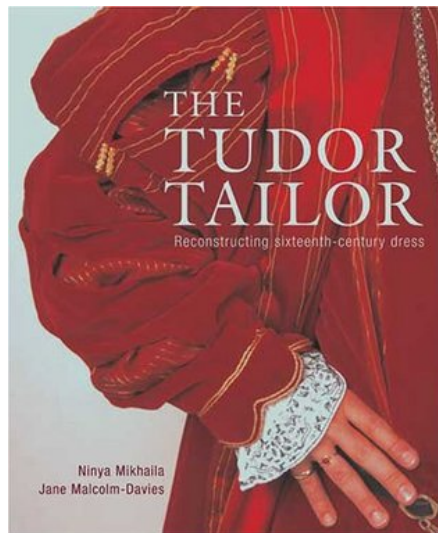




Tudor Tailor: Reconstructing sixteenth - century dress

Ninya Mikhaila , Jane Malcom - Davies

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The book provides 36 patterns and full step-by-step instructions, detailed diagrams and photographs that show the finished garments worn by real people. There is also general advice on choosing materials, construction methods, and an insight into the Tudor tailor's sewing kit.

Tudor Tailor: Reconstructing sixteenth - century dress Details

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From Reader Review Tudor Tailor: Reconstructing sixteenth - century dress for online ebook

Zara says

Ninya Mikhaila and Jane Malcom-Davies, among others, have written a wonderful book about the clothes worn in Tudor England. It contains plenty of historical sources: extracts from wills and bills; paintings; engravings and effigies. The research they've done is fascinating. It has loads of information that is useful and interesting, such as drawings of typical clothes for men, women, nobles and ordinary people for each decade or so. It also has a table with different types of fabric, a description and its uses. In the back, the book contains patterns, instructions and photos to help you make your own historically accurate costumes.

I got this for Christmas last year, and immediately made one of the easier patterns (a Fitted English Gown from the 1560s) for myself. I would say that this book is only really useful for those incredibly interested in the era and the costume, and for those who do want to make costumes. Quite a lot of sewing experience is necessary. I have been sewing for a few years but I needed my grandmother to help me with things like setting sleeves, the instructions for which aren't in the book. Some of the instructions that are there are also quite hard to follow; you really do need two people attempt making a costume in order to stay sane. However the photos are useful and the costume you have in the end is really lovely, accurate and fairly robust. The research in the beginning is really great, useful not only for people who want to make the costumes but also for writers who want good, reliable and comprehensive information about what people wore in the era, nobles and ordinary people alike.

I would suggest that if you are intending to make the costumes, you order the patterns from their online shop. It is very difficult to massively scale up the patterns provided unless you are expert, and the online versions have different shapes for different sized people, in British dress sizes. Patterns are posted to your home (although they are expensive at around £40!!! a go!).

Caroline says

A fantastic combination of technical and historical reading, combining the patterns and know-how needed to recreate authentic costumes with the social history of clothing. Fascinating and invaluable in equal measure!

Laura says

Excellent!

This is by far the most in depth book about all aspects of Tudor period clothing; it would be excellent for re-enactors/period dresses (costumes) as it goes into great depth explaining how things were made & worn.

It isn't so much a picture book, so don't buy it if you're expecting luscious colour photos of historic clothing. But if you're interested in the Tudor Period, especially the fashion, then this is definitely the best book that I have personally come across.

CJ says

A good book for what Tudor-era people wore and how these articles might have been made. Includes several suits for the peasants and middle class as well as the elite. The patterns, along with those of Jean Hunnisett, look to be do-able. I hope to try in the future.

Gaile says

This book explains Tudor fashion throughout the 16th century based on paintings, letters and the few garments from the period still surviving. Garments for both men and women are described from head to toe. Pictures of examples abound through out the book. Construction is explained. Patterns and directions are provided for making the garments although the patterns are not full sized. They are rather doll sized which I think would be fun for dressing a doll. To make full sized costumes, you would have to first draft full patterns through measures from those provided in the book. This is also explained. Although embroidery and fastenings are explained, there are embroidery patterns provided in the book. Hair dressing for women is described. There is a list of suppliers in the back of the book. Even if you do not sew, this book should be interesting to anyone interested in the history of the Tudor period and it is not as expensive as the other books now on the market on Tudor costuming.

snowgray says

The actual reading portion of this book is brief; someone looking for a long, well-documented study of clothing in the Tudor period would be left hungry. However, the book gives a strong overview of Tudor clothing habits, backed up by documentation both secondary (contemporary paintings) and primary (actual clothing). Furthermore, it includes patterns that can be sized up to create a few basic items of the Tudor wardrobe, with "Henrician" and "Elizabethan" variants. The written directions are somewhat confusing, though some patterns feature step-by-step photographs (not all). A novice sewer might feel lost, but someone willing to make practice items to check the size and fit of the patterns would probably do well. I have not yet created clothing from the patterns in the book, though I intend to do so, and will update at that point.

Ash says

This is the kind of book you could happily sit and read as well as work from. It not only covers the garments (with patterns for men and women of all major styles within the time period) but what they should be made of, in what colours, how they should be worn and accessorised, and most importantly where all that information came from and how it was interpreted. It's a good history book as well as a good costuming book, and that is rare.

Rebecca Hansen says

This book has some great construction techniques. The costumes themselves can be somewhat plain, which might be historically accurate but that depends on the character you are playing. If playing higher nobility the difference in station can be easily remedied by the costumer. Other than that the book was very good. Ninia includes many patterns that just need to be blown up to the appropriate size. Overall this is a must have for any re-enactor or cosplayer of the Tudor Era.

Rebekah Lewis says

If you like Tudor fashion you need this book. End of story, no questions asked.

There are patterns to draft, instructions, close up beautiful photos, information on dye, jewelry and all that fun stuff! YOU NEED THIS BOOK

Sarah Bryson says

Although this is a book mainly aimed at people interested in reconstructing and making period clothing, it is also a valuable resource for anyone interested in learning more about the types of clothing people wore and how these clothes were made during the Tudor times.

I have wanted to read this book for a long time and was very lucky to have a friend lend it to me for the week. The moment I got my hands on the book and started to read I was engrossed. The beginning of the book explores the types of resources that are used to gain a greater insight into what people of the Tudor period wore. The most obvious of these are portraits painted during this period, but there are also written documents such as material order lists and also pieces of clothing that have survived from the period. All of these are examined to determine not only what people wore during this era but also how the various clothing pieces and accessories are made.

Following on from this the authors provide an outline of what the average life of a Tudor person would have been like. They describe the average height of men and women, the weather conditions, the average income of various people as well as the purpose of the clothing. The authors then move on to describe what different people would have worn according to their class and position within Tudor society. There were strict rules (although not always enforced) about what different people could and could not wear. Everyone, no matter their class, wore linen or a smock underneath their clothing. Then depending on the type of job they did, where they worked or how much money they earned depended on what layers they could dress themselves in. The book discusses the different types of clothing for both men and women, the names of various clothing pieces and how these items developed and changed across the hundred plus years of the Tudor period.

In addition to this the authors describe in detail the types of accessories that people would have worn depending on their status and position. They discuss shoes, jewellery, coifs, hats, bonnets, ruffs, aprons, belts and many other items which were all used to accessories a person's basic clothing.

Chapter four explores the types of materials that were used during the Tudor period. A person's wage and status would have dictated what type of cloth they could afford to make their clothing from. Obviously farmers and labourers would not have wanted to wear delicate silks and laces as they would rip and tear easily in their line of work. Yet also there were laws about what they could and could not wear and this dictated a great deal of the materials clothes were made from. The richer the person and the higher their status the more delicate and intricate materials that could be used to make gowns, coats and other types of

clothing. This chapter also details each type of cloth available at the time and how they were dyed, woven and sewn together to make each piece. It also discusses the various styles and fashions of Tudor clothing and how these changed throughout the years.

From here the book offers a wide range of patterns to make various pieces of Tudor clothing. It starts off with a basic smock, of which everyone would have worn; only the style and intricacy would have changed depending on a person's status. After this there are patterns for clothing for common men and women as well as patterns for intricate and beautiful French gowns, doublets and sleeves. In addition there are patterns for bodices, farthingales, ruffs and various styles of caps and hats.

This is certainly a book I would recommend for anyone interested in making a piece or pieces of Tudor clothing or simply anyone that has an interest in Tudor clothing and how it was made. I learnt a great deal from this book about the type of clothing that men and women of various statuses wore during the Tudor period and how these items of clothing were made. I have also been inspired to attempt to make a Henrician coif with a plain brim!

Jaye Sudar says

Wow. the detail... Very good book.

Ruth says

Fabulously useful (but not if you have NO sewing experience. Definitely not for beginners. The pictures are gorgeous, the text paints a great picture of the times, and the patterns are excellent. I can't wait to make something out of this book!

Misty Bourlart says

I've been waiting a long time to get my hands on this book. The patterns within are very well researched and the pictures are as inspirational as can be.

I cannot wait to get started on my first Tudor gown using this book as one of my master references.

Erin Lubin says

Great guide to the construction of Tudor clothing. It starts out with a narrative on what was typical in the way of clothing during that time and follows up with tutorials on how to make specific items of clothing. I was so excited to get this as a gift since I love to make Renaissance clothing but sometimes struggle to determine what was usual during that time period.

Ekaterina says

An absolute must-have for anyone interested in sewing Renaissance garb! Five stars are not enough.
