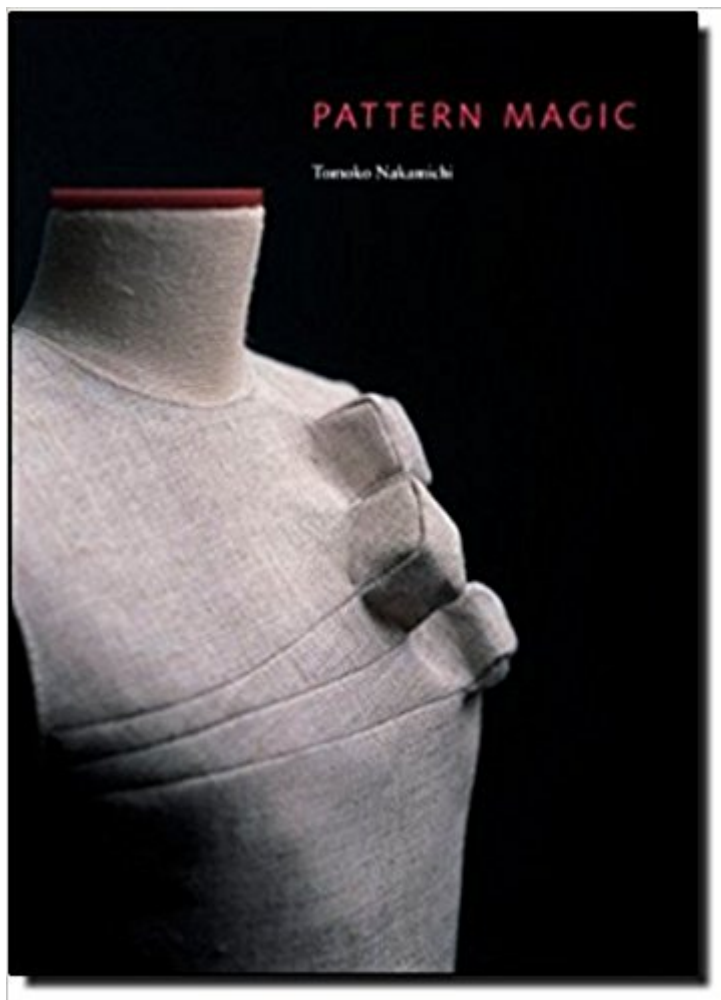


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# Pattern Magic



## Synopsis

Pattern Magic is the cult pattern-making book from Japan. Taking inspiration from nature, from geometric shapes, and from the street, this book harnesses the sheer joy of making and sculpting clothes. The book takes a creative approach to pattern making, with step-by-step projects for fashion designers and dressmakers to enjoy. Each project is beautifully illustrated with clear diagrams and photographs showing the stages of construction, the muslins, and the finished garments.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

After serving many years as a professor at Bunka Fashion College, Ms. Nakamichi currently delivers lectures and holds courses on fashion design, both in Japan and overseas. This book brings together the results of the research on garment patterns she has carried out to help instruct her students.

I tend to be very conservative in what I wear, and while I found some of the garments \*beyond\* hideous, it was the techniques that were important, as once you learn the technique, you can do whatever you please. I was thrilled to see this available in English; I have collected Japanese-language craft books for decades, since I discovered these astonishing creations while living there. The books were so carefully and beautifully done that you could use them to make wonderful things even if you could not read a word. Crafts there are about care, not mass

production, and the books are delights to behold. No matter what you are creating, that attention to detail is what makes it something you use and treasure the rest of your life. The section on adding a built-in bow to the bodice was worth the money of the book alone, and the beautiful bodice with alternating folds up the front, somewhat like a wheat stalk, was lovely. Note that this was not just some fancy cutting and stitching, for which fit is sacrificed; the darts were simply rotated and incorporated into the design. And not all of the techniques must start with a sloper; some can simply be incorporated as modifications to an existing pattern of the appropriate type that fits well. Flat-pattern drafting is well within the reach of anyone who understands the basics of sewing very well, such as the effects of grainline changes for different types of fabrics and the importance of darts (as well as how different types of darts are used to control fullness). All in all, this is a wonderful addition to a field in which there are not enough books, largely due to unwarranted fear on the part of many who sew. (I frankly find it much easier to simply draft a sloper to use to create other patterns rather than go through endless fitting changes for every new pattern -- fitting changes which differ by pattern company.) By the way, I got sick of trying to draw my own croquis all the time, so I purchased a Fashionflat Sketchpad, which has extremely thick covers and good-quality paper.

This book is great. It really gives an insight into the professional pattern making process. I previously purchased the Bunka Fashion Series Books

([http://www..com/Bunka-Fashion-Garment-Design-Textbook/dp/B004XYLRVK/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1372179273&sr=1-1](http://www..com/Bunka-Fashion-Garment-Design-Textbook/dp/B004XYLRVK/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1372179273&sr=1-1),

[http://www..com/Bunka-Fashion-Garment-Design-Textbook/dp/B004LEPSF8/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1372179291&sr=1-2](http://www..com/Bunka-Fashion-Garment-Design-Textbook/dp/B004LEPSF8/ref=sr_1_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1372179291&sr=1-2)) where I learned in depth about sewing and how to construct a perfect sloper (the same exact one used in this book). This provided a sturdy foundation and I was able to fully understand and execute the pattern to my perfect fit, so fun and exciting! Also, I was seriously envying the little dress form she uses and after much searching I finally found one in the US <http://beropa.co/products/bunka-half-size-dress-form> I would HIGHLY recommend it, as she says its great for trying out new patterns, since its half sized its more manageable and won't waste too much fabric!

love this book

Not easy to make. Some basic info are not detailed and so it is not easy for beginners. Also it is important to consider the difference between body types ( for ex: the sizes are not ok for european

body type). Still a great book to have and study.

Wonderful like the others in this series. This one has more angular designs than the ones in books 1 and 2.

I think Pattern Magic is a great book for serious designers & sewing people who already have some pattern drafting and sewing experience. For beginners, I'd recommend looking for a beginner-level book about basic pattern drafting---there are some good ones by various authors that show how to measure and draw slopers. (Slopers are the basic bodice/skirt patterns used as a basis for patternmaking). Readers with some drafting experience who want to move beyond slopers will find Pattern Magic helpful. This book illustrates how to alter slopers to create different dimensions and details (such as bodice tucks, highly structured geometric garment details and flowing lines). The bodice front & back sloper examples (in the back of the book) are useful. Page 101 says to enlarge them to 200% to make full-sized, but the slopers can also be used at the small scale to practice the design techniques described in the book (the slopers need to be traced onto separate sheets of paper so that they can be cut apart---or you can use your own full-scale slopers). I assume the example clothing in this book was selected to show the reader how to break apart a sloper to achieve different structured effects. Although the finished example garment designs look complex, the book shows that slopers can be altered into fashion patterns in 3 simple steps: by closing darts, cutting the sloper to make the paper pattern flat, then open out the paper and trace around the pattern. The book is translated from Japanese, and the style is a bit different from other pattern books I've used. Pattern Magic is well-illustrated and shows step-by-step how to create the example bodices and details. I thought the instructions were clear & detailed. I worked through some of the example designs, and found it very educational---working through the example patterns should help readers understand how to create their own designs by folding and cutting their own slopers.

I can recommend this book for those, who want to understand the engineering side of garments modeling, who want to learn how to calculate and draw new beautiful and complicated geometric forms or drapes and make them wearable. I own the previous three books too and enjoy the way author operates with fabric and provides us with this material and geometry sense.

A good continuation to an amazing series, it follows around the line of the other books with a slight up in difficulty, a must have for students.

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