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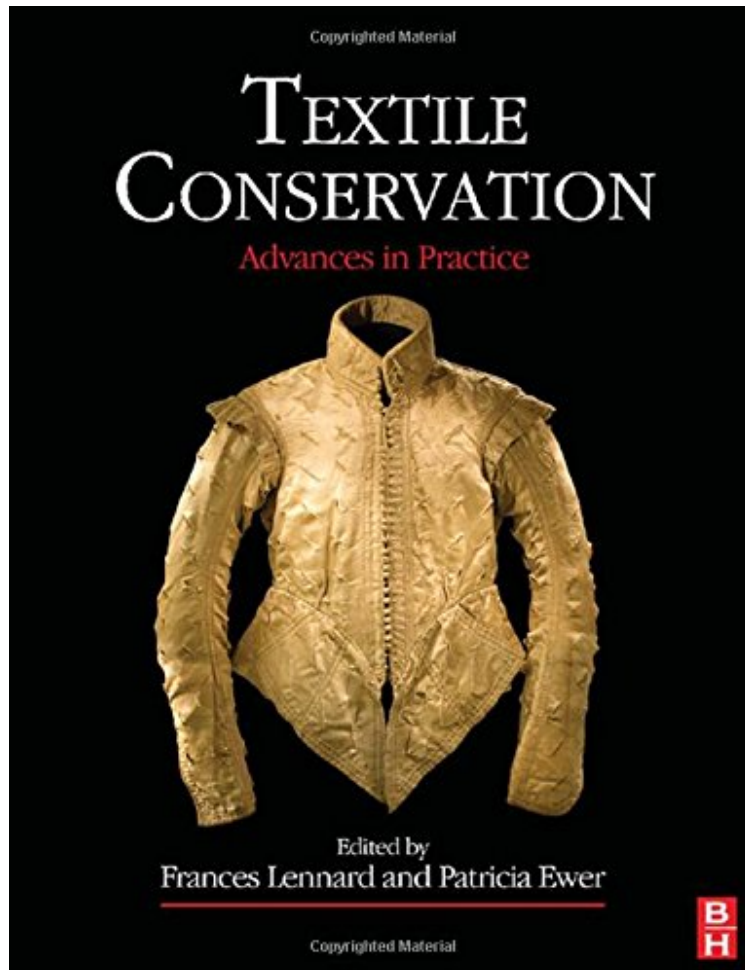


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From Brand: Routledge : Textile Conservation (Conservation and Museology) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Textile Conservation (Conservation and Museology):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I really enjoyed reading this bookBy CHMI really enjoyed reading this book and learning so much.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Textile Conservation: Advances in PracticeBy singly11When Frances Lennard and Patricia Ewer approached 40 textile specialists to contribute to Textile Conservation: Advances in Practice, they drew together not only conservators with experience at the bench, but also those with additional backgrounds in archaeology, painting, mount-making, forensic science, and wet chemistry. This is the great strength of the latest volume in the Butterworth-Heinemann Series. Using a thoughtful assemblage of case studies, many perspectives are voiced in this book and demonstrate how much this specialty has changed in the last 20 years. Twenty years? How about 35? For a seasoned conservator of archaeological and ethnographic objects who generally treats one artifact at a time, Textile Conservation: Advances in Practice is a revelation. As a student I delved into books by Finch and Leene, which in the 1970's were the new standards. Over the

years I thought I had kept up, by sitting in on papers at annual meetings or reading articles in the AIC Journal or the UKIC Conservator. But undoubtedly I have missed the big picture. Textile conservation is much more than the divided camps of those who glue vs. those who sew. The field has certainly changed. Textile Conservation: Advances in Practice will bring everyone up to speed, whether student, conservator, curator, collections manager, or heritage administrator. Much of the change appears to have been driven by managerial and external forces, at levels way above those who patiently labor across surfaces. The popularity of the traveling blockbuster exhibit. The enhanced value of haute couture at auction. The pressure to have publicly funded treatments on view behind glass. Sometimes the scale of projects, such as dismantling and treating state bedrooms, is huge and prolonged, requiring a consistent work force of varying skill levels. Smaller but perhaps more meaningful changes during the last 20 years include the advent of a "less is more" philosophy: preventive conservation, IPM, housekeeping rotations, a greater respect for indigenous populations, less invasive procedures. Improved treatment methods using gels or surfactants have changed bench work. New forensic techniques are available for those studying how clothing was fabricated or used. The book touches on all of these advances in its case studies. Each case study is stand-alone, and illustrated with good-quality color photographs. Some contributions include samples of spreadsheets and documentation forms. Each is supported by substantial references prepared by its author. Besides contributing their overviews, Lennard and Ewer also have drawn up a selected but salient bibliography of books and articles published since 1990 in English. The lack of more international voices (continental Europe, Asia, Australia) will likely draw criticism. Nevertheless Textile Conservation: Advances in Practice is a valuable addition to any conservator's bookshelf and worth the purchase price. Kate Singley Conservation Anthropologica Atlanta, GA USA

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful.
Great Resource
By Susan M. Neill
"Textile Conservation: Advances in Practice" is a remarkable contribution both to the field of textile conservation and to the museum profession as a whole. Editors Frances Lennard and Patricia Ewer address the changing context of textile conservation, technical advances, and future needs and influences through a series of thoughtful introductions and an abundance of case studies. Contributed by more than forty practitioners, the case studies outline the challenges, actions, and outcomes of specific projects, which reveal the range and complexity of actual work in the United Kingdom and the United States. "Textile Conservation" is a history of the discipline (and of textile collecting and museum interpretation!) and a handbook for success in professional practice. The shifting role and reasons for textile conservation in the heritage sector are shown through the array of objects, requirements, and treatment options explored in the case studies. Likewise, they also demonstrate an increased engagement with communities in which textiles have cultural needs beyond those of traditional museums. Whether responding to public fervor for Grace Kelly's wedding dress, addressing site-specific challenges such as a ceiling banner at the Stibbert Museum, or the need for preventive conservation in Bhutan, the book explores the scope of contemporary textile conservation and presents a range of solutions responding to the concerns of various stakeholders. The section on technical advances focuses on remedial conservation, preventive conservation, and scientific developments. As in other parts of the book, these case studies impart useful information and innovative solutions which remind readers that textile conservation is an evolving and dynamic field. In its overall clarity and helpfulness--the volume is loaded with suggestions for avoiding snags in project planning and implementation along with references to published articles and online resources--"Textile Conservation" reflects the diligence and collegiality associated with the field. While it will benefit textile conservators and their students, textile curators, other museum professionals, and serious collectors, the pleasantly accessible book holds appeal for history and heritage enthusiasts as well. Susan Neill Vice President of Collections Exhibitions Atlanta History Center | Margaret Mitchell House

Textile Conservation: Advances in Practice demonstrates the development in the role and practice of the textile conservator and captures the current diversity of textile conservators work. The book focuses on four major factors which have influenced development in textile conservation practice since the 1980s: the changing context, an evolution in the way conservators think about objects, the greater involvement of stakeholders, and technical developments. These are all integral to effective conservation decision-making. Includes case studies from the UK, USA and mainland Europe and Asia Assesses the conservation of objects in some of the world's major cultural institutions Highly illustrated in full colour to show the effect of conservation in practice Textile Conservation is a reference manual for textile conservators, textile conservation students and museum and heritage professionals.

"This book is a welcome appraisal of textile conservation practice in the UK and USA today and is a great resource for textile conservators, providing substance for reflection on our practice. The editors acknowledge the challenges that the profession has faced and the current economic climate and uncertainty makes this excellent publication all the more timely." ICON News