



# Lotta Jansdotter's Simple Sewing for Baby: 20 Easy Projects for Newborns to Toddlers

*Lotta Jansdotter , Meiko Arquillos (Photographer)*

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Beloved designer Lotta Jansdotter shows how easy it is to make cheerful gifts for little cherubs. A new mother herself, she's created 24 projects that match her simple style with practicality, resulting in sweet, yet durable, essentials for any rumble-tumble baby. She includes baby hats, bibs, a diaper bag built for the back of a stroller, a ribbon-tag blankie perfect for teething, and many more pint-sized projects. Beautiful photographs inspire while clear step-by-step instructions and how-to illustrations ensure foolproof crafting. With ready-to-use pattern sheets included in the handy front pocket and stencil templates at back, *Simple Sewing for Baby* makes it a cinch to stitch up modern accessories for both baby and mom.

## Lotta Jansdotter's Simple Sewing for Baby: 20 Easy Projects for Newborns to Toddlers Details

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## From Reader Review Lotta Jansdotter's Simple Sewing for Baby: 20 Easy Projects for Newborns to Toddlers for online ebook

### Adrienne says

Jansdotter provides directions for twenty-four sewing projects for babies and toddlers, including clothes, toys, and handy things for parents, like a nursing pillow and changing pad. The bright pictures make the book appealing, but some of the instructions weren't crystalclear to me. More experienced sewers might not have any trouble, though. One other thing I didn't like is that some of the clothes didn't specify the child's size; for example, a dress said the finished size is 17 inches, but I don't know what that translates to in baby clothes sizes. Overall, though, I'm happy with the things that I did make based on the book and I think this is a great resource.

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### Kimberli says

Although I like the look and idea of the book, I have found when my beginner sewing students bring me this book to work on a project, they are all too confused. There are also errors in this book. Has anyone found a list of errata?

The error I found right off is on the Simple Dress pattern. There is no mark on the pattern indicating where the "opening mark" is, which stumped my student until I added one. I've seen some murmurs on Flickr about additional errors, but have yet to try those patterns.

Patterns are simple enough, although some instructions for what would be considered basic techniques at the sewing school I teach at are not described. Because I find the items cute I gave it four stars, but it's really closer to 3.5 stars.

Sewing Level: advanced beginner

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### Amie says

I just finished my 8th project from this book and I have yet to find one that I didn't love. True to the title, every project has been simple and easy enough for a beginner like me. Lotta Jansdotter's instructions are well-written and easy to follow and her patterns are so simple to use. The other plus to her patterns is that none of them takes a lot of time (this is a HUGE plus for me!). A beautifully photographed and well-organized sewing book is so hard for me to resist! :)

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### Kathryn says

I'm going to be a first time grandmother in March 2010, so this is a great book for things to make for both baby and mom

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## Laurene Jewell says

I am loving this book! So many reasonable and great projects to do!

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## Marjanne says

So stinking cute! This is one I'm debating whether just to buy it myself or put it on a wish list. The author is darling and has quite the creative streak. Her designs are darling, not to mention the photography. I'm excited to try some of her projects and even more to see my darling kids in them.

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## Inder says

As with her other book, "Simple Sewing," my main criticism of this book is that the projects may be a bit too simple. But with a newborn in the house, suddenly this doesn't seem like much of a criticism - if I'm going to get any sewing done during short naps, it better be insanely simple! Also, using a little kerchief as a bib? Total genius!! And the bloomers? So flippin' cute. She got my \$25.

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Reporting back (again), I've sewn several pairs of bloomers (adorable, but they run much smaller than advertised - however, the pattern is easy to adapt to bigger babies or cloth diapers), many pairs of pants (initially, I didn't like the two piece pattern, but have come back to it now that my baby is bigger - these run big). The kerchief/bib is indeed so flippin' cute I can hardly stand it (and so easy!). I have also made several taggie-toy blanket-thingies (I pieced them, so they're like little quilts), and my baby LOVES them.

I wouldn't say the patterns are amazing - they are simple to the point of slightly sloppy. The clothing items have only one or two sizes (and the book is unclear or just wrong about what size of child they might fit), but they are unusually easy to adapt to your needs (that is, even a rank beginner could probably figure out how to alter them).

Overall, I have made more projects from this book than any other that I own. I would say that this is a great book for a beginner sewer, and a fun, inspirational book for a more advanced but busy sewer with a baby in the house.

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## Alexis says

I like the layout & the simplicity of the designs--they seem more doable than most of the projects in Amy Butler's Little Stitches. The execution is the final test, however, and I have too many projects to start anything right now.

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## Maria says

There are a lot of easy, creative non time consuming ideas in this book. A great one for a beginner or someone wanting baby gift ideas.

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## Amy says

I love this book. In less than a week I've already made 2 baby hats and giraffe rattle with plans to make so much more when I learn the gender of my baby next month. There are patterns included for most of the items in the book, plus pictures and written instructions. All but the dress are uni-sex.

The patterns include:

- \*bloomers
- \*bib kerchief
- \*simple dress (with a cute little pocket friend)
- \*simple pants
- \*decorated tees and bodysuits
- \*2 kinds of baby hats and a scarf
- \*giraffe rattle
- \*a weird "buddy" that looks like a stuffed person in the shape of a very large fingertip ... with spindly arms & legs
- \*soft letter pillows (for play or decoration)
- \*soft book
- \*mini tag blanket
- \*snuggler
- \*bib
- \*play quilt with pocket
- \*book mates/bookends (more fingertip-shaped people)
- \*nursing pillow
- \*towel hoodie
- \*washcloths
- \*crib bumper
- \*diaper bag
- \*changing pad
- \*velcro pouches
- \*burp rags

Most of the items are simple enough to only take up an hour or so of your time to make (sometimes less in the case of items like the bibs). The instructions are okay. I've had to scribble in my own notes from trial and error or if I disagree with her method (why embroider before sewing if you're embroidering by hand?). But she tends to give too much information rather than not enough for most projects.

I think even the beginning seamstress could manage the projects in this book. A beginner might have to research a few phrases like "slipstitching", but all in all, these are probably some of the easiest and universally useful baby patterns around.

My only gripe about this book is that I really hate Lotta's choice of fabric. Ew. Luckily, this means that when I compare everything I make to the pictures in the book, mine look better even if it's only because I like my fabric choices better. Everyone is entitled to their own taste in colors and patterns. You might not like my navy blue and olive green giraffe as much as I do. ;)

### **Elke Ursin says**

I wish I could give this one 5 stars, it is just fantastic! The reason I can't quite give it a perfect score is because her instructions at times are confusing or not quite right. The projects are really amazing! I want to make just about everything in this book. I checked it out from the library and after renewing it about a million times and being refused by the library to keep it any longer, I decided to buy my own copy. I found that getting a big piece of packing paper and tracking the patterns onto the paper made the perfect template that I could cut up and use without destroying the originals. I highly recommend this book, although it may not be written for extreme beginners.

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### **Andrea Marley says**

I want to be Lotta Jansdotter.

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### **jess says**

The title of this book accurately describes it: 20 easy projects for newborns and toddlers. There are some simple clothes (dresses, pants, bloomers), some toys, and some accessories parents love (velcro pouches, diaper bags, burp clothes, play quilt with a pocket). The resource section in the back isn't extensive, but if you're outside the cities where Lotta likes to shop, you can hit some of the online stores she recommends. These projects are *really* simple, most of them you could make without a pattern, but it's nice that you could have a book walk you through the execution if you are really new to making stuff. For more experienced crafters, well, there might be something here to spark some new ideas. And there are a lot of cute pictures.

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### **Susan says**

So many simple projects I want to try! Towel hoodie and washcloths, soft letters, soft book...

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### **Meg says**

If nothing else, this book was utterly inspiring. I am a novice-novice-novice at sewing, yet the only project I have attempted yet from this book was the simple dress. The directions were crazy for me to follow and it took me a long time, but i'm satisfied with the results. I would recommend checking out this book if you want to find some inspiration or are fairly good with a sewing machine and want to make your own bundler, for instance. just know if you are a novice like me she might not give enough instructions. she has a lot of great ideas and i love her aesthetic. if i thought my baby days weren't somewhat number i would buy this book.

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