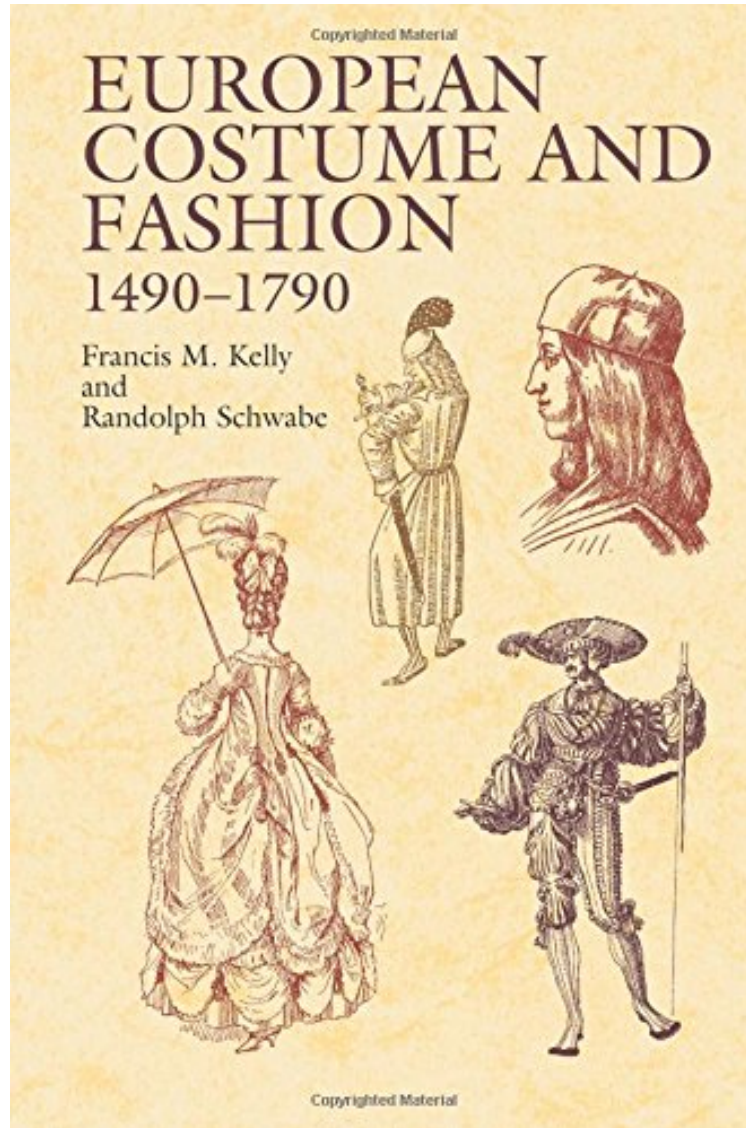


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European Costume and Fashion 1490-1790 (Dover Fashion and Costumes)

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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Ole OdegaardA+5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Primary Sources!By TheseusThis is, indeed, an authoritative and exhaustive guide.It is centered by primary source material and this material is on display in something like over 225 illustrations: reproductions of oil

paintings, period prints, and -- most helpful -- contemporary line drawings taken from primary source material that illustrate with clarity silhouettes, textures, and details. This is a time period of awesomely complex clothing (unless you were poor, of course) and the authors have a lot to show about the ways these garments functioned, their layering, and the sometimes very busy ways in which all these pieces connected to each other. Accessories and hairstyles get their due, too!

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This authoritative guide carefully traces the evolution of apparel in Western Europe from the early Tudor period (1490) through part of the reign of George III (1790). Relying on period paintings and prints to illustrate various elements of clothing, the authors have meticulously dated every costume and detail. Here are intriguing images and accounts of early sixteenth-century fashions for women and doublets, slashed sleeves, and hoods of mid-century; Spanish trunk hose, ruffs, and farthingales of the early 1600s; details of the reign of ribbon, the rise of the periwig, and the origin of modern suits for men; descriptions of cravats, parasols, and the bustle of the early eighteenth century; the reappearance of the hoop in the late 1700s, along with grandiose coiffures; the transformation of the wide-skirted coat into a tail-coat; and a host of other fashion trends. A valuable section on costume patterns, especially useful for community theater groups and pageant directors, is also included, as is a chronological table of French and English rulers. Graphic artists and designers for the theater, motion pictures, and television will find the royalty-free illustrations in this comprehensive guide indispensable. Costume enthusiasts will delight in its pictorial coverage. The volume is "in fact the most desirable single book on its subject." Theatre Arts Monthly.