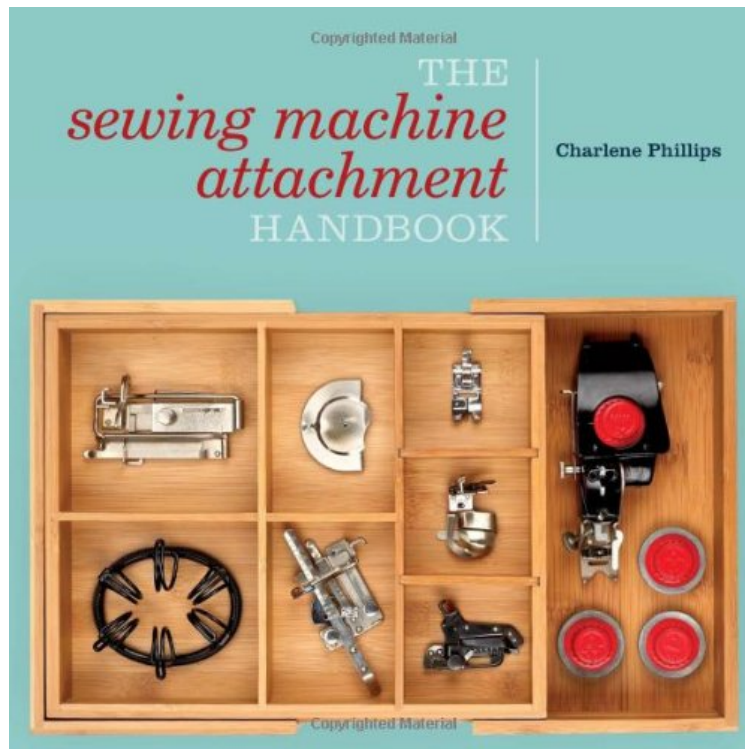


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The Sewing Machine Attachment Handbook

Charlene Phillips

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Charlene Phillips : The Sewing Machine Attachment Handbook before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Sewing Machine Attachment Handbook:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Beautifully Illustrated Basic Instructions for Sewing Machine Accessory Feet. By Peter Other reviews pointed out that this book was about vintage sewing machine attachment feet. Having quite a handful of those things it is exactly what I needed. Also all of the accessories covered are still easily available from a variety of resources on line. If you are looking for instructions for a more modern machine do not pass by this book too quickly. Much of what this book addresses has not changed. The book is very well written touching on a number of helpful topics and asides that make it not just useful but also interesting. But as well written as it is, the standout feature is the illustration. The illustrations are FABULOUS! Crisp, clear, color photography, use of contrasting thread and fabric colors to demonstrate how the foot works as it operates, very good close-ups, and so on. There are also a number of very well executed drawings that are very helpful in clarifying matters. OK, I love this book; so why only 4 stars? The reason is that I wish it went just a bit further. The instructions are very concise and clear as far as they go, but they still leave me with several questions about the finer points of technique for using some of the accessories. Much of what is given as instruction in this book is available elsewhere for free. Notably in free on-line Singer manuals. If you have found some of those free manuals you already know they are not terribly helpful because they do not go far enough nor are they clear enough in their explanations; and as elegant as the old Singer illustrations are, they are nowhere near as clear as the photos and drawings inside this book. So stop wasting time searching for the Singer manuals and buy this book. You won't regret owning it. But do not expect it to help solve all of

your niggling little problems of technique. It has been my experience (and my experience is admittedly limited) that a number of these accessory feet once started off properly go along just great.... the trick is to get them started correctly..... and off you go until you get to the very end.... when once again it seems to take a trick or two to get good results. This is particularly true of hemmers and binders of various ilks. Neither the Singer manuals nor any other resource I have been able to find address this knowledge gap satisfactorily. They tell you what you are *supposed* to do, but do not elaborate on the tricks of getting that done neatly and with precision for different fabrics or situations. And often the few suggestions and tips they do offer simply do not work. The instructions tell you WHAT to do, but leave it up to you to figure out the best way to get it done. Still this book is better than most. There are *some* tricks and tips included in this book, so it is the best resource I have located thus far. It's just not everything I had hoped for. However, as far as setting up and using a number of the feet that I own I can say that this book has taken me from from utterly baffled to grasping a basic understanding of what they do and how they work, even if I still have some finer points of technique to figure out on my own. Ever wonder how to use that tucker in your puzzle box? This book will get you started, but it is by no means a thorough discussion. Still it is light years ahead of the Singer instructions and illustrations. And then there are tricks we all learn about what to do when things go wrong. Even experts make mistakes, the difference between an expert and a beginner is the expert knows a) how to generally avoid running into the problem in the first place and b) usually how to fix the problem with minimal fuss. There is not much advice of that sort offered in this book. Bottom line though: A Wonderful book. Buy it. You will not regret it. If you want to know how all those shiny mechanical things in your accessory kit work, this is the place to find out. But you will still have to count on doing some trial-and-error on your own to figure out the easiest way to use them. At least with this book you will know which slot the fabric goes through and why, even if you have to muddle out for yourself the best way to get it to go there. Peter0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. wonderful just as advertised By bartt this is a wonderful book that the title says it all I saw one review where the person didn't like it because she didn't think it relevant. well I disagree Sewing machine feet are items that help you with edge finishes and hems regardless of whether or not you have a computer machine or not. I do not own a computer machine but my 4 yr old non-computerized Necchi hardly could be considered vintage. and I was able to buy new feet from my dealer. I am sure if you look up your make model of sewing machine you can buy new feet for your machine. the author clearly states this in the beginning of her book. she was also making the case for finding orphan attachments at garage sales and flea markets I have some of those just not for this machine. Having a book such as this to refer to is great, It helps one to understand and give confidence to use these feet. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Not what I needed By sailorman After many hours of additional research, I find that there is at least one more set of Greist (AKA Griest) attachments not covered by this book. I dutifully bought the attachment foot described on pages 29-31, only to find that my set are top-clamping (p. 25) not what I would call front-clamping as shown on page 30. I can find no answers anywhere on how to use my top-clamping attachments. Too bad, since I was looking forward to experimenting with all of them.

It's time to sew with your feet! Sewing machine attachments don't have to be scary. With *The Sewing Machine Attachment Handbook*, you'll gain the knowledge you need to conquer that box of metal and plastic. This indispensable guide will: Help you identify 25+ of the most common attachment feet and accessories with detailed illustrations and pictures, including rufflers, binders, hemmers and more Give you clear step-by-step instructions for using each foot to yield the best results Guide you in choosing a sewing machine, including information on what to look for in a new or used sewing machine Whether you've just begun or are an experienced sewer, *The Sewing Machine Attachment Handbook* will walk you through the ins and outs of what your machine can do. So grab those feet, and start sewing!

About the Author Charlene Phillips owns and operates *The Sew Box* where she collects and sells used machines and attachments, as well as provides history on various vintage machines. She has written books for Singer on the Singer Featherweight and on Singer attachments (available only through Singer). She has run a successful seamstress business for over 10 years in addition to being an educator, teaching sewing and quilting.