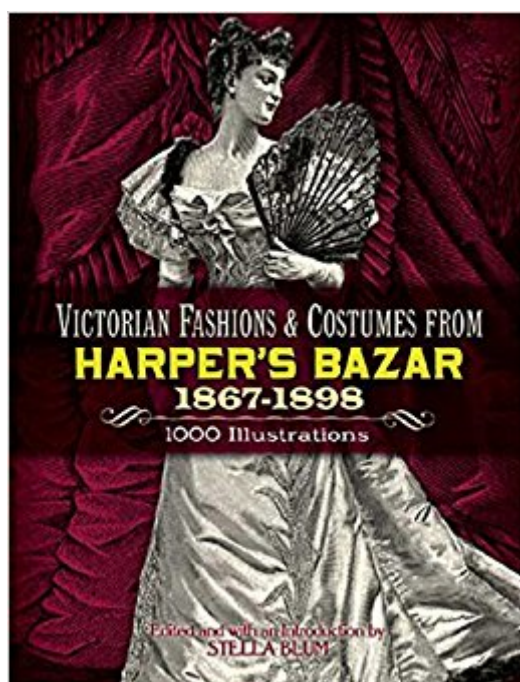


The book was found

Victorian Fashions And Costumes From Harper's Bazar, 1867-1898 (Dover Fashion And Costumes)



Synopsis

After the Civil War the upper middle class in America expanded and became increasingly style-conscious. Visiting European royalty as well as American women returning from the International Exhibition in Paris in 1867 stimulated fashion awareness and it was in this climate that the magazine Harper's Bazar flowered. Dedicated to being "A repository of Fashion, Pleasure, and Instruction," it brought to American women inside glimpses of the very latest European and American fashions, all in carefully detailed engravings. It was much the finest source for high fashion for this period. This book consists of the finest illustrations from Harper's Bazar between the years 1867 and 1898, the period of its peak importance. These illustrations not only show you what apparel appealed to our Victorian ancestors, but give you an idea of the evolutionary nature of fashion as well. You will see bustles come and go, natural forms become the vogue only to be superseded by the constricting hourglass figure. Each look is illustrated with a number of different garments. There are gowns for the morning hours, dinner dresses, sporting costumes, traveling clothes and apparel for special occasions: weddings, communions, funerals, etc. Since no costume was complete without accessories, a full line of hats, fans, parasols, muffs, gloves, handkerchiefs, jewelry, shoes and hair styles is shown as well. A selection of children's attire is also included. An introduction by Stella Blum covers the history of Harper's Bazar and examines the various phases fashion went through between 1867 and 1898.

Book Information

Series: Dover Fashion and Costumes

Paperback: 320 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 80 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

I bought this to expand my costuming library, and have to say it is an amazing reference book. It has plenty of visuals (every page) with explanations of fabrics, how it is worn, and what for. It is NOT a how-to or a sewing book by any means. My biggest complaint with this book is that it only covers women's fashions. Children's fashions are mentioned in passing but never explained, and men are completely skipped over. I understand that men's fashion has not changed much, but I expected something. But for 3.99 including shipping, I'm not complaining too much.

It's said that the invention of a practical sewing machine, which occurred in the 1850's, opened the door to a mania for more complicated clothing. And looking at these engravings, with their typically Victorian meticulous attention to detail (reproduced with clarity and exactness), you have to agree. From the very first pages, uniquely designed hems, unusual decoration, and a generous use of embroidery make their appearance. By 1869, "bustles and puffs," bows and braid, lace and scallops and trailing trains are beginning to weigh down Madame's garments. In the '70's the bustle becomes almost ridiculous (to our eyes) in its complexity, but there's a brief return to the "natural" form, which gives way to the ever-more-pinch-waisted hourglass figure and so much fabric on the derriere that you wonder how women sat down. In the '90's the influence of the art of Charles Dana Gibson is clearly seen. Though these costumes were definitely intended for ladies with both money (to hire professional seamstresses) and leisure, they were no doubt adapted and copied by all levels of womanhood, and certainly the basic shape was followed everywhere. Clothing for all occasions, from the ball to the beach, is included, along with accessories and even coiffures, all with the full original descriptions; most of it is for women, but some pages include children's wear. At the back is a brief but useful glossary of fashion terms of the time. Anyone who has an interest in Victorian costumerie will need this book on the shelf.

Pictures are facing the wrong way and makes difficult to read and look at photos. Get the hard copy book. The book it self is great but the kindle option should not be offered unless they fix the formatting issues.

This is a book that I purchased to add to my collection of reference materials that I use for Victorian sewing and costume design for a few reasons. First it has a great time span - it includes a wide variety of dress designs and types from the period as indicated on the cover 1867-1898. Also, many of the dress descriptions are original so even though everything is in black and white, you can still

get a good sense of the the dress itself for research purposes. On the research note, because of its detail, I love having this book around for inspiration/reference while doing costume design because then I have reproductions of authentic print materials to check against. A must have for costume design book for those interested in the Victorian period.

What would romance writers do without Dover and their marvelous historical books? These books and even era paper dolls are inexpensive, and yet, thorough works that really can put you into the period. This book is stunning. Victorian Fashion from Harper's Bazaar 1867-1898 is definitive book on Victorian fashions, however, while is stunning work, you should buy Full-Color Victorian Fashions from Dover Publishing as well. Together they are everything you need. This book goes in rich detail, just not the dresses but down to hair and accessories. It's broken down into four sections: 1) Bustles and Puff (1867-1874) 2) Natural Form and Cuirass Body (1875-1882) 3) Return of the Bustle (1883-1890) and 4) Hourglass Figure (1891-1898). The drawings are detailed and cover every aspect of fashion of this era. An absolute must for romance writers of this period. Highly recommended.

So many stunning detail shots, front, side, and back! Tons of accessories, wigs, and hair styles for the time span too. Very helpful for guiding clients through aesthetic choices for Victorian clothing, as well as giving lots of inspiration for how to decorate a standard shape.

one of the best \$ i ever spend! Love it!

good for historical references

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