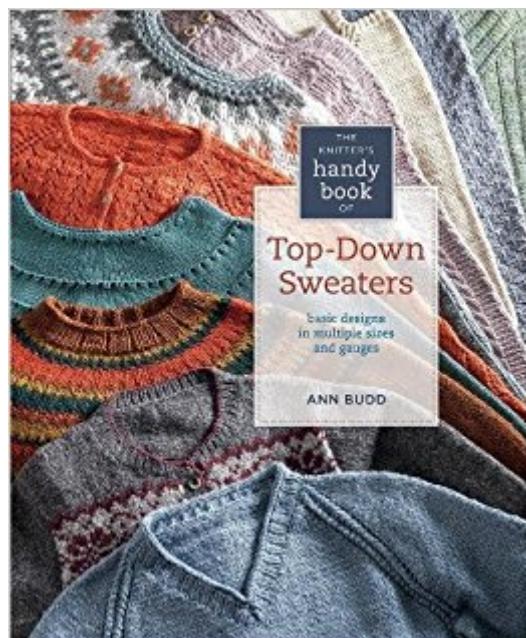


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Knitter's Handy Book Of Top-Down Sweaters: Basic Designs In Multiple Sizes And Gauges



Synopsis

Fiber and yarn enthusiasts nationwide will celebrate Ann Budd's latest addition to The Knitter's Handy Book series. Answering to a growing interest in knitting sweaters from the top down and knitting seamless sweaters that require little finishing, this handy book offers instructions for knitting five basic sweater types: circular yoke, raglan, modified-drop shoulder, set-in sleeve, and saddle shoulder. Patterns are offered in multiple sizes and yarn gauges and for a broad age group. Following the basics for each of the five sweater types are three diverse patterns from top designers that illustrate some of the many ways that instructions can be used as springboards for creative expression, including color, texture, and shaping variations. Also included for intermediate to advanced knitters are personal design touches, detailed charts, clear instruction, and quick tips to expand knitting possibilities and maintain creative originality. A key reference for knitters of all skill levels, this is the new essential knitting resource on your bookshelf.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Praise for Ann Budd's previous title, "Sock Knitting Master Class" ..".the patterns! Beautiful, yet functional stitch designs and fun colors. This is a complete book." - "CraftGossip.com" "Some features I particularly like in the book: each pattern has a box listing the different techniques used in the pattern; An overview of different styles of creating parts of the sock, such as a few different heel types, toes, and cuff treatments; both top-down and toe-up construction techniques; a handy DVD in the back. If you are looking for some great new sock patterns or just looking to get started knitting socks, this book is sure to have what you need." - "A Woolie Tale yarn shop" "You think you already

know everything there is to know about socks? After all, there are a multitude of sock books on the market these days, perfectly good books. You know everything. Except...do you really? Most (though not all) sock books I own are either filled with patterns with not a whole lot of time spent on technique, or they're full of guidance but with blah patterns. Of course, some do hit the balance between pattern and technique. Some are fairly exhaustive, in fact, and you may already have them on your shelves. But...they're not THIS book. First, this book is by Ann Budd, a genius in our time..."Master Class" is the right name!" - "KnittingScholar.com" "It's not often that I scoop a book from the top of the review pile and take it home with me, and it's even less common for me to sit down and read it right away. But with sock knitting on my mind, I was intrigued, so last night I sat down to peruse this over a cup of tea. I was absolutely delighted to see that the first chapter of the book is devoted to explaining the whys and wherefores of sock construction. Top-down or toe-up? She's got it covered. Heel flap, short row or afterthought heel? Ditto. Want to choose from a pointed toe, a spiral or star toe, or a toe band? She's got your back with that, too.

Ann Budd is the best-selling author of *Sock Knitting Master Class*, *The Knitter's Handy Book of Patterns*, *The Knitter's Handy Book of Sweater Patterns*, *Getting Started Knitting Socks*, *Interweave Presents Knitted Gifts*, *Knitting Green*, and *Simple Style*. She is also the coauthor of *Bag Style*, *Color Style*, *Lace Style*, and *Wrap Style*. She is a book editor and the former senior editor of *Interweave Knits* magazine. She lives in Boulder, Colorado.

Top-Down Sweaters is my third (and clearly my favorite) of Ann Budd's "knitter's handy" books. My first, purchased years ago, showed me clearly how easy it is to design or adjust a sweater design for any person, any type and gauge of yarn. Hooray! But this book explains even more. Here's my take on "Top-Down Sweaters:"
PROS:
1. When I use one of my Ann Budd "handy" books, I know I'll have a book that lays flat, so I don't have to weigh down the pages. I wish more publishers would print their books with spiral bound pages and a hard-back cover.
2. There are many lovely designs in this book with plenty of ways to change them to make the garment you've been dreaming of.
3. Techniques abound. But this is more of a "learn by doing" book than a strictly technique book. I've been wondering how to work the caps of sleeves on a sweater I'm now knitting. I want to have the sleeves knitted in but wasn't quite sure if I could do this with a set-in sleeve. Now I know how! (HINT: Think short rows.)
4. I'm in love with the coral cardigan on the cover, but I'm not fond of raglan sweaters because that style makes my shoulders look narrow. Using her easy instructions, I can adapt the color and stitch to make myself a cardigan with saddle sleeves rather than the raglan

I do not like.5. Tips are offered throughout the book. As a new spinner, I was pleased to learn that knitting in the round is perfect for hand spun yarn because the imperfections are spread throughout the garment rather than appearing in ugly clumps.6. Paper is nice and heavy. Photographs are clear, bright, and colorful. I couldn't ask for a better prepared book!CONS:None. This is a terrific addition to my knitting library.OVERALL:Top-Down is a book that will offer many options for every knitter, from the beginner to the pro, and for every body, from small child to large adult. Get it, or give it to a confirmed knitter.

Wow is my first response to Ann Budd's new book of top down sweater patterns. I own Ann Budd's Handy Book of Sweater Patterns, so I was familiar with the amount and type of information in these guides but I was still impressed.Budd reviews four basic types of top down sweater construction Seamless Yoke, Raglan, Saddle Shoulder and Set-In Sleeve. Each style has several patterns made in this style and all of the patterns are attractive. The only possible criticism here is that there are no patterns for men or children, even though the book includes metrics for both children's and men's garments for each style. The book then includes proportions and metrics for each style of sweater in a range of sizes for men, women and children based on guage and stitches per inch. This makes things very easy for the prospective designer or knitter. Want to make a sweater out of those ten skeins that have been in your stash for years? Make a guage swatch and find your stitches per inch - the charts will then provide how many stitches to cast on and how, when and where to increase with a stitch count for every step in every guage in yarns from fingering weight to super bulky. Sweater proportions are also reviewed for each style and each size. How long are sleeves? How long is the body of the sweater? The neck hole? The armhole and arm skyce? It is all here for every size and every guage in every style.Nor are these metrics and proportions limited to just plain colors or styles. Lace and color work have been addressed not only in the patterns provided as part of this lovely book but in theory as well. And the possibilities of complex colorwork and lace from the top down are well explained, nor are they limited to traditional and modern fair isle; there is a zig-zag colorwork pattern in the saddle shoulder style that is a stand-out in terms of design and construction and the pattern should be carefully read by all knitters for the amazing learning opportunity involved.Overall Ann Budd's new book is a gem, a jewel a must have for knitters and designers. The information is comprehensive and well-organized and allows for the creativity of the individual knitter but fully supports those new to sweater construction. the charts are clear and well organized and the information is applicable and transferable to many other knitting problems and quandaries. A superior book and reference. Highly recommended.

Ann Budd is amazing. I moved from Brazil to Portugal and just 2 knitting books came on my luggage: this one and her fabulous Getting Started Knitting Socks. This book contains every instruction needed to beautiful sweaters and cardigans. And I already knitted 5 perfect, comfortable pullovers and cardigans from it. :-D

Lots of patterns, gives great ideas. However, I've noticed that the measurements she gives for the torso and sleeve length are much shorter than the average person. Always take measurements from someone before making a garment and adjust accordingly.

This is the book I have been wanting, since I decided to knit sweaters. I have AnnBud's Handy book of Patterns and Handy book of Sweater Patterns. Both are excellent. I have used both, sucessfully. With the set of 3 books, I can figure out to make almost any sweater in any magazine, or book, in the size I want. I really like this series of books. I have learned a lot from using them, and the first two books are kind of beat up now, from my carrying them around reading and knitting from them. I wanted to knit a top down raglan (actually I did knit a top down raglan, from a purchased pattern which cost more than this book, which came out way too big). Now I know what I did wrong. I have been waiting, for this book since I first heard it was being written. I like the format, and the way you can use the information to make exactly what you want. If I could give it 10 stars I would. I am starting my most recent sweater over again. I can all ready see that it will fit better. There are some very nice patterns in the book as well, most of which I could see myself knitting for myself or a relative. *Knitter's Handy Book of Top-Down Sweaters: Basic Designs in Multiple Sizes and Gauges*

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