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# Historical Wig Styling: Ancient Egypt To The 1830s (The Focal Press Costume Topics Series)



## Synopsis

Let Historical Wig Styling be your guide to creating beautiful, historically accurate hairstyles for your productions and events. Chapters begin with artwork of historic figures that influenced the look of each period. Detailed step-by-step instructions explain how to create their iconic hairstyles, illustrated by photographs showing the finished look from every angle. This volume covers hairstyles from Ancient Egypt through Biedermeier styles of the 1820s and 30s. Learn how to create hairstyles worn by -Ancient Egyptians -Ancient Grecians -Ancient Romans -Medieval maidens -Renaissance beauties -Georgian fops -and so many more! Youâ™ll also learn about the necessary supplies and styling products needed to create the perfect coif, tips for proper wig handling, and basic styling techniques useful when working with wigs or real hair. Give your production the look of authenticity with tips from this gorgeous wig styling guide!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I really love the flat-laying style and well-photographed layout of this book. You can have it open next to you and read it while you work. Every step in each style opens with historical background and documentation about the style and immediately goes in to a hands-on tutorial of how to achieve it. Most styles have both men's and women's variations and show you how the same concepts in the style that was taught can be modified to suit additional characters. I am NOT a hair expert, more of a costuming enthusiast and performer who needs to come up with my own looks for

performances to save money. I really appreciate that the instructions are written for different price ranges of wigs that you can buy online and have common issues or pitfalls clearly pointed out. I think that you would mostly need to work with a stylist to do a basic cut on your wig before starting, but, once that was done, you could probably do the styling yourself. Enjoyable read, well thought out, educational, and an overall great resource. Definitely recommended for film and theater teams, historians, or other people looking to take their costumes to the next level with the right hair styles. If you liked *Historical Wig Styling Set: Historical Wig Styling: Victorian to the Present: (The Focal Press Costume Topics Series)*, *Wig Making and Styling: A Complete Guide for Theatre & Film*, or *Vintage Hairstyling: Retro Styles with Step-by-Step Techniques* you will probably enjoy this book.

I am very experienced with wig work, yet I learned a ton from this book. The information is excellent, the photos are terrific, and the formatting/layout of the book is genius. It is spiral bound, making it very easy to lay the book open for reference while working on a wig. Historical information is from primary sources, so it is authentic as well as accurate. Many contemporaneous works of art are cited showing the thought processes behind a specific wig design or highlighting key style points for the various eras. I love that sort of detail and happily read the book cover-to-cover when it arrived. Photos are clear and extremely helpful. The book presupposes some working knowledge of wig construction as well as the types of fibers available. It also assumes that you will already know how to ventilate, etc. I have those skill sets and found this book fantastic, but it's not the source I would recommend for someone completely new to wigs. Instructions are clear, but the reference photos make up for any lack. If you can't figure out the style from the text, the photos are enough to guide you. Minor quibbles: the sources at the back of the book are not all functional for the average wig designer. Many of the listed sources are for wholesalers only. Some sources seemed no longer viable, even though this is a recently published book. the author focused much of the book on real hair wigs. With the advancement of heat resistant artificial fibers, I would have hoped for more information relevant to the less expensive (but still very attractive) options out there.

Excellent photos of the step-by-step styling process with clear instructions and helpful tips. If you have already purchased the other book in this set, the beginning chapters of general information are the same, which I appreciate if I ever take only one of the two books with me. Each decade of styles are introduced with a brief history of relevant events. Spiral binding so that the book lays flat while you work. This book goes above and beyond. I would also recommend the *Wig Making and Styling: A Complete Guide for Theatre & Film* for a more comprehensive look at the ventilation process.

First, I bought the electronic version. If you are unsure where to start on restyling a synthetic wig, this book is great. Bought it for the late 1700's styles, but it has many other wonderful designs in it as well for earlier and later eras. It basically only has one style per selected period, but it does give additional examples or suggested changes for each one as well. My only fault with it are that the finished pictures were taken against dark backgrounds and the styles are a bit difficult to see in them. Also, the "Look Inside" feature only shows you the instructions on styling, but it doesn't show any of the actual styles that the book demonstrates, so you are kind of playing a crap shoot until you actually see the book (or in my case, purchase and download). Would someday like to get the the printed version.

Although this book is for wig styling, it breaks down some of the elaborate historical hairstyles into steps I can do with my own hair plus hairpieces. A plus is that it includes mens hairstyles as well as women's.

I bought this book for my daughter, who is an Emmy award winning wig maker and stylist (2002) for television, film, stage, and opera. She's been in the business for many years and has also won the Guild Award for her work. I didn't know if this book would be interesting for her, but she wrote to me to say that it was extremely interesting. Actually her word was "Great!" So that's from the horse's mouth. Nuff said.

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