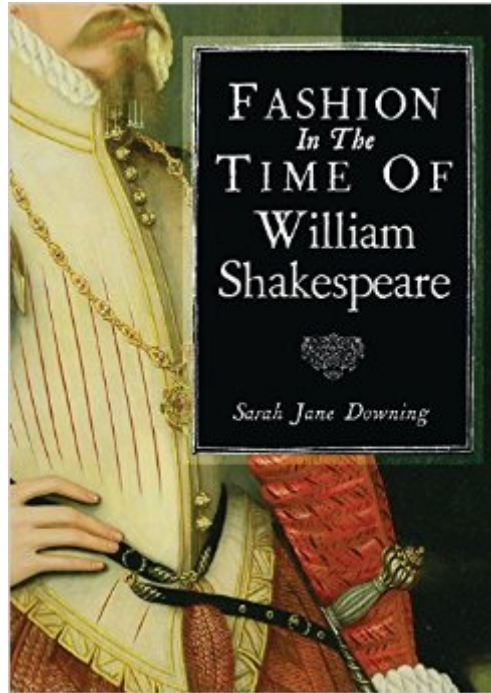


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# Fashion In The Time Of William Shakespeare: 1564-1616 (Shire Library)



## Synopsis

Garments and accessories are prominent in almost all of William Shakespeare's plays, from Hamlet and Othello to A Midsummer Night's Dream and Twelfth Night. The statement 'the apparel oft proclaims the man' was one that would have resonated with their audiences: the rise of England's merchant class had made issues of rank central to Elizabethan debate, and a rigid table of sumptuary laws carefully regulated the sorts of fabric and garment worn by the different classes. From the etiquette of courtly dress to the evolution of the Elizabethan ruff, in this vibrant introduction Sarah Jane Downing explores the sartorial world of the late sixteenth century, why people wore the clothes they did, and how the dizzying eclectic range of fashions (including ruffs, rebatos and French farthingales) transformed over time.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (4 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

Good introduction and a fun read, but nothing really new or outstanding for a historic costumer. This is a great book for a general overview, it is a quick read with lots of pictures and references. It is a great place to begin a study of this time period's fashion, and would be great for a general survey course, but it is not or the serious historical costumer.

Flea furs, bum rolls, gorgets, ruffs and muffs in all their glory! As others have noted this is not a large book, but what is here is splendid. Every page is packed with lavish illustration and interesting text. Much enjoyed.

A short, fun read. Very informative and with good illustrations. If you want a short overview of fashions during the time of Shakespeare, this book is it.

Useful for those who want to stage authentic Shakespeare play

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