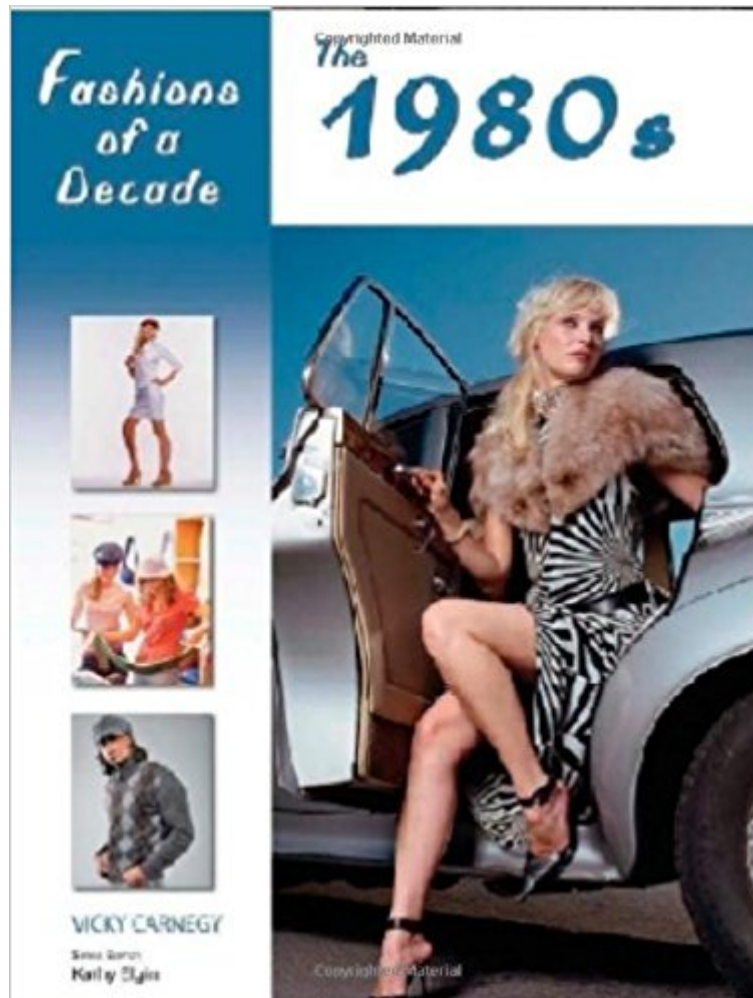




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# Fashions Of A Decade: The 1980s



## Synopsis

From the designer suits of yuppie men and women to ripped jeans to the mini-crinoline craze to the eloquent fashion sense of Princess Diana, the 1980s encapsulates a time when it became fashionable to make money and dress well. This work explores the enthralling history of fashion as it recreated itself through the popular trends of the eighties.

## Book Information

Series: Fashions of a Decade

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Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 - 12

## Customer Reviews

Grade 7 Up-- Baker explains how Nazi invasions and Japanese bombings forced rapid economic and therefore fashion change. Rationing became the order of the day. To save material, skirts narrowed and shortened; the midriff was bared in swim suits; pockets, buttons, and trim were regulated; and attached coathoods were banned. Costantino looks at The 1930s , when 23 million people were out of work; even the rich found it necessary to watch expenditures carefully, and Coco Chanel reduced her prices by 50%. Splashed with full-color photos and illustrations, plenty of verve, and enticing information, both books connect political and social history with the reasons people chose particular dress modes. The reading lists and other reference aids make them handy for researchers, but they are also delightful to browse through and certain to lead young people to ponder their own sartorial choices. Two books that will be interesting to anyone searching for the

whys and wherefores of human identity.- Cindy Darling Codell, Clark Middle School, Winchester, KY  
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Although this is part of the Fashions of a Decade series, there is almost as much here about the decade as there is about the fashion. The excellent photographs and illustrations, many from ads and magazines of the era, emphasize what was being shown by designers and worn by everyday women, but the text also discusses what was going on in the world: the cold war, segregation, the Cuban Revolution, and the role of women in society. There is also a good deal of information about the new miracle fabrics, such as rayon, that were taking over the fashion industry. Men's fashions are not neglected, with a discussion of both business wear ("The man in the gray flannel suit") and leisure wear. There is also an emphasis on the different ways that Hollywood influenced what a woman wore and how women were seemingly divided between girls next door and sirens. Organization is weak, but this will still work for report writers or browsers. Chronology and glossary appended. Ilene Cooper  
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This 'reference' has some decent pictures, but you can of course get far more, and much more accurate information, off the internet. Although published in 2007 it's a typical run-it-off-and-sell-it reference book of the past, comprised of a lot of breezy, unsubstantiated statements, many of which are plain wrong ("...the [motorcycle] jacket - based on wartime flying jackets..." no, it's the other way around, leather flying jackets were based on the leather driving jackets of the pre-flight age.) Some of the declarations are funny: "Dior is the only designer to show a waistline in his collection. He dies soon after." None of the author's assertions are footnoted or cross-referenced and there are few references for the illustrations used. I got this specifically because the book description said it covered shoes. There are precisely two paragraphs about shoes, and a single photograph (a Ferragamo evening shoe), strictly discussing the stiletto heel. Meanwhile an entire page of the 53 pages of illustration and exposition is devoted to anticommunism and Joseph McCarthy (not a discussion of his '40s-style double-breasted suit, though.) Racial issues don't quite get a full page; there is a 1/4 page color inset in it showing Barbara Goalen wearing a 1953 "Petunia" evening dress by Mattli. The connection is unclear.

I first purchased this book over a decade ago while I was helping a friend with his vintage clothes

business. At the time, I knew very little about clothing of the 1940's, but I knew that I liked them and began collecting some of the clothes and accessories for myself. When I stumbled across the book, I purchased a copy and showed it to the owner of the business. At the time, swing dancing was a very hot trend, so I suggested that he contact the publishers and purchase some copies to display in the shop. Well, the book is so well written and illustrated, that they sold like hotcakes. On top of that, I became a better educated retailer and conservator of my own collection. Over the years, and following a few moves, I had lost my copy of the book, but was ecstatic to find it once again on . If you have interest in clothing and accessories of the period, get this book. You will love it!

This book certainly gave me a great overview of this fashions of this decade.

Love this book!

Very good source material that connects fashion to current trends.

Love it Thank you

This is an easy and terrific book showing off 80s fashion.

Very nice item, even better than pictured.

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