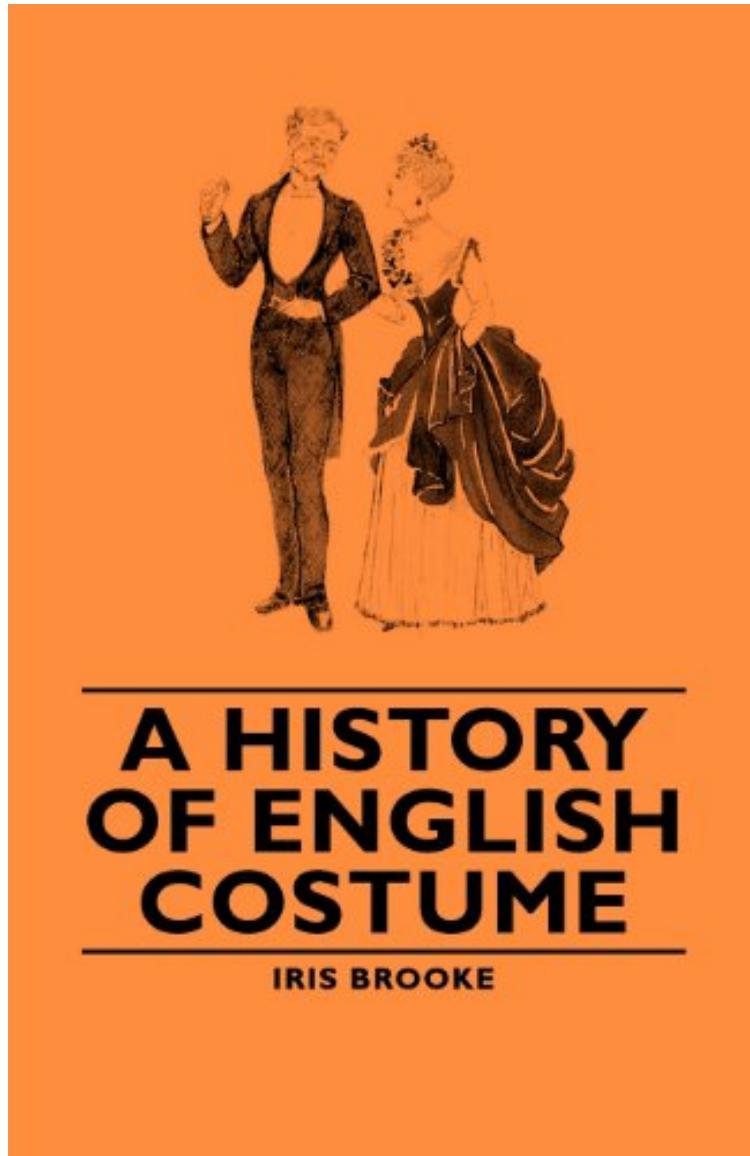


## A History of English Costume

*Iris Brooke*  
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**Iris Brooke : A History of English Costume** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A History of English Costume:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great Reference!By CustomerThis book is based in part on Racinet's "Le Costume Historique," one of the first encyclopedic reviews of costumes worn throughout the ages and around the world. this book includes other sources as well. The text is concise but very informative. I especially appreciate the extensive Glossary. I really enjoy reading historical fiction and biographies, and so this is a very useful reference in helping me imagine what the characters are wearing.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. History of

Costume -- a book at which to startBy Cherryl WalkerThis book contains some basic lay-outs for historical clothing, from ancient Egypt up to the 1860s and 1870s. Of course, many decades have elapsed since the publication of this book. You will want to cross-reference its contents to what you can find on the internet today. Google is an invaluable source of illustrations and advice!Various garments are illustrated from the back as well as from the front, along with their underpinnings. There are color plates that show actual people wearing the garments being illustrated. Actual outfits from museums are included as well. Hairstyles are nicely represented.Nowadays, the major pattern companies -- Butterick, Simplicity, Vogue, and others -- have whole sections of patterns for historical attire, from the 1870s all the way back to ancient Egypt. Finding the fabrics is going to be an even greater challenge than putting together a workable pattern. (I have had it said to me that you have to go to an upholstery store to find equivalents of the damasks, brocades, and the like.)In conclusion, I can say that with some historical attire, you are lucky to find any patterns as a guide at all! Being a good seamstress/tailor, or having such a craftsman on your side can help in putting together the accurate costume that you want.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I enjoyed this book a lotBy Gail A. KelloggI enjoyed this book a lot, and have found much of the information helpful. Some of it has to be taken with a grain of salt, but for its time, it is a good book.

Miss Brooke is a well known as an authority on historical costume. In this single volume she covers a history of dress in England from earliest times. The book contains an ample text, four coloured plates, and nearly three hundred drawings in line. This book will prove to be a fascinating read for anyone with an interest in the subject, providing a vast amount of information and detail that will be of use to theatrical designers, both professional and amateur.

Contents Include: William The Conqueror to Edward III 1066-1327; Edward III to Henry VII 1327-1485; Early Tudors, Henry VII to Elizabeth 1485-1558; Elizabeth to James I 1558-1625; Charles I to James II 1625-84; James II to George III 1685-1760; George III to George IV 1760-1820; George IV, William IV and Victoria 1820-50; Victoria 1850-80; Victoria 1880-1900.