This valuable materials directory for professional dressmakers and fashion designers is also a good reference source for students of fashion design, as well as for those who make their own garments. The author points out the best fabrics for creating specific garments, explaining how each fabric's qualities make it suitable for various items of apparel. Knowing which fabrics can support a structured silhouette is fundamental to fashion design, and this book explains the use of stiff or crisply textured fabrics for tailored garments, as well as soft textured fabrics for rounded forms. Ornamentation is also discussed, and includes advice on how to work with different fabrics to create what author Gail Baugh classifies as opulent, simple, and in-between decorative effects. The book’s additional features include: Fiber characteristics charts Weave charts and knit charts with fabric names and photos A glossary of terms and definitions Lists of textile suppliers, online stores, and study resources This directory of textiles and their uses is profusely illustrated with more than 500 color photos.

**Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars See all reviews (63 customer reviews)

**Customer Reviews**

I was really hoping I would hate this or at least find it to be mediocre, because my book budget has long been exceeded this fall. However, despite how hard I tried to find reasons why this could get sent back for a refund, I just COULD NOT part with it. I love it, it is exactly the kind of resource for a person who wants to do fashion design. I am a beginner; lots of ideas but not sure how to match to fabric characteristics. The book has great detail, great pics, and is a dream-stimulator
FIVE stars, and I am not an easy grader.

Wow, what a great book. Anyone getting into fashion and sewing will love this book. Extremely detailed. I didn't know there were so many fabrics to choose from. It talks about the positives and negatives of various fabrics. It is a great help for someone like me. I'm getting back into sewing and fashion. It helps me zero in on good quality fabrics to focus on and which ones are easier to work with. I highly recommend it for young designers, fashion inspiration, sewing projects.

I am a new designer and have been looking for a book that not only describes the myriad of fabric choices one could use but also takes into consideration the impact that producing these fabrics have on the planet...this book is a fabulous reference not only for newbies to the industry...but even for experienced designers who are interested in True Green processes and fabrics...Gail Baugh not only writes with an intuitive style for the designer (answering questions that I had not even thought of asking) but also cuts through all the "merchandising hype" on green and really explains how to intelligently choose fabric manufactures who practice true sustainability. It is hard to find a better book out there that discusses the fundamentals of design and the impact that fabric choices have on the resulting garment as well on the planet that we all live on!! A must read for all designers, especially if you plan on incorporating "Green fabric design" into your line!

This book is great addition to my very small sewing library/reference. I know most everyday fabrics just from common knowledge and minor personal sewing but this book has it all. Each fabric has information/history, sometimes how its made with close up clear color photos (most maybe 3" x 3") of swatches so you can see exactly what each textile looks like. Great pictures from runways that show some type of garment made of that particular fabric - also state what the fabric is normally used for. Would highly recommend to anyone learning fabrics, clothing designers, alterations and sewing newbies or just general interest in fashion (myself).

For anybody who is in the textile business and wants a go to book on the different materials that are used in the industry. Kind of like a encyclopedia of textiles. I learned a lot after reading this book. Even though I am a designer, these books are great to have because it really helps you understand the basis of what textiles are.

This book is a very informative and detailed book. It has everything you need referencing textiles.
Definitely a book for anyone in fashion school or in the fashion industry. The pictures in the book are an extra reward. With each textile the book will have a picture of a garment made from that textile. It got me through a class, where as the instructor had no idea the differences in textile. One week a fabric was a polyester (blend) and the next it was a rayon (blend) or cotton. Sometimes she changed her mind in the same day. I am still using it today. Brief details of the book: Fabric production, fabric waste, how textiles are made, manmade versus natural, charts in the back summarizing fabric textile and how they are produced, whether it is a top/bottom or medium weight, what garments can be used with each textile, advantages and disadvantages, other names for the fabrics, whether it is weave or weft, single knit/double knit, selvage, PFD textiles preparing for dyeing (but it is brief/not the book for learning how to dye textiles)

Gorgeous book, superbly organized and arranged and written, giving near-encyclopedic insight into the nature of modern fabrics, how they’re built, dyed, printed, and what unique qualities each possesses so you get an idea of how each can give voice to the fashion styles you’d like to design and construct. A real definitive, go-to textbook of value to all fashion designers and textile workers. This volume does not contain cloth swatches, but I think one can obtain theme in a companion volume somewhere (?) Being a very modern, savvy book, the author wishes to pay particular attention to sustainability, frequently describing what environmental collateral pitfalls can occur with the manufacture of these fabrics; I personally am a little bored by these modern PC niceties in the text, but perhaps I shouldn’t be. Highly recommended to those at all levels in the fashion and textile industry.

Love this book! its a great source of reference and understanding what materials to use for sewing projects or garments! Has wonderful photos and descriptions.

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