



The Ultimate Sashiko Sourcebook

Susan Briscoe

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Sashiko, the traditional Japanese technique of needlework quilting, uses simple running stitch to create beautifully decorative patterns ideal for patchwork, quilting and embroidery. Sashiko (pronounced shash-ko) means 'stab stitch' and refers to the small running stitch that is worked to build up distinctive decorative patterns, of which there are hundreds. The book begins by exploring the origins of the technique to strengthen clothes and to make them warmer. Getting Started describes everything you need to begin stitching, including selecting suitable fabrics and threads, marking out patterns on the fabric, as well as the stitching technique itself. Ten project chapters show how easy it is to use sashiko patterns to make beautiful items for the home. The sashiko patterns are described in step-by-step detail in the pattern library, showing you exactly how to achieve each individual pattern with ease. Finally a gallery of work by contemporary Japanese textile artists provides extra inspiration.

The Ultimate Sashiko Sourcebook Details

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From Reader Review The Ultimate Sashiko Sourcebook for online ebook

Mel says

Would definitely buy this book as a reference for sashiko work.

Jenni says

Really clean-looking embroidery that forms beautiful patterns. The book is exactly as advertised: patterns, projects, and inspirations. The only downside is that although the book is very accessible, I'm sure it takes some practice before you have the same level of quality in your own work. Liked it all the same!

Kelly says

I love this book! Have had it for a few years now, and found it a great source for learning sashiko technique and design. I often refer to the stitch pattern guide at the back to make my own designs.

Because I was already a sewer and learned the sashiko basics from a friend (here in Japan), I haven't made any of the projects in this book exactly as written, but I would say they look easy to follow.

Sashiko is a lovely craft, and fairly easy to pick up if you have the patience for hand-stitching.

Beth says

great resource

Zombie Karin says

Great book--full of clear how-to instructions, background on technique, and a dictionary of pattern guides in the back.

Hil says

Great resource for sashiko patterns and some project ideas.

Patricia says

Solid source book with clear information about supplies and patterns.

Jennifer (JC-S) says

‘In the 21st century, sashiko continues to evolve.’

Sashiko (the word means ‘little stab’) is a traditional Japanese quilting technique which uses a simple running stitch. Originally the technique was used to combine two or three layers of fabric to create warm, economical clothing. Today its use seems to be mainly decorative.

My first introduction to sashiko was earlier this year, when I saw some sashiko panels on my first visit to a local quilting store. At that stage, I was looking at fabric for my first machine quilting project, but was very attracted to the potential (and portability) of sashiko. I’ve since completed my first sashiko project (a small tote bag featuring a wave pattern) and am keen to learn more about the history and techniques of sashiko stitching.

I bought this book after reading a number of reviews, and I’m delighted. The history of sashiko is interesting, the selection of relatively simple projects provides opportunities to practice the techniques, and the different patterns (over 100 are included) provide plenty of inspiration for the future.

This is a great guide for those of us starting sashiko stitching: there’s information on fabric and thread selection, as well as advice on how to mark and stitch the patterns. There are plenty of diagrams and photographs to assist as well. The ten projects include table mats, a table runner and tote bags, as well as cards and cushions: there are plenty of possibilities.

Jennifer Cameron-Smith

Catherine says

I’ve thought about doing a sashiko project for years, but I’m not sure my niece even knew that when she dangled her copy of this book in front of me a mere half an hour before I departed from a three-day visit. Luckily I was able to get it through Prospector. Good beginner book with historical information and basics about supplies and procedures, and beautiful projects to inspire the reader.

It turns out that sashiko supplies, especially the thread, are hard to find – this book was first published 25 years ago, and the two US sources listed no longer carry them. The New England Quilt Museum via its Etsy store seems to have the best selection of thread, and I’m now planning my project while waiting for my ship(ment) to come in.

penny shima glanz says

To say that I'm fascinated by Sashiko would be an understatement. I am in love with it. I've not posted many pictures yet of my work in this medium because I'm still learning and this book has definitely lowered the learning curve! Why? It's in English! My Japanese is very limited and while I've picked up more and more over the years, it's nice to see such a well researched work. Sure, many of my Japanese language Sashiko books have the same patterns, it is nice to see them in English. Ms Briscoe has written a wonderful book incorporating techniques, tips, history, culture, and varied design. I'm very happy I stumbled upon this book in the bookstore and am not upset to have paid full price for it. It is a valuable resource on my shelf.
