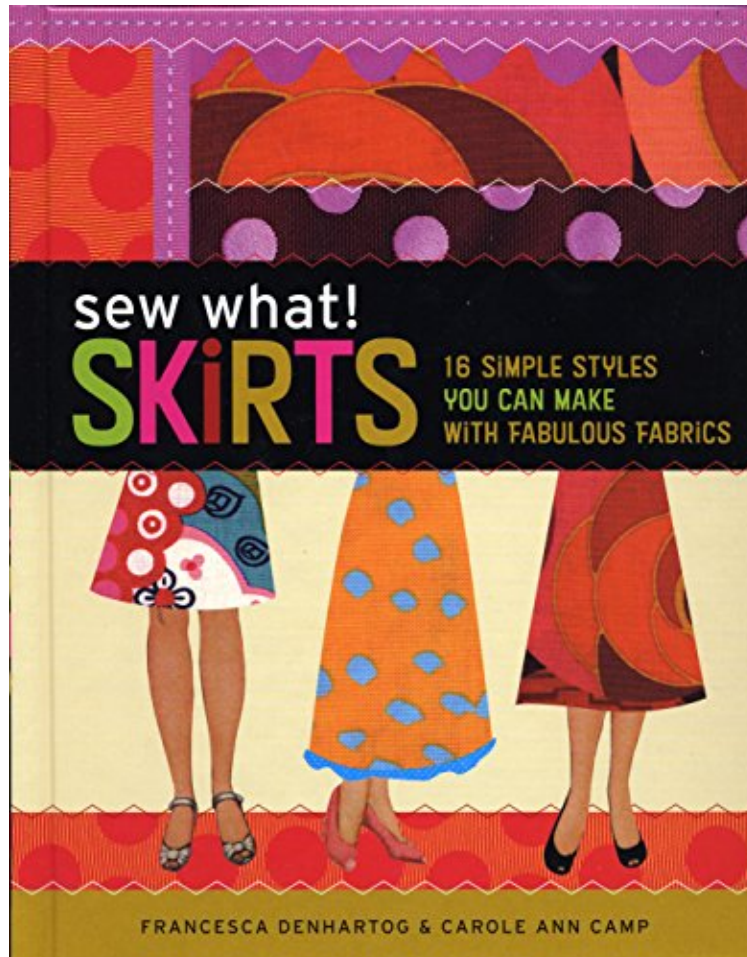


# Sew What! Skirts: 16 Simple Styles You Can Make with Fabulous Fabrics

*Francesca DenHartog*  
DOC | \*audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub



 Download

 Read Online

#398694 in Books Denhartog, Francesca/ Camp, Carole Ann 2006-09-01 Original language: English PDF # 1  
9.31 x .56 x 7.56l, #File Name: 1580176259128 pages | File size: 71.Mb

**Francesca DenHartog : Sew What! Skirts: 16 Simple Styles You Can Make with Fabulous Fabrics** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sew What! Skirts: 16 Simple Styles You Can Make with Fabulous Fabrics:

19 of 19 people found the following review helpful. For Beginners and Intermediates or Advanced With Busy Schedules Enough Imagination to Alter These Skirts For Further Variety By C. Elkins I wasn't the kind of little girl who collected Barbies and made entire, detailed, varied wardrobes for her--that was something my baby sister did (I have five sisters and three brothers). I was the geeky, skinny, stone-faced girl with her head "buried in a book". My mom wasn't a hippie but when the 70s rolled in her pedal foot Singer rolled out to the drive-way for a yard sale, and after that, if my sibs and I had hems coming undone, loose threads, buttons dangling like Halloween eyeballs in a haunted house, well, it seemed a whole lot of us back then were letting it all hang out, so it wasn't such a big deal. Now that I'm

50, I'm fed up with seeing something I like but thinking it would be nicer, sturdier, cheerier, less expensive, creatively satisfying and just somehow, over all "better" if I made it myself, and that includes skirts which I love but rarely find ready-made to fit me. (I'm 5'9"; weigh 125-135lbs; have a long torso, broad shoulders, big breasts (made of flesh, and fibroids--no saline, never added it, never will), slim hips, a wide rib cage, no behind, got more than a bit of a belly, and am otherwise not a standard, 8, 10 or any other off-the-rack number. (Sewing patterns that come closest to fitting me, but don't come that often up for sale, are size 14 1/2.) So, it was time to get some resources to go with the used Simplicity sewing machine I recently bought on another online site, a really cool, friendly, vintage-repurpose-it kind of place, whose name rhymes with "Let's see." One book led to another (I bought, love, use, recommend "Diana Rupp's SEW EVERYTHING WORKSHOP", so I added Sew What! Skirts to my reference, guidance counseling books, and it's a keeper. The writing style is peer-to-peer, not up here to down there. The authors say early on (page 7) that this book is for "risk takers" and those with "very little sewing background" who have "some creativity", and can therefore make a "playful and wearable skirt tailored to [their] unique style and shape." That sounded good to me. The lay-out is good. Nearly every page has color diagrams and photos, sketches or copies of tools and supplies. There's an internal spiral binding, and the book is glossy, made of sturdy stuff so it isn't likely to fall apart on any of us after just a few go-throughs. Each chapter gives the title for the upcoming project like "Singing the Blues" for a floral blue skirt, then a short, supportive paragraph to get you going: "This simple cotton skirt couldn't be easier to make. The drawstring waist is a cinch....," along with a facing page (the photo comes first) of an actual blue floral skirt, though blurry to represent motion, for effect, of a torso, some hands--it looks like a young woman (she is wearing killer stiletto heeled chocolate nearly knee-high boots, and is in the act of leaping which is something I sure as heck never could do in stiletto heels, and certainly wouldn't try now that I'm 50 but the skirts here are made for young and/or skinny (I'm skinny); and they're also made around the classic "A-frame" which the authors made clear early on, crediting Christine Dior for the original design. There is a "Stuff You Need" in list format: fabric, thread, exact extra fraction of fabric for pockets, a package of rickrack, cord for the drawstring..., and later on, and all over the place, the authors tell you to change it, wing it, play with it, do it as you please, which is what I need to hear because I don't like rickrack, drawstrings have a way of coming undone on me, and big flowers make me think of stern gray or blue-haired ladies drinking jasmine tea in redwood forest tall rooms out of china cups small enough for my babies sister's Barbie dolls, if I'm comparing--and I am--my own "mugs" to the uptight feeling I get when I'm around delicate china and chintz. I fell in love with the skirt on page 55, called "Tourist Trap". I loved how the authors used a vintage souvenir tablecloth from Florida (palm trees, beach balls, men without shirts, blues, reds and whites, folded down pockets with buttons... With Sew What! Skirts (and Diana Rupp's SEW EVERYTHING WORKSHOP), plus the advice, "destash" and ideas of a friend I made on the website that rhymes with Let's-See, and a few notions, some fabric, my used Simplicity machine, a pegboard, a folding rectangular table..., some plain brown wrapping paper (dollar store!). I feel inspired and prepared to alter, complete, wear and repeat projects with various embellishments and a maverick's attitude. As I paged through this book, I started thinking about how I'd use this waist with that bodice and those pockets with that ruffled hem and lighter cotton fabric plus fewer tiers and other colors, solid/print/solid/print... and how I thought and felt was a direct result of the inspiration, direction and confident attitude of the authors who were not afraid to say outright, "do it your way." So I know I got a bargain by buying Francesca Denhartog Carole Ann Camp's Sew What! Skirts. ~ Carolyn Elkins

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I Actually Made a Skirt! By eagletwo I am not a seamstress; and those few items I've sewn in the past have been spur-of-the-moment things I stitched together by hand. One weekend, when I was a teenager, I got this idea to make my friend a purse. I sat up in my room and sewed together that purse from Saturday to Sunday--and it was great! My friend used it for at least a year. I made it from paisley-print denim and NO PATTERN. It just came out of my head. But sewing clothes...? Erm, that idea wasn't as appealing. Wouldn't I mess them up? I still won't use a sewing machine (the one we have is my husband's and I know I'll break it if I even touch it!) so I decided to approach this book "Sew What! Skirts: 16 Simple Styles You Can Make With Fabulous Fabrics" from the angle of hand-sewing. My hubby was thrilled at my interest in sewing and so he took me to the fabric store on Saturday morning. I didn't work on my sewing project every day; but the following Sunday, I wore my modest skirt out for worship, the first skirt I've ever made! It's a darling pencil skirt with two little side slits and a side zipper. Is it perfect? No. Is it wearable? Oh, yes, and I've received a few compliments on it already. I had some trouble putting in the zipper without the fabric bubbling 'funny' and so covered that spot with a big button; then I put some rick-rack and buttons elsewhere to make the skirt seem 'cuter' and less professional. (Because, of course, a professional skirt will invite more critical reviews of my less-than-professional sewing skills!) Still, it's a great skirt, and I'm very pleased with it. I'm going to start in on an A-line skirt soon! The book itself is very easy to read, and fun to look at. Some of the more technical aspects of things I find confusing to read about, but I figure that's just because I'm still new to all this. There are plenty of videos online to help a newbie like me actually SEE what it's like to put an elastic in. So, all in all, I have to say that this is a great, little book. It has me making my own clothes! How cool is that?! 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. great beginner sewing book... quick to start By Janet Carmichael I am an beginner adult sewer with little to no experience sewing with a machine (unless you count 8th grade home ec). I would recommend this book to a beginner who wants to learn how

to sew while also creating something to actually wear and show off. I was able to finish the first project, a drawstring a-line skirt relatively quickly based on the instructions provided in the book. I am beginning on a project further in the book to try and improve my skills. This book features simple skirts with techniques that you can build upon. The skirts shown are not necessarily the look I usually go for, but if you use your imagination, you can come up with some great things to make. I recommend you also get other books for basic technique and know-how. Overall I am very pleased with this book. It makes sewing seem less daunting and more fun. I think a teenage sewer would really like this book as well.

Blending expert advice with inspiring designs, *Sew What! Skirts* will delight both novice and veteran sewers alike. This spiral-bound book lays flat for easy reference and features full-color photographs of 16 sample skirts, with illustrated step-by-step instructions for completing each one. Encouraging you to experiment with bold patterns and unique fabrics, Francesca DenHartog and Carole Ann Camp provide simple guidelines for translating body measurements into panel dimensions. Create a custom-tailored wardrobe that fits perfectly and showcases your unique and personal style.

"With its straightforward instructions and style a great choice for the no-frills seamstress who wants a little flounce." Rose Annis, *Bust Magazine*, November 2006