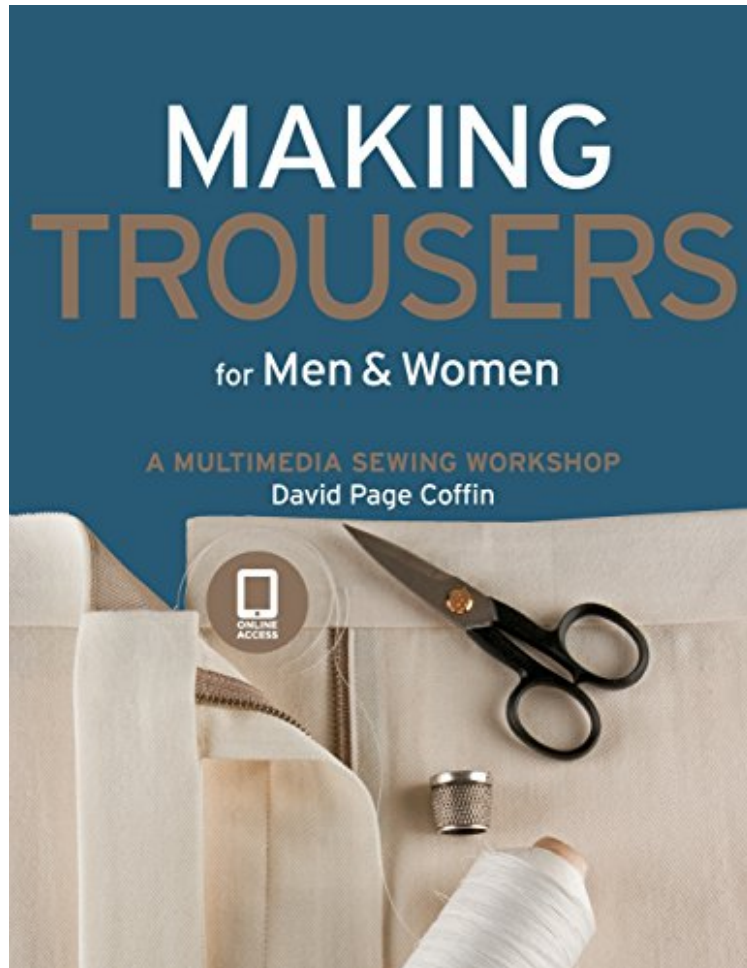


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Making Trousers for Men Women: A Multimedia Sewing Workshop

David Page Coffin

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David Page Coffin : Making Trousers for Men Women: A Multimedia Sewing Workshop before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Making Trousers for Men Women: A Multimedia Sewing Workshop:

184 of 185 people found the following review helpful. THE go-to book for making a better pair of trousersBy Kathy GraceDavid Page Coffin's book on Shirtmaking changed my whole game when it came to sewing men's shirts. Before it, I was a paint-by-numbers shirtmaker--blindly following pattern directions, dissatisfied with the results but not knowing how to improve them. After finding Shirtmaking, I realized that the pattern instructions were in fact not the best... for instance, I still don't know why continuous lap sleeve plackets are so popular in commercial patterns--I think they're difficult to do well, and look like crap when done less-than-well. Coffin's extremely clear instructions gave me the confidence to make my own changes to printed patterns, and better sleeve plackets were just the beginning. I also

improved my collar skills, changed a stand collar to a band, tried (and successfully pulled off!) a hidden button front placket, and finally mastered flat-felled seams (now my very favorite seam finish). Well, Coffin has done it again. Making Trousers is loaded with ideas for variations on pockets, better ways to make and reinforce waistbands, fly construction, fabric selection, working order... it's amazing. What it's NOT, however, is a beginner's book. The book starts with an examination of several pairs of pants, from RTW jeans to couture women's trousers, and the language he uses to describe them assumes that you know your way around. For instance, the fly front: Coffin debates the merits of cut-on versus separate fly shields and extensions, discusses bulk reduction, and doesn't overlook the effect of straight-grain vs. bias. There are two step-by-step demos of two different methods of inserting a fly zipper, then a comparison of the subtle differences between the techniques, tips on reducing bulk, topstitching, and binding... and THEN a demo for making a button fly. Be forewarned: if you haven't made at least one pair of trousers (and I do mean trousers--pull-on pants don't count), this book may be over your head.**The other thing it's not is a fitting book. The front matter sets this straight--Coffin suggests drafting your own or having a patternmaker do it. If you have a pattern that fits you already, you're good to go (and if you don't, Burda is probably the best place to start). Pants for Real People, while probably about as far away from Coffin as you can get in terms of writing style and layout, is a decent resource for fitting. The included DVD is a real bonus. I'm not a big fan of instructional DVDs for sewing (it's usually hard to tell what's going on, because people's hands get in the way of seeing what's going on with the sewing), but this DVD contains loads of illustrations and examples that couldn't be included in the book without doubling its size and cost. There are patterns for several pocket variations, sewing and finishing tips, and lots and lots of construction closeups of both handmade and RTW clothing. The DVD contains PDFs which have both photos and QuickTime videos. I had no problem viewing them. I'm looking forward to trying out some of the waistband techniques right away. If you're interested in improving your trouser construction skills, I feel sure you'll benefit from this book.** Third paragraph edited to correct a ridiculous misstatement on my part :-)

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Is it worth it? (Sewing Edition) By Le Lapin Is it worth it? Yes, This is one of those books that you are happy to have purchased and will get quite some shelf time from. I love the fact that David shows photos of actual clothing with labels to show which parts they make-up. The setting of the book is everything I had wished fine shirt-making would have been. With all of that being said. This book is not beginner friendly. This book is for someone who already sews someone who is used to sewing terminology and basic pant construction but has not made a huge amount of trousers. (At least I think that's who will get the most immediate use from). But if you are beginner and trousers are what you want to make I would not hesitate to grab this book-(As well as a basic construction book) It will assist you greatly and have a very good shelf life. Welt pockets are not necessarily easy to construct and I wish David had paid a little more attention to showing how it is sewn. I think the few illustrations were lacking clear direction on how to assemble the welt pocket. If you don't know how to sew welt pockets you won't learn it here. The only thing that could have made this book better IMHO is a section dealing with fitting the crotch area :(Which can be a pain. I can see why he left it out though it's such a tricky fit area and I prefer he leave it out then haphazardly explain how to get the correct fit. I also wish he had listed good fabrics for making trousers instead of writing a full section on it-That would have been helpful. I did however take off a point because my book did not come with a CD-Rom it stated online access but when I went to the website it stated website suspended. Would I have purchased this book with out the extra content... Yes!

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. You won't regret this purchase! By Mike I'm truly a beginner sewist, but I've read and re-read this book, cover to cover, at least 5x. He's truly an inspiration; this book will give you the know-how and the know-why. I'd recommend this to ANYONE who's even just curious about sewing garments them self. It will undoubtedly improve not only the quality of your work, but your discernment and appreciation of any RTW garment. Without a doubt, on the top of my list for ESSENTIAL sewing reference books to add to your personal library.

Comfortable, flattering pants can be challenging to make - but they're wonderful to wear. In this book, David Coffin provides his inventive, sure-fire methods for getting it right. With his characteristic precision and straight talk - and with the help of photographs, drawings, and exclusive access to a series of online video sequences - Coffin teaches the reader how to get great results, whether making a showcase garment or just whipping out an everyday pair. For more information and book-related extras, visit <http://makingtrouserswithdpc.blogspot.com/>, David Coffin's blog all about making trousers and specifically designed for the readers of this book.

About the Author David Page Coffin's career as a sewing expert, teacher, and writer began with a self-published how-to book about making custom shirts, which became a bestseller and led to an 18-year editors post at Threads magazine, where both his sewing and publishing skills found a worldwide audience. Coffin is also the author/creator of the authoritative and bestselling sewing books Making Trousers for Men Women and The Shirtmaking Workbook, hundreds of sewing articles, two Crafts classes, and YouTube videos with hundreds of thousands of views. He has taught workshops throughout the United States and Canada and in the UK, appeared on nationally syndicated sewing shows, and been a featured host on various sewing bulletin boards and websites. He lives in Brookings, Oregon, with

his wife Ellen. www.shirtmakingwithdpc.com