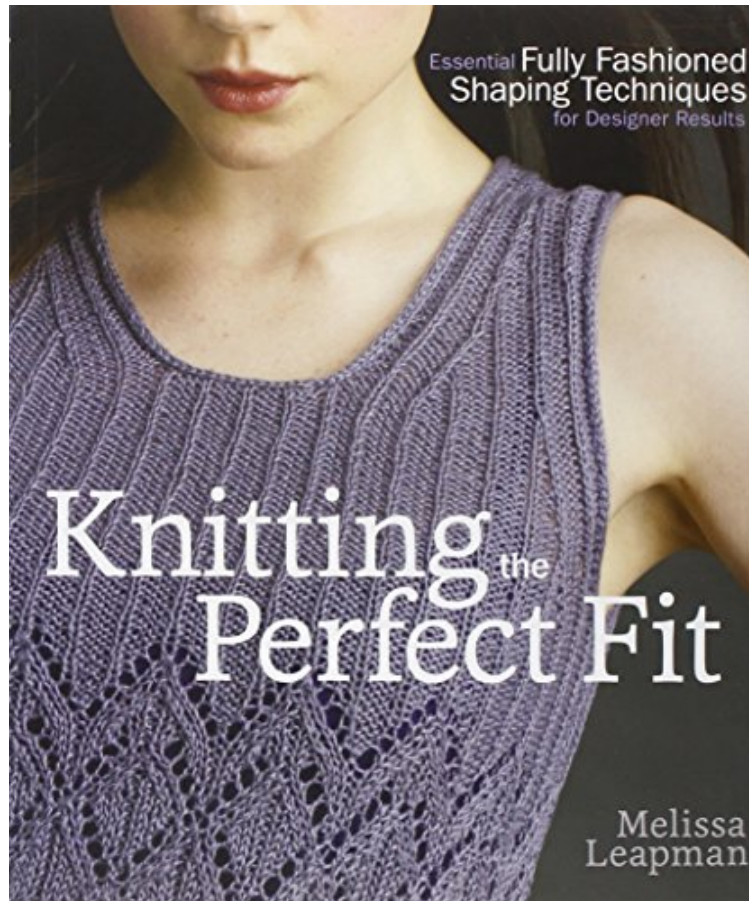


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## Knitting the Perfect Fit: Essential Fully Fashioned Shaping Techniques for Designer Results

*Melissa Leapman*

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**Melissa Leapman : Knitting the Perfect Fit: Essential Fully Fashioned Shaping Techniques for Designer Results** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Knitting the Perfect Fit: Essential Fully Fashioned Shaping Techniques for Designer Results:

180 of 183 people found the following review helpful. Fully Fashioned Patterns By paisleyapron Knitting the Perfect Fit covers basic information related to full-fashioned increases and decreases in knitting patterns. "Fully fashioned" means the shaping is not done at the edge of the knitting, but worked in a few stitches from the edge. The book includes 19 knitting patterns categorized according to how they would flatter a certain body type (strangely, most of them supposedly flatter all the types.) Interspersed among the patterns are "Designer Workshop" sections: Chapter 1 explains how a "fully fashioned" garment is knit, gives illustrated instructions of simple decreases and increases, explains directional slants, how to read knitting charts, and makes garment suggestions related to body types. Chapter 2 includes color photos of multiple examples of increases and decreases. Chapter 3 gives full instructions on how to add decorative stitches in the fully fashioned increase/decrease. Chapter 4 details ways that cleverly placed increases and

decreases can flatter the figure. Also included is a shell/camisole pattern with detailed instructions on adapting the pattern for bust size. General knitting, finishing, and sweater construction techniques are illustrated at the end of the chapter. Pros: the information provided is solid and informative, especially for those knitters who are unfamiliar with how full-fashioned increases and decreases are worked and applied. It is assumed that the reader is familiar with gauge measurement. The patterns are well-written, clearly illustrated, and the charts are easy to read. The information on shaping and illusion for figure flattery is excellent. Cons: The title, premise, and descriptions of the book are misleading. After repeatedly being told in the text that, "You, too, can be a designer!" the reader would find that this book does not help accomplish this. Nowhere in the book is a shaping formula provided. If I wanted to find out how to apply the increases and decreases to my own design, this book informs me how to knit them, but not how to determine my rate of decreases over rows from bust to waist or increases from waist to hip. More importantly, aside from the one shell pattern in Chapter 4, there is no information about customizing and adjusting the patterns included to particular body measurements, and therefore no way to help the knitter make the patterns fit like the book declares. To fill in this huge gap, the reader would have to search out other sources: Amy Herzog's *Fit to Flatter* series at [...] would be very useful or perhaps the books *Knitwear Design Workshop* by Shirley Paden or *Sweater Design* by Maggie Righetti. If knitting top-down and seamlessly, both *Custom Knits* by Wendy Bernard and *Fitted Knits* by Stefanie Japel have sections on customizing patterns. Overall, if you like the patterns included in the book and don't have information on increases and decreases elsewhere, this book will be useful to you.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Great Resource for Fitting Your Garments Perfectly By Fairbanks Reader - Bonnie Brody I took a class from Melissa Leapman at Stitches South and was very impressed with her knowledge and ability to communicate. This book demonstrates her abilities at teaching knitters how to better fit their projects to the sizes they want. The topics covered are the basics - decreases and increases; utilizing charts; the language of knitting; ways to make stockinette garments look extraordinary; designer details, and ways to flatter your figure. There are several patterns I like. My favorites are Marie which is a pullover figure flatterer in a nice shade of periwinkle using worsted weight yarn. I also like Marilyn's Crossover Top. Some of the other patterns also call out to me. What is special about this book, however, is not the patterns. Buy it for a resource. You will be taught so many things about how to fit your garments that you never knew before. Thank you Melissa for this book.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Knitting The Perfect Fit By Consumer SI still need YouTube to show me how to make all the stitches shown in this book. The book has a very nice feel to the touch as though waterproof. I would not ever make any of the projects in this book. It may be they are all too young for me, but they look like 1950's styles to me.

This is the first book that delves deeply into easily mastered techniques that can be used to adapt and customise any project. *Knitting the Perfect Fit* is an invaluable guide for anyone interested in learning and perfecting shaping details in their knitting. Acclaimed designer and teacher Melissa Leapman distills one of her most in-demand workshops into an authoritative guide that will help knitters understand how designer details and shaping actually work. From a variety of necklines and arm details to different trompe l'oeil shaping techniques that offer a more slimming and flattering look to any garment no matter your body type. Each technique is thoroughly explained with tips and exercised and then showcased in 21 appealing projects that allow knitters to practise their new skills.

"Leapman's explanation alone of techniques for tailoring knitwear is worth the price, and the fashionable, wearable garments are a bonus. Knitters interested in moving beyond loose, boxy garments will want to take a look." --Library Journal

About the Author Melissa Leapman is a widely published sweater designer whose patterns have appeared in *Vogue Knitting*, *Knitters*, *McCalls*, *Family Circle*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Knit It!*, and *Interweave Knits* magazines. Leapman has worked as a freelance designer for many leading ready-to-wear manufacturers, noted design houses, and major yarn companies. In addition, her knitting, crochet, and design workshops are extremely popular with crafters at all skill levels. She lives in New York City.