



# BEAUTY AND COSMETICS 1550-1950

SARAH JANE DOWNING

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Beauty and Cosmetics 1550 to 1950 (Shire Library Book 633)



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and some men – to impressive lengths in cultivating it, from the dangerous quantities of lead used by Elizabeth I, to the ladies of the 1940s and '50s, who employed encounter powder, lipstick and mascara to look their best through the privations of battle and austerity, creating a stylish appearance to which many still aspire. Beauty has ensured good marriages, enabled social flexibility and provided fame and notoriety, and provides led women –The source of tremendous power and the focus of incredible devotion, throughout history notions of beauty have been integral to social life and culture. Each age group has had its own standards: a gleaming white brow through the Renaissance, the dark eyebrows considered wonderful in the first eighteenth hundred years, and the slim lips thought desired by Victorians.



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This is an extremely concise text. Discovering the odd stuff women (and sometimes males) do for beauty, in the 1500s especially, will probably be worth the read alone! It is also interesting to learn the way the public's attitude towards the usage of artifice evolved through period. Very enjoyable. Properly done, many thanks Sarah Jane Downing! Sometimes the content seemed rushed and some quotes, pictures and tales lacked deeper context. I was a bit underwhelmed when I saw the size of the book. Very thin and doesn't have a lot of pages. I still enjoyed reading it... It's an excellent, simple read but is still informative and engaging. Enjoyed it but I was left wanting to know more! In other words I WANTED MORE, this means it was very entertaining and fun. Like the pictures good history reserve. What made this publication even better where in fact the illustrations through paintings and pictures of the way the author defined each era. Great book if one is thinking about beauty history, the annals of what women did throughout the ages to make themselves 'pretty'... Interesting read, and worth your time. I examine it cover-to-cover in about two hours and was wishing it would be a bit more extensive. Not too bad. Nicely done, many thanks Sarah Jane Downing Pleasant little book which includes illustrations from ancient times to 1950. Not really dry and boring, but well crafted historical perspective. However, the information presented is usually interesting and sparked a desire to have more reading. I only wished there is more information. Five Stars Very good. Definitely worth it if you love make-up, beauty and background. An excellent little book - I was amazed by it's small size. Great information, well written and interesting. Quick read full of content. A significant quick read, especially if you are considering information on only a certain era, because the book is arranged chronologically. Love the pictures and illustrations in it. Great content! Five Stars This is a fascinating read. Some myths are busted in this. An excellent little book! Helpful for research or general interest. ? Wonderful book We loved reading the history of cosmetics and beauty designs I had no idea about until now! Fun little book and a good read. Lots of high-quality photos to break up the text, aswell.



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