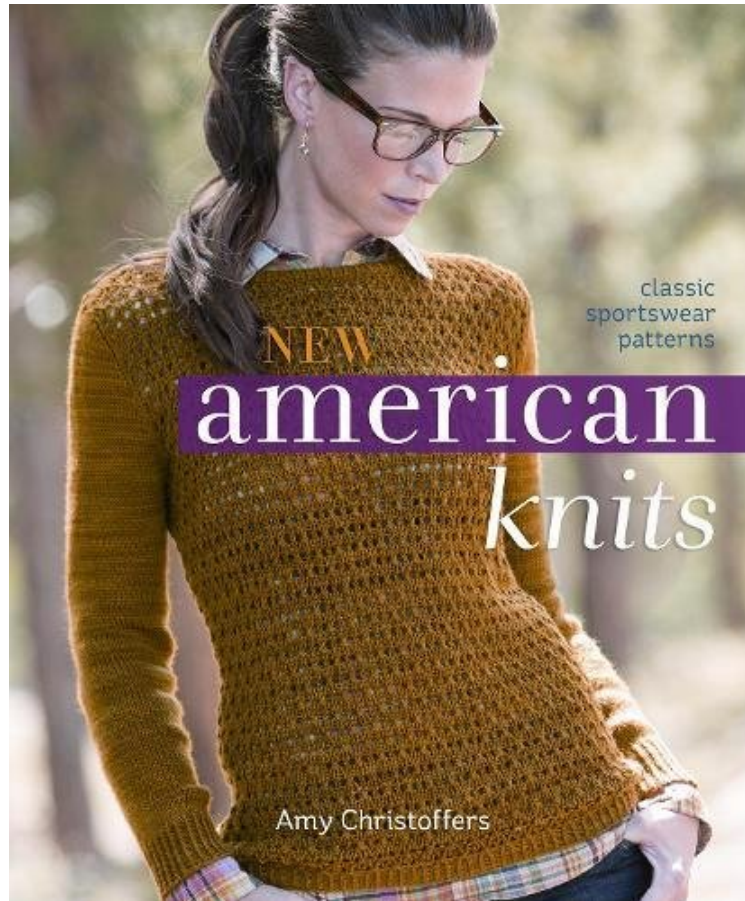


## New American Knits: Classic Sportswear Patterns

Amy Christoffers

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**Amy Christoffers : New American Knits: Classic Sportswear Patterns** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised New American Knits: Classic Sportswear Patterns:

18 of 19 people found the following review helpful. practical garments for women who wear sportswear nearly all the time (like me)By Carol MelloWe don't grow femme fatales in my family for the most part. The women grow up liking sportswear for everyday. The garments in this book are all of the type women in my family from Grandma (my mom) to my two nieces and my female in-laws would all wear. In fact, since some of us are taller than average, some of us have been known to go shopping in the men's department for a garment for ourselves or borrowed permanently garments from husbands.I like nearly every pattern in this book (exception: tasha shawl, but not because it is not pretty; just because I don't wear shawls and don't know anyone who does, not even "Grandma"). The patterns are feminine but not overly so. I am an intermediate knitter. I am not daunted by anything except entrelac which I attempted when a beginner (in a LYS class). Even though I am now a better knitter than then, I still bear entrelac a grudge. I try one new technique in each project I undertake. This is going to be a very good book for me since there

seems to be new techniques for me (i.e. ones I have not tried yet) in most of the garment patterns. Style-wise this book is a winner. The photos of models wearing the garments are good; they do not appear to be hiding any possible fit problems. (One of the first knitting books I read, I believe written by Meg Swanson, warned about photos that hid poor design.) Interweave Press is a good publisher. They have a web site and you can contact them via the web site if you run into problems. They care about their customers. This is the first book I have bought from this author. If my projects turn out well, I will add her to my must buy knitting author list. **DISCLAIMER:** I have not tried knitting any of these patterns yet so I cannot verify the correctness of the instructions. I need to wait until July when my pension comes in so I can buy some appropriate yarn. Although it seems to me that most intelligent knitters once past being beginners can figure out how to correct errors in instructions. Certainly, I am not advanced but I can figure it out how to correct all mistakes in patterns that I have run into so far during my knitting projects. It sometimes takes some tinkering and thinking but it can be done. So you will never find a review by me complaining of typos, whether a novel or a knitting book. If I found that a pattern contained instructions that I could not correct, I would contact the publisher at their address, which always listed on the back of the title page.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Modern, clean, flattering designs By JBI really like this collection of sweater patterns. It is listed as "classic sportswear patterns" and honestly I don't really see how they are sportswear related but that aside the patterns are all really lovely. I'm 30 and I find that my biggest complaint with knitting pattern books is that they tend to be old and frumpy sweaters, something even my grandmother would not find "hip" or "cute". But these patterns are, for the majority, very flattering modern looks. I've made two of the sweaters so far and the patterns are easy to follow and accurate and the end result is really striking. Occassionally, in most books, you'll find mistakes in patterns but I haven't so far in this book. The patterns included in this book are modern, they're cute and they are definitely professional looking, like something you could find in a store however they are all unique so I guarantee that though they are store quality you won't be finding them on anyone else. The charts that are included are helpful and also intuitive to read. The color choices they use and the yarn are all very interesting and the photographs are stunning. I typically won't spend the money on a pattern book unless there are more patterns I would make than would not and to be honest those books are rare for me to find (I mean with sites like ravelry and pinterest it's usually a waste of money to buy most of the books out there). This book I'd be happy to wear about 90% of what's inside and I was fine with spending the money. I'm overall very happy with this purchase and looking forward to knitting more pieces from it.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Some Lovely Patterns to Knit By Fairbanks Reader - Bonnie Brody New American Knits contains several lovely patterns but I wouldn't exactly call them 'new'. Many are based on the tried and true patterns of the past. Some have a twist but they are very traditional and, personally, I like that. The title is a bit misleading. The Rockwell Hat is beautiful. Living as I do in Alaska, I can see knitting this for myself. It has an acorn motif and is knit with Acadia tweed. It incorporates cable knitting which I really enjoy. The Alvarez Hat looks like a Fair Isle pattern with one main color and two secondary ones. The colors are beige, brown and orange and they complement one another beautifully. I think the book is worth the price for the Remington Cardigan alone. It is stunning with its feather motif. It is V-necked with different patterns on the right and left side. The Hopper Cardigan, worked from the bottom up, is knit in a deep and gorgeous green with cable and eyelet motifs. I love the Tanner cowl which incorporates knitted lace eyelets, "eyelets worked every row". The cowl is knit in the round and the finished cowl looks beautiful on both the purl and knit sides. All the patterns are based on or named after a famous artist. I know a bit about art and I think that incorporating the 'artist' bit into the patterns is a bit of a stretch. However, there are some lovely patterns in this book.

Practical and stylish pieces for daily life! New American Knits offers garments that are casual but polished, equally appropriate whether running errands, at the office, or socializing with friends. Author Amy Christoffers takes her inspiration from the clean lines and elegant functionality of American sportswear and creates projects that have a classic nostalgic feel. In designing her fashionable modern uniform, Amy focuses on beautiful everyday sweaters, tops, and pretty accessories. Included are sections on texture and lace and pops of colorwork to add visual and knitterly interest. Projects feature traditional, seamless, and semi-seamless construction as well as detailed finishing. New American Knits has a "country house" feel with touches of heather grays, tweeds, slubby textures, and muted tones. The book is visually elegant with a streak of casual bohemian style, much like the projects themselves.

"I found this book to have quite a few designs I'd want to knit. I like 'sporty' knits and am very much a cardigan girl. This book has a great balance of both cardis and pullovers with a few accessories like a cowl, shawl and fingerless mitts thrown in coming to total of 20 patterns. I liked the yarn choices and the palette was nicely paired with the photo location. All of the garments would be ideal wardrobe staples and are classic enough that they can be worn for years to come. In true Interweave fashion, the charts were easy to read, the schematics clear and readable and the garments had a nice array of sizes provided." --Tanis Knits "Her designs are timeless, and she gives such thought to every detail. I find she works with traditional motifs and shapes, but really gives them something special, so that the traditional sweater is not exactly the garment you've seen before." --Baby Cocktails "If I could sum up in one word, okay, maybe several, I would say, This book represents what knitters want to knit. Me included. It contains wearable pieces that are

classic in style, yet simply sophisticated, with a modern flare." --Dishcloth Diva"The designs are beautiful, and would be proudly worn to work, school, or out on the town. The book has a thoughtful mix of techniques, and I am confident that almost anyone will find a project in this book they might want to make." --Kyle William"One glance through Amy Christoffers' New American Knits: Classic Sportswear Patterns shows that she has a deep appreciation for patterns that are designed with the everyday in mind. All of the patterns in the book are simple and incredibly wearable." --All Free Knitting"The photography is all sun-dappled and vibrant. The layout is clear, and the different pieces of information--yarn types and yardages, measurements, needles, etc.--are all set out in their own little categories. Smallish charts aside (and I have to say that no chart will ever be big enough for me), this is one of the best layouts I've seen for a pattern book in a while." --Jen the Bossy Big Sister"The new book extends her style into the realm of classic sportswear, the kind of sweaters that you can throw on every day and look polished and put together. The photography is lovely, and the layout is clear and readable. It's a pleasure to leaf through it." --Brenda Castiel Designs"Amy's patterns feature clean lines and are effortlessly wearable. They are the kinds of items you just want in your wardrobe. The kind that are easily incorporated into your daily life." --Very Shannon"The easy-to-follow patterns include illustrations for garment construction and, if necessary, graphs for either pattern or colorwork." --The Detroit News"Amy Christoffers is the design goddess of everyday chic. She captures a modern sensibility that simultaneously looks casual and pulled together--a little Katherine Hepburn, a little J.Crew. I waited excitedly for this collection to come out and it doesn't disappoint!" --Knitty.com"The author is entranced with what she calls the 'American look': simple but sophisticated, but with a few unexpected touches. New American Knits includes 20 women's garments--cardigans, pullovers, vests, hats, wristers and more--each named for an American artist who has inspired Christoffers. A goodly number of the garments are predominantly stockinette stitch, while others feature interesting lace, colorwork and cable motifs, mixing up skill levels for wider appeal. The Rockwell hat, for instance, features a striking acorn-like motif; the Hopper cardigan is knit in dark emerald green with cleverly placed cable and lace motifs to give it extra oomph. This contemporary collection is sure to appeal to Christoffers' many fans and will certainly win her new ones." --Yarn Market News