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Style



Synopsis

A few lucky women have been born with style -- think Diana Vreeland and Jacqueline Onassis -- but for most of us, style is something that comes with time and experience. Above all, style begins with a sense of who you are and your self-confidence. Style comes from opening yourself to the world around you -- to books and movies, art, music, travel, and especially to other people. In this upbeat and engaging book, designer Kate Spade talks about the many people and experiences that have inspired her. For Kate, movies as varied as *The Swimmer* and *The Red Balloon* have influenced her vision of style, as have such places as Mexico (where she and her husband, Andy, vacation each year), Napa Valley, and her hometown of Kansas City. In the pages of *Style*, you'll find a large section devoted to the colors Kate most loves and suggestions for combining them. Accessories, which are the backbone of her wardrobe, are given full treatment here, including shoes, handbags, hats, gloves, and jewelry; and a portfolio of Kate's personal favorites from her own closet is showcased. Style in the office, evening style, even ideas for style when you travel and when you play are all featured here. The last section of *Style* focuses on maintaining your wardrobe, including tips on organizing your closet, caring for vintage clothes, and keeping your jewelry in good condition. *Style*, with 230 watercolor illustrations, is a wonderfully personal and friendly book intended for readers of all ages and style temperaments. If there's one rule Kate espouses, it's that true style comes when you follow your own rules. Moreover, as the writers William Strunk, Jr., and E. B. White once wrote, "To achieve style, begin by affecting none."

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Customer Reviews

Back in 1993, editor-turned-designer Kate Spade made a splash in the fashion world by turning out a small collection of boxy, utilitarian handbags, each elegantly accented with her name stitched in discreet, lowercase letters. As a result, the simplicity and unabashed refinement of the Spade moniker on those Lilliputian labels has come to define the very foundation on which the designer has since built a fashion empire, one that now, in addition to handbags, includes shoes, clothing, and smart home things, all of which embody the Spade formula of timeless style--a seamless merging of cheerful colors, clean shapes, and well-chosen embellishments. Not bad for a Kansas City-born girl who used to comb vintage stores for fun. Having perfected and expertly marketed her own brand of personal style (one that has famously been counterfeited throughout the world), the designer has emerged with an equally elegant trio of books whose topics Spade has become a virtual authority: *Style*, *Occasions*, and *Manners*. The packaging, as well as the neatly clipped advice found in *Style*, is as polished and sunny as the pert designer herself. Spade draws pearls of wisdom from fashion greats like Diana Vreeland and Coco Chanel, and also employs the inspiration of iconic films, books, artists, and design movements. The layout and typography, while vibrant, can be overwhelming at times and her suggestions a bit old-fashioned ("if you have to wiggle into something, assume it won't flatter you."). But *Style* still stands out as a treasure in itself. From "forever" clothes like full skirts and jewel-neck sweaters to playing around with color combinations and cocktail rings, Spade has captured a place for herself in the modern fashion vernacular. And *Style* is a suitably chic way to celebrate her arrival. --Christene Barberich

Moving from creating handbags to dispensing advice, Kate Spade, of the eponymous fashion house, plunges into publishing with a smart little book akin to Coco Chanel's oh-so-classic little black dress. Surprisingly, her volume yields a goodly amount of verve and veracity, wit and wisdom. It begins with a few questions and answers (called "Have you ever wondered?"), which function as teasers to what lies within. The book is divided into three sections; two are filled with direct advice and the third is a collection of miscellany. The advice is classic and always in the best of taste.

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I have all three of Kate Spade's books, and quite adore them. They are slim and pretty and have lots of clever little tidbits and tips in them, and the watercolors are charming. I will admit, this particular volume is written with a particular taste in mind- the classic, "breakfast at Tiffany's" look. If you are not interested in that sort of style, you won't be impressed with the book. However, if you

DO like it, you will love it. I have all three volumes sitting on a side table for easy thumbing, and guests enjoy them too. The next time I have an overnight guest, I plan to place these in the guest room for some light reading. Some people have made the claim that this is a 'one time read' but before I ponied up and bought them, I checked them out from the library multiple times.

Love the illustrations and little tips.

It is a super fun book. They are a bit dated now but beautifully written and illustrated. It is always fun to see life the Kate Spade way. Book arrived in great condition! The sticker on it with the price was a bit hard to remove but doable!

I bought this as a Christmas gift for my daughter who is a senior in college. She will be heading into the working world soon and thought "Style" would be helpful in helping to make a great first impression.

It's a cute and simple book. I use it more for decoration than light reading.

This is my favorite of the Kate Spade books. It includes all kinds of classic style advice. Even talks about clothing care and closet organization.

Such a cute little book! Perfect for coffee tables!

I Bought it for my sister, she loves it. The Book was packed safely in a package and was easy to open.

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