

# Felted Vests

## A Step by Step Guide

By Phyllis Hoffman

Felting is fun to do and its products are fabulous to wear. Join the experienced dressmaker Phyllis Hoffman as she shares with you the art of making elegant felted clothing.

With nearly 40 years of experience in teaching dressmaking in South Africa and Australia and fitting bodies of all shapes and sizes, Phyllis was immediately smitten when she stumbled on felting. Finally, she had the opportunity to design the fabric as well as the garment. Phyllis 'felt' the desire to share her unique felting techniques with fellow felters so that they too could felt vests that drape well, look like classy, original designer garments, and fit and flatter their bodies, no matter what shape or size.

The instructions in the book will teach you how to draft a pattern that can be used to make garments for adults and children of all shapes and sizes. It is intended for anyone who would like to explore the craft of felting.

The book is divided into the following sections:

- Section One gives detailed instructions on a very easy method of drafting a basic vest pattern using your own measurements.
- Section Two describes the three methods of using your pattern:
  - Making a length of fabric and cutting and sewing the pattern. Using this method, shoulder seams are stitched and armholes and neck edges finished off by hand or machine.
  - Increasing the size of the pattern to allow for shrinkage in the felting process, and felting the shape. Only the shoulder seams are stitched afterwards.
  - Making a template. There is no sewing at all.
- Section Three covers basic felting and nuno felting techniques.
- Section Four comprises 20 patterns for vests with detailed instructions on how to make them.



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THE AUTHOR

**Phyllis Hoffman**

By the time Phyllis Hoffman migrated from South Africa to Australia in 1993 she already had three successful books on pattern-making and dress-making published: 'Easy Pattern-Making', 'Sew Easy' and 'Overlock Clothes to Wear.' She has operated her own sewing school for over 30 years and is widely regarded in the art/craft world as an innovative leader in felting.



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