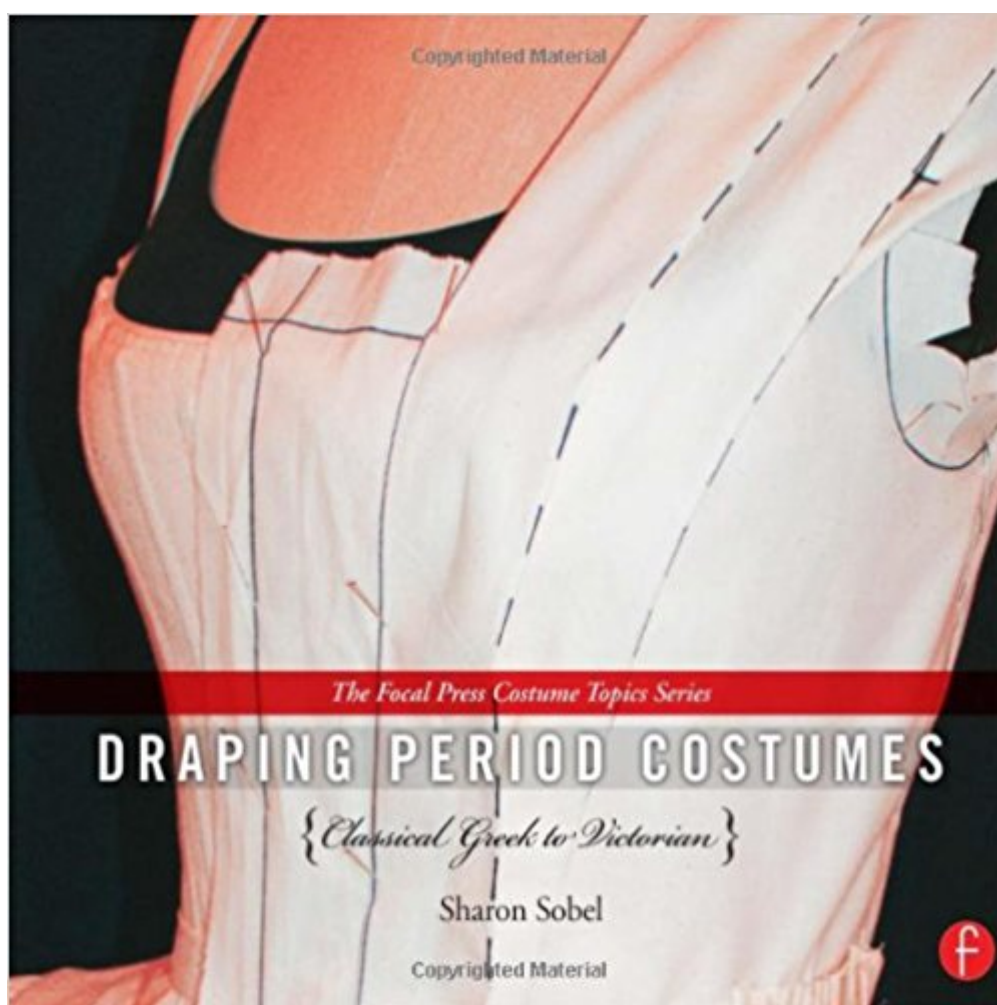


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# Draping Period Costumes: Classical Greek To Victorian (The Focal Press Costume Topics Series)



## Synopsis

Draping Period Costumes provides you with the skill set you need to break away from two-dimensional patterns to drape three dimensional costumes. The basics of draping are explained in precise detail, followed by step-by-step draping projects from multiple historical periods. Packed with photographs that illustrate every seam, pleat, and tuck, you'll never be lost with this comprehensive guide. -Includes information on measurements, necessary tools, and basic rules of draping -Covers costumes for both men and women - Discusses appropriate period under garments and fabric choices Let expert draper Sharon Sobel teach you all you need to know to perfectly drape any period costume!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Sharon Sobel is Professor of Theatre and Costume Designer at University of Nebraska at Omaha. She has designed and/or draped costumes for over 100 productions at her home institutions as well as at The Bermuda Festival, The Juilliard School, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Long Island Stage, New York International Fringe Festival, Queens Theatre in the Park, Connecticut Repertory Theatre, North Shore Music Theatre, Asolo Center for Performing Arts, Sarasota Opera, The Alley Theatre, Madison Repertory Theatre, Opera Omaha, Nebraska Repertory Theatre and Nebraska Shakespeare Festival. She has also designed and draped costumes for Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Clown College. Professor Sobel is a member of United Scenic Artists of America and recipient of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Gold Medallion.

I have been teaching, building and designing costumes for over 30 years. In all those years, I have had to depend on contemporary fashion textbooks for teaching draping. Sharon Sobel's new book "Draping Period Costumes: Classical Greek to Victorian" is the textbook I have been looking for. It includes both male and female period designs, is based on solid pattern draping principles and is well illustrated with many good photographs. While there have been several excellent books on flat patterning for period costumes, this book allows you to understand the process from a draper's perspective, allowing for well fitting garments in your first test. It is not a book for non-sewers and assumes that the reader has a basic understanding of garment construction. However, it has excellent notes on the effect of grain line on the pattern, setting up a dress form for the right under structure and, may I say again, MEN'S costume patterns. If I could add anything to the book, it would be a section on trousers and skirts but since both are typically flat patterned or drafted, they don't really belong in a draping book. I highly recommend it. I downloaded the Kindle edition before it was available in paper and find it easy to use on a tablet. My class will be using it in the Fall of 2013.8/26/13 - just an additional note. I was so very excited by what is in the book that I overlooked the lack of sleeve patterns. It may be that, like skirts and trousers, sleeves are more commonly flat patterned. However, I do agree with another reviewer that they are very important. Perhaps in a 2nd Edition?

This book provides an exceptionally illustrated guide to period draping. Backed by solid understanding of silhouette and modes of historical costuming, Sharon Sobel has created a text that allows for a more user-friendly method of creating period garments (that will assuredly respond to the continual change of the contemporary figure- an element that most period patterning books neglect). I appreciate that the author uses accessible language (applicable to both the novice and expert draper) and also includes examples of historical garments for men and women. Though the book covers a broad swath of historical fashion, the author includes imperative step-by-step information pertaining to period-specific detailing. I would recommend this text not only for personal use, but find that it is ideal for course adoption on related topics. In short, it is Adaptable, Accessible, Comprehensive and Practical!!! Furthermore, any costume shop would be remiss to not add this treasure to its functional library. More than any other book on the topic, I found this to be the best!

Sharon Sobel's book is beautifully put together. It leads the reader step by step through the draping

process, starting with customizing your own dress form to fit specific measurements (yours, an actor's, a customer's). The photographs accompanying each project clearly illustrate each step. And each section covers a different period in history, giving an example of both male and female clothing. The projects are easy to follow and this book offers the novice and the experienced draper an excellent resource.

I love how the beginning of the book shows you how to fit your dress dummy properly. That is the main reason I bought this book over others out there on draping (and I do historical costuming for fun). Without the proper base, there's no way you can get the proper fit on your patterns.

I was completely new to draping before reading this book, but now feel quite confident. Not only does this give a vast array of period accurate designs to drape, it shows such a variance that these techniques could easily be applied to more modern styles.

This book is perfect for anyone interested in period costumes from the first timer to the very advanced. It's a great combination of a keen knowledge of period detail and shapes that can work on modern bodies who need the full range of stage movement. It certainly makes the ideal textbook, too. Lavishly full of photographs and as an added bonus I love the spiral bound format so it can be open while you work.

Sharon Sobel's new text "Draping Period Costumes: Classical Greek to Victorian" fills an important gap in the costume design literature. For anyone involved with period costume, or with teaching others in this area, this should become an indispensable text. The scope is truly impressive, covering ancient Greece through the Victorian period. The author illustrates each topic with superb drawings and illuminating text, and construction is both explained and documented photographically, step by step. The book even uses a spiral binding so that pages sit flat- and ideal situation for use in the design studio. The end result is an extremely well-constructed, thoughtfully and clearly presented and highly useful text that should find wide interest in both the academic and professional theater communities.

haven't tried it yet but it covers the period(s) that I'm interested in.

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