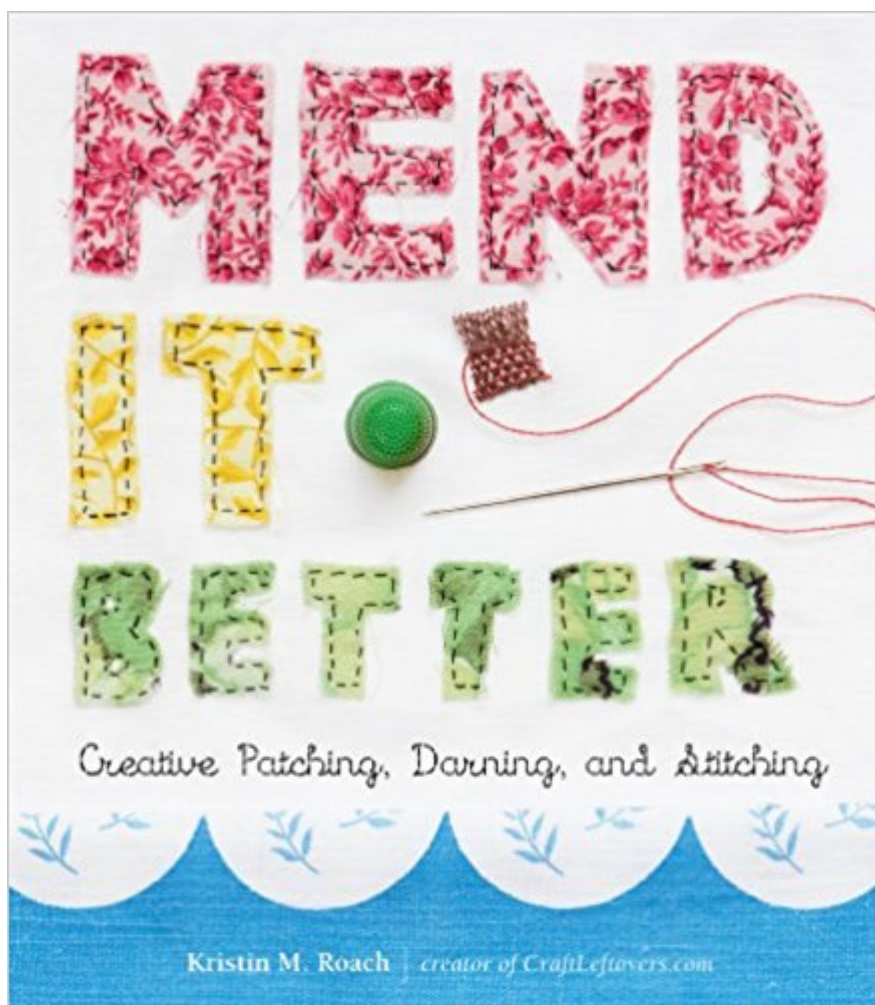


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# Mend It Better: Creative Patching, Darning, And Stitching



## Synopsis

Welcome to the new face of mending! Don't hide patches – make them into bold, beautiful embellishments. Repair holes with colorful thread and a creative darning stitch, or use fun embroidery to bring new life to a stained shirt. With detailed step-by-step photography, Kristin Roach teaches you a wide range of patching, darning, and repair stitches using both hand and machine sewing. Revive your wardrobe with these traditional mending techniques to make worn-out clothing not just wearable, but better than ever.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Craft blogger Roach's first book is an excellent addition to any sewer's collection. Instead of presenting another plethora of patterns, she seeks to empower her readers by teaching the skills they'll need to mend nearly any piece of clothing, from ripped buttonholes to torn hems. While there's no substitute for learning in person, the publisher and author should be commended on creating a book with excellent, clear photographs that show, step by step, how to complete basic repairs. The chapter *Stitch Smarts*, which covers everything from the blind hem stitch to the little-known prick stitch, is particularly outstanding. Roach also presents a few patterns, most from other crafters, that provide inspiration towards more mending, less discarding of torn clothing. With the exception of the odd placement of two projects before instructions on the stitches required to make them, the book unfolds in an accessible manner; great layout (and lovely photos) provide eye candy. This is the rare sewing book that will be pulled off the shelf for reference again and again.

Full color photos and illustrations, 13 patterns.Â

Wear Your Patches with PridePatch, hem, and darn new life into your torn and tired clothing. Kristin Roach's creative techniques, along with original mending ideas from guest crafters, will inspire you to adjust your hemlines, play with creative stitches, add pops of color with vintage buttons, apply boldly patterned patches, and so much more. Simple step-by-step instructions and basic sewing supplies are all you need to make your worn clothing better than ever. You'll love the fun and frugality of upcycling!

I love this book. It gives you all the basics on mending. Not only just on mending but on how you can use the mending as part of the appeal of the garment thru decorative stitching to adding fun pockets. Kristin takes you from how to decide weather a garment is worth mending or not to basic stitches, patching, surface stitches, seams, zippers, fancy and decorative repairs/accents. As well as adding in several projects to practice your mending skills on like a project bag, mending clutch, needle book and a tailors ham. This is a great book with lots of ideas for upcycling your existing garments into new wearable art.

I have two young children and the knees in their pants all have holes in them half way through the school year. I am not about to go buy them new clothes at this point, especially where their pants still fit...enter Mend it Better. I felt like this book was excellent. It really lives up to its name. I am not a beginner when it comes to sewing, but I am when it comes to patching and mending clothes. The detailed list of supplies you need is excellent. Not only does she tell you what you need, but the author tells you why you need it. She also explains how to mend every conceivable fabric, article of clothing and type of rip you might encounter: Sweaters, pants, silk, leather, knits...You are given multiple ways to patch so you can use whichever method is best for you. I got this book yesterday and already I have patched a hole. It was easy to understand and I feel it turned out great! I might even bust out the holey socks that have been plaguing my family and mend those!!Really great purchase, I feel this book will get a lot of use.

I borrowed this book from my local public library, and loved it so much I decided I should buy it and add it to my personal textile library. I knit and sew and mend clothes, love vintage clothes and textiles, and like to re-use or re-purpose textiles when I feel so moved. I really appreciate the author's attitude of re-making or mending treasured clothes, instead of throwing them out.This book

inspired me to make over my favorite green, very soft, machine-made lambswool sweater, of which I've long since worn the elbows into Swiss cheese-like hole-iness. Very helpful is the author's list of questions for determining whether an item is worth the effort of re-making or mending. Also very helpful is the list of tools and details of mending procedures. A quibble I have with the book is that the author doesn't go into re-knitting patches for knitted garments. Looking at the socks photographed in the book with crocheted, much thicker heels, I wouldn't want to wear those in shoes. This book did directly inspire me to knit a new sleeve up past the elbow for the beloved green sweater, and knit leaf-shaped patches to cover the small holes. This book has inspired a truly *À•mended-it-betterÀ•* sweater than the original machine-made sweater was, so I count the book as well worth having. The sewing directions and mending suggestions are excellent and inspirational. Thank you, Ms. Roach! P.S. I used to shop at the Rag Stock in Iowa City in the 90's, too, and got some great clothes there, such as a pair of East German Army thick wool pants.

This sweet, practical guide to extending the life of your clothing, as well as customizing thrift store finds and learning how to make a garment work for you, has become a valued addition to my craft book collection. Mending your clothing instead of tossing it away just because it has a hole, stain, etc., is not only a measure in saving money and preserving favorite articles of clothing, but it also makes you feel good about yourself, and it makes you appreciate what you've got rather than having the automated knee-jerk reaction to go out and buy buy buy. This book will pay for itself quickly, even if you use it just for the sock-darning instructions alone. There are many wonderful ideas in here that I hadn't thought of before. The instructions are all very clear, and the author writes in a very friendly, down-to-earth way. Very inspiring!

I have four kids, so often have a pile of clothes in need of repair. Since I sew lots of their clothes myself, I'm inclined to repair rather than replace, but I'm not much of a mender. Well, WASN'T much of a mender. This little book gave me so many ideas that I actually don't mind mending as much. Not to say I love it, but honestly, the quality of my repairs is much higher and the fixes look cuter using ideas from this book. I really appreciate it since I taught myself everything I know about hand sewing, and I've gotten a lot of tips from the book.

Actually the reason that I purchased this book is to assist me in learning to apply applique's to baby blankets. This proved to be a big help in many, many, area's of sewing as well as mending. The instructions are clear and diagrams well drawn, tho there are a few places that I would have

preferred a bit more illustrations.

Book is a good example of the slow fashion movement, where clothing items are repaired by hand. Very good book full of basic information about patterns, sewing, and mending rather than buying new!

I checked this book out from the library before purchasing. I liked the book well enough to buy it. I know the basics of mending but this is a good reference for tips, hints and reminders for any mending project I would tackle.

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