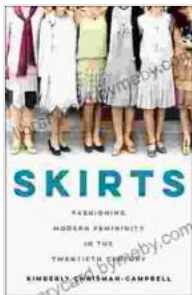


Skirts: Fashioning Modern Femininity in the Twentieth Century

Skirts have long been a staple of women's wardrobes. But what do they say about the role of women in society? In her new book, *Skirts: Fashioning Modern Femininity in the Twentieth Century*, fashion historian Valerie Steele explores the history of skirts as both a symbol of femininity and a source of empowerment for women.



Skirts: Fashioning Modern Femininity in the Twentieth Century by Kimberly Chrisman-Campbell

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 82314 KB

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Print length : 163 pages



Steele argues that skirts have been used to define women's roles and restrict their mobility for centuries. In the early 20th century, for example, women were expected to wear long, flowing skirts that covered their ankles. This made it difficult for them to walk, run, or participate in physical activities.

But as women began to fight for their rights, they also began to challenge the traditional rules of fashion. In the 1920s, flappers defied convention by

wearing short, skirts that revealed their legs. This was a radical act at the time, and it helped to pave the way for women's liberation.

In the decades that followed, skirts continued to evolve as a symbol of women's changing roles. In the 1950s, women wore full, colorful skirts that emphasized their femininity. In the 1960s, miniskirts became popular, and they were seen as a symbol of youth and rebellion.

In the 1970s, women began to wear more practical skirts, such as pantsuits and culottes. This was a reflection of the growing number of women who were entering the workforce. In the 1980s, skirts became more tailored and structured, and they were often paired with power suits.

Today, skirts are still a popular choice for women of all ages. They come in a variety of styles, from long and flowing to short and fitted. And they can be worn for a variety of occasions, from work to play.

Steele's book is a fascinating exploration of the history of skirts. It is a must-read for anyone who is interested in fashion, women's history, or cultural studies.

Skirts have been a powerful symbol of femininity throughout history. But they have also been a source of empowerment for women. As women have fought for their rights, they have also fought for the right to wear what they want. And skirts have been a key part of that struggle.

Today, skirts are still a popular choice for women of all ages. They are a versatile garment that can be dressed up or down, and they can be worn for a variety of occasions. Whether you choose to wear a long, flowing skirt

or a short, fitted skirt, you are making a statement about your own personal style.

About the Author

Valerie Steele is the director and chief curator of The Museum at FIT. She is the author of numerous books on fashion, including *The Corset: A Cultural History* and *Fashion and Feminism*.

Image Gallery









Nifty New Pants!

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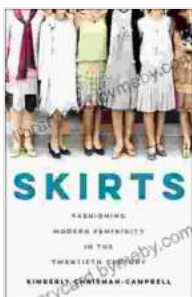


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