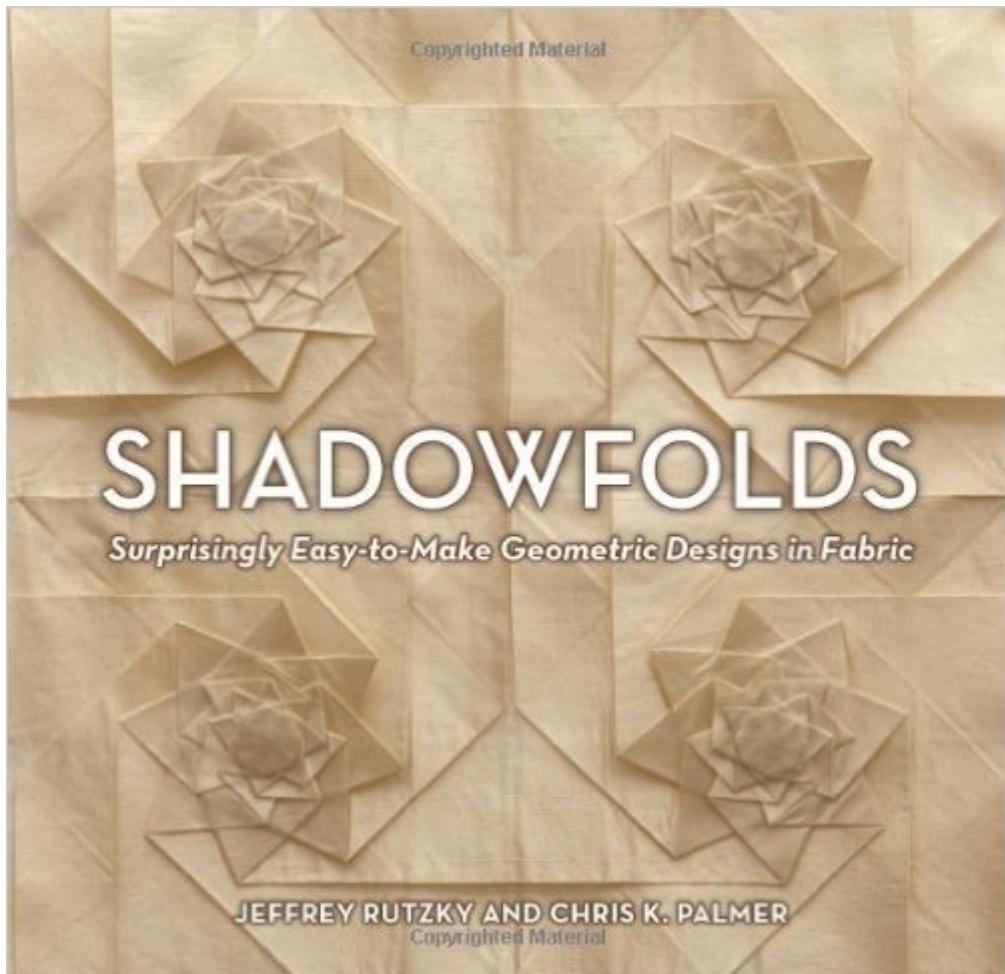


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# Shadowfolds: Surprisingly Easy-to-Make Geometric Designs In Fabric



## Synopsis

Shadowfolds are a rich blend of traditional motifs expressed in a contemporary style. The technique, pioneered by artist Chris K. Palmer, creates patterns from a single, uncut panel of cloth, using a simple, three-step process. In *Shadowfolds*, Jeff Rutzky, himself an accomplished and passionate origamist, and Palmer offer detailed and fascinating information about the technique and its origins in both Moorish tile and classic Japanese origami. Palmer first encountered the elaborate mosaics of the Alhambra and became intrigued with learning to translate these patterns into folded paper. He turned for inspiration to the work of Japanese origami masters Tomoko Fuse, Jun Maekawa, Toshikazu Kawasaki and Shuzu Fujimoto, as well as to the great American origami artists Robert Lang and Peter Engel. The transition to working in cloth followed. The flexible property of cloth allows pleats to be folded to augment and give a dimensionality not present in a flat surface; and the translucent quality adds a unique intricacy to the geometric patterns. When lines in a pattern are folded as pleats, the resulting shapes formed by the pleats become part of the artistic expression of the material. The possibilities for using Shadowfolds in design are limitless. Some applications take advantage of light shining through the fabric, others show the richness of the folds that have a depth all their own. In addition to explaining the three very simple steps of the technique, the authors show how even novice folders can create breathtaking works of textile art, as well as fashion-forward clothes, accessories and home furnishings incorporating these three-dimensional embellishments. They also include a section of patterns, and fabric and craft resources.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I first encountered this sew-and-fold technique at a workshop. It was impressive. Even people who had at most a utilitarian acquaintance with needle and thread were able to create a beautiful folded pinwheel figure in the center of an organza square. I was therefore delighted when the book finally came out. How it works: 1. Start with one of the authors' patterns of dots, transferred to a piece of fabric. 2. With needle and thread, in the order specified, pick up a few threads of the fabric in the center of each dot. 3. Pause every so often to draw the thread up tighter, smoothing and straightening the origami-like folds as they form. 4. Optionally, iron the folded figure when you're done. That's all it takes; and if you work the project in a crisper fabric than the sample items shows as secondary images, the results are as precise as Moorish tiling patterns.

If you like geometric patterns and you like fabric art, you will love this book. The projects are beautiful and the design options are endless. I am really inspired by what can be achieved with these fabric folding techniques. I love the dimension and texture that fabric folding adds to any project. I plan on incorporating these techniques into my art quilts. What fun!

I met Chris Palmer once many many years ago at an origami convention in NYC. I was in awe at that time of his beautiful paper geometric origami designs...amazing to see in person...even more amazing to see them in fabric and so marvelously presented in this book. The book itself is a work of art. AND, the projects that the authors/artists include appear to be very achievable. The technique as described looks like a most enjoyable game of "connect the dots" with a most beautiful end result. This book will appeal to origami enthusiasts and quilters or fabric artists alike. Simply "wonderfold"!

I love this book. I'd like to emphasize that the instructions are very easy to understand and to follow. Any sewing novice can create these beautiful, intricate looking pieces. I haven't felt that any of the projects are too complicated or beyond my abilities. No frustration -- no confusion. And, I've been using some of the patterns to incorporate into clothing. After years of wanting to stick a fork in my eye after reading industry sewing patterns and diy books that read like Klingon, and/or are missing pertinent instructional steps, and/or have boring/crappy projects, this was a breath of fresh air. I sincerely hope that they publish more books :)

I love this book. I've wanted to try different and interesting techniques to manipulate fabric aside

from simply smocking. These designs are easy to understand and the projects give you a variety of applications for the technique. I can't wait to start experimenting.

You've heard and seen Origami, the Japanese paper-folding art. Chris Palmer, who studied under one of the Japanese masters, has extended it to folding fabric and creating geometric patterns that emerge when you backlight the cloth. (Confession: I know Chris personally and even own one of his art pieces.) They look like tessellations, and the different thicknesses of material where multiple folds overlap give the patterns their density and bas relief look. In this book by Jeffrey Rutzky, Chris for the first time provides designs for you to make as well... the first time he has shared his special secrets with the world.

This book is truly unique. I love the history and source of inspiration for this book. The two techniques I have tried turned out beautifully. Now, it's time to actually buy silk and do a finished project. Also, I am anxious to make the light shades using this technique. There might have been a few more applications....

I jumped right in and started with one of the more advanced projects. The instructions were great, and the item turned out wonderfully. Now I wish I hadn't used an old sheet as a "trial", thinking I would probably mess it up! It is fiddly and time-consuming, but the results are worth the effort.

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