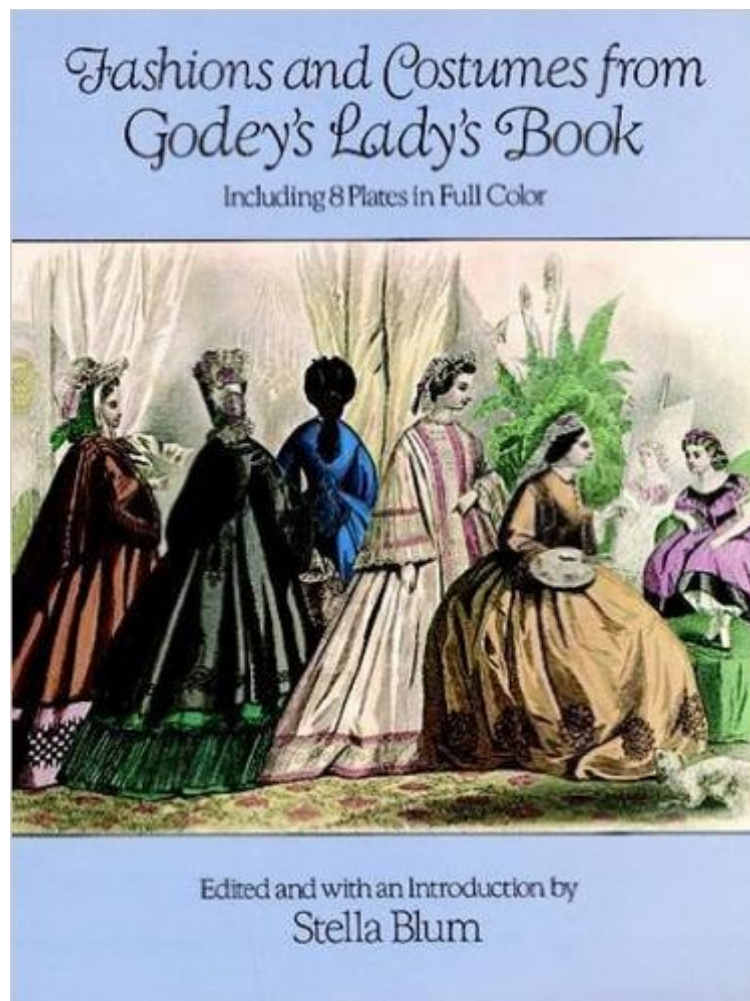


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Fashions And Costumes From Godey's Lady's Book: Including 8 Plates In Full Color (Dover Fashion And Costumes)



Synopsis

A unique fashion image developed in mid nineteenth-century America reflecting the influences of Queen Victoria, the court of Napoleon III and American adaptations of European designs, many of the stylish silhouettes that emerged from this spirited era are still admired today. This book presents a fashion parade of authentic ladies' and childrens' styles from the most influential women's magazine of the period — Godey's Lady's Book — which presented both original fashions and adaptations from European publications. Over 400 striking designs, including 42 figures in full color, were chosen for this volume from a selection of rare issues (1837–1869) of Godey's by Stella Blum, director of Kent State University Museum and former curator of the Costume Institute at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art. Among the many beautiful illustrations reproduced here are morning dresses, walking suits, riding outfits, ball gowns, capes, children's costumes, plus hairstyles and a full array of accessories — shoes, bonnets, gloves, muffs, fans, walking sticks, and more. Captions detail the rich fabrics, color schemes, and decorative trims of this gallery of vintage attire. The illustrations offer a panoramic view of evolving styles from Victorian 1940s outfits with severe high necklines, elongated bodices, and bonnets designed to keep the wearer's eyes looking chastely ahead; to 1950's adaptations of French haute couture featuring ornate gowns widened with hoopskirts and elaborately trimmed with lace, ribbons, fringes, and feathers; to 1860's garb in which skirts narrowed and graceful trains replaced the hoopskirt. Costume and culture historians, clothing designers and illustrators will find the work a valuable reference to clothing designs of the period and a fascinating look back at mid-Victorian couture.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is an excellent reference guide for Lady Civil War Reenactors who want to create beautiful day dresses and ball gowns. The book has detailed descriptions of each dress. A true Godey's dress was for the lady of wealth, however many women of average means subscribed to Godey's to get ideas for the dresses they wore. Each page will give you an idea of colors, styles and types of fabrics used. This book is a must along with "Who Wore What" for a true insight into women's fashions of the 1860's

This book is beautiful. It is a very helpful reference and it is just fun to look at. It was also great to have the description of each of the outfits. This book is much more detailed than the "80 Godey's Full-Color Fashion Plates (1838-1880)" by JoAnne Olian, but then I liked all the full-colored as well.

Great book for finding out what they really wore for dressy occasions during the Civil War Era and just prior. Afterwards they did not have the money or the material to do this, but it is lovely to see what they did before the war. Reenactor's who do not wish to spend a lot of money on a gown from the wrong era need to see what is correct before some dressmaker puts them into whatever pattern that SHE likes to make! RESEARCH is the key.

First, let me say I bought the Kindle edition. I was apprehensive about how the color plates would look when put into this form, but I needn't have worried. The color of the plates comes through wonderfully. This is a book for every costume historian or enthusiast's shelf. It gives a wonderful overview of the fashions of the day. Now I will have to purchase a physical copy to put on my shelf!

As a theatre costumer, I am picky about the type of details shown in design books. This book has so many beautifully detailed drawings to use for design. Lots of different styles, underwear, outerwear, and kid's items. Lovely!

Good pics. A bit disappointed that all the dresses shown were "fashion plate" fancy dresses. I was hoping for a more general slice of dress styles of the era. One thing for sure, those intricately-made dresses really do scare me off from trying to make one! (and I have sewn for years!!) :)

For those who already own Victorian Fashions and Costumes from Harper's Bazar, 1867-1898 (Dover Fashion and Costumes), you shouldn't fail to get this book to see what the ladies in its pages (or their mothers) were wearing in the early days (1837-69) of the Victorian era. Godey's was probably *the* pre-eminent "fashion book" of its day--it lasted almost till the turn of the century--and in this period it was helmed by its iconic female editor, Sarah Josepha Hale, who more or less single-handedly defined its form, focus, and look. Most of these outfits are for women, though there are a few children's costumes shown, and except for the last few pages, where the bustle begins to appear, they all show the basic bell shape of the time, with skirts gradually spreading farther and farther out. The reproduction is bright and sharp, and there's even a full-color section in the middle. (Godey's was, of course, noted for its hand-painted color plates, which often found their way into the tents and winter cabins of Civil War soldiers longing for their loved ones at home.) Every picture includes the magazine's original description. If you have any occasion to search for large, clear pictures of Victorian fashion, this is a book you need to have on your shelf.

I have this book in hard book version also. If you love history and womens costuming of the past you will enjoy this book.

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