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Fashion DIY

30 Ways to Craft Your Own Style

by Carrie Blaydes and Nicole Smith

The most liberating piece of advice crafty girls Carrie Blaydes and Nicole Smith ever received? To never, ever look at a piece of clothing or fabric with a sense of finality. In *Fashion DIY*, the coauthors put this wisdom into practice, introducing the ten embellishment techniques that frugal fashionistas will need to unlock the style potential in any piece of clothing, new or vintage. Each chapter covers one essential technique—from embroidery to appliqué to felting—and then illustrates it with three skill-building projects designed to be jumping-off points for your own creativity. Once the light bulb goes on, you'll never look at your wardrobe the same way again!

■ **Carrie Blaydes** is a freelance writer and vintage clothing collector and dealer based in Brooklyn, NY. Sewing since kindergarten, she began altering and embellishing vintage clothing in the seventh grade and then branched out into original designs during college. Educated as a writer, Carrie delights in every opportunity to write about her true love: sewing.

■ After learning the basics from her mother, **Nicole Smith** honed her sewing skills at the University of North Texas. She quickly traded the plains of Texas for the streets of New York, where she co-founded the line Appliance Clothing (applianceclothing.com) and became the founding Sewing Editor for *Cutting Edge* magazine.



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