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Vogue® Knitting The Ultimate Hat Book: History * Technique * Design



Synopsis

Vogue® Knitting presents a comprehensive overview of an enduring knitters' favorite and essential fashion accessory: hats. It covers everything from global traditions and classic styles to key techniques, blocking to achieve the best shape, design advice, and 50 remarkable patterns from some of today's top knitwear designers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

THE ULTIMATE HAT BOOK is another collection of patterns that were mostly published previously in Vogue Knitting magazine: this time the focus is hats. Perhaps to justify the "ultimate" title, the editors have added 10 pages of "Hat Basics" at the beginning of the book. The "Basics" topics are: History of Knitted Hats (interesting, but only 2 pages); Anatomy of a Hat (definitions of "visor", "band", etc.); Types of Hats (cloche, chullo, etc.); and Basic Techniques (knitting in the round, knitting back and forth, yarn selection, etc.). The "Hats Off to Knitting" introduction states that the editors culled the magazine archives for "favorite and most enduring" designs, and also asked current designers to submit new designs for "their perfect hat". Unfortunately, there's no way to tell which designs are new, and which are reprinted (short of pulling out your old magazines). Some of the reprinted patterns were originally written for now-discontinued yarns, so the editors have substituted available yarns. To the editors' credit, the discontinued yarns are fully described in the "Helpful Information" at the back of the book. When the VK magazine patterns were originally

published, the hat designs were fresh and fashionable. However, as collected in this book, the reprinted patterns seem dated and somewhat dull, and the new patterns don't stand out from the rest. The book's layout doesn't help. A colored band on each right-hand page lets you fan the book pages to find the pattern categories (Basic Shapes, Cables, Lace, Color, Embellishments), but this restricts the full-page model photos to the left-hand pages, resulting in a predictable, boring presentation. The patterns have clear, written-out instructions supplemented by charts as necessary.

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