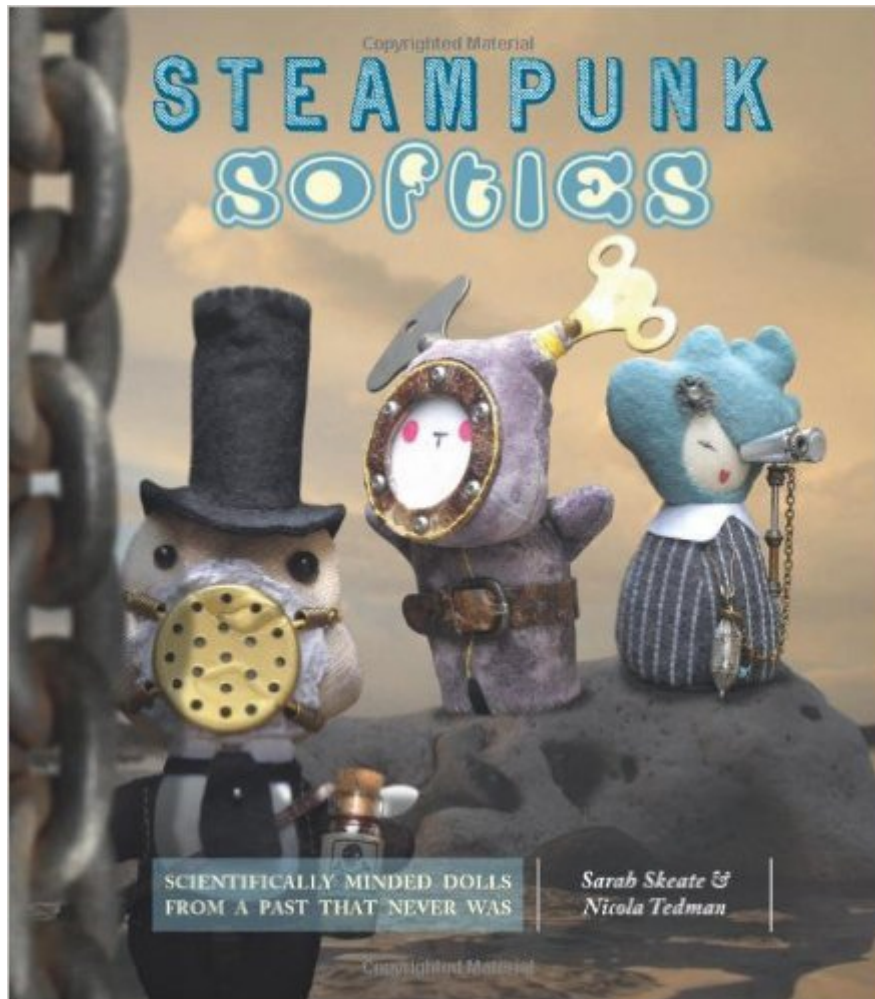


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# Steampunk Softies: Scientifically-Minded Dolls From A Past That Never Was



## Synopsis

A wonderful combination of Victorian aesthetic and modern crafting, these eight adorable stuffed creations make perfect gifts or accessories for the thousands of dedicated steampunk fans. Sarah Skeate and Nicola Tedman offer crafters an array of charmingly raffish characters inside *Steampunk Softies: 8 Scientifically Minded Dolls From a Past That Never Was*. Even if you're unfamiliar with the term "steampunk," chances are you've already discovered it through the works of Jules Verne, H.G. Wells, Tim Burton, Mary Shelley, or Lemony Snicket. Steampunk is an artistic movement that includes stories involving steam-powered versions of modern technology in a fictionalized Victorian setting. Staying true to steampunk style, Skeate and Tedman's inventive *Steampunk Softies* feature prominent science fiction and fantasy elements, as well as anachronistic inventions and props. In addition, many have dual roles that add practicality to their punk existence--the Lady makes an excellent paperweight, while the Illusionist's cloak doubles as a screen cleaner. Despite their meticulous detailing, *Steampunk Softies* are simple enough for even a sewing novice to construct. A short biography accompanies each softie, providing a background story for each character. Also included are a complete list of supplies, illustrated step-by-step blueprints, and a handy, back-of-the-book reference section that provides tips on aging and distressing project materials. Venture full steam ahead into your next crafting project with *Steampunk Softies*.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Do you know about Steampunk? Steampunk is an elaborate arts and crafts movement creating art

based on the never world of Victorian times powered by steam but with our technology. It typically incorporates elements like gears and clockwork, top hats and waist coats, goggles and gas masks, and locomotives and airships. Some authors whose writings are associated with Steampunk are Mary Shelley, Jules Verne and Lemony Snicket with his Series of Unfortunate Events series. Steampunk Softies presents plushies that tap into the steampunk zeitgeist. Steampunk Softies has pages which look "aged" and the plushies are set up in interesting settings that assist in providing the reader with the appropriate feel for each one. The authors give you the know-how to craft your very own little characters, each with a fascinating story of their very own. There are helpful tips on assembling, along with advice on how to do things like age the fabric to give the authentic steampunk look. Every softie has complete instructions with an illustration for each step. Steampunk Softies starts with the simplest softies and moves towards the more complex and detailed ones. My children were quite taken with Minerva Dupine whose magnifying glass monocle is the perfect accessory for her profession as a detective. It helps her to find stolen items, from "husbands to jewelry". Geronimo Bore boasts a drill arm that he uses to "prospect" all kinds of rocks and metals. Fathomless Tilt wears an "oversized diver's helmet" from which his sweet little face peers out of. There are eight interesting characters altogether in Steampunk Softies, a delightful book for fans of the movement, as well as people who love to make soft toys!

Steampunk Softies is by the same authors as Zombie Felties, Sarah Skeate and Nicola Tedman. Softies are a bit bigger than felties, but use a lot of the same techniques for construction, and can be hand sewn. The book starts with an introduction to the materials that are used to construct the dolls, as well as some fantastic tutorials for aging and distressing the fabrics. The dolls are just wonderful. Most stand about 6 inches high, and the props and construction methods are very clever. The materials are for the most part, very easy to find, and some of the supplies are things you might normally throw away. The diminutive scale of the dolls makes them perfect for small scraps of fabric and leather. Mini brads, scraps of leather, plastic from deli containers, beads, buttons and toy compasses are all used in the detail of these lovely little dolls. The dolls themselves are fantastic. Fantastic in the literal sense that they are creative fantasies. A little undersea manikin looks like he mutated or was genetically created to live in the water, Floyd Fastknight explores the world with a compass for an eye and a case of maps. Chasity Storm is dressed in a cloud of lace and has wings that are reminiscent of the very first airplanes. All the patterns are in the back of the book and full size, you trace them from the book on to a sheet of paper to cut out the parts for the dolls. Some of the dolls are very simple, the biggest challenge is the scale. Some are a lot more

complex. These are not playthings, they are lovely little works of art. The techniques and the accessories used in making them can inspire your own characters and creations very easily. My son is a big steampunk fan, and he was absolutely charmed by this book. My daughter, who is the serious doll maker in the family loved the techniques and pattern ideas.

First I got it from the library to see HOW MUCH I would enjoy it and/or find it useful. LOVED it and got my own book. Thank you Public Library for allowing me a dry run. Matter of fact, can't say enough good things about our public libraries for this reason-and many others.

I can't find the patterns in the Kindle edition nor a link to download them from somewhere... Where can I get the patterns if I purchased the Kindle edition?

Steampunk Softies is a nice change from the silly monsters I have been seeing for so long. The instructions in the book are easy to follow and the patterns are simple. After making one it is easy to get inspired to try some variations. The patterns are easy to modify and get creative with. I loved it so much I got one for my 15 year old niece who is just learning about steampunk.

While not as simple construction as their other book "Zombie Felties", the instructions are well thought out & concise enough for beginners to follow comfortably yet still challenge a hardened 'tried-it-all-and-have-tshirt's' crafter.

Although I am in the middle of making the first one, these characters are so unique and adorable just looking at them takes you into another world. Project seems to be going together well, directions and details are spot on. Glad I bought it.

Great ideas for making these dolls. I'm not sure about finding some of the materials or having to buy more material than needed to meet store's minimum yardage requirements. Overall, very nice.

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