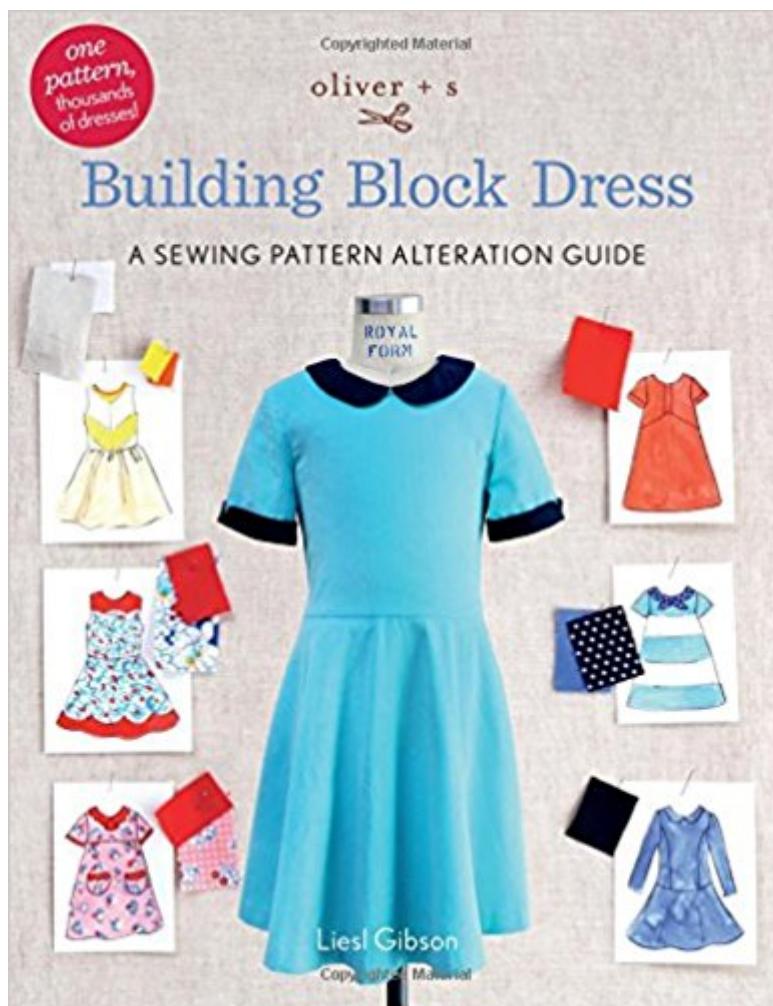


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# Oliver + S Building Block Dress: A Sewing Pattern Alteration Guide



## Synopsis

Silver Winner, 2016 Benjamin Franklin Award in Craft & Hobby Imagine it! Make it! You don't need to be a designer or pattern maker to create and sew the dress of your dreams. Let Liesl Gibson teach you how to alter the elements of a pattern to make exactly the dress you imagine. With the included Building Block Dress pattern (sizes 6m-12) and Liesl's detailed pattern alteration instructions, you'll learn how to create almost any dress you can imagine. Use the skills you learn in this book to customize other patterns as well. With these techniques, you'll look at sewing patterns as just the starting point for your creative expression. Featuring inspiring photographs of eighteen different dress styles made with the techniques presented here, the book includes a full-size pattern sheet for the basic Building Block Dress.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“The book is so well written, not that I would expect anything less from Liesl and Oliver + S, but I feel it will become a very valuable tool in any sewing library whether you sew for a little girl or yourself.” •Britney Laidlaw, blogger, Sewing for Four (Plus One!) “You can tell there has been a lot of love poured into this book! It’s very well thought out and organized.” •Julie Morin, Director, Kids Clothes Week “I think it’s such a great way to really take control of the design and make something truly unique

and something your child will wear!•Anna Graham, designer, author, and blogger, Noodlehead “Even though I have now made more than a few garments, I consider myself a novice garment maker. With every new piece, I learn more about construction, fabric types, needles, drape, and ease. The Building Block Dress book takes my learning to a new level.”•Sandi Hazlewood, host of the Crafty Planner Podcast and columnist for Love Patchwork & Quilting magazine “A book that instead of having a limited number of projects allows you as a designer to be able to alter and develop your own ideas. Best of all, the design alterations can be used with any sewing block, independent of size.”•Rachel Pinheiro, blogger, House of Pinheiro “I think the book is great and something really different as you can make whatever you want of it depending on your skill level. The other great thing about the book is that you can use the pattern adaption concepts on adult patterns and for knit fabrics too!”•Lauren Guthrie, Finalist Great British Sewing Bee Season 1 and founder, Guthrie & Ghani “I’m super proud that I made this dress. I love that I sewed a bias neckline. I love that I shortened the bodice and skirt of the dress without fear. I love that my dress is unique, and is a mish-mash of many different techniques in the book. I think it looks adorable and I can’t wait to plan out my next Building Block Dress.”•Elizabeth Jackson, designer, author, Craftsy quilting instructor, and blogger, Don’t Call Me Betsy

Liesl Gibson is the designer behind the Oliver + S, Liesl + Co., Lisette, and Straight Stitch Society brands of sewing patterns and is the former designer for Ralph Lauren and Tommy Hilfiger. She is the author of Oliver + S Little Things to Sew. She lives in Madrid.

I agree with all of the other reviewers -this book is incredibly useful. It includes a pattern for the dress shown on the cover, and then teaches you how to alter this pattern to make basically any look you want. I bought this book because my daughter wanted to be Rainbow Brite for Halloween and I wasn't willing to spend \$50 for a vintage pattern on ebay. I used the techniques in the book to make Rainbow Brite's gathered long sleeves, square neckline, and flared skirt. There were still things I had to figure out on my own but I would not have even known where to begin without the basic pattern pieces I was able to make using Liesl's instructions. Now that Rainbow Brite is done, my daughters are having fun browsing through the pictures and imagining what we can make next. The techniques outlined in this book for altering pattern pieces give you a solid understanding of how to manipulate the shape of fabric for different outcomes and this knowledge can be applied to any

pattern, so I really feel empowered as a self-taught seamstress that I can make almost whatever I want using this book.

This book is fantastic! It shows you how to change a dress so that you and your child love it. Don't like short sleeves? It shows you how to make longer sleeves. It gives you a overview on the different possibilities of sleeves, skirts, bodices....

Well written and a good sewing pattern book. My only dislike was that the patterns included are printed on both sides of the paper pull out. Kind of annoying to trace and locate the pieces that you need. Others may not feel this is an annoyance at all. Not enough to give a lower rating.

No longer buying various sewing patterns for my seven granddaughters. I just find pictures of cute dresses and then using the Building Blocks recreate the picture. To buy one book that is chock full of wonderful ideas and patterns is well worth the initial investment.

Love the detail and inspiration contained in this book. The photos are clear and show very well where to find the directions on achieving that look. I've even used the directions to modify other patterns.

Great book to have on hand. I am just getting into dress making and this book is a great resource.

I haven't actually sewed a dress yet, but I really enjoyed reading through the book and I am looking forward to making my granddaughter many dresses as she grows! My favorite part is that Liesl is actually teaching the reader how to adapt patterns.

Got this for my grand daughter so she could learn to design in real time vs just drawing pictures. Seems well written but we haven't tried any of the patterns' yet.

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