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costumers, re-enactors, history aficionados, or anyone wanting a comprehensive look at these fashions and the culture surrounding them. I purchased the entire set for my wife (costumer, historian...) and we were completely impressed with both the quality of the content as well as the layout and organization of the series. Absolutely recommended...worth every penny! 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great Addition to my library! By Joseph D. Aragon The book is great, but I was hoping more for dress patterns, there's not much, and it's mostly day wear, but what it does have is amazing and very valuable information. A great book to add to my costume library.

Reconstruction Era Fashions contains a comprehensive selection of women's styles from the years immediately following the American Civil War. The 350 patterns and 609 illustrations are drawn from a rare complete bound volume of the first issues of Harper's Bazar, from November 1867 through December 1868. This book provides sewing patterns for day dresses, evening dresses, accessories, outerwear, lingerie, corsets, crinolines, bridal wear, and clothes for riding and bathing. Instructions for enlarging, fitting, and using the patterns are included. Patterns for garment trimmings use such techniques as heirloom sewing, embroidery, crocheting, knitting, tatting, and ribbon work. Millinery patterns include bonnets, hats, and evening headdresses. Additional articles give instructions for authentic dressmaking, corset making, millinery, hairdressing, crocheted tatting, and netting. Selections from fashion columns describe materials, colors, shoes, jewelry, trousseaux, and mourning.

About the Author Frances Grimble is the author of nine books on historic costume and vintage clothing. Over 60 of her articles on sewing and vintage clothes have appeared in national magazines, such as Threads, Sew News, and Antique Trader Weekly. Frances Grimble has been a how-to writer and editor since 1983. She has worked for book publishers, magazine publishers, and software companies; she has written a number of user manuals and coauthored a computer book. Frances Grimble has substantial formal education in researching social history and in clothing design. In 1974 she began making historical reproductions for periods from the Renaissance into the 1920s. Since 1972, she has collected vintage clothing and accessories from the late 18th century into the mid 20th.