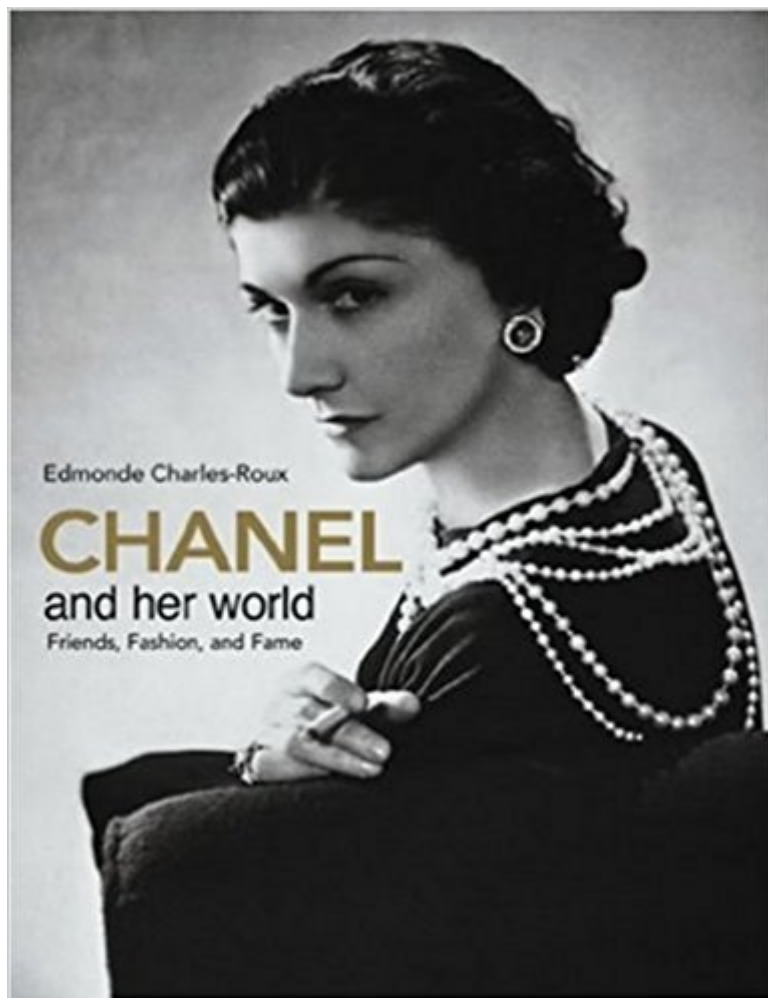




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# Chanel And Her World



## Synopsis

Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel (1883–1971) is a fashion icon unlike any other. She invented modern clothing for women: at the height of the Belle Époque, she stripped women of their corsets and feathers, bobbed their hair, put them in bathing suits, and sent them out to get tanned in the sun. She introduced slacks, costume jewelry, and the exquisitely comfortable suit. She made the first couture perfume—No. 5—which remains the most popular scent ever created. In this beautiful volume, the glorious life of the incomparable Coco Chanel shines again through hundreds of illustrations and the lively prose of Edmonde Charles-Roux, her official biographer and close friend. Chanel knew and collaborated with the likes of Picasso, Diaghilev, Stravinsky, Cocteau, Jean Renoir, and Visconti—even as she matched their modernist innovations by liberating women from the prison of 19th-century fashion and introducing a whole new concept of elegance. The staggering collection of photographs amassed by the author over decades of friendship with Chanel sheds new light on one of the great stories of the modern age. A model pictorial biography. —New York Times; This Chanel biography is as elegantly turned out as its subject. —The Washington Post; This lavish photo tome brings depth to Chanel's sleek façade while revealing the fascinating woman behind it. —W; Edmonde Charles-Roux (is) one of (Chanel's) best biographers. —The New Yorker; There have been many books about Chanel, but this is the great classic. —Art of the Times; This beautiful volume contains hundreds of photographs and lively prose by its author, Edmonde Charles-Roux. —American Salon; Provides insight into the development of her sense of style and underscores the timelessness of her vision. —Veranda

## Book Information

Hardcover: 384 pages

Publisher: Vendome Press; REV and Expanded ed. edition (March 9, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0865651590

ISBN-13: 978-0865651593

Product Dimensions: 7.8 x 1.9 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 55 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #295,647 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #110 in Books > Arts &

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## Customer Reviews

If style never goes out of fashion, then a biography of Coco Chanel shouldn't either. First published 25 years ago and out of print for the last decade, Charles-Roux's book was originally all black and white, but large color photos and illustrations have been added for this reissue, and the layout has been redesigned as well. (The text remains the same.) As a former editor-in-chief of French Vogue for 12 years and a longtime friend of Chanel, Charles-Roux collected a lot of photos of the fashion icon and of those allowed into her inner circle. She shares many of them in this massive biography, which follows Chanel's journey from her birth on August 20, 1883, to her days as a shop girl in Moulins to her triumph in, and transformation of, the fashion world. The book also provides insight into how Chanel's style developed and how its evolution was related to her defiance of the social conventions of her time; Coco was a great friend of the Cubists and she shared many of their avant-garde tastes. Charles-Roux's analysis may occasionally have more style than substance, but this balance would hardly have bothered Chanel, for whom style was always everything. And with a Chanel exhibition coming up at the Metropolitan Museum in May, 2005, it seems unlikely that this book will every be out of print for so long again. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Text: English, French (translation) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

An excellent history of our wonderful Chanel. She was God's gift to women because she took away corsets and hems that dragged on the ground. This book was recommended by The New York Times - the photos alone are worth buying it for.

If you are looking for an introduction to Chanel and her world, begin here. It is a pictorial biography with about 2/3 text and 1/3 images highlighting the narration. It is great to read about a person or place in Chanel's life and then look to the photo above and see what the author is describing. You feel as if you are going back in time. Edmonde Charles-Roux was a friend of Chanel and editor of French VOGUE. This is a sympathetic portrayal. It is as much about the people and places which

surrounded Chanel as Chanel herself. There isn't much coverage of Chanel's activities during WWII or directly afterward. The emphasis is more on the positive and creative parts of Chanel's life. I found the years when Chanel first set up business through the 1930's the most fascinating. It is a fairly quick read. Loved the abundant images on every page. You visually immerse yourself in her world. There are wonderful quotes of Chanel's sprinkled throughout.

Christmas gift for my daughter. She loved the book and deemed it a keeper. We donate a lot of books that we find just ok to the library and keep only books that we really liked and would look at or read more than once. This was a keeper

I paid almost full price for this book and I don't regret it. I found this coffee table book just lovely. I am not a fashion expert. I'm just a reader interested in interesting people, so I was looking for a book on CHANEL that gave a brief background on her life and photos of Coco and some of her fashions. Well, this book seemed to fit the bill---for me. I was not disappointed. I have enjoyed this book very much and it sits on my living room table , ----for the book to be browsed by others.

Love the pink binding of the book! Great coffee table book!

EXCELLENT BOOK! Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel (1883-1971) is a fashion icon unlike any other. She invented modern clothing for women: at the height of the Belle Époque, she stripped women of their corsets and feathers, bobbed their hair, put them in bathing suits, and sent them out to get tanned in the sun. She introduced slacks, costume jewelry, and the exquisitely comfortable suit. If you ever wanted to know about Chanel.... this is the book for you....

I am using this for decor so I am literally just judging the book by the cover and it is gorgeous! I love the way it looks on my night table stacked with my other decorative books. It's actually too small to be a coffee table book but I love it when it's stacked up on other books. The pink bind is cute but it can also be really nice without the book cover as well. Once you remove the cover it is a black book.

I was looking for a book showing photos of Chanel's clothing designs and styles. This book focuses more on her life and the celebrities and cultural/social trends of her era (spanning 1910's - 1950's), so if you are looking to see her clothing styles and designs, you will be disappointed as there isn't that much coverage of the actual clothing. However, it is a very absorbing, encyclopedic, pictorial

collection of the people of Chanel's time and you can spend many a lazy Sunday afternoon thoroughly exploring les temps perdus. There are many many pictures of Coco Chanel - like Madonna, she looks different every few years, a real chameleon. It retails at \$65, so the \$37 price is a good deal. It is a heavy thick book with glossy pages.

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