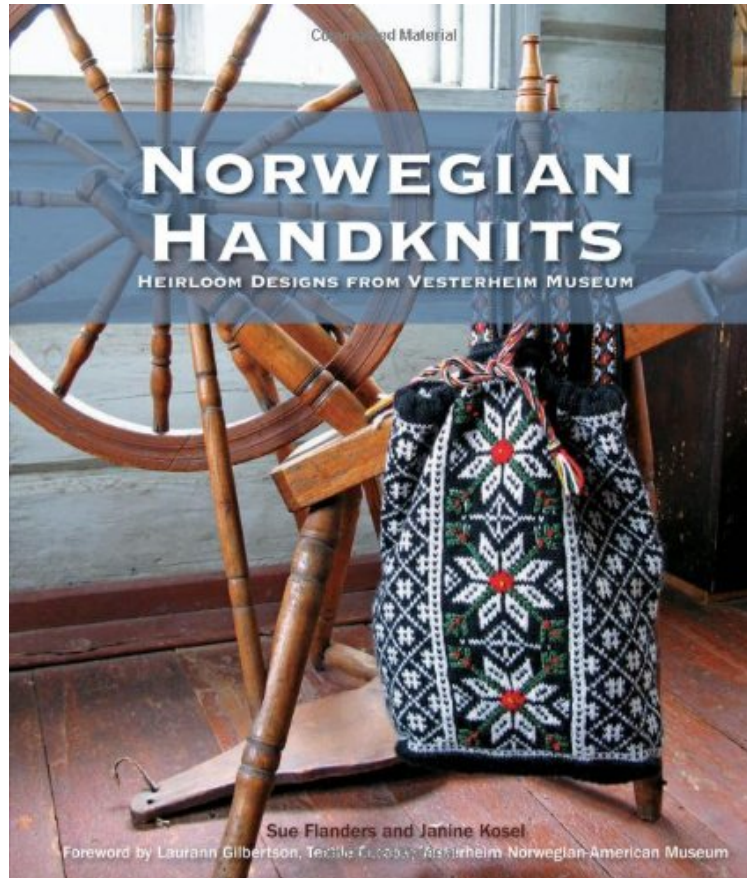


(Download ebook) Norwegian Handknits: Heirloom Designs from Vesterheim Museum

Norwegian Handknits: Heirloom Designs from Vesterheim Museum

Janine Kosel

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Janine Kosel : Norwegian Handknits: Heirloom Designs from Vesterheim Museum before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Norwegian Handknits: Heirloom Designs from Vesterheim Museum:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fun book of knitting and other stuff! By Wulfstan Norwegian Handknits by Sue Flanders and Janine Kosel This is a fun book, with historical details and beautiful pictures, and some tasty looking recipes thrown in. (I love the lack of a lutefisk recipe- lutefisk- blecch!) There are great knitting patterns and also instructions for other skills like needle felting embroidery, different types of cords and braids, decorative felt balls, and some beading. The charts are large, clear, and easy to read, and in helpful colors. The patterns are also very easy to follow. There are a lot of colorwork patterns and they are all easy to read and follow as well. I want to knit most of the patterns in this book and the one I have made already, (The Rose or Bridal Wimple), has turned out really well. I don't have that much experience with knitting lace but this pattern made it easy. The Entrelac Sheep are so cute I'm going to have to learn how to do that as well. You'll find lots to knit for yourself and for your family in this book. 40 of 42 people found the following review helpful. Knitting Historian's Delight By Lynne E. I love this book for the photographs of the museum-quality knitted items in the Vesterheim Museum's collection. (I would love it even

more if the photographs of the historical items were larger than thumbnails--they average about 2" x 2.5".) I also love the historical photographs of Norwegians in traditional dress, and the photos of some of the people who actually wore the original knitted items. The patterns that interest me least are the ones that are "inspired" by motifs lifted from items in the collection. For example, there is a "Reindeer Headband" pattern that uses a standard reindeer motif found on an embroidered pillow cover that was made in 1937; and there is a "Rose or Bridal Whimble" pattern that seems to be a modern design with only a row of stylized roses (or a row of stylized man and woman clasping hands) taken from a motif found on Selbu mittens. However, there is a pattern for a "Dancing Hat", charted for 35s/37r to 4" that allows you to make a hat that is fairly close to a museum replica of the original. There is also a pattern for "Cross Country Ski Socks" in blue and white, charted at 34s/40r to 4", that produces an absolutely stunning pair of socks sporting an eight-point star motif, with patterned calf gusset and alternating blue and white stitches on the sock sole, that is virtually indistinguishable from the original. The "Ruth's Cap" pattern, for a baby hat, is, unfortunately, written for a much larger gauge than the original, but the information about the original knitter's concept would enable an experienced knitter to reproduce the original in a fine-gauge yarn. In addition, there are instructions for making (1) "Nisse Hats", the pointed stocking hats worn by Norwegian folklore elves, (2) Kumihimo braids, (3) needle-felted Rosemaling motifs to attach for decoration, (4) "shag" that creates a sort of furry embroidered decoration, and (5) "Decorative Felt Balls" that can be attached to drawstrings or scarves or anything that needs bobbles to look finished. There are patterns for traditional Norwegian patterned mittens, an adult "Sami Sweater", two intricately patterned adult "Voss Sweaters", a fringed "Voss Shawl", and a delightful "Work Day Shawl" with a garter stitch center and a swirly sawtooth edging. There is even a recipe for Norwegian "Krumkake". The whole book is beautifully presented, with lovely photos of the finished items. The text is informative, well-written, and places everything in historical context. This is a book for knitting history buffs to treasure. Because knitted items wear out, and are hard to preserve, there are all too few photographs available of historical knitted items. 14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Norwegian inspired designs By K. Lowe To me it is a very lovely book, the extended patterns based off "Ruth's" knitting are pretty mundane though. In this publication the authors chose to design their patterns from beginner to advanced, limiting the space for detailed sweater patterns. The Voss sweaters at the end are impressive though. The ski socks, hats, mittens, and felted embroidered purses are inspiring to me. While some of the pillow patterns are quite lovely, such as the "Foolish Virgins", it is irritating that they included a stereotypical Viking ship pillow. Why? There are many publications dedicated to traditional Norwegian sweater patterns, so to me, it is nice to have one which mainly provides smaller projects. I love the historical references. Despite the few uninspired patterns, I am quite happy to have added this book to my Nordic knitting collection.

Norwegian Handknits collects 30 patterns for folk mittens, socks, scarves, hats, wristers, handbags, knapsacks, and a sweater or two inspired by traditional knits housed in the Vesterheim Museum in Decorah, Iowa. An introduction reflecting on the history of Norwegian-style knitting and the stories behind the handknits that inspired the patterns will be included. Sidebars include classic Norwegian cooking recipes and historical knitting photos.

From the Back Cover Norwegian Handknits collects thirty patterns for colorful folk mittens, socks, scarves, hats, wristers, handbags, knapsacks, and sweaters all inspired by traditional knits housed in Vesterheim Museum in Decorah, Iowa. As the premier center for Norwegian-American heritage in the United States, Vesterheim is home to the world's most extensive collections of textiles and handknits made by Norwegian immigrants in America and their ancestors from the Old World, providing a link between today's culture and a rich past. With an introduction reflecting on the history of Norwegian-style knitting and the stories behind the handknits that inspired the patterns, the book is at once a practical guide, a repository of cultural history, and a lovely look at one of the rich traditions knit into the American fabric. Vintage photographs, Norwegian folklore, and recipes accompany the patterns.