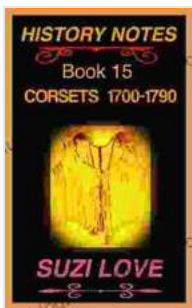


Corsets 1700-1790: A Historical Overview

Corsets have been worn for centuries by women of all ages and socioeconomic backgrounds. They have been used to shape the body, support the back, and improve posture. In the 18th century, corsets were an essential part of a woman's wardrobe. They were worn by women of all ages, from young girls to elderly women.

There were many different types of corsets worn in the 18th century. The most common type was the "stays." Stays were made of a stiff fabric, such as canvas or linen, and were boned with whalebone or reeds. They were laced up the back and had a busk, or front closure.

Other types of corsets included:



Corsets 1700-1790: History Notes Book 15 (History Notes Non-Fiction) by Mary Rizzo

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 14723 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Print length : 120 pages
Lending : Enabled



- **Jumpers:** Jumpers were similar to stays, but they were shorter and did not have a busk. They were often worn by young girls.

- **Petticoat bodies:** Petticoat bodies were worn over the shift and under the gown. They were made of a fine fabric, such as silk or linen, and were often decorated with lace or embroidery.
- **Basques:** Basques were worn over the gown and were similar to a modern-day corset. They were made of a stiff fabric and were boned with whalebone or reeds. They were laced up the back and had a busk.

Corsets were made by hand by skilled craftswomen. The process of making a corset was time-consuming and labor-intensive.

The first step was to cut out the fabric for the corset. The fabric was then boned with whalebone or reeds. The whalebone or reeds were sewn into channels in the fabric.

Once the corset was boned, it was lined with a soft fabric, such as linen or cotton. The lining was then sewn to the corset by hand.

The final step was to lace up the corset. Corsets were laced up the back with a cord or ribbon. The lacing was tightened until the corset was snug but not too tight.

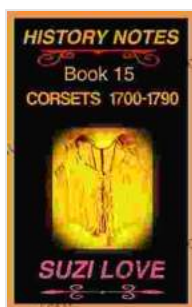
Corsets were worn over the shift and under the gown. They were laced up the back and had a busk, or front closure.

Corsets were worn for a variety of reasons. They were used to shape the body, support the back, and improve posture. Corsets also helped to keep the gown in place.

Corsets could be very uncomfortable to wear. They were often too tight and could restrict breathing and movement. However, women in the 18th century believed that corsets were necessary for a fashionable appearance.

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