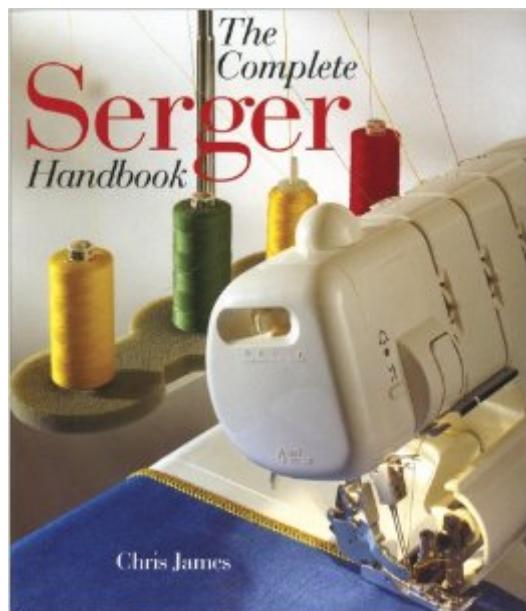


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# The Complete Serger Handbook



## Synopsis

âœThereâ™s nothing better than an author whoâ™s made all the mistakes herself, has taught hundreds of others, and writes with humor. Chris James fills the bill. This beautiful book talks about knits, rolled hems, and flatlocking. At the end is a trouble-shooting guide....The close-up color photos make her text even more understandable....highly recommended.â•â "The Creative Machine. âœThe most comprehensive reference on serging to date.â•â "Craft & Needlework Age.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (393 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I am brand new to serging and used book reviews to help me pick books. Believe me when I tell you that this book is excellent. It is clearly written, has wonderful color pictures, and is perfect for the beginner. It explains the different stitches and what they are used for, how different threads are used and how they react in sergers. You get tips on threading, tension adjustments, troubleshooting, securing seams, needle selection, working with knits, and using elastics. You also get ideas for fun projects and much more. If you are just getting started in serging or would like to learn more, I HIGHLY recommend this book. Out of the six different books I've purchased recently, this one is by far the best. You just can't go wrong with this book.

Having just bought a serger and quickly realizing I had very little idea of what to do with it I went hunting for a book. This one was a great choice.....It is comprehensive, easily read and understood, and has great visuals. I am positive that I will be referencing it constantly as I try and learn to use

my new machine. One thing: In hindsight I wish I had bought the spiral bound version...The soft cover version does not stay open on its own (nor does it lie flat) which means I either have to give up a hand to hold the book or read some and set it down and go back to it again. Also, I would not recommend this book to an experienced serger. It definitely sticks to the basics (which is still a lot to say to a novice), and I have seen more creative and comprehensive books for the more advanced. This book is definitely for the person who has never serged before!! And if you are a novice, this will be a wonderful resource!! (regardless of which brand or type of serger you have)

This book is the perfect book for a beginner serger owner. Serger manuals are useful for getting to know the mechanics of your serger, but leave off after listing the basic stitches and settings. Serging really is different than sewing, and this book of Chris James' teaches you everything else you need to know to become very adept at using your machine. The close-up photos really illustrate what the stitches should and shouldn't look like. Her book also helps you understand how the machine works, which in turn allows you to master your machine (rather than merely follow the settings in your manual). She offers many, many tips and how-tos, and her samples are inspirational. I have noticed several small mistakes, such as a mismatch of needle sizes (she says 80/14 and 90/16 rather than 80/12 and 90/14, and at least one of her rolled hem close-ups is mislabeled.) Don't let that stop you from purchasing this book however. I teach serger classes to new serger owners and much of what I discuss comes from this book. I also have the "Serger Secrets" book. It shows more specific applications; very useful as well. I also refer to my "Polar Fleece Adventures" series by Nancy Cornwall often as I serge with fleece frequently.

I have checked out almost every book on serging at my local library. I decided to purchase this book after comparing them all. This book is straight forward, easy to understand and, I think, the best book on serging that has been printed to date.

Sergers are GREAT but you either take to them right away or find them frustrating. To avoid "serger fail", this book is excellent and it was the first one I got when I bought a serger. Here's the contents: Can your Serger Replace a Sewing Machine? Getting to Know Your Machine? Threads? Which Stitch Is Which? Threading and Rethreading? Tension Controls? Mastering Serger Techniques? Taking the Nonsense out of Knits? Rolled Hems? Flatlock? Oh NO! My serger is SICK! Care and Feeding of your machine? BIG colorful sharp photos of stitches and threads and examples. I suggest you make a sample of each stitch your machine can do, staple the sample on a page and write down the tension

and settings. Put these pages into a notebook. When you pull out your machine, you'll be ready to set it up without having to dig into memory to remember the last sewing session. Sergers are phenomenal on knits, make children's clothes in literally minutes and finish raw edges on materials like cottons and linen quickly and beautifully. I sew summer skirts in 20 minutes with my serger but I would not be able to do that without having this resource book handy.

This told me EVERYTHING to begin serging, practically from taking it out of the box. It discusses everything from turning the machine on and off, to threading for different stiches, the differences between stitches, good fabric to use versus good fabric for regular sewing, etc. I cannot recommend this book highly enough for the complete novice.

I am a beginner and my teacher used this book in my surger class-she told me to buy it and read it like a college text book, complete with highlighting passages. I did and WOW. I refer to it often-the photos are detailed and directions complete and easy to follow and understand. A lot of shortcuts are included as well. I highly recommend this book for all ages of surgers!

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