Synopsis
Military Uniforms Visual Encyclopedia is a highly illustrated volume that examines all the significant uniforms of the world, featuring more than 1000 of the world’s soldiers from the first professional armies to the present day. All the most famous types of uniform are featured, such as the British redcoat, the American GI, the German stormtrooper and the Soviet infantryman, along with some more unusual examples that are much less well known. Each featured uniform is illustrated with an excellent full-color artwork, showing the figure in great detail with full specifications tables that list country of origin and relevant points of interest in the uniform and equipment carried (with all weights and measures provided in both metric and imperial). With more than 1000 outstanding color artworks, Military Uniforms Visual Encyclopedia is a comprehensive and accessible reference work that will appeal to anyone with an interest in military matters.

REVIEWS
Offering 650 color illustrations total, plus a few photos, this visual reference presents chronological entries on military uniforms worn in specific conflicts around the world, from the 18th century through the present conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Each entry’s high-quality, photorealistic illustrations are accompanied by descriptions and info on country, date, and theater of the war. Entries focus mostly on uniforms, but some weapons and equipment are illustrated. The book includes a brief introduction on the origins of military uniforms and their development through history, plus a glossary.

Book News
An attractive volume, those interested in the uniforms of military personnel from around the world, especially those who served during the period from World War II to the present, will find much to enjoy within its pages.

Book Information
Paperback: 448 pages
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Average Customer Review: 3.2 out of 5 stars
Best Sellers Rank: #331,047 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #21 in Books > History > Military
Customer Reviews

The illustrations in the book are by Malcom MacGregor and most have been in previous works such as 20th Century Military Uniforms by Chris McNab, The Armed Forces of World War II by Andrew Mollo, Modern Fighting Men, and Uniforms of World War II by Peter Darman. Those for the section entitled Wars of Revolution 1789 to 1914 are mostly black and white - color is notably lacking! So is useful information throughout this "encyclopedia". Each soldier gets a very small paragraph that does not give even basic information. Lots of pictures, mostly of 20th Century troops, but you have probably seen the vast majority of them if you have read any of the aforementioned books. And if you have read the other books, you have gotten very much more information from them. There are illustrations on the cover that are not in the book. The 18th and 19th centuries get little coverage. There are the 7 Years War and Napoleonic Wars, and even those are sketchy. The American Revolution gets a single uniform, that of a French Marine officer. The American Civil War gets two pages and 4 illustrations. Ditto for the Zulu War. While there is more for World War I, it is still small. World War II is the overwhelming largest component of the book, followed by small section on various Cold War Era conflicts and the present action in the gulf. Information on rank and other insignia is lacking, mostly nonexistent. Very little info on weapons field gear and other items of equipment. The same goes for units and organization. In the end, it is a gaggle of recycled images with a few useless words. A cut and paste job of old pictures. "Military Uniforms Visual Encyclopedia" is useless as a reference for the military history buff and military miniaturist. Nothing new here. Just a lot of watered down old stuff. Not worth buying and not worthy of a place on the bookshelf. Not even good as a coffee table book.

I'm a professional cartoonist and comic book artist. After I purchased this book as reference for a job, I experienced a profound disappointment at finding so many B&W illustrations in the book. What "visual encyclopedia" of militaria runs B&W pictures? How is that useful as a reference work, particularly one about uniforms, which are defined by their colors and details? Additionally, the book really skimps on pre-WWII content. Luckily, I hedged my bets and purchased some other uniform guides at the same time, so I'll be able to continue my work...no thanks to this disappointing excuse for an "encyclopedia." I should have read the reviews first and saved a few bucks. If you're in the market for a comprehensive reference work, I suggest you look elsewhere.
as others have already written the book is lacking JUST a bit in all eras other than WW2 which was fine by me as i am a WW2 modeller. I found this book at my local bookstore in the bargain bin. I payed a grand total of 9.23usd with tax included. Some of the illustrations are really well done while others are subpar. There were some inaccuracies with some of the drawings, for example various illustrations had the WRONG camo colours for several waffen-ss soldiers..apperantly i think these drawings were done in the 70s-80s, as MUCH more info has come to light in regards to proper colours and such. I won't go on, as other reviewers here have done a better job of stating the book’s many faults. IF YOU can find the book for under ten bucks you can't really go wrong here. The current price this is going for here on is too much for a book with so many deficiencies BUT if you can find for cheap then it’s worth it..it’s certainly not your go-to book BUT it will supplement the better books out there on this subject nicely.

America fought in 3 world arenas that cemented our place in the world when we were still considered an upstart nation. The unpopular Spanish American, the Boxer Rebellion and the Phillipine Insurrection. In none of these were the American uniform represented.

First the positive. The book does have a number of nice illustrations of military uniforms. Now the negative: They are virtually all re-prints of exisiting drawing. The worst condemnation of this "encyclopedia" is the coverage. It gives reasonable coverage to World War Two. That’s it. About 80% of the book is WW II. The modern era gets decent though limited coverage. If you are looking for a guide that covers eras like the US Civil War, American Revolution, Napoleonic Wars, 7 Years War, Marlburian Era - forget it. What amazingly few drawings there are are almost all in B&W. It is actually shocking they put this out under the title given. What could have been honestly marketed as a good childrens reference ....... or limited to a beginner’s guide to 20th Century uniforms becomes, with this title, a very misleading attempt to draw in uniform enthusiasts. Stick with the much better, though far from perfect Illustrated Encyclopedia of Uniform series or the more detailed Osprey titles. A Big disappointment.

Love this book!

Download to continue reading...

The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Uniforms of World War I: An expert guide to the uniforms of Britain, France, Russia, America, Germany and Austro-Hungary with over 450 colour illustrations An