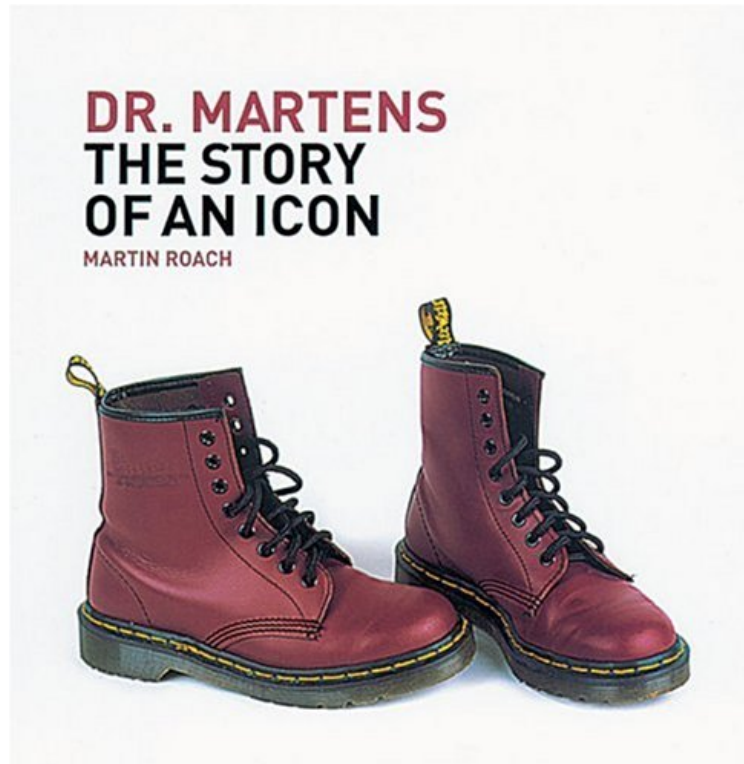


Dr. Martens: The Story of an Icon

Martin Roach

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Martin Roach : Dr. Martens: The Story of an Icon before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dr. Martens: The Story of an Icon:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Too much history, not enough Dr. Martens ...By Marine CorpI am a huge fan of Dr. Martens, the made in England kind, not much experience with the made in China manufacturing. I thought this book was going to explain how the shoes are made, why they last so long, etc. It isn't exactly what I got. The book mainly focuses on pop culture from the 60's till today, especially in the realm of music and what bands wear what. If I wanted a book on Brit pop and pop culture in general I could have bought that. The book DOES have some nice pictures to leaf through. The book also makes no mention of moving the majority of their manufacturing to other countries. This may be because the book was published in 2003 when they began to make most of their shoes in China and the like or because the author wanted to avoid the topic altogether. You can draw your own conclusions. Not a bad read if you pick it up cheap, but I wouldn't go out of my way to get it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Gabriela Borda Great boots, the color is amazing :) 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. best gift for a friend By Adrienne E. Getka I gave this book to a good friend who loves Docs, and she loves it so much! She was not expecting it at all.

On 1 April 1960, the first Dr. Martens boot rolled off the production line at the Griggs family farm of shoemakers in Northamptonshire, England. Today, Dr. Martens is a brand famous the world over, as iconic as Ray Bans and Levis.

From the launch of the classic cherry-red eight-holer on that day in 1960, to the more recent multihued twenty-holers, Docs have been in the vanguard of style and culture for over four decadesubversive, strident, authority-baiting. Now, for the first time, the boots and their times take center stage in a book. Decade by decade, in words and pictures, Dr. Martens: The Story of an Icon recounts the fascinating story of the music, the people, and the places that breathed life into the boot on its journey from work-wear to in-wear.

From Publishers WeeklyMusic and pop culture journalist Roach (This Is It: The First Biography of the Strokes) presents a cheeky tribute to a famous shoe in this brash, colorful volume. Roach chronicles how Dr. Martens evolved from the working man's footwear of choice to punk icon supreme, using chatty prose and gritty photos of the shoes and the people who wear them. The current form of the shoe was born in 1960, although German prototypes existed earlier. An unassuming ad in a footwear industry magazine kicked things off, and, as Roach shows, Docs quickly assumed a key position in youth pop culture. Roach's account is humorous and doesn't take itself too seriously; his book is a melange of fashion, music and general cultural history. Although some bits of the book are only tangentially related to Dr. Martens-e.g., Jimi Hendrix's quote about acting crazy or Freddie Mercury's thoughts on rock stardom-everything ties together thematically, making this an interesting analysis of not only an item of clothing but of music subcultures, as well. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.From BooklistThis colorful celebration of the Humvee of footwear sketches the progress of the shoes that "mean something" because of "their extraordinary heritage and deep association with youth culture." Created in 1960--just in time for the metamorphosis of youth culture into youth commerce--Dr. Martens boots project a tough, chunky charm in an array of styles and colors that attract "skinheads, punks, psychobillies, grebos, [and] mods" in search of durable footwear with weaponry applications. Sturdy, comfy, and lethal when applied with a brisk kick, DMs are the brainchild of Klaus Martens, who, convalescing with a broken foot, ruminated on shoes "sufficiently comfortable to relieve his piercing foot pain" yet strong enough for hard, extended use. The rest is corporate history, along with which Roach assesses who wears DMs, replete with photos of such DM devotees as former Banshees fronter Siouxsie Sue, the Mekons, and Henry Rollins, not to mention all the shoes. An easily consumed history of the arguably most kickass footwear ever. Mike TribbyCopyright American Library Association. All rights reserved An easily consumed history of the arguable most kickass footwear ever. -- Booklist