Icons Of Fashion: The 20th Century
(Prestel's Icons)
Now available in an attractively priced flexi edition, this best-selling book is an opulent and absorbing overview of the fashion world throughout the twentieth century. From Coco Chanel to Christian Dior, Kenzo to Versace, grunge to haute couture, every period and major name in twentieth-century fashion is included in this comprehensive collection of fascinating photographs, drawings, and texts. Organized into sections according to style, it features double-page spreads highlighting every aspect of fashion: designers, models, critics, and fashion photographers. Gorgeous images by Peter Lindbergh, Nick Knight, Mario Testino, and others capture the attitudes and artistry of fashion as it evolved over the decades. As glamorous as its subject, this colourful survey will provide inspiration for anyone fascinated with the world of fashion.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a pretty book. Some of the images are breathtaking, and some are unique and great for research. Other than that, the book's flat and stale. It's stretched to its 192 pages with doubled images and chapters with only one or two really relevant pictures. The text is sparse throughout, and only amounts to a very generalized overview of 100 years of fashion - the book omits some very prominent designers and trends. I got this book for two dollars. I don't think it's worth much more than that. It's pretty. That's all.

Icons of Fashion: The 20th Century is a very edgy and sophisticated book. It takes on a unique
approach about the icons of the 20th century. The content of this book is not in chronological order but rather in theme and designer ranging from the 1900s to 2000. To details of the pictures to the interesting facts of the earliest designers made me want to read more about the book. Reading about the designers, on the side of the book, there is a timeline about their life and businesses, which was really helpful, considering I had to write an assignment about the different designers and I could just refer back to the timeline. I loved how the book gave pictures dating back to the 1900s to today. It was really interesting to see how fashion goes in a circle. For example, the belt around the waist, that just came into fashion two years ago. Also the design, the little black dress. This book is very helpful and I suggest it to anyone who is interested in the fashion industry because it was interesting, colorful and very educational.

This book gives such a great overview of iconic designers who influenced the fashion industry from when they started until now. There are beautiful pictures throughout, and just enough detail about every person featured. Very inspirational!!

The history of the 20th century can be revealed through its fashion trends, and Gerda Buxbaum Icons Of Fashion: The 20th Century proves this with an overview of fashion trends and revolutions. Yes, there are the icons of fashion to testify to these changes: Chanel, Karan and others - but also fine photos capturing styles ranging from body stockings to military and cocktail dress; all contained in an excellent overview blending visuals with a running commentary on fashion’s influence.

This book reads worse than a textbook. Each (tiny) section, covering a few years to a decade’s worth of fashion, is written by a different author, giving it a completely disjointed and non-comprehensive point-of-view. Might be good if you only need strict facts.