The Whiting & Davis purse is the epitome of the mesh bag. For over one hundred years, these shimmery pieces of splendor have graced the fashionable woman's wardrobe. Thanks to designs ranging from abstract Deco patterns to extravagant figurals to sleek gold and silver solids, Whiting & Davis purses are as sought-after for their artistry as for their practicality. This first-ever book devoted solely to Whiting & Davis captures all the charm and splendor of the company's mesh bags, past and present, in over 600 color photos, vintage ads, catalog pages, and archival material. The informal, informative text explores the colorful Whiting & Davis history and related product lines. A current price guide completes this in-depth look at the purses that advertisements dubbed the loveliest of all feminine accessories— the perfect mesh!

Series: Schiffer Book for Collectors
Hardcover: 208 pages
Publisher: Schiffer Publishing (2002)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0764316427
Product Dimensions: 8.6 x 0.9 x 11.1 inches
Shipping Weight: 3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars (See all reviews (14 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #639,608 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #540 in Books > Arts & Photography > Fashion > History #647 in Books > Arts & Photography > Decorative Arts & Design > Textile & Costume #1548 in Books > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design > Commercial > Fashion Design

IF YOU COLLECT WHITING AND DAVIS FROM EARLY YEARS UNTIL NOW YOU WILL BE AMAZED AT THE HISTORY IN THE BOOK. I LIKED THE FACT THAT IT GAVE YOU INFORMATION ABOUT EACH ERA, OWNER AND HOW IT WAS CHANGED. IT IS LIKE STROLLING THROUGH TIME. IT DOES SHOW YOU WHAT THE VALUE IS FOR A PURSE IN GOOD CONDITION AND MINT. THE ONLY THING I WISH IS THAT IT LISTED PLACES THAT WOULD REPAIR THE PURSES OR SHOW PLACES YOU COULD ORDER PARTS. IT IS GOOD FOR COLLECTING AND SELLING IF YOU NEED AN IDEA OF HOW MUCH TO ASK OR OFFER.
This is a great totally illustrated book with many Whiting Davis and Mandalian purses that I have seen on Ebay and the net represented with prices and excellent photos. Gives the history of these companies and the various styles of bags (plus clothing, gloves belts, etc) that Whiting Davis produced. On another note, the copy of this "new" book that I received from had the dustjacket all scuffed and scratched up. Independent sellers on Ebay usually note that information on their listings but not apparently doesn't think it worth mentioning. If I were rating and not the book I'd leave about a 3.

There is, as far as I know, no other book about Whiting and Davis purses, their history and value. This book has excellent color pictures and a solid history. As with most books, the values are on the high side of reality. And there is strange section at the end on the artwork of one of the authors.

There are many antique purse books which include some mesh but this is by far the best for just mesh. Many members of the Antique Purse Collectors Society have this on their shelf!

This is a wonderful illustrated price guide to Whiting and Davis mesh bags. Even more than that, it is a terrific history of the industry and the players in the early 20th century. The illustrations are lovely and the prices are similar to what I see in the marketplace. So many price guides often have inflated prices. These are on the high end but not unreasonable. Certainly a must have for any collector.

Fine photos, well organized, comprehensive, price range given. This was a present for my wife, and it was just what she wanted.

Must-have book for anyone who's gone beyond just owning one or two antique mesh purses. Good background on the company and photos of rare purses make for fascinating reading for the collector.

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