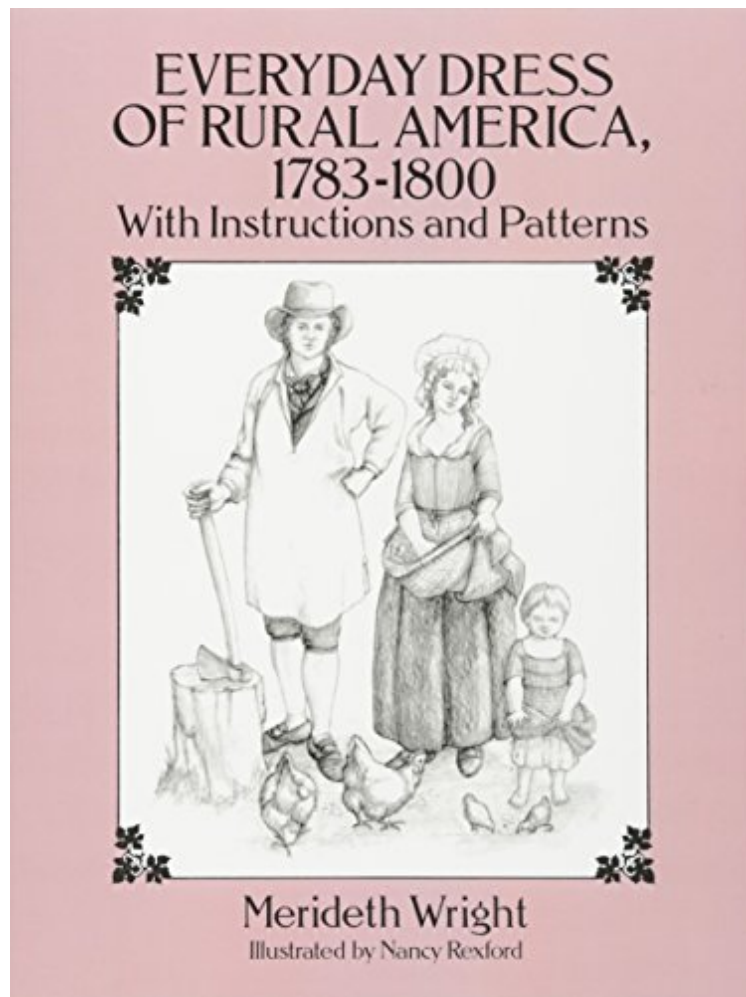


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## Everyday Dress of Rural America, 1783-1800: With Instructions and Patterns (Dover Fashion and Costumes)

*Merideth Wright*

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**Merideth Wright : Everyday Dress of Rural America, 1783-1800: With Instructions and Patterns (Dover Fashion and Costumes)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Everyday Dress of Rural America, 1783-1800: With Instructions and Patterns (Dover Fashion and Costumes):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Interesting, if slight, and sufficient to allow you to create these garmentsBy Heidi S.An interesting, if slight, book. There are plentiful drawings, and patterns as well. The patterns are small diagrams the size of the book's pages, not life-size like modern patterns.It seems that these people preferred to construct their garments from rectangles, and most of the rectangles were the full width of the fabric, which was about 30". I would guess that the result, if you make any of these items, will have an authentic made-at-home-by-an-amateur

look. Some of it is a bit surprising. For example, did you know that the (white) men of that time did not wear undershorts? Instead, their shirts were extremely long, and did double duty as undershorts. Hmm. The book also includes much briefer discussions of the clothing of the Indians with whom the settlers would have been in contact. Thus the chapter on men's pants includes a discussion of the loincloth. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This book has good written descriptions but basically you have to make your own patterns from the page sized drawings. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Old School clothing . . . again By David E Mevis If you have interest in period clothing, it is a great resource.

Students and enthusiasts of period costume as well as needleworkers interested in re-creating authentic costumes of America's post-Revolutionary era will welcome this comprehensive, scholarly treatment. It not only discusses and describes the clothing worn in rural America (primarily in New England) between 1783 and 1800, it is one of the few books to include scaled drawings of patterns and full instructions for making most of the garments. The attire includes the clothing both of settlers and of the Abenaki Indians of New England. The Abenaki traditionally wore clothing made of soft tanned deerskin or moosehide, sometimes decorated with dyes or with complex embroidery of dyed porcupine quills and moose hair. By the late eighteenth century, however, the Abenaki had adopted certain of the settlers' garments, such as the men's shirt and the women's shift. Similarly, the settlers had begun to wear moccasins, leggings, and other Indian garments when it made sense in their daily lives. The heart of this book is devoted to full descriptions and scaled patterns for specific garments. For women: shift, petticoat and skirt, gowns, neckerchief, apron, headgear, and more. Men's clothes include shirt, cravat and stock, breeches and breechcloth, waistcoat, coat, frock, and headgear. Also covered are men's and women's stockings, leggings, shoes, and moccasins. While the majority of the clothing was worn in rural areas, small-town clothing is described as well. Cultural and costume historians, or anyone interested in the clothing styles of the late eighteenth century in rural America, will find a rich store of information and practical instruction in this book. It belongs in the library of any lover of antique clothing or needleworker wishing to duplicate the everyday dress of our forebears.