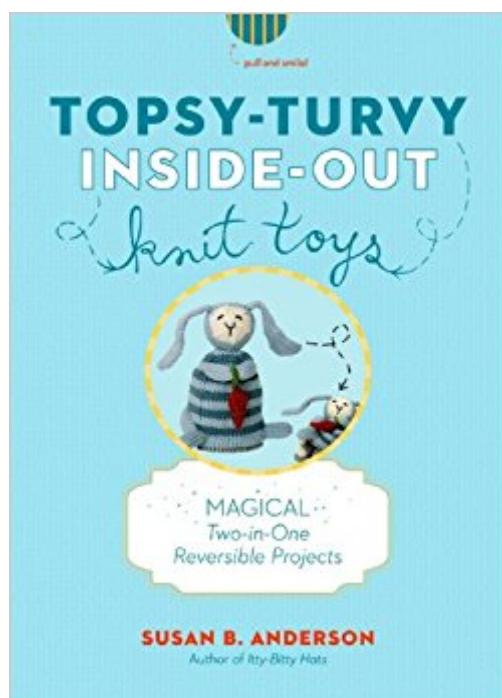


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Topsy-Turvy Inside-Out Knit Toys: Magical Two-in-One Reversible Projects



Synopsis

Susan B. Anderson's fifth book--her most enchanting yet--turns the spotlight on "reversibles": knitted projects that are two toys in one. This collection of a dozen delightful toys features a dog in a doghouse, a chrysalis with a fluttery surprise inside, a tiny hidden fairy, a vintage toy with a fabled theme to boot, pigs in a blanket, and much more. The adorable photographic sequences and the playful and energetic line drawings show how each finished reversible can be turned inside out to reveal its companion toy. Projects are arranged in order from simplest (fine for a beginner) to the most challenging. Finally, the book features tutorials from the author (a great knitting teacher), explaining special techniques: how to apply any applique, how to do the stem stitch, how to embroider "eyes" on the Bunny and Lamb, and 14 more. It all adds up to the best knitting book of the season.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Susan B. Anderson is the author of *Itty-Bitty Hats*, *Itty-Bitty Nursery*, *Itty-Bitty Toys*, *Spud & Chloë at the Farm*, *Topsy-Turvy Inside-Out Knit Toys*, and the forthcoming *Kids' Knitting Workshop*. She writes her popular knitting blog at susanbanderson.blogspot.com and teaches award-winning courses on Craftsy.com and at workshops throughout the country. Susan also has a YouTube channel with dozens of instructional knitting videos that can be found under [SusanBAnderson](https://www.youtube.com/user/SusanBAnderson). She lives in Madison, Wisconsin, with her husband and four children.

I preordered this book and was thrilled when it was finally released. It arrived today, and I can't wait

to knit something from this. The problem is that I love all the designs so much that I really have no idea which to knit first. Susan comes through once again with clever, adorable designs with instructions that are easy to follow. Acknowledging that most knitters dread the finishing work that toys require, Susan has thought through each design to alleviate as much finishing as possible. Clear step-by-step photos show tutorials for many techniques that are useful beyond the scope of the toys in this book, or beyond toys in general. Some of the tutorials include casting on a small number of stitches for working in the round, picking up stitches on a stuffed toy, working duplicate stitch and stem stitch, embroidering faces, stitching on an appliquÃ©, attaching doll hair, and more. The basics of the book are great, too. The hard cover protects the pattern pages, but the covered spiral binding allows the book to lie flat while you're knitting. The cover also features a "pull and smile" tab, a nod to children's books, that reveals the reversible nature of the toys inside. The table of contents features small photos of each project next to the respective chapters--a nice touch. The narrative of the introduction to the book and to each pattern reveals the down-to-earth nature of the designer and gives a more personal connection to the designs. The photography by Liz Banfield is excellent. There is a great balance of close-up stitches-on-the-needle shots, pictures of the toys in transformation, detail shots of each toy, and kids actually playing with the toys. I love that the kids are oftentimes slightly out of focus but the toys are showcased in the forefront. Cute illustrations by Mariko Jesse fill in the white space and add to the whimsy of the book. This isn't a learn-to-knit book, and Susan doesn't waste expensive pages teaching you to knit and purl. She assumes you know the basics, but even a beginner could handle a good number of these patterns. Bottom line: If you are a toy knitter or a knitter who wants to learn to knit toys, buy this book. Just don't let your kids look at it. You might be hounded to knit every toy in the book for them!

I got this book a week ago and I have already made the dog, penguin, and alligator! Easy to knit (I have only been knitting on and off for the last three years). All patterns are knitted in the round on dpn, so I had to take to the Internet to figure out how to join a round, but once I got that figured out the rest of the patterns are fairly easy. And Ms. Anderson does a good job of explaining any stitches she uses aside from purl and knit. Lots of cute toys to make. Now I'm on the search for other books by Susan Anderson!

I absolutely love the way Susan thinks--her toys are so cute and practical. Everyone I've made them for has been amazed with how ingenious they are! I can't wait to start a few projects out of this book. I would like to get it in a hard copy as soon as I have the money for it, but for now I ordered

the Kindle edition which is a STEAL. I honestly want to make a donation to Susan because I cannot believe that there are so many patterns and tutorials available for just 2.50. It's incredible and I couldn't be happier with the value of this purchase.

I will probably be 75 before i have the chance to really sit down and knit a lot of Susan B. Anderson's patterns, but how genius and inspiring they are! I actually own every book she's currently got published, either in hard copy or in kindle format (all of her books in kindle format went on sale one day and i snatched up everything I could find, because they are awesome little knitting patterns!) I was first introduced to her inside-out knit toys in the one book I own in spiral-bound hard copy, Itty Bitty Toys. Magickal indeed! I am excited to have a whole selection of these patterns to inspire me. For those that love small knitting projects, especially toys, that are challenging enough but not out of the realistic scope of completion, these are your projects.

I have made knitted toys before, and it's not fun. Small pieces, and you have to do a fair amount of sewing. And it's frequently in DK. This book uses worsted weight, mainly. One project has a bit of bulky, and two projects are sock weight. but most are worsted. The author has you picking up stitches from the main piece for attachments, which really cuts down on sewing. These toys are different, and very ingenious. Not just a soft toy, but something you can play with like action figures, making up your own story, using both characters. That is really cool.

I rated this a 5 because the toys are clever and do-able for the knitter and such fun for the lucky child who receives the finished gift. The first one I made was the alligator in an egg, and it turned out great!

This book has been great to work though. My daughter (who is 1) have had a blast looking through the book and picking out patterns and then yarn to knit these fun toys. She is partial to the dog (because we have) but the ones we've made have all been. The great detailed photos for iffy parts are wonderful. My only complaint is the images are sometimes fuzzy which I find annoying. Sometimes the only thing in focus isn't even the toy in photos.

A great way to use up bits from my stash. Knitted items look great. Some of the instructions (the Christmas garland and ornaments) are difficult to follow.

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