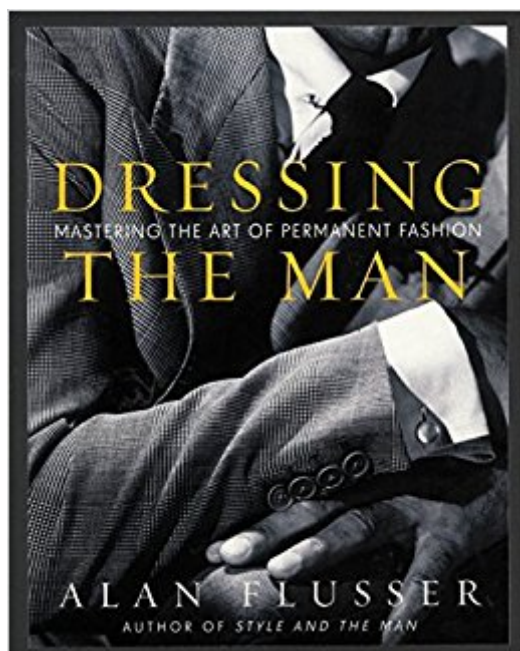


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# Dressing The Man: Mastering The Art Of Permanent Fashion



## Synopsis

Dressing the Man is the definitive guide to what men need to know in order to dress well and look stylish without becoming fashion victims. Alan Flusser's name is synonymous with taste and style. With his new book, he combines his encyclopedic knowledge of men's clothes with his signature wit and elegance to address the fundamental paradox of modern men's fashion: Why, after men today have spent more money on clothes than in any other period of history, are there fewer well-dressed men than at any time ever before? According to Flusser, dressing well is not all that difficult, the real challenge lies in being able to acquire the right personalized instruction. Dressing well pivots on two pillars -- proportion and color. Flusser believes that "Permanent Fashionability," both his promise and goal for the reader, starts by being accountable to a personal set of physical trademarks and not to any kind of random, seasonally served-up collection of fashion flashes. Unlike fashion, which is obliged to change each season, the face's shape, the neck's height, the shoulder's width, the arm's length, the torso's structure, and the foot's size remain fairly constant over time. Once a man learns how to adapt the fundamentals of permanent fashion to his physique and complexion, he's halfway home. Taking the reader through each major clothing classification step-by-step, this user-friendly guide helps you apply your own specifics to a series of dressing options, from business casual and formalwear to pattern-on-pattern coordination, or how to choose the most flattering clothing silhouette for your body type and shirt collar for your face. A man's physical traits represent his individual road map, and the quickest route toward forging an enduring style of dress is through exposure to the legendary practitioners of this rare masculine art. Flusser has assembled the largest and most diverse collection of stylishly mantled men ever found in one book. Many never-before-seen vintage photographs from the era of Cary Grant, Tyrone Power, and Fred Astaire are employed to help illustrate the range and diversity of authentic men's fashion. Dressing the Man's sheer magnitude of options will enable the reader to expand both the grammar and verbiage of his permanent-fashion vocabulary. For those men hoping to find sartorial fulfillment somewhere down the road, tethering their journey to the mind-set of permanent fashion will deliver them earlier rather than later in life.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

During the past 25 years, men have spent more money on clothing for themselves than in any other period of modern history, says Alan Flusser (*Style and the Man*). The time has "never been more propitious for the emergence of a standing army of well-heeled swells," he believes, and in *Dressing the Man: Mastering the Art of Permanent Fashion*, he takes readers on a tour of men's clothing that he attests will never go out of style. Flusser carefully explains how to mix patterns, what to look for when trying on clothes in the fitting room, what kind of jacket to wear with a straight-point collar, the history of the monk-strap shoe, the correct position for a bow tie and what "business casual" really means. Heavily illustrated with photographs of dapper dans from Humphrey Bogart to the Duke of Windsor and drawings depicting neckwear, suit jackets, coat sleeves and trouser creases, this is a superb reference for any man. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"A Hoyle's, a Fowler's, a Webster's, a Baedeker's, a Machiavelli's, a von Clausewitz's guide to men's dress." (Tom Wolfe)  
"If it's male elegance and sophistication you aspire to, *DRESSING THE MAN* will suit you perfectly." (Art Cooper, Editor in Chief, GQ)

I absolutely fell in love with this book and use it as a regular reference guide. This is a book worth buying and putting on the shelf. The most recent question I answered for myself is "What is ancient madder?" You can give yourself an absolutely wonderful education with this book and learn to "see" men's clothing in truly eye-opening ways. Learn about color, proportion, texture, patterns, the history, and, most importantly, learn the traditions and then play with them yourself. Also - most importantly - learn to shop with confidence! Why does this tie cost so much more than that one? Is it French tipped or self-tipped? Learn to appreciate the little details. Learn about all the different

components to a sports coat so that you can see and appreciate all the details for yourself. A quality sales person is always to be appreciated, but you will know more than most after reading this book. Have fun!

This should be in every "Sophisticated" or not Man's Library. And a Good Read too. Flusser is snootily descriptive and informative. You have to watch for the humor amidst the instruction and judgement of different men's styles and how color and lines and facial structure and color and timeless fashion and trendy crap etc etc. Flusser is no doubt some arrogant artisan.. but I like that.. this is a highly informative Bible of Men's Style and it will never go out of style unless we all become Nudists.

Hands down the best book on mens fashion. Unlike most other mens fashion books take 100 pages to tell you absolutely nothing, Flusser breaks down the fundamentals of men's fashion in a timeless way. His books is as relevant today as when it was first published. This is not a book of the latest trends, but rather the science and history behind menswear.

I originally read this book when I was 20. It didn't disappoint then. In fact, taught me much about how to dress. 36 years later still gold. I have refined my sense of style and much of what I've learned was taught to me from this book.

It's amazing how persistently the same men's fashion is. You could wear a nice suit from any time in the last fifty years and still look fashionable. Maybe a bit out-of-date, but men's fashion is much more consistent than women's. I probably enjoyed this book more than most because, frankly, I'm not a great intuitive shopper. So having some guidance from history helps. That way I can pick what is likely to stay permanently in style, or at least in style for a while, and not have to go buy something new every season. In general, I just enjoy "classy," and while this is more of a table-book, I found it a useful guide, too.

If you are already a clothing aficionado, with a particular interest in the historical aspects of men's clothing, then by all means get this book. But for the rest of us, this is a big book and a tedious read. I've opened it on many occasions but always end up just looking at the pictures! This isn't a book for someone with a passing interest on the topic. It is an in depth and serious exploration of men's fashion; past, present and future. If that's what you're looking for you will enjoy this book. If you're

looking for simple style tips, this book is not for you.

As I have grown older I have learned the iron law of men's fashion: the older you are the more important is your attire. For example: If you're under 30 and wear shorts in public, you look casual; if you're over 30 and wear shorts anywhere but the beach you look like a pathetic slob. So please, older men, do yourself a favor and get this book. Study it, apply the principles. Dressing well will set you apart from most men in these grungy times, especially in the eyes of the fair sex. Not a week goes by that I don't consult this book. Thanks, Alan!

Alan Flusser is a men's fashion genius. Any gentleman who pays attentions to detail in his wardrobe will appreciate this timeless look at men's fashion. It provides a rich history and thorough discussion of every component of men's fashion: shirt patterns and materials, including seasonal considerations; collar styles; tie patterns/colors and how to best coordinate them; pocket squares; lapel cuts, styles, widths, etc.; the shape of men's jackets; sport coats and blazers; the shape and cut of trousers. It even has a detailed section on shoes. The book discusses fashion icons of different eras, giving the reader a sense of what makes noticeable and timeless fashion. I highly recommend this book for actual reference in men's wardrobe decision-making or just perusing with a glass of cognac in front of the fire.

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