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# Lena Corwin's Made By Hand: A Collection Of Projects To Print, Sew, Weave, Dye, Knit, Or Otherwise Create



## Synopsis

In 2009, tastemaker and bestselling author Lena Corwin turned the top floor of her Brooklyn brownstone into a studio and began hosting classes for local crafters. In *Lena Corwin's Made by Hand*, she re-creates and builds upon her popular workshop series in order to reach crafters in Brooklyn and beyond. For this "best of" collection, she has chosen expert teachers and her favorite projects: Jenny Gordy introduces us to knitted socks and elegantly sewn tops and dresses; Cal Patch teaches how to make a modern embroidery sampler as well as a braided rag rug; and Corwin herself presents her favorite screen-printing and stamping techniques. In total, there are 26 lessons/projects, all presented with step-by-step photos and illustrations.

Praise for *Lena Corwin's Made By Hand*: "Decorate with coffee table books. A few *Glamour* picks: *Lena Corwin's Made by Hand* . . . *Glamour Magazine* "A must-have for anyone who wants to create unique décor." *Decorating Shortcuts* magazine "Made By Hand offers the perfect range of usable textile handiwork, presented by fourteen teachers who obviously enjoy their craft" *ForeWord Reviews* "The 385 detailed illustrations, along with excellent step-by-step photographs and clear instructions, make each project tempting and approachable." *Studios* magazine "Those messy hands alone are inspiring me to get creative." *Modern Eve* "I got a sneak peek at a mostly lovely book. I can't contain my excitement over this book. The projects are varied and so much fun." *The Stylish Nest* "The photography and layout of the book is gorgeous: wide open with lots of white space, reminiscent of Japanese craft books. And there are people, whole people, sitting and doing crafts, not just disembodied hands. Isn't that part of the reason we craft for the human contact?" *Knitty.com* "Made By Hand is gorgeous . . . filled to the brim with beautifully executed diy tutorials from a host of talented artisans." *Michelle S Blog* "Craft book is like a private studio class . . . this book is a breath of fresh air." *Examiner.com* "She's the most talented person I know, and probably in all of Brooklyn." *Lucky* magazine "This project is a personal favorite of mine and the colors are easy to customize for fall." *Design\*Sponge* "Attention DIYers: You Need Lena Corwin's New Book!" *Lucky* magazine "As brilliant as it is beautiful!" *The Purl Bee* "The diversity of offerings within these pages makes you feel like you're at a retreat with too many good things to choose from . . . except you get to make them all! The photography is clean and simple. Gorgeous & really."

This is a good one, folks . . . and Lena *you've done it again.* *Maya\*made* *“Even if none of you know where to begin, you can easily use the projects in this book as a guidebook . . . Urban Comfort* *“A must-have if you want to stretch your creativity and get your hands dirty literally.* *Big Cartel* *“It boasts stunning visuals with simple imagery.* *The Capsule Show* *“Made by Hand introduces readers to ageless crafting techniques with modern projects.* *HGTV.com* *“The 26 delightful projects are scrumptiously photographed as step-by-step tutorials, creating the impression that we, too, are in the light-filled studio among the generous and pleasant makers . . . all of these carefully curated projects will result in products that are perfect in their own unique way.* *BookPage.com* *“We have been fans of designer/illustrator/author* *Lena*

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Lena Corwin is the author of *STC Craft*, *Printing by Hand*, the illustrator for *STC Craft*, *Kids Crochet* and *Kids Weaving*, and the curator of an independent art and design publishing collective called *Lines & Shapes*. She has worked as a graphic and textile designer for *Marith + Fran*, *Sois Girbaud*, Calvin Klein, and Jill Stuart, and has designed textiles and home goods for Anna Sui, Trina Turk, Rebecca Taylor, Target, and Urban Outfitters.

I have tons of crafts books, I love looking up ideas online, but I have never seen a book like this.

Craft books have had to step things up because of pinterest and other digital means of DIY sources- this book has faced that challenge and proves the superiority of pages over a screen. Every page is beautiful and exciting to leaf through- I will honestly try most of these ideas. I have not been this inspired in a long time!! Thank you, Lena Corwin!

What a fun book!! This book is great for those wishing to expand their "craftiness". It is clearly a book designed to "get your feet wet" into many different techniques. Of course, there are projects I wouldn't do, such as knitting socks or sewing a child's shirt, but there are plenty of others I found fascinating enough to try. The book is very well rounded with lots of crafts represented. Most of the projects are beginner friendly and give you enough information to expand and create your own designs. Some require several tools and materials that may be hard to find in rural areas (like mine!) but there are enough simple projects to work on until you can find or order materials for the rest!!

Some of the crafts and art forms covered in this book are technical and I wouldn't try them. I know Batik, and found a serious error (don't "wring out" your cloth when removing it from the dye, it will ruin your project) in the instructions, which leads me to believe there may be errors in the instructions of other projects as well. Also, some of the additions seemed to be "filler" rather than interesting possibilities of something to make. There are some well presented instructions of interesting and plausible projects, however, and I bought this book for a crafty friend because I thought it would help her with making her Christmas gifts.

This is an amazing craft book! I have followed most of these designers for years and am so inspired by their aesthetic and taste. The projects here are lovely, interesting and inspiring. Some of the projects chosen by the different designers surprised me -such a variety...all beautiful. I looked forward to receiving my preorder of this book and was not the least bit disappointed. I am planning to keep busy all winter with these projects- sewing, knitting, soap making, printing, jewelry making, dying, weaving and crocheting. There are lots of detailed instructions and pictures showing detailed progress. I think you will be inspired to try something new!

Really great assortment of DIY projects. You can easily expand on them with your own ideas. I like how it pulls from all different areas so you learn a lot of different things. Book is well designed and projects are easy to follow. There are a lot of repetitive DIY books out there, but this one surprised me. I am extremely satisfied with this book.

Most of the projects are simple - almost too simple. Many of them I had seen before on tv or in magazines. But I will say there were a few that I will use - maybe 3-5. The rest of the projects, well I will probably give the book away after a while..Good quality printing and photos.

If you are always interested in creating something with your hands, this book has some great ideas and it is lovely to look at as well as inspiring. I would go through the table of contents first--to be sure that you are interested in doing these projects. It can keep you making things for several months!

I'd recommend this book to any crafter or creative soul of any level of experience. It has a great range of simple, to more complex and involved projects. I'm currently learning how to embroider from this book and it's well-planned and clear instructions is making it surprisingly very easy.

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