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The Sewing Machine Accessory Bible: Get The Most Out Of Your Machine---From Using Basic Feet To Mastering Specialty Feet



Synopsis

Whether you are a beginner or have been sewing for years, this book is packed with all the information you need to get the most out of your sewing machine, simply by changing the feet. Everything you need to know about feet attachments, from basic feet such as the zigzag foot to specialty fabric and technique feet that will help you invent new design ideas for your sewing projects. Work effortlessly with a full range of fabrics, learn great time-saving tricks, and experiment with a range of decorative effects by following the authors' creative "ideas files." Includes a guide to needle, thread, and fabric choices and buying advice for choosing basic, mid-range, and top-end sewing machines, embellishers, and sergers.

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Customer Reviews

As always, I review these types of books from the library before adding them to my collection. I had to wait 1 month to check out this one! This only the the 2nd book I've found to deal exclusively with machine feet; bar none - this is the best. Around 30 feet were reviewed & each foot included detailed pictures of the various things you could produce with the foot plus detailed pictures of exactly how to use the foot step by step. In addition, the book detailed how 1 foot could 'cross-over' to perform multiple functions. Lastly, the author included detailed pictures and part numbers for each foot - some of which I've already used to add to my collection! This book is a keeper. If you're like me, (I taught myself how to sew at 8 years old and have never had any training in 30+ years), I learned those feet can really help you out ;). I'm sure I'll use this book for years to come.

I purchased this book the other day and am very pleased that I did. It is certainly a book to keep near your sewing machine, especially if you have a Janome sewing machine. Most of the illustrations feature Janome presser feet which is a rarity to see in sewing books. Other brands of machine feet are also shown so you don't have to be afraid that the book won't be of help to you. This book is very well set up with Chapter 1 on sewing essentials including anatomy of a sewing machine and the different notions and gadgets now available to help you achieve sewing success. Chapter 2 presents Basic feet with pictures of each foot being discussed, ideas for at least 6 sewing techniques that the foot can do and step by step instructions on the basic use of the foot. Each different foot section is 2-3 pages long in full color with pictures that are large enough to follow techniques. Chapters 3, 4 and 5 are set up the same way only they deal with Specialty fabric and technique feet, Pretty edges and Fancy Stitching. The last chapter of the book is a buying guide for machines. Chapters 2-5 are the meat of the book and show many excellent ways to achieve different looks. If you don't have one type foot, you might find that you do have one that can mimic the same thing. You also might find that you will see feet that you want to put on your wish list or go buy immediately, as they will solve a particular sewing difficulty that you might have. I know I saw several feet that are on my wish list and seeing what they do and how they work helps me to know if they are something I really want. Some presser feet can be pricey so you want to be sure they are what you need to purchase. I have many sewing books and this one is the best for discussion of sewing foot attachments. This book is a keeper. For logical set up, great pictures, and thoroughness, this book gets five stars from me.

I have a Janome sewing machine, a relatively ordinary model that does fancy stitches and came with only a few presser feet; zipper, zigzag, hemming, and a couple of others. But when you go to the dealer, you can find all sorts of specialized feet that add a lot of functionality to your machine. You can do fringing, add soutache (a sort of braid), you can put piping on pillows, and do all sorts of things that are especially fun if you do home decor sewing (my favorite), make children's clothing or do costuming for theater. This book is updated and that's very welcome because there are new feet and new ideas. The book features a lot of Janome feet, which is great because that is a very common brand of machine. Other machines are discussed, however, such as Brother and Bernina. And many feet operate the same way, no matter what brand machine you own (and that includes one machine I have that is a 1953 Elna model.) There is a fifteen-step buyers guide to help you figure out which feet you want to add to your collection (helpful because too many feet can be hard on your budget. Best to buy what you intend to use.) There is also a buyer's guide on types of

sewing machines, and that is also helpful because one of the questions I get asked all the time is "which machine?" That depends on many things--basically what you intend to sew the most, or what functionality you wish to add that you don't have already and can't ADD to your existing machine. (For example, I want to do embroidery, so I added an embroidery sewing machine because I can dedicate it to monogramming or motifs for clothes and decor items. But if I don't intend to embroider, that machine would not be needed.) There is also a buyer's guide for sergers. If you are a quilter, there is plenty here on walking feet and other accessories for quilting. But even if your sewing is going to be of the most basic kind, the first four chapters plus the buyer's guide are reason enough to have this book on your shelf. And you will get ideas for decorative sewing, which can be a very rewarding pastime as well as a way to customize your clothing. A few lessons on your machine, and you may never have to pay anyone to shorten a pant leg or sleeve again, once you learn how easy it is, and how you can even make the edge finished professionally in a few minutes. Highly recommended.

I was excited about this book and could hardly wait for it to arrive. I expect an 'Accessory Bible' which talks about 'Mastering Specialty Feet' to do just that. The book is probably good for someone who knows little about machine feet although I am not sure there is enough information, after telling you what a foot will do, to be able to successfully use some of them. The specialty feet that I wanted information on how to use were not covered at all. "The Sewing Machine Classroom" by Charlene Phillips does a much better job on how to use machine feet as well as an enormous amount of other useful information. I'd still like information on mastering and understanding how to successfully use specialty feet. I already know how to use basic feet.

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