



of costume in the Western world over the past eight centuries not only gives the reader a vivid visual impression of the clothes themselves but also outlines the historical and social background and the changes in manufacturing techniques and fashionable lifestyle that have influenced the way costume has developed and the manner in which it has been worn. Each of the eight chapters covers a specific period, with an introductory section followed by descriptions of the undergarments, outer garments, hats, footwear, hairstyles, accessories, jewelry, fabrics, and colors worn by men, women, and children. There are more than 800 line drawings especially made by the author from contemporary sources such as carvings, paintings, portraits, fashion plates, and photographs. This is an invaluable, copiously illustrated reference book for students of costume, social history, and the visual arts and for those involved in designing costumes for the theatre. It is also a fascinating book for anyone interested in fashion and the art of dress.

A detailed survey of dress during the last eight centuries. (Book News, Inc.) A one-step guide to European fashion. (Katherine B. Kohl Dramatics) A wealth of information incredible. (Midwest Book ) About the Author Joan Nunn worked in a couture house, was a designer and teacher at Toynbee Drama School, and taught dress at the West of England College of Art before becoming Costume Supervisor at the Old Vic Theatre. She held the position of Head of the Department of Dress and Textiles at Canterbury College of Art until her retirement.