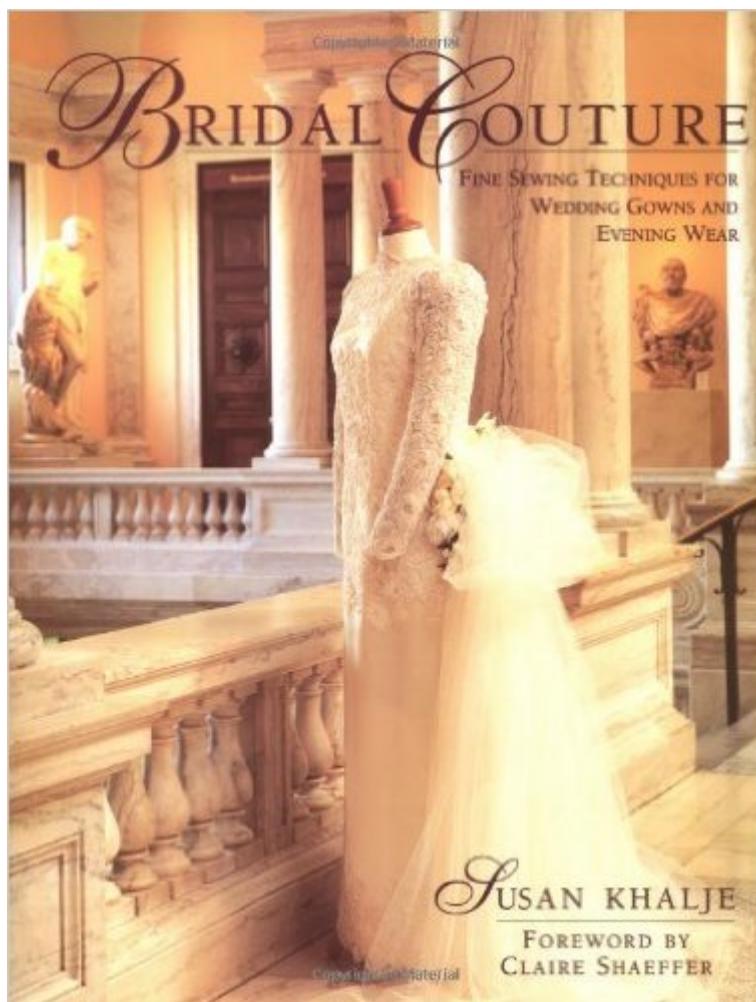


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# Bridal Couture: Fine Sewing Techniques For Wedding Gowns And Evening Wear



## **Synopsis**

The apparently effortless grace of a successful gown is always underpinned by solid dressmaking skills - the skills described in "Bridal Couture". Starting with a portfolio of breathtaking gowns designed by the author, "Bridal Couture" covers all the major techniques used to sew these sumptuous couture creations, including choosing fabric, working with lace, creating a muslin, and problem-solving tricky construction issues. Every conceivable style of skirt, sleeve, and bodice is included, as well as suggestions for fabric combinations to evoke just the right mood. A final section details the construction of four actual gowns, giving readers a chance to apply what they've learned. Ideal as a wish book for brides, a textbook for sewing students, a reference book for dressmakers, or a companion book for anyone hiring a dressmaker, "Bridal Couture" is finally a book about fashion and the practical knowledge needed to create fantasy.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This book is fantastic, regardless of how much knowledge you have on the subject of sewing or textiles. Susan's discussions of the various types of fabrics used in formal and bridal sewing will help novices speak knowledgeably about what they want. As a professional bridal seamstress with a background in costuming I was particularly impressed with the way the author emphasizes how a garment should "behave" and that she gives suggestions on fabrics to be used as linings and interlinings. How a dress is made on the inside is vitally important to how it looks on the outside, and this book will help novices understand why that is and help professionals to achieve it. This book is

definitely a must have for anyone involved in making a wedding gown, whether you are a bride or a seamstress.

As an experienced amateur seamstress I was looking for a book that would guide me through both designing and sewing a wedding dress for my 6'3" daughter. This book was exactly what I needed to accomplish my goal. Step by step I was able to complete each part of the gown. The final product was stunning and much of the beauty of the gown was because of the construction techniques on the inside that no one would know about eg. lining the fabric (bodice only) with white baby flannelette and treating it as one piece. The beautiful, smooth, princess seams were perfect. In reading the details and applying them to my situation I was able to create a lovely gown. With a good sewing background, a passion for perfection, love for my daughter and her dream dress AND this wonderful book it was everything I had hoped for and would highly recommend it.

I bought this book never having heard of the author before. I was fairly "blown away" by the high quality of the information offered, the wonderful works shown and the fact that this author obviously cares about those who will use her book. She provides her readers with some of the best, complete and accurate information I have ever seen written in a book. The reader (in this case me) knows that she/he is being provided with information of the highest standard, the author doesn't withhold important facts and obviously loves what she does as seen in the quality work she produces. Sewing from the soul. I don't do Bridal Sewing but am interested in Couture Sewing. This book is one of the finest on the subject. I highly recommend it.

People who sew will profit from this book but anyone having a gown made by a seamstress/tailor MUST master the content of this excellent volume as well. It will make you an insufferable client because you will KNOW what a fine couture gown is supposed to be. My mother was an accomplished amateur seamstress who employed ALL of the techniques Susan Khalje describes for constructing bodices and handling fabrics. Those details cannot be sacrificed if the end result is to be as promised. This book is a gold mine.

The Susan Khalje book is an excellent source of its sort - not speaking of the nice design and pictures, it tells you everything you would want to know when trying to make an evening or wedding dress. Susan Khalje gives many interesting tips and tricks that would otherwise be very time-consuming to figure out, like how and where exactly to attach boning, what layers to use under

skirts to make them look as you want to, how to work with lace and how to place it on the curved bodice while hiding the cut places, she gives suggestions as what fabrics to use for what garments - she is very fond of silk organza - for petticoats, underlining, bone channels. This is one of the rare books that show you professionally-done garments and reveal all their making secrets. Even if you're an advanced sewer, I still think you'll find many good tips here. Maybe a pure beginner would not be able to appreciate the value of the information given. Edit: To make it clear, this book is rather a collection of sewing tips that give your clothes a professional look than a step-by step sewing quide. If you already are a sewer and are longing to go pro and more into detail, this book is exactly what you need. It is supposed that you already know how to sew, draft and fit patterns and that you know how to put the garment together.

Susan Khalje's book provides comprehensive information on all aspects of bridal and special occasion gown construction. From fabric selection and handling, lace description and application, to fitting and finishing, she provides excellent instruction and visuals which makes such an undertaking less daunting.

This is the best photography, best writing and best illustrated book in the fashion sewing industry. The author was masterful in her combination of writing, practical application, style, beauty and elegance. There is no doubt the author is talented and skillful in her field.

Couture. The finest workmanship, with the finest design, with the finest fabric, with the finest instructor. Susan Khalje fills the need for instruction in the fine art of Bridal Couture. Her instruction is precise, and easy to understand with lovely photos to guide the student through the process of creating a couture gown. Attention is given not only to construction, but to fabric selection, and expert fit. This book is truly a must for dressmakers who strive for the perfection of couture.

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