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# Sewing Clothes Kids Love: Sewing Patterns And Instructions For Boys' And Girls' Outfits



## Synopsis

This is a book of colorful and imaginative children's clothes to sew, designed with kids in mind. The authors are designers and owners of two popular pattern companies for kids' clothes •Farbenmix and Studio Tantrum, known in the sewing community for their creativity, versatility, and fit. This collection of exclusive patterns, included with the book, offers step-by-step instruction for making boys' and girls' clothing with a variety of fabric styles and decorative embellishment including embroidery, patchwork, and trims. The patterns for pants, tops, skirts, and dresses include variations for long and short hemlines and sleeves, various necklines, and adjustable lengths. The patterns are sized from 18 months to kids' size 12.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Nancy Langdon is the president and principal designer for Studio Tantrum. She also hosts the blog at [fledgeflyingiseasy.blogspot.com](http://fledgeflyingiseasy.blogspot.com). She lives in Redondo Beach, CA. Sabine Pollehn is president and principal designer for the sewing pattern company Farbenmix. She also hosts [klickundblick.de](http://klickundblick.de) and [farbenmix.blogspot.com](http://farbenmix.blogspot.com). She lives in Wilhelmshaven, Germany. Sabine Pollehn is president and principal designer for the sewing pattern company Farbenmix. She also hosts [klickundblick.de](http://klickundblick.de) and [farbenmix.blogspot.com](http://farbenmix.blogspot.com).

The girls who make Farbenmix/Studio Tantrum patterns have written a book! and it comes with PATTERNS! I just got it today, so I haven't studied it in depth, but looks great so far. Unlike some of

the other reviewers, I happen to love the busy prints and whimsical stylings that are the hallmark of Farbenmix patterns. There is lots of ruching, gathers, and trims for lots of texture and visual interest, but you can also make toned down versions of their patterns which are very stylish and wearable as well. The book has lots of really amazing full-color illustrations and from the looks of it, the directions (and accompanying drawings) are much more comprehensive than what you get with the regular Farbenmix patterns. I have never had problems with the patterns before, but I've seen people lamenting their lack of clarity, so this seems like it would be a big improvement for beginning sewists, especially. The only thing I'm not liking (and it's relatively minor) is that the patterns are printed on normal pattern tissue paper instead of the heavier white paper that individual Farbenmix patterns come printed on. It will make repeated tracings more difficult, for sure. I understand that the individual Feliz pattern and a few others--Imke, Insa & Dortje, maybe?--are being discontinued, but they are included in this book, so you can still buy them and really it's cheaper this way. The fit of Farbenmix/Studio Tantrum patterns, and the ease with which they come together is so far superior to any of the "Big 3" patterns, I don't even waste my money buying them any more. The patterns in this book each cover sizes 18mo-2T to 11/12. Additionally, the first third of the book covers proper fitting, pattern alterations, and even instructions for making a dress form. Here is a list of the patterns in the book: Imke Shirt, Riviera Leggings and Shorts, Brooklyn Tank Top, Brooklyn Shrug, Insa Skirt, Dortje Trousers, Avalon Jacket, Silver Lake Windbreaker, Feliz Party Dress, Manhattan Special Occasion Dress. Overall, I'm mainly totally geeked right now that I just got 10 Farbenmix patterns for around \$20.

I've only made the two dresses from this book so far but I love it. I wouldn't say I'm an advanced seamstress but I don't like simple dresses. I took on the Feliz first and was quite impressed with how it turned out so I attempted to make the Manhattan and while I cussed the thing out a million times while making it I love how it turned out. I posted a picture of my daughter wearing the dress in the customer photos. These patterns are not "simple" and the instructions do require re-reading several times before I totally understood what I was supposed to be doing. But as long as you take your time and measure more than once on each piece it's well worth the end results!

This book is fabulous! It is definitely not for beginners, but that is one of the reasons I love it so much! I enjoy the challenge and enjoy having things not every person with a sewing machine can make. The patterns included are on tissue paper. They are sized from 18 months to size 12. There are only two patterns (out of ten) that are for boys, but I'm guessing you could make the Dortje

pants for younger boys and get away with it. The book has beautiful pictures and great instructions. It also has a "how to" on making your own "kinderquin" out of duct tape and stuffing materials. If you can sew and have children in your life, you'll want this book!

I made a nature fairy Halloween costume for a four year old using the Brooklyn Tank and two-tiered Insa skirt patterns from the book. I am a beginning sewer, and it took me about twelve hours total to complete both pieces including a lot of embellishing and a matching headpiece. My sewing machine is broken and only does zigzag, straight and reverse stitches, and it was still possible to do these projects. The book has great instructions and tips, beautiful patterns, and very do-able projects. The construction of the skirt and tank really looked professional when I was finished, thanks to the use of a twin needle. The photos are very inspirational and this style is great for using up stashes of ribbon and craft supplies as embellishments. Because of the way they are pieced together, you can easily make these clothes cheaply by hitting the local thrift store and finding large sized women's cotton blouses, pants and nightgowns as your fabric sources. A nice way to get a little one involved in the design process. This style is very DIY "Oilily" to me. Some of the pieces are so over the top, I'm not sure my little one won't feel too ostentatious at school, so we might tone it down a bit by choosing more subtle color contrasts and a little less embellishment than shown in the samples in the book. My 4 year old is quite slim, and the smallest size (18mo) was still too big in the waist for her for the skirt - and the elastic I used ended up being a tish too big around the waist - you'll definitely want to do a fitting, or perhaps extend the waist on the tapered skirt gores north a bit before you cut your pattern pieces if your kiddo is a skinny minnie. I was in a hurry so I faked it, by extending the pattern south for longer hemlines, and snipping a waistband out of an old stained pair of leggings sewn into the yoke, and it came out pretty great anyway. Overall I found the instructions clear - a few details are left out for you to discover - for example, if you are a beginning sewer like me you might not realize that if you are using tape to finish a hem/neckline/armhole, you don't need to leave seam allowance on those edges when cutting out the pieces. Next time I'll know, and it was fortunately an easy mistake to fix - just trim with scissors... The girl to boy ratio is heavily slanted toward girls. Not too much in here for the lads, but some nice advice on design sensibility for little men. A great inspirational book, the four year old was thrilled with her costume, and I'm looking forward to making more of these pieces!

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