



Fashion 101: A Crash Course in Clothing

By Erika Stalder

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Fashion 101: A Crash Course in Clothing By Erika Stalder

Each year, we spend hours upon hours shopping and getting dressed, but do we ever actually think about what we're wearing? For example, what's the name of the style of your shirt? Who invented your favorite jeans cut? Or who made your baby-doll nightie famous? There is a story behind every piece of clothing and, with *Fashion 101*, you'll learn what those stories are and more: Where did the miniskirt come from? Why has the military had a stronger influence on fashion than either Audrey Hepburn or Gwen Stefani? How do denim makers work those perfect "whiskers" into your "worn-out" jeans?

Filled with tons of intriguing factoids about designers and celebrities, and more than 300 illustrations, *Fashion 101* offers the total scoop on underwear, outerwear, accessories, and everything in between. With this crash course, you'll learn not only how to put together smarter looks, but also how to become a fashion expert in the process.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Adult/High School—Recognizing fashion styles and trends is one thing; putting them together in new and interesting ways is an altogether different animal. This handy guide helps with both the recognition of fashion dos and don'ts as well as with the development of new—and true—personal styles. It is part history, part fashion adviser, part shopping manual, and all fun. Each item of female clothing, from dresses to accessories to pants to underwear, is covered, with great black-and-white and color illustrations. Sections for each garment include what it looks like, the designer who first introduced it, celebrities who made it hot, and how it can be worn today. Who would have thought that parachute pants could be made rockin'? This would make a good addition to browsing collections, especially in larger libraries and those that have an abundance of fashion-forward or aspiring-designer teens.—*Charli Osborne, Oxford Public Library, MI*
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From [Booklist](#)

How does a midiskirt differ from a pencil skirt? What's the history of hot pants? Presented in a spacious format and the language of a fashion magazine, this breezy, informative overview of women's clothing and accessories will illuminate even seasoned fashionistas. Divided into apparel categories, from underwear to overcoats, the chapters introduce archetypal styles (e.g., sailor pants and skinny jeans) with clear line drawings, background history about each style ("Who Made It"), the cultural icons who popularized it ("Who Made It Hot"), and tips for making outfits ("How to Rock It"). The up-to-the-minute fashion sensibility and casual language may date quickly, but any teen interested in clothing will devour this compendium of quick historical facts and practical advice, such as "the key to rocking parachute pants is not looking like you've just woken up from a generational slumber." A sure bet for reluctant readers. Grades 9-12. --Gillian Engberg

About the Author

Erika Stalder is a San Francisco-based writer who has contributed to *Wired*, *Missbehave*, *Planet*, and *The Journal of Life Sciences*, and worked with the International Museum of Women to produce the *Imagining Ourselves* anthology. She also currently writes the Dear Erika advice column for ABC Family's *The Secret Life of The American Teen* website.

Users Review

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William Marshall:

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