

Weapon: A Visual History Of Arms And Armor



Synopsis

A spectacular visual guide to the epic 4,000-year history of weaponry, created in association with the Smithsonian Institution. *Weapon: A Visual History of Arms and Armor* tells this epic story of the entire spectrum of weaponry through stunning photography and authoritative coverage, from the stone axes of the earliest warfare to the heavy artillery of today's armies. Take a journey through the centuries, from the Viking sword to the Baker rifle to the AK-47, as you explore the forms and functions of the greatest arms of all time, the warrior types that changed history, and the weapons that changed the face of warfare. Richly detailed catalogs showcase many weapons at their actual size, outlining the timeframe, weight, size, and country of origin to create a comprehensive profile of each. Now revised and updated to include brand-new content and expanded sections on cannons and modern guns, *Weapon: A Visual History of Arms and Armor* provides a stunning overview of the tools that have been at the cutting edge of history, determining the rise of kingdoms and the fall of empires.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Written by a team of British military historians, this oversize volume seizes attention with the publisher's brand-name design: images surrounded by information-packed captions silhouetted against a white or a black background. Its pictures are sure to snare the substantial audience interested in the history of swords, guns, and body armor. Limiting the subject to portable armaments, the work extends from the first likely weapon (a rock) to the rifles issued to contemporary infantrymen. In most cases, the emphasis is on the tools of the ordinary soldier, his

equipment through time explained with arrowed illustrations. The evolution of handheld weaponry is soon apparent, with that of firearms especially prominent. Some guns depicted here will be recognizable (think AK-47) even to those who recoil from guns. Explaining how such lethal equipment works is *Weapon's* forte; another asset is the comparison of weapon categories across a suite of historical societies. Popular? That's a foregone conclusion. Gilbert Taylor
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"From Assyrian spears to the AK-47, weapons and the warriors who have brandished them forged history by shaping the rise of empires and the course of revolutions with the ax, the bow, the sword, and the gun." Military Officer

A beautiful book with photos and information. But it tries to cover too much of too many different time periods and cover the world. It would have been better served if it was several volumes one for each chapter and organized better. But still one could not have done better in trying to cover everything in one book.

Being an illustrator and history nerd, I'm always looking for new and good references. Even though I already have two different books on this subject (one being guns the other being swords and sabres), I really love this book. The pictures are great, the info (yeah one or two things might be wrong here and there but no source is absolutely perfect) is pretty good and it provides a nice timeline of what's happening in the world at the time (this war happened, this weapon/metal/tool created etc.) I am also very fond of this book because it has better diversity for weapons (the two other books I have focus more on European styles and tech) so seeing some cool Indian and even stuff from Australian Aboriginals is pretty great. Little bummed that it did not have as much armor as I would like, it still touches upon and shows some nice variants but otherwise probably not much the average nerd didn't know about. Fantastic for the price, no regrets here! :)

Very nice book. I love the addition of armor and the wide variety of weapons. This was a great gift for our 6 year old who loves weaponry of all kinds. He has another similar book and has been wanting a second one.

Studying weapons is a good window into the technical development of countries past. Military

technology is usually the highest technology of a country.

Buy this book for any 8 - 12 year old boy. It is the perfect gift - even used. They will look at the weapons and learn about world history at the same time - the pictures are outstanding. (adults like the book too!)

Oh what a fun book for a mom of boys!! They love looking at the book and reading about all the weapons! Love how they crammed it all into one book!

my loves it

I bought this for my son for Christmas. He's ten and loves to watch Pawn Stars. Every time someone comes in with an old gun or mysterious looking weapon, my son perks right up. He loves all the information about it, the look of them, all of it. This book is beautiful. I do wish we had it in hard cover because it's seeing a lot of use, but hey, that's what it's for! It has big, clean pages and not too much stuff on each, like a lot of Kingfisher books do. The photography is great, you really feel like you could almost reach into the book and pull out the sword, pistol, whatever. I highly recommend this book for any lover of history, weaponry, etc. I also recommend it as a gift because between the cover, the heft, the size of the book and the amazing photography, anyone you think might like it, would like it.

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